



Rules of Competition 2015

Inclusive Competitions

Mens - Brisbane Premier League, Capital League,
City League, Under 20, Under 18

Womens - Brisbane Womens Premier League,
City League

Legends League (Mens Over 35, Womens Over 30)

Junior League (Under 12 - Under 16)

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1 Competitions

If Football Brisbane engages a sponsor, a condition of entry into a Football Brisbane competition is that clubs are required to uphold any requirements stipulated in the sponsorship contract. Such requirements may include signage, the display of logos on club websites etc.

Football Brisbane will endeavour to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact on clubs and will not impact existing sponsorship contracts. At all times Football Brisbane will negotiate with clubs to minimise any disadvantage to a clubs existing sponsorship.

1.1 Competition Structure

Football Brisbane reserves the right to decide on or amend the size, structure and composition of any competition.

1.1.1 Senior Competitions

Brisbane Premier League (BPL)

All participating clubs in the Brisbane Premier League Competition are required to field a “First Grade” team, a “Reserve Grade” team, an “Under 18” team and an “Under 16” team. These competitions will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Capital League

The Capital League Competition may consist of four (4) divisions (Capital League 1, Capital League 2, Capital League 3 and Capital League 4). Each division will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible. All participating clubs are required to field a “First Grade” team and a “Reserve Grade” team unless otherwise agreed to by Football Brisbane. Clubs participating in the BPL may not participate in any Capital League Competition.

Mens City League

Entry into the City League Competition is only available to clubs from within the Brisbane Zone.

- City League 1 and 2

The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of twelve (12) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

- City League 3 and below

The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of ten (10) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Mens Under 20

Entry into the Under 20 Competition is only available to clubs from within the Brisbane Zone. The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of ten (10) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Mens Under 18

Entry into the Under 18 Competition is only available to clubs from within the Brisbane Zone. The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of ten (10) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Brisbane Womens Premier League (BWPL)

This competition will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Womens City League

Entry into the City League Competition is only available to clubs from within the Brisbane Zone. The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of ten (10) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

Legends League (Mens & Womens)

Entry into the Legends Competition is only available to clubs from within the Brisbane Zone. The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis. Each division will consist of ten (10) teams where possible and will be contested on a “Home and Away” basis where possible.

1.1.2 Junior Competitions

Football Brisbane will arrange age restricted competitions for junior players from Under 12 – Under 16. Competitions may be mixed or gender specific as determined by Football Brisbane.

1.1.3 All Competitions

Clubs may not field more than one (1) team in a division or division level. Clubs may apply for exemption to this rule. All decisions regarding exemptions will be at the discretion of Football Brisbane.

1.2 Competition Winners

In each Competition, the team finishing with the most points at the conclusion of the “Home and Away” season will be the Premiers. In the event of multiple teams having equal points, refer to Section 2.11.

1.3 Finals Series

At the conclusion of the fixture season, a Finals Series will be conducted to determine the Grand Final Winners. Refer to Section 3 for further details.

1.4 Promotion and Relegation

1.4.1 Senior Competitions

Brisbane Premier League

The method for determination of the teams to be relegated from the BPL to Capital League 1 will be by way of a Club Championship.

The Club Championship calculation for each team will be as below with the resultant calculations added together to obtain a points total for each club:

- Points obtained in First Grade x 5
- Points obtained in Reserve Grade x 3
- Points obtained in Under 18 x 2
- Points obtained in Under 16 x 1

The clubs obtaining the 2nd lowest and lowest points totals after this calculation and summation will be eligible for relegation from the BPL to Capital League 1. In the event of two or more clubs obtaining an equal number of points, refer to Section 2.11 - Goal Difference.

If a club eligible for promotion from Capital League 1 does not meet the requirements for promotion into the BPL (see Capital League 1 below), then the club that finished with the 2nd lowest total as calculated above will remain in the BPL. If neither club that is eligible for promotion from Capital League 1 meets the requirements for promotion into the BPL, then both the clubs eligible for relegation will remain in the BPL.

If a club from the BPL advises that it wishes to be relegated, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request. If granted, the club that finished with the 2nd lowest total as calculated above will remain in that division. If the 2nd last club was not relegated, the club that finished with the lowest total as calculated above (if relegated) will remain in that division. If neither club was relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

If a club from the BPL does not enter for the following season, the club that that finished with the 2nd lowest total as calculated above will remain in that division. If the 2nd last club was not relegated, the club that finished with the lowest total as calculated above (if relegated) will remain in that division. If neither club was relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

Capital League 1

The 1st placed team and the 2nd placed team at the completion of the fixture season (not including Finals Series) will be eligible for promotion to the Brisbane Premier League (BPL). To earn promotion from Capital League 1 into the BPL, Clubs must also meet the Grounds and Facilities criteria for BPL and demonstrate that they have Under 16 and Under 18 squads for the new BPL season.

The last placed team and the 2nd last placed team will be relegated to the division immediately below.

Capital League 2 to Capital League 4 (or lowest Capital Competition)

The 1st placed team and the 2nd placed team at the completion of the fixture season (not including Finals Series) will be promoted to the next highest division.

The last placed team and the 2nd last placed team will be relegated to the division immediately below. The exception to the relegation rule is the lowest Capital League Competition e.g. Capital League 4, where there will be no relegation.

Other Promotion/Relegation Issues (Mens)

If a team which has qualified for promotion to the BPL or between Capital League Divisions advises that they do not wish to exercise the privilege, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request. If the request is granted, the team that finished 2nd last in the division higher shall remain in that division.

In the event that both teams who have qualified for promotion to the BPL or between the Capital League Divisions advise that they do not wish to exercise these privileges, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the requests. If the requests are granted, then the two teams that finished 2nd last and last will remain in the division higher.

If a team from any Capital League Division advises that it wishes to be relegated, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request. If the request is granted, the team that finished 2nd last shall remain in that division. If the 2nd last team was not relegated, the team that finished last (if relegated) shall remain in that division. If neither team was relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

If a team from any Capital League Division does not enter for the following season, the team that finished 2nd last shall remain in that division. If the 2nd last team was not relegated, the team that finished last (if relegated) shall remain in that division. If neither team was relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

If a team withdrawal or request for relegation causes a vacancy in any Capital League Division after the application of the above rules, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

All Mens City League, U20 and U18 Competitions

There is no promotion to the Capital League from City League 1. The composition of these competitions will be determined on an annual basis by nominations. Once nominations have been received, they will be assessed on previous performance.

Any club in City League that is not represented in the Brisbane Premier League or the Capital League may apply to be admitted to the Capital League. This application will be reviewed by Football Brisbane.

Brisbane Womens Premier League

At the completion of each season, the last placed club in the BWPL must apply in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request, to remain in this competition.

Womens City League 1

If not already in the BWPL, the Club that finishes 1st in Womens City League 1 may apply in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request, to be admitted to the BWPL.

If the Club that finishes in 1st place in City League 1 already has a team in the BWPL, the club that finished in 2nd place, providing that they are not already in the BWPL, may apply in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request, to be admitted to the BWPL.

Womens City League

The composition of these competitions will be determined on an annual basis by nominations. Once nominations have been received, they will be assessed on previous performance.

Other Promotion/Relegation Issues (Womens)

If a team from BWPL advises that it wishes to be relegated, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Brisbane, who will review the request. If the request is granted, the team that finished last shall remain in that division. If the team that finished last was not relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

If a team from BWPL does not enter for the following season, the team that finished last shall remain in that division. If that team was not relegated, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

If a team withdrawal or request for relegation causes a vacancy in the BWPL after the application of the above rules, Football Brisbane can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

Legends League (Mens & Womens)

The composition of these competitions will be determined on an annual basis by nominations. Once nominations have been received, they will be assessed on previous performance.

1.4.2 Junior Competitions

Under 13 – Under 16

The composition of these divisions will be determined on an annual basis based on the previous season's results.

A process of application during the pre-season period will be used to determine the final competition structure. Several timeframes will be offered to clubs in which to apply to have a team regraded. These applications will be assessed and results taken into consideration when deciding on the appropriate division for all teams.

Promotion into the U16 BPL competition will be determined by the final position of the Capital League 1 First team and subject to meeting the BPL club & facilities criteria.

Relegation from the U16 BPL competition will be determined by the BPL club championship model. Refer to Section 1.4.1 for further details.

Under 12

For the Under 12 years age group Football Brisbane will hold a post season tournament to decide the make up of the 2016 U12 Super Youth League. Any Club that fielded an U11 Komodo Dragons team in the Brisbane wide hub (excluding clubs in the National Premier League) in 2015 may enter this tournament.

For other Under 12 divisions, two weeks of grading games, as outlined on the 2015 competition calendar, are mandatory. The format will consist of each team playing a maximum of 3 shortened (2 x 15 minute halves) games per day.

1.5 Other Competitions & Play-Off Matches

Football Brisbane may conduct pre-season, fixture and final series competitions.

Football Brisbane may, from time to time, also schedule other competitions within the zone. Rules for these competitions shall be set prior to the commencement of any competition.

Football Brisbane may conduct Cup Competitions before, during and after the conclusion of the fixture season. Additional Rules for these Cup Competitions shall be set prior to their commencement.

All Cup Competitions are subject to and should be read in conjunction with these Rules of Competition and the additional Cup Rules. In the event of an omission or inconsistency between these Rules and the additional Cup Rules, Football Brisbane will determine and rule on the interpretation.

Football Brisbane may, if it deems fit, schedule play-off matches in order to establish the composition of a competition. Rules for the play-off matches shall be set prior to the commencement of these matches and will be read in conjunction with all Football Brisbane Rules and Policies.

2 Fixtures

2.1 Scheduling of Matches

Football Brisbane will arrange the dates, times and venues of all matches. These scheduled matches will be advised to participating teams prior to the commencement of the season. Football Brisbane reserves the right to schedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it deems fit.

All Football Brisbane matches take precedence in scheduling over non FFA affiliated matches at Football Brisbane clubs.

2.1.1 Senior Competitions

Brisbane Premier League

For scheduling, groupings must be in two or four teams, with U16 and U18 paired and Reserves and 1st team paired.

Games must be scheduled sequentially as specified below:

- U16, U18, Reserves, 1st team - on the same day at the same venue in that order
- U16 & U18 paired, Reserves & 1st team paired – on different day and/or at different venue in that order

If BPL matches are postponed or abandoned due to any circumstances, Football Brisbane reserves the right to reschedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it deems fit.

Capital League

Games must be scheduled sequentially as specified below:

- Reserves, 1st team - on the same day at the same venue in that order

If Capital League matches are postponed or abandoned due to any circumstances, Football Brisbane reserves the right to reschedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it deems fit.

Day & Time Scheduling

Midweek/Friday

- No senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 6.30pm
- No senior matches will be scheduled to commence after 8.30pm
(Exceptions in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree)

Saturday

- No senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 11.00am
- No senior matches will be scheduled to commence after 7.30pm
(Exceptions in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree)

Sunday

- No Senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 9.00am
- No senior matches will be scheduled to commence after 6.00pm
(Exceptions in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree)

2.1.2 Junior Competitions

Listed below is the day on which each age group will be scheduled. Matches must be scheduled sequentially as specified by Football Brisbane.

	Under 12	Under 13	Under 14	Under 15	Under 16
All competitions	Saturday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday

NOTE: Any age group may be scheduled on a Friday night.

In the event that a fixture is scheduled for Friday night:

- the U12 age group will not kick off later than 7pm
- the U13 age group will not kick off later than 7:45pm
- the U14 age group will not kick off later than 8pm
- the U15 & U16 age groups will not kick off later than 8:30pm.

These kick-off times will also be used for mid-week games.

Clubs may apply for an exemption from the above depending on their situation.

2.2 Rescheduling of Matches

Football Brisbane reserves the right to reschedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it deems fit.

2.2.1 Senior Competitions

For matches needing to be rescheduled, once requested, the HOME club has seven (7) days to respond with advice of their preferred option for rescheduling.

If the HOME club's preferred option is less than seven (7) days from the date of advice to Football Brisbane, the HOME club must supply a second option outside the seven (7) days time frame. The opposition club has a right of refusal to a reschedule within the seven (7) days time frame.

2.2.1.1 Penalties and Outcomes

- If the HOME club fails to provide a response within the seven (7) days, the match may be awarded to the AWAY club as a forfeit with a 3-0 scoreline.

2.2.2 Junior Competitions

For matches needing to be rescheduled, once requested, the HOME club has seven (7) days to respond with advice of two preferred options for rescheduling. At least one (1) of the provided options must be outside of seven (7) days from the lodgement of the reschedule proposal.

The AWAY club must respond within seven (7) days from the date of advisement from Football Brisbane and may decline the proposed options. Should the AWAY club decline the proposed options Football Brisbane will reschedule the match at its discretion.

2.2.2.1 Penalties and Outcomes

- If the HOME club fails to provide a response within the seven (7) days, the match will be awarded to the AWAY club as a forfeit with a 3-0 scoreline.
- If the AWAY club fails to provide a response within the seven (7) days, the match will be awarded to the HOME club as a forfeit with a 3-0 scoreline.
- Should a team refuse to participate in a match that has been rescheduled by Football Brisbane, the match will be awarded to the opposition club as a forfeit with a 3-0 scoreline.

In exceptional circumstances clubs may apply for an exemption from these penalties and outcomes.

NOTE: In the event of the rescheduling of a fixture in the final four weeks of the season, the club response timeframes, outlined above, will be reduced to three (3) days or such timeframe as Football Brisbane it deems fit.

2.3 Duration of Matches

The duration of matches for each age group are outlined in the table below. After normal time in each half, the match official may add on Injury/Stoppage Time as they see fit. The match official has the right to abandon any fixture match if, in their opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.

Competition	Duration	Interval
Seniors	2 x 45 mins	10 - 15 mins
Legends	2 x 40 mins	5 – 10 mins
Under 16	2 x 45 mins	10 mins
Under 15	2 x 40 mins	10 mins
Under 14	2 x 35 mins	5 mins
Under 13	2 x 30 mins	5 mins
Under 12	2 x 25 mins	5 mins

2.4 Substitution and Interchange

Substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place at the halfway line.

All substitutes must be seated within the technical area. They must wear bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to both team strips. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to both team strips. When warming up, substitutes are requested to choose an area furthest from the opposing team.

2.4.1 Senior Competitions

Brisbane Premier League

In the BPL First and Reserve Team Competitions, each team can make up to three (3) substitutions in any given match, with no more than five (5) substitutes listed on the Match Sheet. All substitutions made at half time must enter the field from the half way on the referees signal just prior to kick off of the second half.

In the BPL Under 18 and Under 16 Competitions, unlimited interchange is permitted, with no more than five (5) substitutes permitted to be named on the Match Sheet. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player.

In the BPL Under 18 and Under 16 Competitions, a player whose name appears on the Match Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match. The exception to this rule is a Reserve Goalkeeper (if marked as such on the match sheet). Referees will record whether a Reserve Goalkeeper has participated by the normal manner of recording a substitution. If no record of participation is shown, then the Reserve Goalkeeper will not be deemed to have participated in the match.

Other Senior Competitions

In the following competitions, each team can make up to three (3) substitutions in any given match, with no more than five (5) substitutes listed on the Match Sheet:

- Mens Capital League 1 (excluding Reserves)
 Capital League 2 (excluding Reserves)
- Womens Brisbane Womens Premier League

All substitutions made at half time must enter the field from the half way on the referees signal just prior to kick off of the second half.

In all other Men's and Women's Competitions, unlimited interchange is permitted, with no more than five (5) substitutes permitted to be named on the Match Sheet. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player.

In these Competitions, a player whose name appears on the Match Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match. The exception to this rule is a Reserve Goalkeeper (if marked as such on the match sheet). Referees will record whether a Reserve Goalkeeper has participated by the normal manner of recording a substitution. If no record of participation is shown, then the Reserve Goalkeeper will not be deemed to have participated in the match.

2.4.2 Junior Competitions

In all competitions, unlimited interchange is permitted, with no more than five (5) substitutes permitted to be named on the Match Sheet. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player.

In these competitions, a player whose name appears on the Match Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match.

2.5 Points

In all competition fixtures, match points will be awarded as follows:

WIN	Three	(3) Points
DRAW	One	(1) Point
LOSS	Nil	(0) Points
BYE	Nil	(0) Points
NO RESULT	Nil	(0) Points for either team

2.6 Alterations to Fixtures

2.6.1 Application for Alterations

Any application for an alteration to scheduled fixtures shall be submitted, using the appropriate on-line form, to Football Brisbane at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture. Each request will be determined on its merits. Applications for alterations due to "social functions" (e.g. weddings, christenings, confirmations or other social and religious events) or "work commitments" will not be considered.

Football Brisbane's decision in regards to the rescheduling of fixtures will be final.

2.6.2 School Football (Junior Competitions and Under 18s only)

Applications due to involvement in local inter-school sport or non-representative sanctioned competitions including but not limited to the Kanga Cup, will not be considered.

Any competition team with three or more players unavailable due to representative outdoor football duties, at Football Queensland/Football Federation Australia approved tournaments including state-wide school representative tournaments, will be entitled to have their fixture rescheduled upon application. Applications must be made at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.

Should Football Brisbane approve the application to reschedule the match, the following process will occur:

- (a) For matches needing to be rescheduled, the HOME club has seven (7) days to respond with advice of their preferred option for rescheduling. If no response is received within that time frame, the match will be awarded to the opposition club as a forfeit with a 3-0 scoreline.
- (b) Should the HOME club's preferred option be less than seven days from the date of the advice to Football Brisbane, the HOME club must supply a second option outside the seven (7) days time frame. Only in this case will the opposition club have a right of refusal to a reschedule date within seven (7) days.
- (c) If an AWAY club will not accept any of the options given, and does not provide a reasonable explanation in writing as to why, the game will be declared a forfeit and the points awarded to the HOME club.

Football Brisbane will rule as to what is reasonable and the decision will be final.

2.6.3 School Commitments (Junior Competitions and Under 18s only)

Applications due to school commitments / functions will be assessed on their merits. All applications must be accompanied by a letter from the School Principal outlining how the event relates to the education curriculum. The application must be received at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.

If Football Brisbane approves the application to reschedule the match, the process defined in Section 2.6.2 will be followed.

2.7 Non-Participation in a Fixture

Any team that fails to fulfil any of its fixture or finals obligations arranged by Football Brisbane will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

Any team that is not ready to commence a fixture or finals match **by 15 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time**, (this includes the ground of the HOME team not being ready for play in the opinion of the match officials ie the field must be correctly marked, with nets and corner posts up and goals anchored if required), will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

If any team claim such a forfeit they must forward a completed Official Match Sheet, signed by the appointed referee. If a Referee is not appointed, a club official must forward an Official Match Sheet noting the circumstances of the non-playing of the fixture to Football Brisbane.

A team deemed to have forfeited may submit a report, within three (3) working days to Football Brisbane, if they believe the forfeit was caused by exceptional circumstances. Football Brisbane will review the report and make a determination. Football Brisbane's decision in regard to the forfeit will be final.

If any team forfeits a fixture for any reason on two or more occasions in the same competition season without satisfactory explanation provided in writing to Football Brisbane, they will be asked to show cause as to why they should not be withdrawn from the competition.

2.7.1 Penalties and Outcomes

Any match deemed to be a forfeit will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, with the points being awarded to the opposing team. The club of the forfeiting team may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

2.7.2 Senior Competitions

In the BPL and Capital Leagues, if a club does not have sufficient players to field a Reserve and First team, the First team shall take priority. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action against the offending club and both the Reserve and First team fixtures will be awarded 3-0 to the opposition.

2.8 Withdrawal/Removal/Suspension from Fixtures

If any team in a competition withdraws, is removed or suspended, then the following will apply:

- If the team is withdrawn, removed or suspended before the competition has started and cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted
- If the team is withdrawn, removed or suspended during the first round, the recorded results for that team will be deleted and, if the team cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted for the remainder of that round; if they cannot be replaced in the competition for the remaining round(s), a bye in the competition will be substituted for the remaining round(s)
- If the team is withdrawn, removed or suspended during the second or subsequent rounds, all points and goals acquired for the completed rounds will be retained by opposing teams and the recorded results for that team in the uncompleted round will be deleted and, if the team cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted for the remainder of that round; if they cannot be replaced in the competition for the remaining round(s), a bye in the competition will be substituted for the remaining round(s)
- If Football Brisbane has doubts about the validity of any earlier round matches for a team withdrawn during the second or subsequent rounds, it may delete all results for that team
- Football Brisbane reserves the right to negotiate with the club of a replacement team as to the method by which the new team enters the competition at any point in that competition and how points are attributed to that team for the remainder of the season.

2.8.1 Penalties and Outcomes

The club of the team withdrawn may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

2.8.2 Senior Competitions

If the team to be withdrawn is not the lowest divisional team in the club, the club will be asked to show cause as to why it should be allowed to withdraw the higher divisional team.

2.9 Postponed Matches

Matches may only be postponed by the appointed match official at the match or by Football Brisbane upon advice from the HOME club prior to the match in cases of severe weather (see Section 9 – Wet Weather Procedures). Football Brisbane may postpone an earlier match or matches on any day to allow a later match or matches to go ahead at its absolute discretion. (See Section 2.2 in relation to rescheduling of Postponed Matches.)

Football Brisbane reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by **NO LATER THAN** one (1) week after the conclusion of the fixture season as a NIL-ALL (0-0) DRAW.

Football Brisbane may decide not to reschedule a fixture that has no bearing on the finals positions.

2.10 Abandoned Matches

If the match official abandons a Football Brisbane match at half time or later, **then the match result will stand**, unless:

- One or both of the competing clubs request the match to be replayed, or
- The matter is referred to Football Brisbane for determination

All replay requests must be made in writing within five (5) working days of the match being abandoned. Any request after this time will be disregarded and the match result will stand.

Football Brisbane shall take into consideration the following when considering a request for a replay:

- Reasons why the match was abandoned
- Result of the match at the time of abandonment
- The impact on the final league standing of a fixture
- The impact on the finals series of a finals match

The decision of Football Brisbane regarding the request for a replay shall be final.

Any match abandoned before half-time will be replayed unless both teams agree to forego the replaying of the match or Football Brisbane determines that the match does not need to be replayed. Football Brisbane reserves the right to determine the match result if it is satisfied that one (or both) of the competing teams, its players, officials, members or supporters were directly responsible for the abandonment of the fixture. This includes the abandonment of a match due to a team having less than seven players on the field.

2.10.1 Penalties and Outcomes

If it is determined that one (or both) team(s) is (are) responsible for the abandonment, Football Brisbane may decide to direct any of the following outcomes:

- The match be replayed
- The match be recorded as “NO RESULT”
- The match be recorded as 0-0 draw
- The match be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team
- Impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club(s), player(s) and official(s)

Football Brisbane’s determination on the outcome of any abandoned match shall be final.

Should Football Brisbane determine that a match is to be replayed, the provisions for rescheduling as outlined in Section 2.2 will apply.

2.11 Goal Difference

If, at the end of the fixture competition, two or more teams in a competition are equal on points, goal difference shall be taken into account in determining:

- The Premiers
- The teams eligible to play in the Finals Series in the respective divisions
- All other positions on the points table

Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting the total number of goals AGAINST from the total number of goals FOR in all fixture matches:

- If two or more teams have a “plus” goal difference, the team with the higher or highest resultant plus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team
- If one team has a “plus” goal difference and other teams have a “zero” or “minus” goal difference, the team with the “plus” goal difference from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team
- If one team has a “zero” goal difference and other teams have a “minus” goal difference, the team with the “zero” goal difference from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team
- If two or more teams have a “minus” goal difference, the team with the lower or lowest resultant minus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team
- In the case of goal difference being equal, the team having scored the most goals FOR shall be the higher or highest placed team

In the case of teams having an equal goal difference and having scored an equal number of goals FOR:

- The team with the higher or highest number of points from matches played between the teams in question shall be the higher or highest placed team
- If the number of points is equal, then the team with the superior goal difference from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team
- In the case of goal difference being equal, the team having scored the most goals FOR from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team
- If the goal difference and goals FOR are equal, then the team that scored the most away goals from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team

If teams are still equal after taking into account all of the above considerations, the following will apply:

- To determine Premiers, the clubs concerned shall play off one or more deciding matches on neutral ground(s), the format, timing and venue(s) of which shall be determined by Football Brisbane
- To determine Finals Series positions - an official of each team will be required to meet with an official of Football Brisbane and lots will be drawn
- To determine all other positions on the table - lots will be drawn

BPL Club Championship

If, at the end of the fixture competition, two or more clubs finish equal on points in the BPL Club Championship Table, goal difference shall be taken into account in determining the placing of these clubs as follows:

- Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting the total number of goals AGAINST from the total number of goals FOR in all fixture matches contributing to this table:
- If two or more clubs have a “plus” goal difference, the club with the higher or highest resultant plus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If one club has a “plus” goal difference and other clubs have a “zero” or “minus” goal difference, the club with the “plus” goal difference from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If one club has a “zero” goal difference and other clubs have a “minus” goal difference, the club with the “zero” goal difference from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If two or more clubs have a “minus” goal difference, the club with the lower or lowest resultant minus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed club
- In the case of goal difference being equal, the club having scored the most goals FOR shall be the higher or highest placed club

In the case of clubs having an equal goal difference and having scored an equal number of goals FOR:

- The club with the higher or highest number of points from matches played between the clubs in question shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If the number of points is equal, then the club with the superior goal difference from matches played between the clubs in question, shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If the goal difference is equal, then the club that scored the most goals FOR from matches played between the clubs in question, shall be the higher or highest placed club
- If the goal difference and goals FOR are equal, then the team that scored the most away goals from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team

If teams are still equal after taking into account all of the above considerations, the following will apply:

- The club with the higher or highest placed team on the BPL (First Team) ladder will be the higher or highest placed club.

3 Finals Series

Football Brisbane will arrange the dates, times and venues of all Finals Series matches. Football Brisbane reserves the right to schedule or re-schedule matches on any day, time and place as it deems fit. All Football Brisbane matches take precedence in scheduling over non FFA affiliated matches at Football Brisbane clubs.

3.1 Format

(The first listed team in each match below is the designated Home Team.)

Competition	Final	Teams
Seniors	Semi Final 1	3 rd vs 4 th
(4 team Finals Series)	Semi Final 2	1 st vs 2 nd
(8 & 12 team Comps)	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi 2 vs Winner Semi 1
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 2 vs Winner Preliminary Final
Seniors	Qualifying Final 1	4 th vs 5 th
(5 team Finals Series)	Qualifying Final 2	2 nd vs 3 rd
(10 team Comps)	Semi Final 1	Loser Qualifying 2 vs Winner Qualifying 1
	Semi Final 2	1 st placed team vs Winner Qualifying 2
	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi 2 vs Winner Semi 1
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 2 vs Winner Preliminary
Under 12 – Under 16	Semi Final 1	2 nd v 3 rd
(4 team Finals Series)	Semi Final 2	1 st v 4 th
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 2 vs Winner Semi 1

3.2 Senior Competitions

3.2.1 Venues

- Qualifying, Semi & Preliminary Final Matches will be held at the Home Team venue.
- Grand Final Matches will be held at venues determined by Football Brisbane.

3.2.2 Duration of Matches

All finals matches will be played in accordance with the fixture duration (See Section 2.3).

All Competitions excluding Legends

If the scores are equal after normal time, then 2 x 15 minute periods of extra time will be played in full. If the scores are still equal after extra time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

Legends Competitions

If the scores are equal after normal time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

3.2.3 Player Eligibility

BPL & Capital League Reserves

A player who has started/been listed in more matches in the First team than in the Reserves is ineligible to play in the Reserve Team Finals Series.

BPL Under 18s

A player who has started more matches in the First Team and Reserves in total than has been listed in the Under 18 team is ineligible to play in the Under 18 finals series.

BPL Under 16s

A player who has started/been listed in more matches in the First Team, Reserves and Under 18s in total than has been listed in the Under 16 team is ineligible to play in the Under 16 finals series.

BWPL, City League (Male and Female), U20, U18 (Male & Female), Legends (Male & Female)

A player who is eligible to play in a fixture for a team at the completion of the fixture season as per the Player Eligibility Rules (Seniors) - (Section 5), is then eligible to play in the finals for that team (subject to the "Band Eligibility" and Minimum Requirement" rules below).

Band Eligibility

A player who has been listed in more matches in a higher team within a "Band" is ineligible to play in a lower team within that band's Finals Series.

Minimum Requirement

To be eligible to play for a team in the finals series, a player must have started/been listed at that team's divisional level or lower in a minimum of six (6) matches.

Playing Up in Finals

A player who is eligible to play in finals at a particular divisional level is eligible to play in finals in any team higher than that level without affecting their eligibility for their qualified level.

Exemptions

Clubs may apply to Football Brisbane for exemptions to the eligibility rules. Such applications must be made prior to a player's participation in a finals match. Football Brisbane reserves the right to declare eligible any player it deems to have satisfied the intent and spirit of this rule.

3.2.4 Penalties and Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of the above eligibility requirements, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

3.3 Junior Competitions

3.3.1 Venues

All Finals Matches will be held at venues determined by Football Brisbane.

3.3.2 Duration of Matches

All finals matches will be played in accordance with the fixture duration for each age group (See Section 2.3).

If the scores are equal after normal time, then 2 x 10 minute periods of extra time will be played in full. If the scores are still equal after extra time, the following methods will be used to determine the outcome:

Age	Division	Final Type	Method After Extra Time
Under 12 & Under 13	SYL	Semi Final & Grand Final	Penalties
Under 12 & Under 13	Division 1 & below	Semi Final	Highest Placed Team
Under 12 & Under 13	Division 1 & below	Grand Final	Joint Winners
Under 14 – Under 16	SYL & below	Semi Final & Grand Final	Penalties

Penalties = A penalty shoot-out, in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

Highest Placed Team = The team which finished in the higher position after the fixture season will advance to the Grand Final.

Joint Winners = Both participating teams in the grand final will be declared joint winners.

3.3.3 Player Eligibility

Should teams be required to borrow players during the finals series, an application must be submitted to Football Brisbane outlining why the team in question is required to borrow player(s). Applications will be assessed on a case by case basis.

3.3.4 Penalties and Outcomes

If a borrowed player is found to have participated in a match, without Football Brisbane's approval, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.

4 Player Eligibility (All Competitions)

Football Brisbane reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any player participating in any competition.

4.1 Registration of Players

Amateur players who have not previously registered for the 2015 season are permitted to be registered until 30 June each year.

Amateur players who have previously registered in the Football Brisbane Zone for the 2015 season are not permitted to re-register with another club within the Football Brisbane Zone after 30 June each year.

Amateur players who have registered outside the Football Brisbane Zone for the 2015 season may apply to Football Brisbane to allow an exemption to register within the Football Brisbane Zone after 30 June each year. The decision of Football Brisbane will be final in considering any such application.

Professional players may only be registered during one of two Registration Periods each year. The first period runs from 1 January to the last Wednesday before the first fixture round. The second period runs for four weeks ending on 30 June each year.

Unless cancelled earlier, registration is effective from date of registration until 31 December of that year.

Any player not registered as per FFA National Registration Regulations and Football Brisbane Registration Procedures and Guidelines for the current season is ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any Football Brisbane competition.

Premier, Capital, City, Under 20, Under 18 & Junior Leagues

A player can only be registered with one club at a time. During the season, a player can register for a maximum of three (3) clubs and can play for a maximum of two (2) clubs in competition matches. (See Section 4.9 of the National Registration Regulations.)

Legends League

Players registered to play in the Legends League ONLY are not eligible to participate in other Football Brisbane Competitions. If players wish to play in both competitions, (Legends and Premier, Capital or City Leagues), they will need to register separately for each competition. If a player is registered to play in the Premier, Capital or City Leagues, they may register to play Legends League at a different club to their Premier, Capital or City Leagues registration.

4.1.1 Penalties and Outcomes

If a player not registered as per FFA National Registration Regulations and Football Brisbane Registration Procedures for the current season is found to have participated in a match, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.2 Suspended Players

Any player under suspension by Football Brisbane or any other Federation is ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any fixture until that suspension is served. This includes mandatory suspensions for yellow and red cards along with penalties determined by a Disciplinary Committee.

4.2.1 Penalties and Outcomes

Any player under suspension by Football Brisbane or any other Federation who is found to have participated in a match is deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.3 Player Age Requirements

These requirements apply to all competitions and must be read in conjunction with all Player Eligibility rules.

As per the National Registration Regulations, all players are classified as 'junior' players until they attain the age of eighteen (18) years. Therefore, prior to competing out of their Designated Age Group, any junior player must have a PA01 completed by their parent or guardian.

The competitions below are age restricted competitions:

Mens Legends	Players born in the year 1980 or earlier
Womens Legends	Players born in the year 1985 or earlier
Under 20	Players born in the year 1995 or 1996
Under 18	Players born in the year 1997 or 1998
Under 16	Players born in the year 1999
Under 15	Players born in the year 2000
Under 14	Players born in the year 2001
Under 13	Players born in the year 2002
Under 12	Players born in the year 2003

Where clubs have to combine age groups the following restrictions apply:

- The majority of players in the squad must come from the older age level (i.e. 50% + 1). Where this is not the case application must be made to Football Brisbane for permission to vary this rule. Football Brisbane's decision on any such application will be final.

Football Brisbane reserves the right to withdraw from competition any team found in breach of these rules.

4.3.1 Playing Out of Designated Age Group (Senior Competitions)

Male

Players born in 1997, who have not attained the age of 18 may play in any senior Mens Competition with parental/guardian approval (PA01).

Players born in 1998 may play in any senior Mens Competition with parental/guardian approval (PA01).

Players born in 1999 are eligible to play in the Under 18 Competition with parental/guardian approval (PA01).

Players born in 1999, once attaining the age of 16, may apply, with parental/guardian approval (PA01), for “Exceptional Circumstances” status (see 4.3.3 below) to play in any senior Mens Competition.

Players born in 2000 are NOT eligible to play in any senior Mens Competition (Under 18 or above).

Female

Players born in 1997, who have not attained the age of 18 may play in any senior Women’s Competition with parental/guardian approval (PA01).

Players born in 1998 and 1999 may play in any senior Women’s Competition with parental/guardian approval (PA01).

Players born in 2000, once attaining the age of 15, may apply, with parental/guardian approval (PA01), for “Exceptional Circumstances” status (see 4.3.3 below) to play in the BWPL.

Players born in 2001 are NOT eligible to play in any senior Womens Competition.

4.3.2 Playing Out of Designated Age Group (Junior Competitions)

Playing above Designated Age Group

Prior to competing above their Designated Age Group, any junior player must have a PA01 completed by their parent or guardian, held by the club and produced to Football Brisbane on request.

Players are permitted to play up one age level in all divisions subject to ‘Composite Teams’ rules as defined in 4.3 with parental/guardian approval.

Any player requesting to play more than one year out of their age group must provide evidence of Exceptional Circumstances as defined in 4.3.3.

Playing Below Designated Age Group

In all instances of players wishing to play down an age group, clubs must submit a request accompanied by the appropriate documentation.

The documentation must include the requested players name, age and age group they wish to play into, the reason for the request along with a copy of a signed letter or report from the appropriate medical professional indicating the physical or psychological issues that affect the player.

If approved, Football Queensland and Football Brisbane will then confirm the decision in writing to the club. Please note that until approval is provided, the player cannot participate in matches in the lower age group as an eligible player.

4.3.3 Exceptional Circumstances

The definition of Exceptional Circumstances in relation to the Player Age Requirements includes but is not limited to;

- a) Team Viability
- b) Documented skill level report from a Technical Director designated by Football Brisbane
- c) Advice from the State Technical Director

Clubs may apply to Football Brisbane for an exemption to these rules in exceptional circumstances. Any application must contain all supporting documentation. The decision of Football Brisbane will be final in considering any such application.

4.3.4 Penalties and Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of the above age eligibility requirements, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.4 Match Sheets

Only players' names listed on the Match Sheet are permitted to take part in the match. A player whose name is not listed on the Match Sheet prior to the commencement of the match is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in that match.

A team must not list more than sixteen (16) players on their Match Sheet. If a team does so, any player(s) over and above the first sixteen (16) players listed is (are) considered ineligible.

4.4.1 Penalties and Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match, without being listed on the match sheet, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

If a team is found to have listed more than sixteen (16) players on the match sheet, any player(s) over and above the first sixteen (16) listed will be deemed to be an ineligible player(s). The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player(s) may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.5 Clubs with Teams in the Same Division or Division Level

If a club has two or more teams in the same division or division level, players are only permitted to play for one team in that division or division level. This does not preclude them from playing for other teams within the club in other division levels (subject to all Player Eligibility rules and the Player Age Restrictions.)

4.5.1 Penalties and Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of the above requirements, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The club of the ineligible player may be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.6 Player Identity

On match day, any team may ask to check the identity of any opposing player(s).

Football Brisbane recommends that all players should have a passport-style photograph loaded into My Football Club every year as part of the Registration process. The photograph must be in accordance with Football Brisbane Photography Policy (see Appendix 1).

Managers may check the Player Identity of any player(s) on the opposing team. This action must be completed prior to the player(s) participating in the game by the production of a My Football Club ID team sheet or some other form of photographic ID such as a driver's licence or valid student card. If identification cannot be provided and a club wishes to challenge the identity of a player(s), an image of the player(s) must be obtained at this time.

No Club Official shall have the power to refuse to allow an opposition player to take the field for any reason. Nor can they request that a Match Official refuse to allow a player to take the field.

4.7 Borrowed Players (Junior Competitions)

A borrowed player must have noted in the "Substitutes" column their regular team. It is the responsibility of the Club official challenging a borrowed players eligibility to make a note (e.g.: "challenge") in the "Substitutes" column on the match sheet and complete the requirements as stated in 4.6 above before the matter is to be referred to Football Brisbane for investigation by the Club Secretary as defined in 4.7.

4.8 Protest - Playing Ineligible Player

Any club is permitted to lodge a letter of protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player(s). The protest must be in writing under club letterhead and be forwarded to Football Brisbane, within five (5) working days of the match and must include a photograph of the player(s). An investigation of the circumstances surrounding the incident will be undertaken immediately.

In the event that the protest is upheld, the Penalties and Outcomes as stated in 4.8.1 below will apply. In the event that the protest is dismissed, then the match result will stand.

4.8.1 Penalties & Outcomes

If it is established that a player competing in any Football Brisbane competition match was ineligible to play, then the following will apply:

- The club found guilty shall forfeit any goals scored and points gained in that match and the points and match will be awarded to the opposing team
- The game will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the final result was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team
- Football Brisbane may impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club or player

If it is established that both clubs competing in any Football Brisbane competition match fielded players who were ineligible to play, then the following will apply:

- The match will be deemed as a **NO RESULT**, whereby, no points will be awarded
- Football Brisbane may impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending clubs or players

If a Finals Series match or Cup match is declared a “No Result”, Football Brisbane may determine that the match be replayed.

4.9 National Premier League (NPL)

Players registered to NPL clubs are not eligible to play for those clubs in any Football Brisbane competition.

NPL Senior (ie 1st) teams are not allowed to borrow players from their catchment clubs’ “shadow player” list.

All other NPL teams (Senior and Junior) may borrow players from their catchment clubs’ “shadow player” list.

5 Player Eligibility (Seniors)

5.1 Senior Leagues Rank Order (excluding Legends League)

Men	Women
National Premier League (NPL) /Youth / U18	Womens National Premier League (WNPL) / Youth
Brisbane Premier League (BPL) / Reserves / U18 / U16	Brisbane Women’s Premier League (BWPL)
Capital League 1-4 / Reserves	City League Band 1 (CL 1 & 2)
City League Band 1 (CL 1 & 2)	City League Band 2 (CL 3, 4, 5)
City League Band 2 (CL 3 & 4)	All Under 18 Divisions
City League Band 3 (CL 5, 6 & 7)	
All Under 20 Divisions	
All Under 18 Divisions	

In determining player eligibility in Senior Football (see relevant rules below relating to each competition), the previous table sets the appropriate order of rank for each league. Specifically, the highest rank league is at the top of the table.

The Legends League is a separate competition and is not part of the Senior Leagues Rank Order above.

5.2 Player Transfers during the Season

If a player changes clubs during the season, then the “count” of matches played at a level does not carryover from their previous club to their new club. Therefore, there is no restriction on what division a player is able to take part in subject to the rules below applying at their new club.

This does not include Cup Competitions, where restrictions do apply if a player changes clubs – see relevant Cup Competition Rules.

5.3 Substitution/Interchange Clarification regarding Eligibility

In relation to all rules below, “has started” refers to matches played under the Substitution rule and means commenced the match from the kick-off; “been listed” refers to matches played under the Interchange rule.

5.4 Brisbane Premier League

Players may play without restriction between First, Reserve, Under 18 and Under 16 teams in fixtures (subject to age eligibility).

Clubs who wish to move players from one BPL team to a lower BPL team (eg from 1st team to Reserves, U18s or U16s; Reserves to U18s or U16s; U18s to U16s) from one fixture match to the next fixture match may do so for a maximum of three (3) players from one team to another. Should any club wish to move more than three (3) players from one team to another from one fixture match to the next, they must advise the Senior Competition Administrator prior to the match either by email (to seniors@footballbrisbane.com.au) or SMS (0410 194 434 - followed up by email), supplying their reasons for this.

5.5 Capital League

Players may play without restriction between Firsts and Reserve teams in fixtures.

Players who have started/been listed in any Firsts and Reserves games for the Capital League at their current club more than six (6) times in total are ineligible to play in any lower ranked competition for that club.

5.6 Brisbane Women’s Premier League

Players who have started/been listed in the BWPL and any higher ranked competition within the state more than six (6) times in total at their current club are ineligible to play in any lower ranked competition for that club.

5.7 City League (Mens and Womens)

Players who have started/been listed in any higher ranked competition within the State or higher ranked City League Band more than six (6) times in total at their current club are ineligible to play in a lower ranked City League Band for that club.

5.8 Mens Under 20

Players who have started/been listed more than six (6) times in total in any higher ranked competition for their current club are ineligible to play in an Under 20 match for that club.

Players who have been listed more than six (6) times in total in any higher ranked Under 20 Division at their current club are ineligible to play in a lower ranked Under 20 Division for that club (ie Division 1 is ranked higher than Division 2 and so on).

5.9 Under 18 (Mens and Womens)

Players who have started/been listed more than six (6) times in total in any higher ranked competition at their current club are ineligible to play in an Under 18 match for that club

Players who have been listed more than six (6) times in total in any higher ranked Under 18 Division at their current club are ineligible to play in a lower ranked Under 18 Division for that club (ie Division 1 is ranked higher than Division 2 and so on).

5.10 Legends (Mens and Womens)

Players who have been listed more than six (6) times in total in any higher ranked Legends Division at their current club are ineligible to play in a lower ranked Legends Division for that club (ie Division 1 is ranked higher than Division 2 and so on).

Players who are registered for both the Football Brisbane Senior Competition and the Legends League are not restricted from playing in either competition subject to the rules above relating to each competition.

5.11 Cup Competitions

Participation in Cup Competitions does not contribute towards the eligibility of a player to play at any level.

5.12 Junior Players in Senior Competitions

Any player eligible to play in the Junior Competition (including those who have received an exemption for Exceptional Circumstances) who has started/been listed in any Senior Competition more than four (4) times in total, is then no longer eligible to play in any Junior Competition.

Any player eligible to play in the Non-BPL Junior Competition (including those who have received an exemption for Exceptional Circumstances) who has started/been listed in any BPL or Senior Division more than four (4) times in total, is then no longer eligible to play in any Non-BPL Junior Competition.

5.13 Penalties & Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of the above rules, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.

5.14 Exemptions

Clubs may apply to Football Brisbane to allow an exemption to these rules in exceptional circumstances. The decision of Football Brisbane will be final in considering any such application.

6 Grading, Borrowing and Regrading of Players (Juniors)

6.1 Grading of Players

All players participating in competitions must be graded into a specified team by their clubs. These teams must be entered into the Football Brisbane Competition Management System in accordance with Football Brisbane instructions seven (7) working days prior to the commencement of the season. Players can only be graded into one team at any one time.

Players registered after the first fixture of the season must be graded into a team and entered into that specific team list in the Competition Management System no later than three (3) working days prior to the first fixture the player intends to participate in.

6.2 Borrowing of Players

Registered competition players may be borrowed to play in equal or higher divisions and age groups provided that they have completed the appropriate Player Age Assessment Forms (PA-01), but may only do so for a maximum of four (4) matches within any junior competitions within the state. The maximum number refers to the total number of games played up and not to each team they may play in. Wherever possible, borrowing should occur from a team within the same age group.

A team playing in a fixture shall be permitted to borrow players from a lower division in that particular age group, or an equal or lower division in a lower age group (e.g. an U13 Div 3 team can borrow from an U12 Div 3 or lower team).

In the event that a club does not have a younger age team in an equal or lower division, but does have a younger age team in a higher division, the club must apply for dispensation to allow a certain number of players to be borrowed.

Players in Under 11 teams participating in the Komodo Dragons grouping are NOT permitted to be borrowed by teams in U12 Division 2 or lower. Teams in U12 Division 2 and lower are able to borrow from teams from the Under 11 Geckos and Goannas groupings.

Players cannot be borrowed between gender specific teams and mixed teams.

Borrowing a player or players must not advantage the borrowing team's performance when compared with its usual squad.

6.3 Regrading of Players

6.3.1 Regrading Upwards

If a player plays more than four (4) matches for any higher age group or division, that player is no longer eligible to play in their original age group or division (they are automatically regraded to the higher age group or division).

6.3.2 Regrading Downwards

Clubs may request that a player be regraded downwards at any time. They must submit a request with the requested player's name, age and age group they wish to play into and the reason for the request.

If approved, Football Brisbane will then confirm the decision in writing to the club. Please note that until approval is provided, the player cannot participate in any lower grade matches as an eligible player.

6.4 Player Transfers During the Season

There is no restriction on what division a player is able to take part in should they change clubs during the fixture season subject to the Rules of Competition.

6.5 Penalties & Outcomes

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of the grading, borrowing and regrading rules, the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The result of the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the end of the match was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.

7 Legends League Specific Match Rules

Slide Tackles

No Slide Tackles are allowed (including Goalkeepers). A Slide Tackle occurs when two or more players are challenging for the ball and any of them "slide" for the ball. Any challenge not made on two feet is to be considered a Slide Tackle. There must be a slide AND a tackle before the challenge can be penalised, but there does not have to be contact between the players.

A player is considered to be challenging an opponent for the ball if the opponent is within a radius of **one (1) metre** of the player. These rules apply to a goalkeeper who chooses to play or attempts to challenge for the ball with his feet. They do NOT apply to a goalkeeper playing or attempting to play the ball with his hands.

Tackling from Behind

No tackling from behind is allowed.

Cautionable Offences (Yellow Cards)

If a player commits a Cautionable Offence (those listed in the Football Brisbane Disciplinary Policy as well as a slide tackle or a tackle from behind), then they must spend 10 minutes in the "sin bin" (off the field), with a replacement player permitted to take the field.

8 Club Responsibilities

8.1 Facilities/Ground Arrangements

Each club must ensure their compliance with the published "Playing Facilities Standards" available on the Football Brisbane website.

The home club must ensure:

- The ground is correctly marked, including the technical area
- That if portable goals are used, they are anchored as per the Australian Standards
- It provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened or pegged to the ground and corner flags
- It provides toilet facilities and dressing room facilities that are hygienic and clean
- It has adequate refreshment/canteen facilities open to the public
- It provides a safe environment for players, officials and spectators
- It provides a Referee's Room where referees can rest and leave their belongings while officiating

The dimensions of the playing field shall conform to the Laws of the Game and preferably shall be consistent with the dimensions specified in the Laws for International matches. Any club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be fined, suspended or have its home fixtures played away. The minimum acceptable dimensions for the Premier and Capital Leagues (Mens & Womens) are 90 metres (100 yards) long and 60 metres (66 yards) wide.

8.2 Field Lighting

Clubs wishing to host night fixtures during the season must submit field lighting audits as requested and have approval for competition play by Football Brisbane. (**NOTE** - this requirement does not apply to Legends League.)

Recommendations for football field lighting detailed in the Australian Standard AS2560 Part 2.3 "Lighting for Football" includes: Minimum Service Luminance Lux (Average) 100 and Minimum Uniformity Ratio (Min: Ave) 0.5 for competition matches. To achieve this level for the whole season, the Minimum Service Luminance (Average) at the commencement of the season must be 110 Lux.

8.3 Technical Area

Each club must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by FIFA guidelines and provide sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match. The Technical Area must be positioned inside or on the fence line (where grounds are fenced) or at a maximum of two (2) metres from the touch line at unfenced grounds. Any structure must be at least two (2) metres from the touch line.

- A maximum of ten (10) persons are permitted to be within the confines of the Technical Area. This can include the coach, assistant coach, the substitutes and team trainer or medical staff.
- Only Team Officials and substitutes listed on the match sheet prior to the commencement of the match are permitted in the Technical Area. ID Cards must be worn at all times by Team Officials.
- Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions during the match.
- The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player.
- All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area. They must wear bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip, Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip. When warming up, substitutes should use an area furthest from the opposing team.
- All occupants must behave in a responsible manner. The match official has the right to expel any person from the technical area at any time as he or she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left the playing field and surrounds to the match official's satisfaction.
- Smoking or the consumption of alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all of its occupants, including players, coaching staff, club marshals and officials.

8.4 Team Officials

Team Officials must be registered in My Football Club as defined by the National Registration Regulations.

Clubs are accountable for their appointed Team Officials (Coaches, Managers, and Medical staff) and they should be made aware that they are governed by a Code of Conduct. Penalties of suspension of Team Officials, fines, and good behaviour bonds, can be levied upon clubs, where it is found that Team Officials have breached the Code of Conduct.

It is the Team Officials' responsibility to ensure:

- The team has minimum number of seven (7) players to commence the match
- That the team **does not list** more than 16 players on the Match Sheet
- All players taking the field are eligible to play
- All players taking the field of play are correctly listed on the Match Sheet in legible writing
- All players taking the field of play have signed the Match Sheet (Senior Competitions)
- All players are ready to commence the fixture at the scheduled kick-off time

Team Officials are also responsible for players' behaviour before, during and after any game.

8.5 Ground Officials & Team Marshals

It is the responsibility of the home club to provide sufficient Ground Officials who must be in clearly identifiable uniform and must identify themselves to the appointed Match Official prior to the match.

Ground Officials are to be visible at all times and must be designated to provide an escort to all match officials before kick-off, at half time and full time.

A Ground Official cannot be the Coach or Manager whose game is in progress on the park, nor can the Ground Official be the Canteen Supervisor.

Junior Competitions

- It is the responsibility of both participating teams to supply a team marshal who is responsible for ensuring the behaviour of their respective supporters.

The Ground Official must:

Before the Match

- Check the Referees' room and make sure it is clean and comfortable.
- Upon arrival of the Referees, make known to them that you are the Ground Official in case they need assistance.
- If an official Referee is not present, ensure that a Referee is arranged either by the Club or by consent of the two teams playing.
- Check with the Equipment Officer that an alternate strip is available if required.
- Ensure payment of Referee fees **before the commencement of the game**.
- Ensure that three (3) appropriate match balls are available for the Referee.
- Escort the Referee and Assistant Referees to the field of play.

During the Match

- Ensure that the spectators' behaviour is orderly and is not abusive to the Referee or his Assistants, players or other spectators.
- Direct and assist any ambulance if called to attend a player or any other person.
- Escort the Referee and Assistant Referees to and from the field of play at the half-time break.
- Be of assistance wherever possible.

After the Match

- Ensure the Referees' safety at all times.
- Ensure that both teams leave the grounds in a proper and orderly manner.
- Escort the Referee and Assistant Referees from the field of play.

8.6 Admittance to Grounds

Clubs must honour all honorary admission passes issued by Football Federation Australia, Football Queensland and Football Brisbane.

8.7 Match Officials' Fees

The team manager is required to supply the correct fees to the Match Officials at least 15 minutes prior to the match together with their Match Sheet.

8.7.1 All Competitions

- Fixtures - fees are paid by the Home club
- Qualifying, Semi and Preliminary Finals - fees will be shared **equally** by competing teams.
- Grand Finals – fees will be paid by Football Brisbane

8.8 Match Sheets

On match day, both participating teams are required to provide two (2) copies of an official Football Brisbane Match Sheet prior to the commencement of any match. Both teams must ensure they have the minimum number of players to commence the match (7 players). The Match Sheets **MUST** be supplied to the match referee **at least 15 minutes** prior to the scheduled kick-off.

Match sheets are to be printed from Fox Sports Pulse. (See instructions in Managers' Guide sent to clubs and available on Football Brisbane website.) On match day take both copies of your Match Sheet to the game. Hand both copies to the match officials at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

A Match Sheet must:

- List all match details (age group, division, date, fixture number, participating teams, and venue);
- List all players taking part in the match with first name, surname, shirt number and FFA number;
- List all borrowed players (Junior competitions);
- Not list more than 16 players for any fixture;
- List all Team Officials;

The referee is responsible for ensuring the names of all Match Officials are listed on the Match Sheet.

8.9 Playing Strips

All clubs must nominate a "Home" and "Alternate" strip on the official club affiliation form. The alternate strip must be of a different colour (this applies to shirts, shorts and socks) to the nominated home strip. The alternate strip must be of a different colour to the nominated "Home" strip. All playing strips must have clearly visible numbers on the back of the jerseys.

In the event the player's uniform or attire has blood on it, the referee will instruct that player to change his attire before being permitted to re-join the game. Should the injured player be required to change his shirt, then the referee will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered or unnumbered shirt if necessary.

Sponsorship advertising on playing strips shall conform to the Football Queensland guidelines which are available on the Football Brisbane website.

Team Managers should check the strip worn by their opponents on a weekly basis to avoid the likelihood of a clash. Goalkeepers can wear any colour provided it does not clash with either team or Referee/Assistants. **NB - Goalkeepers MUST NOT wear replica strips.**

8.9.1 Senior Competitions (including Under 16 TSPL)

All first named clubs will be deemed the "Home" team and will play in their nominated colours. In the event there is a clash of colours, it will be the responsibility of the **visiting team** to change into an alternative strip.

Visiting teams must take their alternate strip (shirts, shorts and socks) to every match and it is at the discretion of the Match Official as to whether part or all of the alternate kit must be worn.

8.9.2 Junior Competitions

Where club colours are similar, the **HOME** team will be required to wear their registered alternate strip.

Junior teams are not permitted to advertise any alcohol or tobacco related products on their respective playing strips.

8.10 Match Balls

The host Club shall provide three (3) footballs of correct size and in good order and condition for each match. The size of the match balls shall be as follows:

Competition	Match Ball Size
Under 12 – Under 13	Size 4
Under 14 – Senior	Size 5

8.11 Procedures Following a Match

Following the match, each team Manager and Referee must sign off the Match Sheets after verifying the accuracy of final result, game details (red cards, cautions, goal scorers and times) and players listed. Each manager must sign and collect one (1) copy of their own Match Sheet and one (1) copy of the opposition's Match Sheet from the match officials.

Your respective team's Match Sheet must be forwarded to Football Brisbane within two (2) days of the completion of the game. Each team is responsible for forwarding their own match sheet. Football Brisbane's preferred method is to receive match sheets via email.

Match sheets can either be scanned or a photo taken from a mobile device. **NOTE: The entire match sheet must be visible and all details easily read.**

Senior Match Sheets are to be sent to seniormatchsheets@footballbrisbane.com.au.

Junior Match Sheets are to be sent to juniormatchsheets@footballbrisbane.com.au.

Football Brisbane reserves the right to impose penalties and or fines on clubs that fail to forward the original copies within the stated timeframe without justification. Furthermore, if the match sheets are not received by Football Brisbane by the close of business fourteen (14) days after the scheduled date of the match in question, it may result in the home team having a 3-0 result awarded against it.

8.12 Results of Fixtures

The results of fixtures must be entered by the **HOME** team in the Competition Management System. Football Brisbane may impose a fine on clubs that fail to register their scores as required.

8.12.1 Premier League (Mens & Womens) – 1st Team ONLY

HOME teams must enter their results **as soon as possible and within two (2) hours** of the completion of the match.

8.12.2 Other Competitions (Mens & Womens & Juniors)

HOME teams must enter their results **by 9.00am on Monday** for weekend matches (Fri-Sun) and **by 9.00am the following day** for mid-week matches (Mon-Thu).

9 Wet Weather Procedures

All correspondence by Football Brisbane to Clubs shall be deemed to have been received by Clubs.

It is therefore essential for clubs to do the following:

- Ensure your Contacts for the Club is up to date in My Football Club (under the Organisation menu)
- Ensure the contact(s) has a mobile phone number listed within the My Football Club

Each club is only responsible for notifying their own club members of field closures.

9.1 Mid-week & Friday night cancellations

When closing fields, clubs must contact Football Brisbane (FB) no later than **2:00pm** on the afternoon of the match. The **HOME** club is responsible for deciding if matches are to proceed.

9.1.1 Senior Competitions

If any matches are called off, the **HOME** club is required to **EMAIL** Football Brisbane (seniors@footballbrisbane.com.au) with this advice (**NOT** telephone messages).

If the situation arises where conditions deteriorate after **2:00pm**, clubs are to call the Senior Competitions Administrator (**0410 194 434**) to discuss the options – do **NOT** send an email.

If matches have not been postponed after following the above procedure, it is then the Referee's decision, on arrival, as to whether matches are to go ahead.

- **Notification Process for weeknight matches (including Friday night)**
Matches postponed will be listed in the “**SENIOR GROUND CLOSURES**” section (under “**Wet Weather**”) on both the Football Brisbane and The Washing Line websites (clubs will NOT be advised by SMS unless there are late postponements).

9.1.2 Junior Competitions

If any matches are called off, the **HOME** club is required to **EMAIL** Football Brisbane (juniors@footballbrisbane.com.au) with this advice (**NOT** telephone messages).

If the situation arises where conditions deteriorate after **2:00pm**, clubs are to call the Junior Wet Weather number (**0421 271 735**) to discuss the options – do **NOT** send an email.

If matches have not been postponed after following the above procedure, it is then the Referee’s decision, on arrival, as to whether matches are to go ahead.

- **Notification Process for weeknight matches (including Friday night)**
Matches postponed will be listed in the “**JUNIOR GROUND CLOSURES**” section (under “**Wet Weather**”) on both the Football Brisbane and The Washing Line websites (clubs will NOT be advised by SMS unless there are late postponements).

9.2 Weekend cancellations

9.2.1 Senior Competitions

Saturday

The **HOME** club is responsible for deciding if matches are to proceed. If any matches are called off, the **HOME** club is required to **SMS** Football Brisbane on the Wet Weather Number (**0406 752 731**) (**NOT** telephone messages) **by 9.00am** on the day of the match.

Sunday

The **HOME** club is responsible for deciding if matches are to proceed. If any matches are called off, the **HOME** club is required to **SMS** Football Brisbane on the Wet Weather Number (**0406 752 731**) (**NOT** telephone messages) **by 8.00am** on the day of the match.

On Saturday or Sunday, if the situation arises where conditions deteriorate after these times, clubs are to ring the Senior Competitions Administrator (**0410 194 434**) to discuss the options – do **NOT** send an email.

If matches have not been postponed after following the above procedure, it is then the Referee’s decision, on arrival, as to whether matches are to go ahead. Should the Referee postpone matches, the **HOME** club must notify (**by SMS**) the Senior Competitions Administrator (**0410 194 434**).

- **Notification process for weekend matches**
Matches postponed will be listed in the “**SENIOR GROUND CLOSURES**” section (under “**Wet Weather**”) on both the Football Brisbane and The Washing Line websites (clubs will NOT be advised by SMS unless there are late postponements).

9.2.2 Junior Competitions

Clubs can advise if their fields are unplayable for Saturday and Sunday matches up to the end of business hours on the preceding Friday by contacting the FB Office or via the following process after that time:

- FB will receive an SMS notification of field unavailability from the affected club to 0421 271 735 **by 7am**. If a club has not closed their fields by 7am then it will be a Referees call, as to whether games are played or cancelled.
- FB will collate information for release on its website (“**JUNIOR GROUND CLOSURES**” section; under “**Wet Weather**”) on a regular basis between 7:15am and 11.15am Saturday and Sunday.

9.3 Penalties & Outcomes

If any **HOME** club does not abide by the Wet Weather Procedures, they will be deemed to have forfeited any matches that were due to be played on that particular day at their ground. The results of those matches will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.

9.4 Complete Weekend Cancellation (Junior competitions ONLY)

In the event that Football Brisbane declares the cancellation of a complete fixture weekend due to extreme weather events, all fixtures may be declared as 0-0 draws.

Any matches which were completed during a “declared” weekend may be declared as 0-0 draws.

Football Brisbane may decide to play or replay any matches from a “declared” weekend as it sees fit.

9.5 Extreme Weather Conditions

In extreme weather conditions, Football Brisbane or the appointed Match Official reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture. If the appointed Match Official postpones, delays or abandons any fixture, they must submit a report to Football Brisbane.

All Clubs, players, Team Officials and Match Officials are requested to note the following:

- If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the course of the game; *and*
- If conditions are considered extreme by the Match Referee, he or she has discretion to allow a 2-minute break during the course of each half.

10 Match Officials

10.1 Non-Attendance of Match Official

Should the appointed Referee fail to honour his appointment, then the next most senior Match Official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture, provided they are qualified to officiate the match in question.

In the event the appointed Referee is late on arrival, then the replacement Match Official will take charge of the fixture until the appointed Referee is ready to take over.

In circumstances where only one Assistant Referee has been appointed, **the home team is requested to provide a Club Assistant to assist the Match Referee.** If necessary, the away Club may be asked to provide an Assistant. However, the game cannot start without two Assistants if the Referee requests them.

In circumstances where no Assistant Referees have been appointed, **the home team is requested to provide two Club Assistants to assist the Referee.** If necessary, the away club may be asked to provide an Assistant. Please note, the game should not start without 2 Assistants, however this decision will be at the Referee's discretion.

If non-attendance of a match official means that a match official under the age of 18 is the only match official, then that match official is not permitted to officiate in that match without Football Brisbane permission..

10.2 Unavailability of Match Official

In the event no registered Match Official is present to take charge of the fixture, then the designated “Home” club shall appoint a Match Official to take charge of the fixture. Once the fixture has commenced, it is deemed that the match official has been agreed upon by both of the participating teams. This Match Official has the same powers as a registered Match Official. Once a game has commenced, neither team can change their agreement to the appointed Match Official.

10.2.1 Senior Competitions

If the home team is unable to provide a Match Official, the away team may provide the Match Official. If neither team is able to provide a Match Official, they may choose to postpone the match. This should be advised to Football Brisbane as soon as possible. Both teams must agree within five (5) working days on a date for the rescheduling of the match and advise Football Brisbane. If a reschedule is not agreed upon within this time, a 0-0 draw will be recorded as the result of the match.

10.2.2 Junior Competitions

All clubs are obligated to fulfil all fixtures regardless of whether a Match Official is present to take charge.

Should any club fail or refuse to participate in any fixture on the above grounds, then the following will apply:

- The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team;
- The club will be fined per offence, and will be subject to further disciplinary action

In the event both teams refuse to play, Football Brisbane reserves the right to award a **NO RESULT**, fine both clubs and recommend further disciplinary action.

11 Interpretations, Disputes and Applications for Variances

Football Brisbane reserves the right to rule on any interpretation of these rules if any dispute arises. Clubs are advised to seek clarification from Football Brisbane if in any doubt as to the meaning of these rules.

Applications for variances to these rules should be lodged by the Club Secretary to the Competitions Manager, Football Brisbane with all supporting documentation.

Football Brisbane reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.

Appendix 1

FOOTBALL BRISBANE PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY

Clubs must ensure that the information entered about individuals, into My Football Club is handled in accordance with the *Football Federation Australia's Football Member Protection Policy*. This should also be taken into account if the club is to use extracts of this data for its own club databases or for any other purpose. Breaches of this policy may result in disciplinary action or litigation being taken against individuals and/or their club.

Clubs must ensure that all members are aware that the uploading of indecent or inappropriate photos to their records within My Football Club will be viewed as the inappropriate use of the National Registration System and a breach of the *Football Federation Australia's Code of Conduct*. This may result in disciplinary action being taken against individuals and/or their club or litigation. Therefore we recommend either do not use the photograph option (it is not mandatory) or use the following policy:

The standard of image to be uploaded will be very similar to that required for a Passport Photograph.

- Head shot only;
- Neutral expression mouth closed;
- Hair out of face edges of face visible;
- No hands in photograph;
- Look straight at the camera;
- Nothing obscuring eyes (except prescription lenses);
- No reflections on glasses or face;
- No shadows or red-eye;
- No head coverings (except religious purposes); and
- Plain light background.