

Football NT Inc

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RULES OF COMPETITION 2026

Contents

DEFINITIONS	4
1 INTRODUCTION	7
1.1 PURPOSE AND OBEJECTIVES.....	7
1.2 INTERPRETATIONS	7
1.3 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT	7
1.4 IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.....	8
1.5 BROADCAST MATCHES – COPYRIGHT	8
2 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND CLUBS	9
2.1 CODE OF CONDUCT.....	9
2.2 PLAYERS	9
2.3 CLUB, CLUB OFFICIALS AND TEAM OFFICIALS	10
2.4 MATCH OFFICIALS.....	11
2.5 REGISTRATION PERIODS.....	11
2.6 REGISTRATION DEADLINE	11
2.7 PRIORITY OF REGISTRATION	11
2.8 FOOTBALL NT MID-SEASON PLAYER DE-REGISTRATION.....	12
2.9 CHANGES TO REGISTERED INFORMATION	13
2.10 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE.....	13
2.11 DEREGISTRATION	14
3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE.....	15
3.1 COMPETITION STRUCTURE AND NOMINATIONS.....	15
3.2 REPRESENTATIVE, INSTITUTE AND DEVELOPMENT SQUADS	15
3.3 MINIROOS, JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS	16
3.4 ALTERATIONS TO DRAWS.....	18
3.5 POSTPONED MATCHES.....	19
3.6 TEAMS WITHDRAWING OR EXPELLED FROM COMPETITION.....	19
3.7 MATCH POINTS	19
3.8 FINALS SERIES	20
3.9 EXTRA TIME.....	22

3.10	VENUES AND ADMISSION CHARGES	22
4	MATCH DAY	23
4.1	AGE ELIGIBILITY	23
4.2	COACH ELIGIBILITY	24
4.3	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY	24
4.4	DETERMINATION OF MATCHES PLAYED	25
4.5	NUMBER OF PLAYERS	25
4.6	DURATION OF MATCHES	26
4.7	FAILURE TO PLAY A MATCH	26
4.8	ABANDONED MATCHES	26
4.9	TEAM SHEETS	27
4.10	MATCH SHIRTS	28
4.11	MATCH BALLS	29
4.12	MATCH OFFICIALS	29
4.13	FORFEITS	30
4.14	TECHNICAL AREA	30
4.15	INTERCHANGE AND SUBSTITUTIONS	31
4.16	GROUNDS	31
5	DISCIPLINE, DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE, CHARGES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION	32
6	6. FINANCE	33
6.1	REGISTRATION FEES	33
6.2	PAYMENT OF INVOICES	33
6.3	SANCTIONS	34
6.4	FINES	34
6.5	GATE REVENUE	34
6.6	RECORD MAINTENANCE	34
7	7. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS	35

DEFINITIONS

Amateur means any player who is not a professional as defined in the National Registration Regulations.

Away Team means the team that is the second named on the draw.

Board means the body made up of elected Directors of the Federation.

Club means any club registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations from time to time. A reference to club includes a club admitted by a Competition Administrator to field a team in a competition.

Club Official means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors, and representatives.

Code of Conduct means the national football code of conduct as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

Competition means any competition or tournament registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations for FNT, including the pre-season, season proper, finals series and any post season tournament or knockout cup competition. For clarity, the Men's Premier League is a competition, the Men's Premier League Reserves is a separate competition, as is Men's Third Division. This also applies to the Women's Premier, Premier League Reserves and Women's Third Division.

Competition Administrator means the entity responsible for the conduct and staging of a competition.

Competition Regulations means the regulations governing the administration and conduct of a competition under the auspices of FNT.

Delegate means the representative nominated by a club to represent that club at meetings and to be authorised to deal with the Competition Administrator or FNT regarding club issues.

Disciplinary Committee means the FNT Disciplinary Committee constituted in accordance with the Grievance Resolution Regulations that has jurisdiction over the competition.

Disciplinary Regulations means the national football disciplinary regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time (current version can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

Football NT or FNT means Football Northern Territory Incorporated.

FA Statutes means FA's statutes and regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules, and policies and procedures.

FIFA or Federation Internationale de Football Association means the world governing body of football.

FIFA Statutes mean the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code, Players' Agents Rules and Regulations Governing Match Agents.

Grievance Resolution Regulations means the regulations promulgated by FA from time to time setting out the procedures applying to grievances and disputes in football (which can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

Home Team means the team that is the first named on the draw.

Institute means any national, state or territory institute or academy of sport that has a football program including any national training centre implemented by either FA or a Member Federation.

Junior means matches or competitions including small sided football and up to U18s

Laws of the Game means the laws governing or regulating the playing of football as determined by FIFA, FA, FNT and local rules as adopted from time to time.

FA or Football Australia means the governing body of football in Australia.

A match means any match staged, participated in, sanctioned by or played under the auspices of FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator.

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, selector, any person in charge of safety or any other person appointed by FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

Office of Football NT means the postal address of the Federation being GPO Box 3105 Darwin NT 0801.

Officer of Football NT means any board member or employee of FNT.

Official means any club official and/ or team official.

Player means any person who is, from time to time, registered to a club whether that person is male or female, junior or senior or an amateur or professional.

PlayFootball means the national registration system provided by FA.

Professional means a player who is paid to play football, as defined in the National Registration Regulations.

Professional Player Contract means the mandatory form of contract for the casual employment of a Professional as specified in the National Registration Regulations.

Premier League means the top tier of men's football in the Northern Territory.

Registrar means a person appointed by a club as their representative for all matters relating to player registrations.

Referee means a referee duly appointed to officiate at a match.

Registration Period means the period in which a player must be registered with a club as specified in these rules.

Regular Season means the matches played between the clubs during the season to determine the clubs that compete in the finals series and includes all matches played in the season that is not in the pre-season, cup competitions or the finals series.

Representative Team means a team representing a State or Territory, a region, or an institute that participates in a competition.

Ring In means a player who plays under the name of another registered player's name or a false name.

Rules mean competition rules.

Season means the period starting with the first match of a competition and ending on the last match of that competition.

Senior means matches or competitions for open-aged males or females and youth competitions.

Squadi means the software platform used for management of the competition.

Team means a squad of players from a single club competing in an authorised FNT competition.

Team Sheet refers to team sheets or match cards.

Team Official means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a club's team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team or match day doctor), physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff.

Weekday Fixture means a match scheduled to be played on a day other than those defined as a weekend fixture.

Weekend Fixture means a match scheduled to be played on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday and on a Monday where that day is classified as a public holiday.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of these rules is to assist in the administration of competitions under the control of Football Northern Territory (FNT). The objectives of these rules are to:

- a) ensure that football is played competitively and fairly in accordance with principles of true sportsmanship and in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- b) promote, develop and protect the game of football in the Northern Territory in all its forms for participants of all abilities and skill levels.
- c) ensure football is regulated in a consistent and coordinated manner across the Northern Territory.
- d) ensure young players and officials are adequately protected.
- e) encourage participation in football and to improve and advance football as a spectator sport, and to provide a safe and secure playing and spectator environment.

1.2 INTERPRETATIONS

- a) Where there is any ambiguity or uncertainty in the application of these regulations to any particular situation, FNT and the Competition Administrator are empowered to interpret these Regulations to make such rulings deemed reasonably appropriate in the circumstances. Such rulings are to be documented and are subject to the appeal process provided for within the Disciplinary Regulations.
- b) If these rules are amended for any reason, FNT will take reasonable steps to notify all clubs of the amendment(s).

1.3 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

- a) FNT is the Competition Administrator who is responsible for the management of all competitions sanctioned by FNT.
- b) The Competition Administrator will ensure its objectives are consistent with the objectives of FNT.
- c) The Competition Administrator will deal with clubs, officials and/or players in respect of offences and/ or complaints and any other matter not otherwise specifically provided for in these rules, including clubs being held to account for the actions of its officials, players and/or supporters. If the Competition Administrator deems a club has committed a breach of the provisions of these rules or conducted itself in a matter prejudicial to the interests of football, they may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee.

1.4 IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS

FNT and the Competition Administrator will hand down sanctions in accordance with these rules and Part VI of the FA Statutes. The sanction may be, but not limited to, a reprimand, fine, loss of points and/ or expulsion from a competition. Clubs, officials and players that are the subject of a sanction can appeal against that sanction pursuant to these rules and FA's Grievance Resolution Regulations.

1.5 BROADCAST MATCHES – COPYRIGHT

The copyright for all matches under the jurisdiction of FNT will remain with FNT. Matches will not be telecast via live streaming or broadcast without the prior written consent of FNT.

2 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND CLUBS

2.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) All players and club officials are bound by and must comply with all FA Statutes and Regulations, including and without limitation, the FA Code of Conduct.
- b) The FA Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its members (as defined in the Code of Conduct) and stakeholders. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence in the honest and professional conduct of matches or in the integrity and good character of its members.

2.2 PLAYERS

- a) Players who are registered participants in FNT competitions will be either professional or amateur players as prescribed in the National Registration Regulations (NRR).
- b) As per the FA National Registration Regulations: player participating in football is either an amateur or a professional.
 - (i) A professional is a player who has a written contract with a club (NRR05), under which he or she is paid to play football for that club.
 - (ii) An amateur is any player that is not a professional. A club may pay or reimburse an amateur player any expenses incurred by that player without affecting the player's amateur status, including for travel, kit, equipment, or insurance premiums. If however, an amateur is reimbursed more than \$110 a week by a club, the onus is on that club to satisfy FNT that the amount paid, accurately reflects the expenses incurred by that player. If the club fails to satisfy this onus, that player will be deemed to be a professional player.
- c) A player can only be registered with one (1) club in each form of the game at any time in line with the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations and FIFA.
- d) A player may also be registered as a futsal/ social player without affecting a player's registration with other football types.
- e) All players must be registered in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations.
- f) A player's registration status must be 'active' in PlayFootball and Squadi to be deemed a valid registration.

- g) The accountability and responsibility of making a registration active, lies with the club. Any unpaid fees relating to the registration of a player, after it has been activated remains the responsibility of the respective club. It is recommended that a player's registration made active once full payment is received / a payment agreement has been made between a club and a player in writing. FNT requires evidence of the written agreement before facilitating a player transfer. Any agreement in writing is only valid for the season in which the agreement refers to.

2.3 CLUB, CLUB OFFICIALS AND TEAM OFFICIALS

- a) All club and team officials **must** be registered in PlayFootball **and Squadi**.
- b) Each club must be registered with FA in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations, as updated from time to time:
- (i) By completing the Prescribed Form *NRR 02 – Application for Registration of Football Club* located at www.footballaustralia.com.au tab on About FA then tabs on Statutes and Regulations.
 - (ii) For a newly formed club, completing and lodging this form to the Federation prior to the commencement of their inaugural season.
- c) Club names must be approved by FNT, after being reviewed in accordance with FA directives.
- d) Every club shall participate in the FA NCAP accreditation process during 2026.
- e) A club must apply to the Competition Administrator for approval to enter the competition under the jurisdiction of the Federation.
- f) Clubs who wish to nominate for any competition entry will be at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.
- g) The Federation may require a club to lodge a bond to compete in competitions. Any such bond must be paid prior to any team representing that club participating in any competition including pre-season and/or friendly matches.
- h) A coach or team manager within a club is required to:
- (i) Register on the PlayFootball system.
 - (ii) Have a Working with Children Clearance (WWCC) in accordance with SAFE NT.
- i) The registration will be made active in the PlayFootball system, once the club has sighted the applicant's WWCC, also referred to as an ochre card.
- j) Junior teams are not required to nominate a light and dark playing uniform but must still register the playing uniform for the upcoming season

2.4 MATCH OFFICIALS

- a) All match Officials **must** be registered within Squadi to officiate matches.
- b) A match official must:
 - (i) Register on the Squadi system.
 - (ii) Have a WWCC in accordance with SAFE NT.
- c) The registration will be made active in the Squadi system, once FNT's Referee Manager has sights the applicant's WWCC, also referred to as an ochre card.
- d) All match officials must hold the recognised minimum level of accreditation required as stipulated.
- e) Failure to comply will result in the non-issue of accreditation or appointments.

2.5 REGISTRATION PERIODS

- a) Senior amateur players can only register between 1 January to 31 July of the competition year.
- b) Junior amateur players can register between 1 January to 31 July of the competition year. Registrations after this period until the last day of the regular season may be accepted after consultation with FNT.
- c) A professional player can only be registered from 16 January to 12 February 2026 for men, and between 1 December 2025 and 9 January 2026 for women.
- d) If a Player is registering for the first time, the player must provide the club with evidence of name and age, by producing an original birth certificate, passport, drivers' licence or similar form of identification.
- e) A club that wishes to register an amateur player outside of the designated registration period must request written prior approval from the Competition Administrator. The Competition Administrator will make a decision, acting reasonably.

Commented [AH1]: These dates should ensure any player registered can qualify for finals.

2.6 REGISTRATION DEADLINE

A player's registration must be made active by the club in Play Football at least 48 hours before that player is eligible to play in the next round of scheduled matches.

2.7 PRIORITY OF REGISTRATION

- a) If a player registers with more than one club, priority of registration shall be allocated to the club that first registered the player in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations.
- b) A club that knowingly induces a player to sign an FA registration form in the knowledge that the player has already registered with another club will be fined \$500.

- c) FNT, at its discretion, may sanction a player that is registered for more than one club at any given time during the Season.
- d) Exceptions to 2.7 exist in accordance with 2.2.

2.8 FOOTBALL NT MID-SEASON PLAYER DE-REGISTRATION

For all player mid-season de-registrations and transfers, 2.8 guidelines must be followed by all clubs:

2.8.1. PLAYER

If an amateur no longer wishes to play for his or her club, they may allow the registration to lapse. If the amateur wishes to transfer to another club during a season, the amateur must either:

- a) complete and sign the Notification of Cancellation of Amateur Registration (Prescribed Form 08) and send a copy to the club and the Competition Administrator; or
- b) apply to de-register via **Squadi** (or PlayFootball as required), which will notify the club and the Competition Administrator of the player's intention to change clubs.
- c) A player may only change clubs during the transfer window period, being 1 June and 31 July in the competition year. This rule applies to all competitive divisions.
- d) FNT under exceptional circumstances may allow players to transfer between clubs outside the transfer window period. The Competition Administrator's decision on this matter will be final without recourse to an appeal. Exceptional circumstances may include yet not be limited to team withdrawal or player welfare.
- e) Where a Club has been approved to have two (2) or more teams in the same division, a player may transfer between teams in that division within the transfer window only, and only after formal notification is received and approved by the competition administrator.

2.8.2. CLUB

If a Club no longer wants an amateur to play for the club, the club must either:

- a) complete the Notification of Cancellation of Amateur Registration (Prescribed Form 08) and send a copy to the amateur and the Competition Administrator; or
- b) apply to de-register the player via **Squadi** and notify the player and the Competition Administrator of the club's intention to de-register the player.

Commented [AH2]: Or play football – not sure which at this stage – highlighted for the rest of the doc.

2.8.3. PROCESS

The de-registration of an amateur from a club is effective:

- a) immediately when the other party (i.e. club or player as the case may be) has confirmed the notification of cancellation; or
- b) seven (7) days from the date the player requested the de-registration in accordance with article 12(b)(i) or 12(b)(ii) in National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations (as the case may be) unless a grievance has been initiated with the Competition Administrator in accordance with article 19.2 of the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations and within 48 hours from when the club receives an email from the national online registration system advising de- registration.
- c) Clubs must notify FNT of the player de-registration.

2.8.4. FOOTBALL NT

Re-registration is permitted after FNT has been advised and a clearance has been issued by FNT. The re-registration can then be made active.

2.9 CHANGES TO REGISTERED INFORMATION

If there are changes to the registration details of players or club officials, the club must ensure the relevant person to whom the information relates, updates their information in the PlayFootball system no later than 72 hours of the change occurring.

2.10 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

- a) In accordance with FIFA Statutes, a player who was last registered (current or otherwise) with an overseas club, inclusive of players who are permanent residents or citizens of Australia, will require an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) from the National Association of that overseas club, to be registered in Australia.
- b) An ITC is an official document, physical or electronic, issued by a National Football Association, bearing its logo and physically signed by an authorised officer of that national body.
- c) In accordance with FIFA Statutes, Football Australia can only request an ITC from another National Association during the registration periods for Football Australia, as specified in FIFA TMS (Transfer Management System).
- d) In accordance with section 6.8(d) of the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations, a player cannot be registered until the ITC document is received by Football Australia and FNT.

- e) Regardless of whether the player is made 'active' in the **Squadi** system or not, a player requiring an ITC is not eligible to play any competition fixtures for any club until the ITC document has been received by the club.
- f) It is the club's responsibility to ensure an ITC document is obtained prior to fielding the player in a match. Clubs failing to satisfy these criteria will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and will be dealt with accordingly under these rules.
- g) On fulfillment of all ITC requirements, the player can be added to the club's player roster.
- h) To access the full 'Guide to International Transfer Certificates' document, visit [Guide to ITCs and Minor Applications \(ITCs\) \(2025\) 1.pdf \(footballaustralia.com.au\)](#)

2.11 DEREGISTRATION

- a) Every Team shall have a maximum of 5 intra-club player de-registrations allotted per team. After the maximum de-registrations, a \$200 administration fee shall be applied per player de-registration.
- b) This administration fee may be waived by the Competition Administrator under extenuating circumstances. Examples of extenuating circumstances include but are not limited to, long term player injuries and intrastate, interstate or international player movement.
- c) The Competition Administrator will review submissions from clubs claiming extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
- d) All club submissions must be made in writing to the Competition Administrator, who will respond to the club within ten working days of receipt of finalised documentation from the club. All mid-season player de-registrations must be in compliance with section 2.8. of these rules.
- e) The Competition Administrator's ruling on extenuating circumstances will be binding and non-appealable.

3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

3.1 COMPETITION STRUCTURE AND NOMINATIONS

Please refer to Appendix A for competition flow chart and nominations

- a) FNT will deliver competitions for Seniors, Juniors and Miniros Divisions in consultation with the clubs participating in the competitions and based on the team registrations for the relevant competition season.
- b) Clubs are required to nominate teams for the respective Divisions. Clubs must submit their nominations to the Competition Administrator by 22 March 2026 for juniors and 29 February 2026 for seniors. Any requests to change nominations will be considered. A club that makes a second change may be issued a \$200.00 administration levy.
- c) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as decided by the International Football Association Board and distributed by FA. This is in conjunction with the Competition Regulations of FNT.

Commented [AH3]: Assuming there is leeway this season due to divisional changes?

3.2 REPRESENTATIVE, INSTITUTE AND DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

- a) Institute and development squads may apply to participate in a competition. The Competition Administrator and the Federation will consider the request and allocate the teams to the most appropriate competition.
- b) At the discretion of the Competition Administrator, Development squad teams in the junior or senior competitions may play for points, and, may be eligible for their respective final series.
- c) In the event a team has three (3) or more players selected into a representative team, and that selection interferes with those players participation in the competition of the Southern Zone Season, the club can apply to the Competition Administrator for deferment of the match(es) affected, or likely to be affected, by the selection of those representative players. Such requests are subject to the minimum timeframes specified within Rule 3.4.
- d) Decisions of the Competition Administrator under rule 3.2 are binding and are non-appealable.

3.3 MINIROOS, JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISIONS

REFER TO APPENDIX B- COMPETITION LAYOUTS

3.3.1 PREMIER LEAGUE – MEN' AND WOMEN'S

- a) The Premier League competition is currently capped at eight (8) Teams.
- b) Clubs can only have one team participating within this competition.
- c) FNT may reject the application of any club to participate in the Premier League. The Competition Administrator's decision is final and not appealable.
- d) The following rules apply to the Premier League competition:
 - (i) In the competition year, each club shall identify, nominate, and submit to the competition administration for approval, the top four (4) players of their respective Premier League Teams (to be designated as "Elite" Players).
 - (ii) Following approval by the Competition Administration, these players will be tied exclusively to the Premier League competitions.
 - (iii) The top four (4) players' details must be submitted to Football NT two weeks prior to the start of the regular season. FNT shall maintain a record of these top four (4) Elite players for each Premier League team.
 - (iv) FNT Competition Administration and Technical Director will review the lists over the first three (3) competition rounds for the purpose of validation and verification, and reserve the right to make any and all changes necessary with full consultation of all clubs.
 - (v) If any of the identified top four (4) Elite player(s) leaves the club, has a long-term injury, or are unable to continue participating in their respective Premier League competition, then clubs together with FNT Competition Administration must nominate a replacement for consideration by FNT.
 - (vi) Players removed from the 'top four (4) list may apply to be eligible to participate in lower divisions, subject to FNT approval
 - (vii) Players 16 years of age and under are exempt from this rule and must not be listed in the top four (4).
 - (viii) Goalkeepers are also exempt from this rule and must not be listed as an "Elite" player. Goalkeepers who play for a Premier League team and a team in a lower division must do so solely as a Goalkeeper, and not as an outfield player.
- e) **Wherever possible, clubs must register a certified First Aid person for every team, who is to be included on the team sheet.** The First Aid certified person may be a player, coach or team official from another team from that Club

Commented [AH4]: To be clear – I think this clause is to stipulate that an MPL Goal keeper can only drop into the reserves to be a goal keeper. An MPL goal keeper can play outfield in the MPL – but not the Reserves?

Commented [sr5R4]: I will answer this by saying that it means an MPL Goalkeeper who comes down to play in the Reserves can only do so as a Goalkeeper for the Reserves.

Commented [AH6]: This needs attention. Is very problematic in our region.

Commented [sr7R6]: I agree, and that was why we put in the wording "wherever possible". We could reword this to read something like "Should a club have a certified First Aid person who is available to be a First Aider for any particular team within their club, they should be included as a First Aid Person on the teamsheet."

(eg: The First Aid certified person for an MPL team may be a player for that Club's MPL Reserves team).

3.3.2 PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES – MEN'S AND WOMEN'S

- a) This is the reserve grade for Premier League.
- b) Clubs are limited to one team to participate in the MPLR and WPLR Divisions.
- c) Additional teams may be included in these divisions, subject to FNT approval provided -
 - (i) All clubs have a team nominated in the division
 - (ii) A club notifies FNT in writing that they will not include a team in the division
- d) The Premier League Reserves competition shall be capped at ten (10) teams.
- e) Players registered into the Premier League Reserves competition, can play in the Premier League competition.
- f) In the event a club has more than one team in the Premier League Reserves Division, teams will maintain Player rosters exclusive of the other team, and these players cannot move between teams, except in line with the Transfer procedures as per Rule 2 of these Competition Rules.
- g) Where a club has more than one Premier League Reserves team, the club must nominate which Reserves team will be the official "feeder" team to the club's Premier League team.
- h) Players registered for the Southern Zone Men's Premier League Reserves competition are eligible to play in the Men's Premier League and 3rd Division/Social Mixed competitions, in line with these Competition Rules.
- i) Women registered to play in the Southern Zone Women's Premier League are permitted to play in the MPL Reserves and are eligible for finals in that division as per rule 3.8(c).

3.3.3 THIRD/SOCIALS MIXED DIVISION

- a) Clubs can only have one team participating in this competition.
- b) Teams in this division can be mixed gender.
- c) Extra Teams may be considered under approval of FNT Competition Administration, and inclusion will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- d) The maximum number of teams in this competition will be at the discretion of the Competition Administrator/ Federation.
- e) Players of this division may play up into higher divisions within their club,

Commented [AH8]: Added as there seems to be no provision for this elsewhere

Commented [sr9R8]: I have no problems with this at all. I have reworded very slightly to match wording in some other points in this section.

- f) Players Registered higher than this division are not permitted to play down into the 3rd / Social Division.
- g) A 3rd/Social Division player will be excluded from the 3rd/social division once that player participates in 10 matches of any combination of higher division matches
- h) Female players may play in this division, and will be permitted to play without prejudice into higher divisions.

3.3.4 JUNIOR DIVISIONS

- a) The Junior Divisions, Southern Zone U13s and Southern Zone U14/U15U16s will be competition based. Teams will be placed into age divisions and a minimum of 14 rounds will be scheduled for each division.
- b) Where sufficient team numbers exist, a girls' only competition will be scheduled.
- c) A final series will be scheduled for each competition.
- d) Where there is more than one pool in a competition, a finals series will be scheduled for each pool.
- e) Southern Zone U6s to Southern Zone U11s are compulsory MiniRoos games for all teams. These are non-competitive games.

3.4 ALTERATIONS TO DRAWS

- a) Once fixtures have been published, no changes will be made unless otherwise provided for in these rules. A club may request a fixture change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing, not less than three (3) weeks prior to the scheduled kick-off date. This request will be considered by FNT.
- b) Any request for a fixture change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition club President.
- c) The Competition Administrator will determine the date, time and venue for any re-scheduled match to be played. The club that requested the re-scheduling of the match will meet all costs incurred.
- d) All rescheduled matches must be played prior to the last competition round of the regular season.
- e) Decisions of the Competition Administrator under rule 3.4 are final and binding and not appealable.

3.5 POSTPONED MATCHES

- a) In the event a match is not played due to poor weather or other factors outside of FNT's control, the match will be played as determined by the Competition Administrator.
- b) All postponed matches shall be played prior to the last Competition round of the Regular Season.
- c) Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 3.5 shall be binding and not appealable.

3.6 TEAMS WITHDRAWING OR EXPELLED FROM COMPETITION

- a) For the purpose of this rule the term **removed** shall include a team that has withdrawn or been expelled from a competition.
- b) If a team is removed from a competition on or before the point of the season where all teams have played each other once, all points along with goals scored (for & against) that team will be erased. Any player votes gained in matches involving the removed team will be erased.
- c) If a team is removed after the point of the season where all teams have played each other once, the following applies:
 - (i) All points along with goals scored (for & against) that team before the point of the season where all teams have played each other once will remain.
 - (ii) Every point along with goals scored (for & against) that team after the point of the season at which all teams have played each other once will be erased.
 - (iii) Withdrawing a team, a club may incur a \$1000 fine for withdrawing a team for an on-going competition.
- d) The decisions of the Competition Administrator under rule 3.6 are final and binding and not appealable.

3.7 MATCH POINTS

- a) In all competition fixtures where points are accrued match points will be awarded as follows:

RESULT	POINTS
WIN	3 POINTS
DRAW	1 POINT
LOSS	NIL

BYE	NIL
NO RESULT	NIL

- b) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to record any fixture as a **no result**.
- c) The team with the greatest number of points at the end of the competition will be declared as competition Premiers.
- d) If two (2) or more teams are level on points at the end of the regular season the following criteria will be applied, in order, until one of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked:
 - (i) highest goal difference.
 - (ii) lowest number of red cards accumulated.
 - (iii) lowest number of yellow cards accumulated.
 - (iv) highest number of goals scored.
 - (v) Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the Teams concerned.
 - (vi) highest goal difference in matches between the Teams concerned.
 - (vii) highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned.
 - (viii) toss of coin.
- e) U6s to U11s are not awarded points as these games are non-competitive. There are no competition tables for these age groups.

3.8 FINALS SERIES

- a) To be eligible to play for a team in the final series, the rules from in-season continue to apply.
- b) The following additional rules apply for each competition during final series -
 - (i) Where a Club has teams in both MPL and MPLR Competitions, that Club must confirm the 'Top Four' Elite Players who will be tied to the MPL League Final Series. The List cannot include Junior Players. This List must be confirmed before the finals series commences.
 - (ii) A player cannot switch between teams in a division where a club has more than one team.
- c) To be eligible to play for a team in a final series, a Senior player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that **Team** during the current season

- d) To be eligible to play for a team in the final series, a Junior player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that **Club**.
- e) Cup matches are **not** included when determining the number of matches played.
- f) A Player, other than those bound by 3.8.b(i), can qualify for multiple finals in accordance with the following:
 - (i) Players of the U11s may participate in the U13 Finals.
 - (ii) Players of the U13s may participate in the U14/U15/U16 Finals.
 - (iii) Players born 2008 - 2013 (13 - 18 years) are allowed to participate in all finals series they qualify for.
 - (iv) Senior Players not subject to 3.8.b(i), are eligible to participate across all Finals they are eligible for.
- g) Teams competing in the Southern Zone Premier League finals series shall be allowed to draw on players from lower divisions
- h) A team that is unable to participate in the final series will be replaced with the next best- placed team from within the same competition, and must notify the Competition Administration Seven (7) days prior to the affected fixture.
- i) FNT Competition Administration will consider other formats whenever circumstances dictate, and the decision in this matter shall be binding and non-appealable.
- j) The Finals Series schedule will be published within 4 weeks of the season start.
- k) The preferred format for the Final Series is 4 (four) teams over 3(three) weeks:
 - (i) Teams that placed third and fourth shall play in the Minor Semi-Final; the losing team is eliminated from further participation.
 - (ii) Teams that placed first and second shall play in the Major Semi-Final with the winning Team proceeding directly to the Grand Final.
 - (iii) The losing Team in the Qualifying Final and the winner of the Minor Semi-Final shall play in the Preliminary Final; the losing team is eliminated
 - (iv) The winner of the Preliminary Final shall play the winner of the Qualifying Final in the Grand Final;
 - (v) The winner of the Grand Final will be declared as competition "Grand Final Champions."
- l) If scores remain level after normal playing time, extra time as specified in these rules will be played to determine a winner.

- m) If after extra time the match is still drawn, the winner will be determined by penalty kicks in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- n) Where both teams field an ineligible player in a semi-final, or the result of a semi-final is declared a 'no result', the winner of the other semi-final will be declared as competition Champions.
- o) It is the responsibility of each club to ensure the eligibility of its players in accordance with these rules.

3.9 EXTRA TIME

- a) Extra time to determine the winner of a match will only be played in final series matches, and the following will apply:
 - (i) Two equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes will be played in MPL, WPL, MPL Reserves, and U14/U15/U16 competitions.
 - (ii) For ~~U11 and~~ U13 competitions, two equal periods of ten (10) minutes will be played.
- b) At the completion of normal time, a five (5) minute break will be granted. All players must remain on the field and only the designated Team Officials from within the technical area can move onto the field of play. Substitutes or substituted Players are not permitted to enter the field of play.
- c) Substitutions will reset for the purpose of Extra time.
- d) A coin toss will determine the direction of play for the first period of extra time.
- e) After the first period of extra time, the teams will change ends immediately. There will be no half-time break within extra time.
- f) Stoppage time will be played.
- g) If scores remain equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game to determine the winner of the Match.

Commented [AH10]: Again – U11s are miniros – no finals?

3.10 VENUES AND ADMISSION CHARGES

- a) The Competition Administrator, in consultation with clubs, will determine venues for all competitions.
- b) The Competition Administrator will determine the charge for admission, if any, to all matches, at all venues, prior to the commencement of any season.
- c) Players or club officials who refuse to pay the prescribed admission charge will be fined \$100.00/offence, where this has been set and agreed to prior to the start of the season, as per Rule 3.10.b, The Competition Administrator may also apply further sanctions. Clubs where Players or Club Officials associated with

the Club repeatedly refuse to pay the prescribed admission charge (such as on multiple occasions over a match day, or multiple occasions over multiple match days), those Clubs may also be fined \$100/offence and such failure may be taken into consideration in assessing the Club's adherence to the Competition Rules and Regulations (including By-Laws).

- d) The Competition Administrator may also apply further sanctions.

ADMISSION CHARGES	
PLAYERS	TBA
ADULTS	TBA
CHILDREN (14 and under)	TBA
STUDENTS/PENSIONERS	TBA
FAMILY (2 adults/2 students)	TBA

4 MATCH DAY

4.1 AGE ELIGIBILITY

- a) Players' age is determined as of 31st December in the Competition Year for eligibility to play in a junior competition. For example, a player who is 14 years at 31st December 2026 is eligible to play U14s during the 2026 Winter Season
- b) For the purposes of clarity, the prefix "U" in "U13 Division" means "13 years old and under". This is true across all Junior and MiniRoos Divisions.
- c) A MiniRoos and Junior Player must start the season in the mixed competition according to their date of birth and is eligible to play up a maximum of one (1) age division only. In the first instance however, the preference is to keep positions for age eligible players to ensure player development opportunities are maximised.
- d) For the Junior 2026 season, the below applies:
 - (i) U6 players cannot play up higher than U8.
 - (ii) U8 players cannot play up higher than U9.
 - (iii) U9 players cannot play up higher than U11.
 - (iv) U11 players cannot play up higher than U13.
 - (v) U13 players cannot play up higher than U14/U15/U16.
 - (vi) Female Players born 2010 -2013 may play into the senior Women's divisions
 - (vii) Female Players may play down 1 aged division

Commented [AH11]: Updated to reflect the divisional changes for 2026

- (viii) Male Players born 2012 may play into the Men's Senior Divisions
- e) Player assessments are required for:
 - (i) Male players to play down one (1) age group.
 - (ii) Male Players born 2011 to play in the senior divisions
 - (iii) Any/all players to play down two (2) or more age groups.
 - (iv) Any/ all players to play up more than one (1) age group.
- f) Any exceptions to the above rules must be directed to the Technical Director for consideration via competitions@footballnt.com.au

4.2 COACH ELIGIBILITY

The minimum acceptable accreditation for a club coach of a Premier League Men's, Reserves or Women's Team is the C-Licence, where FNT has made the course available.

Note: All coaches must be registered in the PlayFootball system. Coaches and Managers may also need be registered in the Squadi Registration Module, should Squadi not be able to map these registrations across from PlayFootball.

4.3 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) A Player is only eligible to play in a match for a club if they:
 - (i) are registered in accordance with the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.
 - (ii) Have an 'Active Registration' within the FNT Approved Registration Platform.
 - (iii) are not subject to a suspension, and have no outstanding fines; in accordance with rule 5.4.
 - (iv) meet the age eligibility criteria as outlined in section 4.1 of these rules.
 - (v) meet competition requirements for final series or playoffs, where applicable.
- b) Without limiting clause 4.3, it is the responsibility of each club to ensure the eligibility of its players in accordance with these rules, and to notify the Competition Administrator of any ineligible player upon becoming aware and to not field an ineligible player in any upcoming match.
- c) If there is a dispute about the eligibility of any player, the match official must note the details on the team sheet and submit the team sheet to the Competition Administrator.

Commented [AH12]: This is an FNT addition – hopefully they only have to register on one platform.

Commented [sr13R12]: FNT is liaising with Squadi to have these registrations mapped across from PlayFootball.

- d) A MiniRoos player can play in the same age group if the club has two (2) teams in that division or up an age group as a fill-in but cannot play down an age group as a fill-in.
- e) Any club that wishes to lodge an official dispute regarding the eligibility of a player must do so in writing, in accordance with these rules.
- f) Any club found to have played an ineligible player shall be fined \$200.00 for seniors and \$100.00 for juniors, and the match will be awarded to the opposing team with a score of 3-0 or the actual score of the match, whichever is greater. Cautions and send-offs received during the match will not be waived and sanctions will apply accordingly.
- g) Any club found to have knowingly or wilfully engaged in the **ring-in** of a player or players in any match shall be fined \$500.00 and the match shall be awarded to the opposing team with a 3-0 score or the actual score of the match, whichever is greater. The club may also be cited to appear before the Disciplinary Committee.
- h) Repeat offenders may incur additional sanctions, as determined by the Competition Administrator.
- i) An ineligible player is a player who is in breach of these rules.

4.4 DETERMINATION OF MATCHES PLAYED

- a) Only players who are recorded on an official match card may take the field of play during a match.
- b) Players listed on an official match card and noted by the referee as having taken the field during that match, will be deemed to have played when calculating the number of qualifying matches played.
- c) The official team sheet or Squadi Match Day log report will be relied on to determine matches played.
- d) Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 4.4 are final and binding and non-appealable.

Commented [AH14]: I think this will be in squadi

4.5 NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- a) A competition match will not start if either team consists of fewer than the required number as per Appendix B. The match will be treated as a forfeit.
- b) A competition match will not continue if either team is reduced to fewer than the required number as per Appendix B. The match will be treated as a forfeit with a 3-0 or the actual score of the match at the time it is forfeited, whichever is greater.

- c) In the event of 4.5.b occurring, the offending team will be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be sanctioned accordingly.

4.6 DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of all matches will be as specified in Appendix B and may include drinks breaks as per the Football Northern Territory Heat Management Policy.

4.7 FAILURE TO PLAY A MATCH

- a) Any team who fails to play a match at the scheduled time without just cause, will be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- b) The team will be sanctioned by the loss of 1 competition point, and the club will be responsible for the associated costs of the match, including fees owed to the appointed match officials.
- c) Any team who has forfeited three (3) consecutive matches will be asked to show cause as to why they should not be suspended or expelled from the competition.

4.8 ABANDONED MATCHES

- a) Matches in all competitions including final series will only be abandoned by a decision from the match official. Decisions may include but not limited to, reasons such as poor weather, serious misconduct and risk and safety considerations.
- b) Matches that are abandoned due to the misconduct of players will result in a forfeited match.
- c) If both teams are responsible for the conduct that leads to the abandonment of a match, then the match will be deemed a **no result**; and no points will be awarded to either team and no player points will be gained from the match. Additional sanctions may also be imposed by the Competition Administrator.
- d) Match reports must be submitted for an abandoned match to the Competition Administrator, by match officials and team officials, no later than 9am of the next business day following the match.
- e) If 80% or more of normal time of a match has been played, then the score at the time of abandonment will stand. Normal time does not include time added or halftime.

Half lengths	20min	25min	30min	35min	40min	45min
Full match time	40min	50min	60min	70min	80min	90min

80% match completion	32nd min	40th min	48th min	56th min	64th min	72nd min
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- f) If less than eighty Percent (80%) of normal time of a match has been played before the time of abandonment, then the match will be replayed in full at a time and venue to be determined by the Competition Administrator.

4.9 TEAM SHEETS

- a) Each team must submit a completed team sheet to the Match Referee 30 mins prior to the commencement of each match for seniors and 15mins for Juniors.
- b) The team sheet must be entered online in Squadi at least 24 hours before kick-off. Clubs found to be in breach of this rule may be fined \$50.00 at the fourth breach and then \$100.00 thereafter. Team in senior competitions must use the team sheet format prescribed by the Competition Administrator. If any club/team is not able to do so, then the match officials must submit an incident report to FNT regarding this.
- c) Players cannot be added to the team sheet after the match has commenced.
- d) Any player named on the team sheet who does not take the field will be marked as DNP (Did Not Play) by the referee, and their name crossed out, designating this game is not counted as a match played by the player during the 2026 Winter Season.
- e) The maximum number of players that can be listed per team on a team sheet is outlined in Appendix B.
- f) In the event Squadi cannot produce a team sheet, a hand-written team sheet is acceptable under the supervision of a home ground official. Handwritten team sheets need to be clear and legible and must include the match date, time and opposition team name, in addition to the player list - first name, surname and shirt number. Handwritten team sheets will be accepted on the condition that Squadi can confirm technical issues were experienced at the time in question.
- g) Handwritten team sheets that are incomplete will attract a \$25.00 fine at fourth breach and \$50.00 thereafter. Incomplete team sheets include yet not limited to, incorrect player details, incorrect shirt numbers, illegible details.
- h) The numbers on the back of shirts must correspond with the numbers on the team sheet and any change to a number must be made with approval of the match referee. Noncompliance will result in the player being deemed an ineligible player and sanctions will apply in accordance with s4.3.i.

Commented [AH15]: I think a number of these clauses will need to be addressed after we all get our heads around squadi – review for 2027

- i) The only players entitled to play in any match are those registered Players who are listed on the Team Sheet before the commencement of the match. Teams that field a Player contrary to this Rule shall be deemed to have played an ineligible Player.
- j) Team officials must also be listed on team sheet with first and last name. Refer to Appendix B for number of team officials allowed.
- k) The captain must be marked with a "C" on the team sheet.
- l) The goalkeeper must be clearly marked with a "GK" on the team sheet.
- m) Any player serving a suspension must be recorded on the team sheet under the suspension section. This can be handwritten.
- n) At the conclusion of the match, the referee will note the scores at half time and full time, the goal scorers, any disciplinary action then sign the team sheet, and lodge the team sheet with the Competition Administrator by 9am the next business day. In the event a referee is not appointed for a match; team officials for both teams are responsible for compliance of this rule. A copy of the team sheet must be sent to the Competitions Administrator by 9am the next business day. Clubs found to be in breach of this rule may be fined \$100.00 once they have reached four breaches, and \$200.00 thereafter.
- o) When a player has been cautioned or sent off, the referee will note on the team sheet the appropriate offence code for which the player was cautioned or sent off. The referee will submit a send-off report for the send-off offence to the Competition Administrator by 9am the next business day.
- p) Match reports must be submitted to the Competition Administrator by 9am of the first business day following the match.
- q) Match reports must include send-off reports by match officials and Incident reports by match officials.

4.10 MATCH SHIRTS

- a) Each club shall register its dark and light playing uniform with FNT prior to the commencement of the season. This includes the shirt, shorts, and socks. Dark represents the home team and light the away team.
- b) All clubs must nominate a dark and light playing uniform. The away playing uniform must not clash with the home team uniform.
- c) It is the responsibility of the away team to ensure that an alternative playing uniform is available for each match day.
- d) On all occasions, the goalkeeper's uniform must be clearly distinguishable from the colour of shirts worn by all other players and the referee.

- e) Where the Competition Administrator deems a club's proposed uniform to be too similar to another club, it may veto the use of the proposed uniform.
- f) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to require all clubs to place a competition sponsorship logo on the right-hand breast or on the right sleeve of all match shirts in accordance with the given uniform style guide.



4.11 MATCH BALLS

FNT will provide Match balls for all fixtures. The balls must be FIFA quality-approved match balls, or an approved equivalent, in accordance with Appendix A.

4.12 MATCH OFFICIALS

- a) FA accredited Match Officials will be provided where possible and subject to availability:

League Matches	A Referee and two assistant referees
Final Series	A Referee, two assistant referees and a fourth official.

- b) Priority of Match Officials allocation will be:
 - (i) Premier League Competition – Men and Women
 - (ii) Premier Reserves – Men and Women
 - (iii) All other Senior and Junior competitive divisions.

- c) In the event an accredited match official is not available to officiate a match, the home team must appoint a referee to officiate the match. This must take place within ten minutes of the scheduled kick-off time.
- d) In circumstances where an assistant referee has not been appointed, each team must provide an assistant referee to assist the centre referee as follows:
 - (i) If one assistant referee has not been appointed, the home team must provide an assistant referee.
 - (ii) If two assistant referees have not been appointed, the home and away teams must provide one assistant referee each.
- e) Teams found to be in breach of rules 4.12.c and 4.12. may be fined \$100.00 for failing to provide a match official(s).
- f) Teams must play matches regardless of whether FNT-appointed match officials are available to officiate. Matches must commence within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time.
- g) In the event that both teams fail to provide a match official(s) or refuse to participate in the scheduled match, the Competition Administrator will award a no result and both teams will have two (2) competition points deducted.

4.13 FORFEITS

- a) Where a match has been declared a forfeit, the match will be recorded as a win to the non-forfeiting team with a score of 3-0.
- b) A team deciding to forfeit a scheduled match must inform the Competition Administrator in writing, **no later than 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time** of a scheduled fixture. No Fine or penalty applies in this instance,
- c) A team not ready to commence a match within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time will be deemed to have forfeited the match and penalties will apply -
 - (i) all appointed match officials will be entitled to the match fees normally payable, and these fees will be the responsibility of the club which forfeits the match.
 - (ii) the team forfeiting will lose one match point.

Commented [AH16]: 48hrs – 24hrs?

4.14 TECHNICAL AREA

The following rules will be enforced where technical areas exist at venues.

- a) All players and officials within the technical area must be registered with an active registration on PlayFootball and will be subject to FIFA Laws of the Game whilst sitting in or in the vicinity of the technical area.

- b) Non-compliance with this requirement, may attract a \$250.00 fine.
- c) The number of persons permitted in the technical area is outlined in Appendix B. Players and team officials are to remain seated at all times during a match, whilst in the technical area, with only one (1) team official allowed to stand in the team technical area to relay instructions. Players on the bench may move out of the technical area to warm up
- d) All players and team officials must be suitably attired when present in the technical area. All players must wear their club match uniforms, boots and substitute bibs. All team officials must wear closed shoes, shorts/skirt/pants and their club polo as a minimum acceptable standard. Clubs that fail to comply with this rule may be fined \$250.00 per offence and additional sanctions may apply for repeat offences.
- e) Team officials not listed on the team sheet are not permitted on the team bench, in the technical area or the competitions area at any time during the match. Clubs that fail to comply with this rule may be fined \$250.00 per offence and additional sanctions may apply for repeat offences.
- f) Players and Officials within the technical area and the competition area must behave in a responsible manner and must not use offensive, insulting and abusive language and/or gestures at any time. Clubs that fail to comply with this rule are in breach and will be fined \$250.00 per offence, and additional sanctions may apply, including for any repeated offences. Any team official that is expelled from the field of play, including the technical area, will incur a minimum one (1) match suspension. The official will be fined a minimum of \$100.00. Sanctions will be in accordance with the disciplinary table of offences withing FNT's Disciplinary Regulations.

4.15 INTERCHANGE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) All interchange or substitute players must be named on the team sheet and must sit on the team bench with a neutral colour vest.
- b) Substitutions/ Interchange are to occur in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game 2024/25
<https://www.theifab.com/laws/latest/the-players/#substitution-procedure>
- c) All Competitive Divisions will adhere to a rule of unlimited interchange regulated by the referee for all regular season matches and Finals

4.16 GROUNDS

4.16.1. HOST CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) All clubs shall nominate a duty club manager each week, bound by duties as listed below and as shall be directed from time to time by FNT.

b) The duty club manager

- (i) must be Registered in Squadi.
- (ii) must be aged 18 years or over and hold a valid WWCC.
- (iii) will be introduced to the referee a minimum 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
- (iv) must be identifiable and visible to the match officials and spectators at matches.
- (v) will ensure that the technical area is properly defined as laid down in the Laws of the Game and these rules.
- (vi) will take all reasonable steps to ensure good order and behaviour of spectators.
- (vii) will assist match officials where required (e.g. organise assistant referees) and assist with the security of the match officials whilst at the venue including escorting referees from the field of play at half and full time.

4.16.2. EXCLUSION ZONE

- a) All spectators must be situated a minimum of two (2) metres away from all sidelines or four (4) metres from all goal lines at all matches. Such an area shall be termed the “pitch exclusion zone”.
- b) Those grounds that are not enclosed are required to have marked a secondary line outside the field of play, preferably in an alternate colour identifying the pitch exclusion zone or by use of ropes and pegs which clearly outlines the area.

5 DISCIPLINE, DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE, CHARGES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Please refer to the Football NT Disciplinary Process for Offences and Sanctions document

6. FINANCE

6.1 REGISTRATION FEES

- a) FNT will determine the annual schedule of fees and payment timetable prior to calling for team nominations from Clubs.
- b) There are three components that comprise the total Registration Fee paid by a player to a club to enable them to register to participate in a FNT Competition:
 - (i) FA National Registration Fee as determined by FA (Parent body)
 - (ii) FNT Fee as determined by FNT that includes insurance, development and administration fees.
 - (iii) Cub levy set by each individual Club.
- c) All levies must be documented within PlayFootball (National Registration Database) and made available to all Players at the time of registration.

Football NT Player Registration Fees for 2026	
MiniRoos (age 5 to 10 years)	TBA
Juniors (ages 11 to 18 years)	TBA
MPL and MPLR	TBA
WPL and WPLR	TBA
Football NT Referee Registration Fees for 2026	
Referee registration fee	TBA

6.2 PAYMENT OF INVOICES

- a) All fees, levies, ground hire charges or fines are payable by the due date for payment as stated on the invoice or before first round of finals series (whichever is earlier) unless agreed otherwise. Clubs not doing such may not be allowed to participate in final series.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, debts shall include monies owed to FNT or other Clubs. A Club may challenge individual fees included in an invoice however payment of the unchallenged components of the invoice is required to be made by the due date for payment, as stated on the invoice.

6.3 SANCTIONS

- a) If the Competition Administrator is not satisfied with the reason for non-payment of an outstanding debt, payment may be pursued through a debt collection service.
- b) All outstanding debts must be paid in full before any nominations will be accepted for a new Season.

6.4 FINES

At its absolute discretion the Competition Administrator or FNT may waive or reduce club fines and penalties.

6.5 GATE REVENUE

All monies derived from entrance fees to FNT matches shall remain the property of FNT.

6.6 RECORD MAINTENANCE

All Clubs that participate in matches sanctioned by FNT shall maintain financial records in accordance with the Associations Act (Northern Territory).

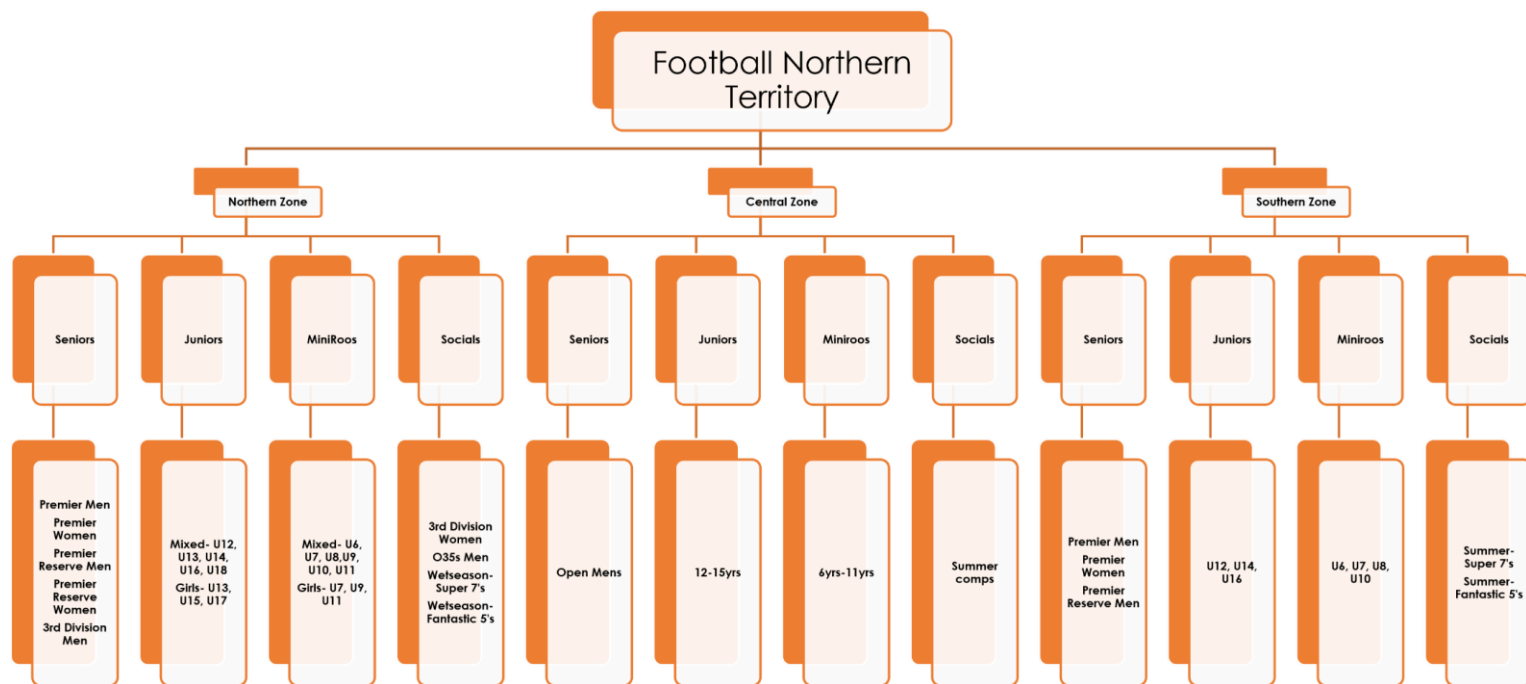
7 **7. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

In these rules, unless a different intention is outlined:

- a) word importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa.
- b) words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender.
- c) words denoting persons include incorporated and unincorporated Teams and Clubs;
- d) words or expressions shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the Interpretation Act and that Act as in force on the date on which these Regulations are adopted by FNT.
- e) References to persons include their respective executors, administrators, personal representatives, and successors in title (as the case may be).
- f) Expressions referring to writing are construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

Appendices

Appendix A- Competition Structure and nominations



Appendix B- Competition layouts

	Mixed Miniroos					
Competitions	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11
Year of Birth	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Recommended Field Size	30m x 20m		Min. 40m Long x 30m Wide		Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	
			Best Practise: 45m Long x 35m Wide		Best Practise: 65m long x 45m Wide	
			Max. 50m Long x 40m Wide		Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	2m Wide x 1m High		3m wide x 2m high		5m Wide x 2m High	
Number of players on field	4v4 (no GK)		7 v 7 (with GK)		9 v 9 (with GK)	
Number of substitution players	3 players		4 players		5 players	
Total Squad Size	7 players		11 players		14 players	
Minimum number of players	3 players		5 players		7 players	
Half Lengths	20mins		20mins		25mins	
Halftime (whistle to Whistle)	5mins		5mins		5mins	
Ball Size	Size 3		Size 3		Size 4	
Adapted from the National playing formats and rules- https://www.playfootball.com.au/sites/play/files/2020-01/Playing-Formats-and-Rules.pdf						

Competitions	Girls Miniros		
	U6	U8	U10
Year of Birth	2019 - 2020	2017 -2018	2015 - 2016
Recommended Field Size	30m x 20m	Min. 40m Long x 30m Wide	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide
		Best Practise: 45m Long x 35m Wide	Best Practise: 65m long x 45m Wide
		Max. 50m Long x 40m Wide	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide
Recommended Goal Size	2m Wide x 1m High	3m wide x 2m high	5m Wide x 2m High
Number of players on field	4v4 (no GK)	7 v 7 (with GK)	9 v 9 (with GK)
Number of substitution players	3 players	4 players	5 players
Total Squad Size	7 players	11 players	14 players
Minimum number of players	3 players	5 players	7 players
Half Lengths	20mins	20mins	25mins
Halftime (whistle to Whistle)	5mins	5mins	5mins
Ball Size	Size 3	Size 3	Size 4
Adapted from the National playing formats and rules- https://www.playfootball.com.au/sites/play/files/2020-01/Playing-Formats-and-Rules.pdf			

2026 Rules of Competition – Southern Zone

	Mixed Juniors					Senior Men		
Competitions	U12	U13	U14	15yrs - 16yrs (U16)	17yrs - 18yrs (U18)	3rd Division Men	MPLR	MPL
Year of Birth	2013	2012	2011	2010 - 2009	2008 – 2007	2010+	2010+	
Recommended Field Size	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide		Min. 90m long x 45m Wide		Min. 90m long x 45m Wide		Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	
	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide		Max. 120m long x 90m Wide		Max. 120m long x 90m Wide		Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	5m Wide x 2m High		7.32m Wide x 2.44m High		7.32m Wide x 2.44m High		7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	
Number of players on field	9 v 9 (with GK)		11 v 11 (With GK)		11 v 11 (With GK)		11 v 11 (With GK)	
Number of substitution players	5 players		5 players	5 players	5 players		5 players	
Total Squad Size	14 players		16 players	16 players	16 players		16 players	
Minimum number of players	7 players		7 players		7 players		7 players	
Half Lengths	25min	30min	35min	40min	45min		45min	
Halftime (whistle to Whistle)	5 mins		10 minutes		10 minutes		10 minutes	
Ball Size	Size 4		Size 5		Size 5		Size 5	
Maximum number of team officials allowed	3 registered team officials		3 registered team officials		3 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	
All games are played under IFAB LOTG								

2026 Rules of Competition – Southern Zone

	Female only Juniors		Senior Women		
Competitions	U12	U14	3rd Division Women	WPLR	WPL
Year of Birth	2013 - 2014	2011 - 2012	2011+	2011+	
Recommended Field Size	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	
	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	5m Wide x 2m High	5m Wide x 2m High	5m Wide x 2m High	7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	
Number of players on field	9 v 9 (with GK)	9 v 9 (With GK)	7 v 7 (with GK)	11 v 11 (With GK)	
Number of substitution players	5 players	5 players	5 players	5 players	
Total Squad Size	14 players	14 players	12 players	16 players	
Minimum number of players	7 players	7 players	5 players	7 players	
Half Lengths	30 min	35 min	25min	45min	
Halftime (whistle to Whistle)	5 mins	10 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	
Ball Size	Size 4	Size 5	Size 5	Size 5	
Maximum number of team officials allowed	3 registered team officials	3 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	
All matches are played under IFAB LOTG					