



MATCH FORFEIT POLICY

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures and consequences associated with forfeiting matches in NTJFA competitions when a team is unable to field the required number of players for a match.

2. RATIONALE

Forfeiting matches can have significant impacts on junior football competitions, players, officials, best and fairest voting, club revenue, and umpires. It is important to make every effort to field a team, and all avenues must be exhausted before a team forfeits. The Competition Manager will exercise discretion to facilitate games being played and may question the validity of a forfeit.

3. ADMINISTRATION

- a) **Notification:** If a team anticipates that it will be unable to field the minimum number of players or are under the required number of players (see chart below) for an upcoming match, the team manager must notify the opposition team manager at least 36 hours before the game. They need to indicate their intention to forfeit, or to play with less than the required number.

Competition	Minimum numbers
U12 B & G	10
U14 B & G	12
U17 G	14
U16 B	15

- b) **Forfeit Fee:** If a member club team forfeits a youth match without notifying the Competition Manager and the host club at least 36 hours in advance, a forfeit fee may be imposed. The monetary fee is 2 penalty points (this value is set at the current rate of the Australian Taxation Office ([Link](#))), if the forfeiting team was scheduled to play away from their own venue. Junior teams playing away from their own venue will incur a forfeit fee of 1 penalty point.

NB: The Competition Manager, opposition club and junior umpire coordinator must be advised of the forfeit as soon as possible.

- c) **Points Allocation:** When a youth team forfeits a match, the opposing team will be credited with 4 (four) Premiership Points and 4 (four) E-points. Also, the opposing team



will receive the average for and against points accumulated by teams in the roster for the round. The forfeiting team will not receive any premiership or E-points or any accumulated points.

- d) Recognition of the Match:** Players listed to play for the team awarded the match on forfeit will have this match credited as a completed match on their player profile.
- e) Discretion:** The Competition Manager has the authority to consider extenuating circumstances and exercise discretion in applying forfeit penalties.
- f) Fee Payment:** The forfeit fee will be administered by the NTJFA. The fee must be paid either directly to the hosting club within 7 days of the forfeited match, or to the NTJFA, who will reimburse the affected club.

4. FORFEIT AFTER A MATCH HAS COMMENCED

If a match has commenced and a team decides not to complete the match for whatever reason, the team will be considered to have forfeited the match. The opposing team will be allocated the match, and the same points allowance will apply as per 3.c of this policy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Competition Policy

By-Law Breaches and Penalties