



**NORTHERN TASMANIAN FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Competition Rules 2026**

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## **1. FOREWORD**

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The Northern Tasmanian Football Association (NTFA) Rules and Regulations are based on the traditional rules & regulations of Competition Football.

They are established with a view that all Clubs should recognise and accept the following basic premises:

- A Player cannot play for an NTFA Club unless they are a registered NTFA player.
- The NTFA Board is the governing body of the NTFA.
- The NTFA Executive is the decision-making group for operational matters and is the arbitrator of any dispute concerning the rights of a particular Club or a particular Player.
- In the event that the dispute is unable to be resolved, the matter may be investigated by an Independent Investigation Officer.
- All Players confirm their understanding of and commitment to abide by all NTFA Competition Rules and Regulations when accepting the online Competition registration process and any Club Player declaration form.

The Rules and Regulations are not intended to be a legal document. They are framed with the intention of all NTFA Clubs accepting them understanding that NTFA Management and Club personnel will work in a spirit of co-operation in the best interests of the NTFA as a Competition, all Clubs making up the Competition and the Players themselves.

## **2. ADMINISTRATION**

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### **THE RULES**

These Rules are considered reasonable by the NTFA and that each Rule shall be read and construed independently of the other provisions of these Rules.

Parts of a Rule may be valid if other parts or provisions of the Rule were deleted.

### **ALTERATION TO RULES**

These Rules and Regulations may be amended or varied from time to time by the NTFA Executive.

At least a majority of the NTFA Executive must support any proposal before these Rules can be altered.

### **FINAL DECISION**

Where these Rules provide for decisions to be made or action to be taken by the NTFA Executive or the appointed NTFA Arbitrator, it is acknowledged that they are responsible to the NTFA Executive for decisions and actions and make those decisions and take that action within the context of NTFA policies and guidelines.

Should the NTFA Executive be satisfied that any Person who is in breach of or who has failed to comply with these Rules has acted honestly and, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, ought fairly to be excused from liability, it may relieve that Person wholly or partly from that liability on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

### **INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OFFICER**

The NTFA shall be entitled to exercise its discretion to utilise the services of an Independent Investigations Officer to investigate any matter pertaining to the Rules and Regulations.

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# Part 1- Preliminary

## 1. DEFINITIONS

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Except where a different intention is apparent from the context, expressions used in these Rules and Regulations have the following meanings:

**"AFL"** - means the Australian Football League.

**"Association"** - means the Northern Tasmanian Football Association.

**"Controlling Body"** - means the Northern Tasmanian Football Association.

**"Club"** - means any of the Clubs participating in the Northern Tasmanian Football Association.

**"Competition"** - means the NTFA Competitions, including Senior Men's, Women's, Reserves and Colts.

**"Competition Manager"** - means the Person for the time acting as the Competition Manager of the Association.

**"Executive"** - means the NTFA Executive made up of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Finance Director.

**"Home and Away Matches"** means any Match for which Premiership Points are awarded or potentially awarded, not being a Finals Series Match, Pre-Season Match or Representative Match.

**"Home Team"** - means the team named first on the Association's published roster of Home and Away matches.

**"Laws of Australian Football"** means the Laws of Australian Football as published by the AFL from time to time.

**"League"** - means a League, Association, or other body (other than the League itself) which conducts a football Competition in Northern Tasmania.

**"National Community Football Policy Handbook"** means the Handbook containing AFL Policies and Rules that are applicable to Community Football as published by the AFL from time to time.

**"Notice of Appeal"** means a notice of appeal as defined in the National Community Football Policy Handbook.

**"Official"** - means any person involved in the administration of a Club.

**"Penalty"** - means the sanction applied to a Club or Person in relation to a breach of Rules.

**"Permit"** - means a Season Permit or Game Permit.

**"Person"** means any Person covered by the definition of a Person under the National Community Football Policy Handbook.

**"Player"** includes a player registered to play Australian Football for a Club and/or participate in a Competition, including a Declared Player or Underage Player.

**"Premiership Ladder"** means the ranking of Clubs as determined under Rule 16.

**"Premiership Points"** means the points awarded to a Club during Home and Away Matches as set out in Rule 16.

**"Source Club"** - means the Club from which a Player is Transferring or Permitting, being the Club with which the Player is registered.

**"Unregistered Player"** - means a Player whose name is not on the register of Players (PlayHQ current season) or has been deregistered by the Association.

## **2. AUTHORITY AND EFFECT**

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2.1 These Rules and Regulations are published by the Northern Tasmanian Football Association under the authority of the Association's Constitution and are binding on all Clubs, Players, Officials and any other Persons registered under these Rules and Regulations.

2.2 The Association adopts the Laws of Australian Football subject to its right to vary those Laws from time to time where allowable by the AFL to vary.

2.3 The Association adopts all AFL policies subject to any variations of policies where allowable by the AFL to vary.

2.4 Authorised Officers:

Each Club shall lodge a list of three (3) people who shall for the purposes of these Rules, be the Club's Authorised Officers. Any of these Officers of the Club have the right to act on behalf of the Club in all matters including, but not restricted to, transfers, registrations and in the termination of matches.

Should a Person be replaced in this capacity, then the Club must advise the NTFA immediately. These people would normally be the President, the Football Director, and one other Person delegated with the authority to act on behalf of the Club.

## **Part 2 - Clubs**

### **3. MEMBERSHIP AND MATCH DAY LEVIES**

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Membership Fee and Match Day Levy are set by the Association each year and invoiced to each Club. Any further fees or levies as applicable may also be raised and invoiced by Association.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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Club Officials, Coaches and Players shall not make derogatory public comments in relation to any of the following;

- Opposition Clubs including their members and facilities
- The Association
- AFL Tasmania
- Umpires
- Tribunal (Section 25 of the National Community Football Policy Handbook applies)

This includes comments made on social media platforms. (Section 12 - Social Media of the National Community Football Policy Handbook applies).

Any breach of Section 4 may result in a penalty of up to \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club and a sanction being imposed on the Person.

## Part 3 – Players and Officials

### 5. REGISTRATIONS

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#### 5.1 Player Registration

(a) Each Player shall, prior to taking the field with a Club with which he or she intends to play, be registered as an active Player with the NTFA on “Play HQ” for that season or be permitted to an NTFA Club for that season. The registration of Players is in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part B - Eligibility and Registration.

(b) For registration of new Players transfers must be approved by the NTFA in the Play HQ system by the club no later than 12 noon on the Friday before the day on which the player intends to play their first match, a Player must be subsequently registered by 5pm. A player is not deemed to be registered until the application has been processed and Play HQ permits that player to be included on the relevant team sheet.

#### 5.2 Coach and Officials Registration

(a) All team Coaches must be registered with coach.afl membership annually and hold a current Tasmanian WWVP registration which requires to be attached as a document in membership. Coach AFL membership will automatically register coach in PlayHQ.

(b) All other Officials must be registered online with PlayHQ and ensure that it complies with all statutory requirements in respect of safeguarding Children and Young People, including ensuring all relevant Persons who work with Children and Young People have complied with their working with children obligations, in holding a current Tasmanian WWVP registration and recording the same in PlayHQ.

5.3 The NTFA may revoke a player's registration to play or a coach's registration to coach at any time.

5.4 A Club has the right to Appeal to the Appeals committee against any Player registration decision under these Rules and Regulations with the decision of the Appeals Committee being final.

#### 5.5 Guest Promotional Player

5.51 Subject to 5.52 and the requirements of the Player Payment Rules, a Club may select one Guest Promotional Player to play in a roster match.

5.52 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the NTFA Board, a Club may select a Guest Promotional Player pursuant to 5.51 for not more than two roster matches in a season.

5.53 For the purposes of 5.51 and 5.52, ‘Guest Promotional Player’ means a current AFL or AFLW Player, or a former AFL or AFLW Player who has played an AFL or AFLW match within the past 3 years.

Any breach of 5.1 shall result in a penalty as per 8.1

Any breach of 5.2 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## 6. TRANSFERS AND PERMITS

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The transfer of Players and Player Permits are in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part B- Eligibility and Registration, subject to provisions contained within.

## 7. PERMITS

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7.1 A Player may not be granted a Permit to participate with a Club if the Player's Source Club is in the same Division.

7.2 A Player that has qualified to participate in finals in both Premier League and Division 1 or 2, in accordance with a Permit in one of the leagues, can only participate in finals in one league.

7.3 Players may not be permitted from a Premier League Club to a Division 1 or 2 club in the last four rounds of the season.

Any breach of section 7 shall result in penalty in accordance with section 8.1

## 8. INELIGIBILITY

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8.1 A Club that plays an ineligible (including unregistered and suspended) Player shall forfeit that match (including Finals) and will be subject to a fine.

Any breach of 8.1 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

8.2 In the event of a forfeit, for ladder purposes, section 13.2.2 of the Laws of Australian Football applies.

8.3 Individual statistics from the game where an ineligible Player participates will stand. That is, all Players would receive a game against their individual tally, goals kicked would be added to season tallies, Association Best and Fairest votes stand (excluding the unregistered Player) and any reports to the NTFA Tribunal would stand.

## 9. AGE GROUP ELIGIBILITY

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Player age eligibility is in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part B- Eligibility and Registration.

For the Under 18.5 Competition players must be born between July 1, 2007, and December 31, 2010  
A player will nonetheless be eligible to play in the Under 18.5 Competition providing that the player does not reach the age of 19 on or before 30 June in the 2026 Season.

Any breach of section 9 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## 10. PLAYER AND COACH PAYMENTS

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The AFL Tasmania Club Sustainability Model including Player and Coach payment limits applies.

Refer to [Club Sustainability Model](#) for the Total Player and Coach Payment Rules.

## 11. PLAYER POINTS POLICY

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The NTFA Player Points Policy applies.

Refer to [NTFA Player Points Policy](#) for the Player Points Rules.

***NB: The requirement on match day is that teams must comply with the maximum number of Players for the Competition (ie 22 Players for Senior Men's / 20 or 21 Players for Senior Women's) and adhere to the NTFA Player Points Policy. A Club cannot leave out available Players in order to adhere to the Total Teams Points Cap.***

***If a Club is unable to list the maximum number, the shortfall of Players will be allocated a notional 2 points, and Clubs will need to adhere to the Total Teams Points Cap with consideration to this.***

***For the avoidance of doubt, a Club must list the maximum number of Players allowed on its team sheet in calculating its Total Team Points. Any failure to observe in this requirement will result in penalties applied as outlined in the NTFA Player Points Policy.***

## Part 4 - The Competition

### 12. NOMINATION OF TEAMS

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12.1 All Clubs participating in the NTFA are required to have;

Premier League

Senior Men's, Senior Women's, Reserves Men's & U/18.5 Boys

Division 1 / Division 2

Senior Men's & Reserves Men's (Senior Women's and U/18.5 Boys at the discretion of the Association)

12.2 NTFA Full Member Clubs are defined under the Constitution as Clubs that have multiple teams participating in the NTFA annually.

12.3 Clubs shall enter teams into NTFA Competitions as follows;

a) By 30 November in the year preceding, Clubs must have the following player registrations (age suitable) in Play HQ

- Premier League – 28 Players (Seniors/Reserves)
- Division 1 / Division 2 – 28 Players (Seniors/Reserves)
- Under 18.5 – 15 Players
- Women's Teams – 16 Players

b) By first Monday in March of the respective season Clubs shall advise the NTFA in writing of confirmed teams for the upcoming season, supported by a sufficient number of Player registrations (age suitable) in Play HQ as follows

- Premier League (1 x Senior, 1 x Reserves team) – 56 Players
- Division 1 / Division 2 (1 x Senior, 1 x Reserves team) – 56 Players
- Under 18.5 (1 x U18.5 team) – 25 Players
- Women's Teams (1 x Senior team) – 22 Players

### **13. SCHEDULE OF MATCHES (FIXTURES)**

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13.1 Prior to the start of the season the Association shall prepare and publish a schedule of matches for the season including Home and Away and Finals series, showing the dates of all matches and the grounds allocated for Home and Away matches. Following confirmation and publication of the schedule, changes can only be made in accordance with 13.2 and 13.3.

13.2 During the course of a season the Executive may make such changes to the schedule as it thinks necessary or desirable and may postpone or bring forward any match to such time and place as it determines appropriate.

13.3 By agreement of both Clubs and approval of the Association, a game may be rescheduled to another day, venue or time. Where two Clubs in agreement wish to reschedule a match, a written request must be submitted to the Association **(14)** days prior to the scheduled date of the match, otherwise the original roster shall stand.

13.4 If an Association roster match cannot be played on the scheduled date because of the unavailability or unplayable condition of the ground, the following applies:

13.41 Where wet or adverse weather conditions prevail, Clubs are to advise the Association as early as possible of the likelihood of ground closures to enable alternative arrangements for the playing of scheduled matches to be considered.

13.42 Where a ground to which a match has been scheduled is unfit for play or has been closed, the Association will, in liaison with the clubs concerned, provisionally reschedule the match to be played on the Away Club's ground if available.

13.43 Where neither ground is available, the Association will make every effort to move the fixture to an alternative venue. Clubs whose grounds are vacant and playable will be expected to co-operate with the Association by making their ground available to minimise the likelihood of cancellations. In this situation, the Home Team responsibilities will be assumed by the Home Team as nominated in the fixture.

13.44 If a match is not played because neither ground nor an alternative venue is available, the Association Board will decide whether the match is to be rescheduled to another date or cancelled.

13.45 Should it appear likely that more than one match in a round may not be played, the Association Board may postpone or cancel all matches for that round in that division.

13.46 In the event that any match is cancelled, the Premiership Points shall be shared, and such match shall count towards Player eligibility for Finals provided the effected Clubs submit a team sheet.

13.47 Each Club is required to have procedures in place, which will enable them to contact their Players, and Officials to notify them at short notice of any changes to scheduled matches.

## **Match Times**

13.5 The NTFA Competition Manager shall determine the starting times for matches in consultation with the Home Club, and in accordance with the following;

### **Premier League**

- The order of priority of matches in relation to timing is;
  - Senior Men's & Senior Women's
  - Reserves Men's
  - Boys U/18.5s
- Men's Senior and Women's Senior matches are to be scheduled back-to-back (either way around).
- A maximum of four matches shall be scheduled at the same venue on the same day. Unless agreement is reached by both Clubs and the NTFA
- Where a Club's Home matches are scheduled across two days, this may be Friday evening and Saturday, or Saturday and Sunday, subject to the preference of the Home Club and agreement of the Association.

Matches require the following periods of time allocated;

- Men's Senior            2.5 hours
- Women's Senior        2 hours
- Men's Reserves        2 hours
- Boys U/18.5            2 hours

### **Division 1 / Division 2**

- The order of priority of matches in relation to timing is to be determined in consultation with the Home Club.

Matches require the following periods of time allocated;

- Men's Senior            2 hours
- Women's Senior        2 hours
- Men's Reserves        2 hours
- Boys U/18.5            2 hours

## **Finals**

13.6 Finals shall be scheduled on such grounds as the Executive desire based on the following principles;

### Premier League

#### **Semi Finals and Preliminary Finals**

- a) Senior matches (Men's and Women's) shall be scheduled at the Home ground of the highest placed Men's Club participating. If the Home ground of the highest placed Men's Team is unavailable or unsuitable, the Controlling Body shall determine the venue.
- b) Reserves and U/18.5's matches shall be scheduled at one of the grounds being used for Senior Men's matches, based on best alignment of participating Clubs.

#### **Grand Finals**

Shall be scheduled at the venue determined by the Executive as follows;

Friday or Saturday – Boys U18.5's

Saturday – Reserves followed by Women's Seniors followed by Men's Seniors

### Division 1 / Division 2

#### **Week One, Week Two and Preliminary Finals**

- a) The Executive shall determine the venues for Finals series matches on an annual basis.
- b) Women's Senior, Reserves and U/18.5's matches shall be scheduled at one of the grounds being used for Senior Men's matches, based on best alignment of participating Clubs.

#### **Grand Finals**

Shall be scheduled at the venue determined by the Executive.

## **14. GAME DURATION**

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14.1 The length of quarters shall be as follows:

Premier League Men's Seniors:	Each quarter shall comprise 20 minutes <b>with time on</b> ;
Division 1 and 2 Men's Seniors:	Each quarter shall comprise 25 minutes <b>with no time on</b> ;
Premier League Women's Seniors:	Each quarter shall comprise 20 minutes <b>with no time on</b> ;
Division 1 Women's Seniors:	Each quarter shall comprise 18 minutes <b>with no time on</b> ;
Reserves:	Each quarter shall comprise 20 minutes <b>with no time on</b> ;
U/18.5 Boys:	Each quarter shall comprise 20 minutes <b>with no time on</b> ;

Finals:

Division 1 and 2 Men's Seniors:	Each quarter shall comprise 18 minutes <b>with time on</b> ;
Reserves:	Each quarter shall comprise 22 minutes <b>with no time on</b>

All other Finals shall be as above.

14.2 Length of breaks – Premier League:

	Quarter Time	Half Time	Three Quarter Time
Men’s Seniors	6 minutes	15 minutes	6 minutes
Women’s Seniors	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes
Reserves	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes
U/18.5 Boys	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes

14.3 Length of breaks – Division 1 and 2:

	Quarter Time	Half Time	Three Quarter Time
Men’s Seniors	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes
Women’s Seniors	5 minutes	10 minutes	5 minutes
Reserves	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes
U/18.5 Boys	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes

14.4 In matches where there is time on, pursuant to Law 10.6 of the Laws of Australian Football, the following exemptions shall apply :

- i. The clock shall not stop for general stoppages around the ground, unless directed to do so by the field umpire (in accordance with Law 10.6.3)
- ii. The clock shall not stop out of bounds, unless the ball exits the playing arena.

14.5 In matches where there is no time on, the Timekeepers shall stop the clock the following times:

- i. Whenever directed to do so by the Field Umpire.
- ii. When the Field Umpire blows their whistle twice to signify a stoppage due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. stretcher, blood rule, Player report). In such events, the Field Umpire will signal time back on with a single whistle with one arm in the air.
- iii. Injured Umpire: When an umpire is injured or unable to continue and a field umpire fails to signal then Timekeepers shall stop the clock when it becomes obvious that play will be unduly delayed.
- iv. Any other exceptional circumstance determined by a Field Umpire.

## 15. FORFEITS

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15.1 A team shall forfeit a match:

- (a) In circumstances laid down by any of these Rules and Regulations that result in a forfeit; or
- (b) Where a team fails to appear within 15 minutes of the official starting time or leaves the ground during playing time.
- (c) Where written notification has been provided to the Association in advance of the match.

If a Club forfeits a match later than 12pm on the Friday prior to the match a penalty of \$250.00 plus the cost of the opposing teams Umpire fees shall be applied to the Club.

15.2 If a team because of failure to appear wishes to put forward a reason for its conduct the Executive may in its absolute discretion re-open the matter with power to order the match be played on another day, but the decision of the Executive is final.

15.3 A club cannot forfeit a Senior match unless the Club has first forfeited their Reserves match in the round/weekend.

## **16. PREMIERSHIP LADDER**

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16.1 The Association shall maintain a Premiership Ladder for the purpose of determining the Finalists for the Final's series.

16.2 In Home and Away matches a winning team shall be awarded four points, a team that draws two points and no points shall be awarded in respect of a bye.

16.3 In the event of a match being cancelled both teams shall be allocated two points.

16.4 The ongoing percentage for each team shall be points scored for, divided by the points scored against.

16.5 In the event an uneven number of byes exist in a Competition, match ratio wins shall determine ladder positions.

16.6 In the Reserves & U18.5 grades of each Division, if a Player is reported and subsequently accepts a early guilty plea or is found guilty by the Tribunal then his team shall lose one premiership point. If a Player is suspended in the final series, the premiership points penalty will apply to the following season.

## **17. THE FINALISTS**

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17.1 For all competitions the make-up of the finals will be as follows:

- (a) In the event the number of the teams in a competition is eight or more a final five will apply.
- (b) In the event the number of the teams in a competition is seven or less a final four will apply.

17.4 Where two or more Clubs have accumulated the same total of Premiership Points, the Club with the highest percentage shall be placed first as between them.

17.5 Where two or more Clubs at the completion of the Home and Away Matches have accumulated the same Premiership Points and have the same percentage, the following procedure shall apply;

(A) the position of the tied Clubs shall be adjusted by accumulating the Premiership Points awarded to the relevant Clubs as a result of the Home and Away Matches played between them and placing the Club with the highest accumulated Premiership Points, first as between them;

(B) where the Premiership Points accumulated by the relevant Clubs remain equal, the position of the tied Clubs shall be adjusted by calculating each such Club's percentage based on the proportion of points scored for and against each such Club from the Home and Away Matches between them and placing the Club with the highest percentage, first as between them; and

(C) where two or more Clubs still remain tied, the position of the Clubs shall be adjusted by lot conducted and drawn by the Association President so that any Club drawn ahead of any other Club shall be placed ahead of such other Club or Clubs.

## 18. THE FINALS

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### Final 4

#### **WEEK ONE FINALS SEMI FINALS ROUND**

First Semi Final 3 v 4

Second Semi Final 1 v 2

#### **WEEK TWO PRELIMINARY FINAL**

Preliminary Final Loser Second Semi-Final v Winner First Semi-Final

#### **WEEK THREE GRAND FINAL**

Grand Final Winner Second Semi-Final v Winner Preliminary Final

### Final 5

#### **WEEK ONE FINALS / ELIMINATION ROUNDS**

Elimination Final 4 v 5

Qualifying Final 2 v 3

#### **WEEK TWO FINALS SEMI FINALS ROUND**

First Semi Final Loser Qualifying Final v Winner Elimination Final

Second Semi Final 1 v Winner Qualifying Final

#### **WEEK THREE PRELIMINARY FINAL**

Preliminary Final Loser Second Semi-Final v Winner First Semi-Final

#### **WEEK FOUR GRAND FINAL**

Grand Final Winner Second Semi-Final v Winner Preliminary Final

## 19. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FINALS

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19.1 A Premier League Player must have played in at least five roster matches for the Club during the current season to be eligible to participate in Finals.

19.2 A Division 1 or 2 Player must have played in at least five roster matches for the club during the current season to be eligible to participate in finals.

19.3 A VFL contracted Player who is registered prior to the season commencing with an NTFA Club and permitted to the Tassie Devils, will be eligible to participate in finals without being subject to 19.1

19.4 A player that participates in a Tasmanian team in a Talent League U18 match (including Allies) which was scheduled on the same weekend as an NTFA match and the Player would have otherwise participated in the NTFA match shall be regarded as having played in an NTFA match for the purposes of qualification for finals. The Player shall be regarded as having participated in the NTFA competition/grade that the Player last participated in prior to participating in the Tasmanian team.

19.5 A Player is ineligible to play in Reserves or U/18.5 finals unless they have played in at least five rosters matches in that competition during the current season, subject to 19.1 or 19.2.

19.6 In order to play in a Reserves Final, a player must not have played more than 50% of the rostered home and away matches at a higher grade, subject to 19.10.

19.7 A player who participated in a Senior Final cannot subsequently play in a Reserves Final unless they have played more than 50% of their roster matches in the Reserves during the season, subject to 19.1 or 19.2.

19.8 An U/18.5 Player is eligible to participate in a U/18.5 final if they have played in five U/18.5 roster matches during the same season (per 19.5) irrespective of whether the Club is participating in Senior and/or Reserve matches during the same round/weekend of Finals or the player has participated in a Senior or Reserves final (but cannot play in more than one team per 19.9).

19.9 No Player can play in more than one team on the same weekend during finals matches.

19.10 Where Clubs are participating in;

- a) Men's Senior, Reserves and Boys U/18.5's in the same round of finals;
- b) Men's Seniors and Reserves in the same round of finals; or,
- c) Women's Seniors;

The club may select eligible players under 19.1 and where applicable age qualified in any team.

19.11 Applications for exemptions to allow players who are otherwise ineligible to participate in finals shall only be considered in the following circumstance;

- a) The player has been unable to participate due to a long-term injury which is verified with provision of medical documentation from a registered medical practitioner. (applications must be submitted to the Competition Manager 14 days prior to the finals series commencing)

Any breach of section 19 shall result in penalty in accordance with section 8.1.

## **20. TIES IN FINALS**

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20.1 In the event of a tie in any Final the Umpire shall advise the Captains that after a five-minute break, during which ends will be changed, Additional Time of two five-minute periods, plus time on (Men's Seniors only) shall be played. There shall be no time on for Women's Senior, Reserves or U/18.5's except where provided under 14.4.

20.2 During the five-minute break Coaches and Officials may go to their teams as if it were a three-quarter time break.

20.3 After the first five-minute period of Additional Time the teams will change ends immediately, Coaches and Officials not being able to go onto the ground.

20.4 At the conclusion of Additional Time, the Club which has scored the highest points is the winner of the Match.

20.5 If the scores are still tied at the conclusion of Additional Time, each Club shall immediately change ends at the conclusion of Additional Time for Further Additional Time and shall change ends again after the first five (5) minute period without delay. At the conclusion of the Further Additional Time, the Club which has scored the highest points is the winner of the match.

20.6 If the scores are still tied at the conclusion of Further Additional Time, the process set out in Regulation 20.5 will be repeated until, at the conclusion of any repeated period of Further Additional Time, the winning Club can be determined; and

20.7 During any period of Further Additional Time, there will be no breaks in play for Coaches or Club Football Officials to access the Playing Area.

## 21. WOMEN'S UNIQUE RULES

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21.1 The following amendments apply to Women's Seniors.

- (a) Centre Ball Up (5, 6, 5 Starting Position)
  - i. Players must line up with five (5) pairs inside the 50m arcs. The wingers must start in the space between the width of the centre square and the boundary line. Once the ball is thrown up and in play, Players can move anywhere.
- (b) Throw Ins
  - i. All boundary throw ins will be brought in 10 meters by the Boundary Umpires (or if no Boundary umpires the Field Umpire will throw the ball up 10 meters in from the boundary line)
- (c) 16 Players on the field

## 22. FAIR PLAY RULE

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22.1 The Fair Play Rule shall apply to Senior Women's, Men's Reserves and Boys U/18.5's and shall be played with both teams having an equal number of Players on the ground in accordance with the below:

The number of available players is determined at the commencement of the match. If Players are flagged as arriving late and this takes the team count to 20 the match is able to commence as normal.

### **For the Team that has less than 20 Players on match day in Men's, Reserves and U18.5's Teams.**

They shall play with:

If you have 19 Players = 16 on field + 3 interchange

If you have 18 Players = 16 on field + 2 interchange

If you have 17 Players = 16 on field + 1 interchange

If you have 16 or less Players = 16 on field and no interchange

The opposition will play with 16 on field and up to 6 interchange.

### **For the Team that has less than 20 Players on match day in Women's Teams.**

They shall play with:

If you have 19 Players = 16 on field + 3 interchange

If you have 18 Players = 16 on field + 2 interchange

If you have 17 Players = 16 on field + 1 interchange

If you have 16 or less Players = 16 on field and no interchange

The opposition will play with 16 on field and up to 4 interchange. Premier League up to 5 interchange.

In the event that a Team falls below 16 Players on field, the opposing Team is not required to equalise (ie they will maintain 16 players on field).

In the event that a Team falls below 14 Players during the match then the following applies:

- Before Half Time, it shall be a forfeit (percentage to be adjusted as per the Laws of the Game).
- After Half Time, the score at the time shall be deemed the final score. Points and percentage for the match will be awarded to the Team who did not forfeit the match.
- The only exception to this is if a player leaves the field under the blood rule, the match shall continue whilst the player receives treatment. If the player fails to return to the field within 10 minutes the match shall end and the result will be determined based on whether it is before or after half time.

**For matches with 16 or less players on the field the following starting positions shall apply:**

16 Players - 5, 6, 5

15 Players - 5, 5, 5

14 Players – 5, 4, 5

Any breach of section 22 shall result in a penalty of forfeiture of the match and a fine of \$500 applied to the Club.

## **23. CONCUSSION**

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23.1 AFL Community Concussion Guidelines in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part D - Health & Safety shall apply.

Any breach of section 23 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **24. ACTIVE BLEEDING**

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24.1 Law 24 of the Laws of the Game applies.

Any breach of section 24 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

# **Part 5 – Matches**

## **25. TEAM SELECTIONS**

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### Premier League

25.1 Squads for all teams are to be entered into PlayHQ in the accepted format (Senior Men's and Women's Players in field position) in accordance with the below by no later than 9.00pm on the Thursday prior to the match.

- Men's Seniors – no more than 26 Players including emergencies.
- Women's Seniors – no more than 24 Players including emergencies.
- Men's Reserves – no more than 26 Players including emergencies.
- Boys U/18.5's - no more than 26 Players including emergencies.

### Division 1 / Division 2

25.2 Squads for all teams are to be entered into PlayHQ in the accepted format in accordance with the below by no later than 9.00pm on the Thursday prior to the match.

- Men's Seniors – no more than 26 Players including emergencies.
- Women's Seniors – no more than 24 Players including emergencies.
- Men's Reserves – no more than 26 Players including emergencies.
- Boys U/18.5's - no more than 26 Players including emergencies.

25.3 In the event a Club plays a Player in their Men's Seniors or Women's Seniors team that was not entered into PlayHQ in accordance with 25.1 or 25.2, the Club will be deemed to be in breach of Section 25.

Any breach of section 25 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## 26. NUMBER OF PLAYERS IN A TEAM

---

26.1 Teams shall consist of the following number of Players (except with consideration to section 22);

### Premier League

	On-Field	Interchange
Men's Seniors	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4
Women's Seniors	Maximum of 16 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 5
Men's Reserves	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4
Boys U/18.5's	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4

### Division 1 / Division 2

	On-Field	Interchange
Men's Seniors	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4
Women's Seniors	Maximum of 16 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4
Men's Reserves	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4
Boys U/18.5's	Maximum of 18 Minimum of 14	Maximum of 4

## 27. TEAM SHEETS

---

27.1 No later than 30 minutes prior to the commencement of a match the team manager of the participating Clubs shall exchange a copy of the Official Team Sheet from PlayHQ.

27.2 Team Sheets must display the following information:

- (a) Surname, Christian names, and jumper number of each Player participating in the game.
- (b) Identify the Interchange Players.
- (c) Identify the Captain and Vice-Captain
- (d) List the full names of the Official Team Runner/s, Interchange Steward, Coach/es, Medical Personnel, and up to eight Official Trainers or Water Carriers.
- (e) Identify where it becomes necessary to replace a guernsey worn by a Player during a Match and the replacement guernsey displays a different number.
- (f) name and signature of the Team Manager.

27.3 All Players must have an allocated number which aligns with the number on their playing jumper, and two or more Players on the same team may not wear the same number.

27.4 The Home Team Manager is responsible for supplying a copy of the Team Sheets to the Interchange Steward, officiating Umpires and Live Stream Commentators (where applicable) 30 minutes prior to the game.

27.5 A Player who is named on the game day team sheet who does not participate at any time during the game or is not on the interchange bench for the entirety of the game in the correct playing uniform will be removed from the team sheet.

27.6 Any breach of section 27 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **28. COMMENCEMENT OF MATCHES**

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28.1 The siren shall be sounded as per the rule 10.3 of the Laws of Australian Football.

28.2 The Captain, or their representative, is required to attend the coin toss for choice of ends in the centre circle before the one-minute siren.

28.3 It is an offence, to be reported by the Umpire, if:

- (a) A designated Person is not present for the toss at the time specified; or
- (b) A team is not ready at the official starting time.

28.4 Before the match each Club is permitted to warm up and use footballs at an agreed part of the ground until the two-minute siren.

Any breach of section 28 shall result in a penalty of \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **29. TIMEKEEPING**

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29.1 Each Home Club must provide a timekeeper for each match, whilst away clubs are encouraged to supply one. The Association will provide timekeepers for finals.

29.2 The Timekeepers shall comply with Law 10 of the Laws of Australian Football dealing with the keeping of records, use of sirens, and time on, except where varied by the League under these rules (refer Section 14).

Any breach of section 29 shall result in a penalty of \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **30. PERSONNEL ON THE PLAYING AREA**

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30.1 At grounds which have Coach's boxes any Official or Player named on the official team sheet must use the facility provided. Trainers and Water Carriers may position themselves at intervals around the boundary line, provided they do not interfere with the functions of the Interchange Steward or other Officials involved in the running of the match.

30.2 The maximum number of people allowed at the Coach's boxes is twelve (12) all of whom shall be Interchange Players and a maximum of 8 non-playing Officials named on the official team sheet. All Persons in this area must be clearly identifiable in the club uniform or NTFA issued vests. Unless Fair Play rules apply.

30.3 The only registered Club Officials who may go onto the ground whilst the match is being played, are those listed on the team sheet, and their role determines that they are required to enter the playing arena.

30.4 The use of mobile telephones, walkie talkies or other electronic equipment is not permitted on the playing area during a match, except for the strip between the boundary line and the fence area in the contained interchange area.

Any breach of section 30 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **31. OFFICIAL RUNNER**

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31.1 Each club may have up to two official Runners in each match. If two Runners are utilised, only one Runner is permitted on the field at any one time, and the Runner must enter and leave through the interchange gate.

31.2 The Runner must wear the approved league shirt and shorts and must be attired in appropriate clothing normal for running duties.

31.3 The Runner's role is solely to deliver messages from the Coaching Staff to Players on the playing area, and the Runner must immediately vacate the playing area once the message has been delivered.

31.4 Runners must not interfere with the course of play. This includes standing in and filling a space during play.

31.5 The Runner is not permitted to coach or remain on the field providing instructions and shall be asked to leave the playing area by the Umpire/s. If the Runner fails to immediately respond to any request from the Umpire, then a free kick may be awarded against their team at the spot of the infringement or where the ball is at that time, whichever is the greater penalty.

31.6 Runners are not to act as Trainers or Water Carriers.

31.7 Persons acting as a Runner shall be at least 15 years of age.

31.8 Coaches (including Assistant Coaches) are not permitted to act as Runners or Water Carriers or Medical Support for the team they are officially appointed to.

Any breach of section 31 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

## **32. MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND WATER CARRIERS**

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32.1 A Club may have a maximum of 8 Medical Personnel and Water Carriers in total. The 8 will be made up of a maximum of six Trainers and Water Carriers.

32.2 Trainers and Water Carriers shall wear Association approved identification.

32.3 Doctors or Physiotherapists are permitted to wear civilian attire however must wear Association approved identification.

32.4 At least one other female must be present when a male trainer is either with or attending to a female player.

32.5 A qualified Medical Support Person listed on the team sheet as a player cannot enter the field of play from the bench to attend to an injured player if wearing a playing uniform unless play has stopped and they have approval from the Umpire.

32.6 Water Carriers shall be at least 12 years old.

32.7 Water Carriers are not permitted in the area behind the goal and behind posts and the interchange area at any time during play.

32.8 Water Carriers must enter the playing surface from one of the points where the boundary line and the 50 metre arc intersect and are only permitted on the playing surface while a set shot for goal is being taken at the opposite end of the ground, or immediately after a goal has been scored.

Any breach of section 32 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach applied to the Club.

**33. MATCH SCORES & PAPERWORK**

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33.1 The Home Team is required to live score **all matches** using the PlayHQ live score system

33.2 No later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of a game, the Home Club’s Team Manager will collect both Team Sheets (Home & Away) which must include the Goal Kickers and Best Player details for both teams (*players are noted from 1 to 6 in the best players, with 1 being the first selected*) and ensure that information from both team sheets is entered into PlayHQ. This includes ensuring that the selected team in PlayHQ and printed team sheet are identical. Any discrepancies that cannot be entered, notification must be sent to the Competition Manager.

33.3 All game day information (both team sheets complete with Best Players and Goal Kickers and both Goal Umpire score cards) are to be submitted on the NTFA’s Google Drive within 24 hours of the conclusion of the match.

Any breach of Section 33 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach.

**34. ADMISSION FEES**

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34.1 The following match Admission Fees are to be charged by Home Clubs;

Adults	\$10
Concession	\$7
Children (Under 16)	Free

*Any stand-alone games \$5*

The Admission Fees for Finals will be determined by the NTFA Executive and communicated on an annual basis.

34.2 Gate takings from roster matches shall be retained by the Home Club.

34.3 Gate takings from finals matches shall be retained by the NTFA Board

## 35. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS

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35.1 The Club named first on the Official fixture draw shall be the Home Club. Home Clubs are responsible for ensuring that the following provisions for matches are made.

### 35.2 Match-Day Safety Check

A representative of all competing Clubs is required to conduct a match day health and safety check prior to the commencement of the first game and at any other time during the day if conditions change. The representatives must complete the electronic checklist as provided by the AFL preferred insurance provider as evidence that this check has been done. In unforeseen circumstances the paper form may be used.

### 35.3 Ground Marking

The following lines must be clearly marked.

35.31 Goal-squares, boundary lines, centre square

35.32 Arc at each end of the ground, 3 metre centre circle (with intersecting line), 10 metre centre circle (with intersecting line).

35.33 Interchange area:

(a) The interchange area comprising two short lines across the boundary line 15 metres apart should be marked on one wing and adequate seating provided for Players and team Officials of each Club; and

(b) A line one metre outside the boundary line running parallel to the boundary line for the full 15 metres of the interchange area. No Player is to cross this line unless in the process of entering the playing surface.

35.34 A 1 metre line that is 15 metres in front of the centre of the front line of the goal square running parallel to that line.

35.35 The boundary line must be marked at least three (3) metres inside the fence line.

35.36 A Coach's line should be marked comprising 5-10 metres in length and no more than 2 metres in from the fence / fence line, maintaining a minimum of 1 metre from the boundary line. It should be marked in front of the Coach's box/area. No Official or Interchange Player can stand in front of this line during play.

*Note: The ground markings are outlined in Appendix 2.*

### 35.4 Goal Post Pads

Padding must be provided on all goal and behind posts to a height of at least 2.5 metres from the ground, have a minimum thickness of 35mm, be covered in canvas and securely attached.

### 35.5 Scoreboard

A suitable scoreboard with numbers and team names clearly visible to Players and spectators must be in operation for all matches.

## 35.6 Change rooms

35.6.1 Separate and adequate changing facilities and showers must be provided for each Club and the Umpires. These rooms must be presented in a clean and tidy condition at the commencement of each match and be suitable for use by either men or women.

### 35.6.2 Women's Change Rooms

Each Club must ensure that no male Person enters or remains in a change room whilst any female is showering, naked, partially clothed or changing their clothes.

*Note: Any failure by a Club in ensuring 35.6 is enforced will be considered by the NTFA Board pursuant to its powers under this section including, where appropriate, the imposition of a penalty.*

## 35.7 Timekeeping Facilities

A table and seating with an unobstructed view of the playing area must be provided for Club Timekeepers together with a suitable time clock and a sounding device which can be clearly heard at any position on the ground.

## 35.8 Emergency Medical Arrangements

35.81 It is the Home Club's responsibility to ensure that appropriate medical procedures are in place on match days and that visiting Club's Match Managers are aware of local arrangements. The telephone numbers and addresses of the nearest medical services - ambulance, medical centres, hospitals etc. must be available for use in an emergency.

35.82 Both Clubs are required to provide a stretcher in good condition that must be in a quickly accessible location for the duration of the days play. An NTFA approved neck collar must also be attached to the stretcher. The Home Club is also to ensure that it can promptly facilitate ambulance access to the field of play if necessary.

35.83 The Home Club must have a defibrillator in a public access area of the Club room, and it must be in good working order.

## Part 6 – Umpires

### 36. BAN ON PLAYING

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A Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire registered with the League's umpiring body is not permitted to play or coach with any NTFA Competition during a season in which they have umpired in any NTFA Competition.

Any exemption to this rule would be considered on application to the Association Executive.

Any breach of section 36 shall result in a penalty of \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club.

### 37. UMPIRES CHANGE ROOMS

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Umpires' changerooms at grounds may not be accessed by any Person other than the Umpires, their Trainers, Ground Managers, Umpire Escorts, approved NTFA Officials and members of the Umpires' body.

Any breach of section 37 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

### 38. UMPIRE ESCORTS

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38.1 It is the responsibility of the Home Team to provide a competent person to act as an Umpire Escort in appropriate supplied NTFA apparel.

38.2 The umpire escort must be eighteen (18) years of age or older and capable of undertaking the duties required.

38.3 The Umpire Escort must escort the Umpires onto the ground for match commencement, from the ground at half time, onto the ground to commence the second half and from the ground at the completion of the game and visit the Umpires during quarter time and 3 quarter time breaks in the middle of the ground. They must escort the Umpires to the door of the Umpire change rooms.

38.4 The duty of the escort is to;

- Assist the safety of Umpires;
- Minimise the risk of abuse towards Umpires; and
- Deter fellow Club members and members of the public from possible unnecessary actions towards the Umpires.

38.5 The Home Team is to supply an NTFA approved vest/jacket marked "**Match Official**". This vest/jacket is to be worn by the **Umpire Escort** at any time when escorting the Umpires.

This Person may double as an Interchange Steward.

Any breach of section 38 shall result in a penalty of \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club.

### **39. CLUB APPOINTED UMPIRE**

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39.1 Club's may be required to utilise Club Appointed Umpires (Field, Boundary and Goal), subject to the capacity to supply from the Northern Tasmanian Football Umpires Association (NTFUA). The Association will communicate this information to Club's prior to the commencement of the season, or during the season should the situation arise.

39.2 Club Appointed Field Umpires are required to complete all the necessary match day paperwork (ie best and fairest votes)

39.3 For U18.5 matches, the home (or first named) club must provide a minimum two Boundary Umpires unless directed by the NTFA that clubs provide one each at a neutral venue.

39.4 Club appointed Field Umpires must be sixteen (16) years of age or older and capable of undertaking the duties required.

39.5 Club appointed Boundary and Goal Umpires must be twelve (12) years of age or older and capable of undertaking the duties required.

## Part 7 - Disciplinary

### 40. ORDER OFF RULE

Depending upon the severity of the offence the officiating Umpire may issue a green, yellow or red card to a Player. The below table details the circumstances of the card issued:

NTFA		
GREEN	YELLOW	RED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be shown as a caution to a Player</li> <li>This Player shall be sent from the field of play for 15 minutes</li> <li>The Player can be replaced immediately</li> </ul> <p>NB: Two <b>Green</b> cards <b>do not</b> equate to a <b>Yellow</b> card</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be shown when making a report</li> <li>This Player shall be sent from the field of play for 15 minutes</li> <li>The Player can be replaced immediately</li> </ul> <p>NB: Two <b>Yellow</b> cards <b>do</b> equate to a <b>Red</b> card</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be shown when making a serious report or a second report against a Player</li> <li>This Player shall be sent from the field of play for the remainder of the match</li> </ul>

The Order off Law is in accordance with Law 23 of the [Laws of Australian Football](#).

Unless otherwise determined by the Association, all Players who are ordered from the field with a **Red Card** can be replaced after a period of fifteen (15) minutes playing time has elapsed. The offending Players Club is responsible for obtaining the all clear from the Interchange Steward for the replacement Player to resume playing.

### 41. REPORTABLE OFFENCES

On behalf of the League AFL Tasmania shall administer reportable offences in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part E – Disciplinary.

In accordance with Section 22.1 (b) (iii) AFL Tasmania may levy a fee for the lodgement of Club Incident Referral Forms.

### 42. COMPLAINTS

Complaints in relation to breaches of AFL Policies shall be handled in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part E- Disciplinary.

AFL Policies include Member Protection, Vilification and Discrimination, Safeguarding Children, Social Media, Gambling and Match Fixing, and Anti-Doping.

#### **43. MELEES**

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43.1 Any Club deemed to have been involved in a melee by the Match Review Officer will be financially sanctioned.

43.2 Individual Players involved in a melee may still be reported under the Laws of Australian Football and/or National Community Football Policy Handbook.

Any breach of section 43 shall result in a penalty of up to \$1500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

#### **44. EFFECT OF SUSPENSION**

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44.1 In the event a suspended Person participates in a match or in any other way breaches AFL Policy in relation to suspended Persons, Section 8 of these rules applies.

## **Part 8 - The Independent Tribunal**

#### **45. TRIBUNAL**

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On behalf of the Association the AFL Tasmania Tribunal will handle all matters in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#), Part E- Disciplinary.

#### **46. APPEALS**

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On behalf of the Association AFL Tasmania shall handle all appeals in accordance with the [National Community Football Policy Handbook](#) Part E – Disciplinary.

In accordance with Section 26.1 (c) (i) (B) AFL Tasmania shall levy a fee of \$500 for the lodgement of a Notice of Appeal.

## Part 9 - Apparel & Equipment

### 47. UNIFORMS

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47.1 Upon admission to the Association Clubs shall apply for and obtain approval of the NTFA Executive to use the colours, uniform and design under which the Club proposes to play. These uniforms, when approved, shall be registered with the NTFA.

47.2 Any Club desiring to vary or alter its colours, uniform or design shall first apply for and obtain the permission of the NTFA to make such variation or alteration and when approved the same shall be registered by the same process, provided always that notice of such change of colours or alteration of design is given to the Association not later than the first day of December in the preceding year to that in which such change is to be effected.

47.3 The materials used, and the manufacturing process of Club uniforms must be approved by the NTFA, who will have regard to any product license agreements from time to time. Any variation to the approved material or manufacturing process must be approved by the NTFA.

47.4 All playing jumpers must display numbers on the back no less than 25cm in height.  
All numbers must be whole numbers between 1 and 99 inclusive.

47.5 The below images outline authorised advertising space on playing jumpers. Clubs must also obtain approval for the type of sponsor from the NTFA prior to any new sponsors' logos being displayed on Club Uniform.



47.6 Players are permitted to wear their Club uniform-coloured shorts at all Home games.

47.7 Away teams will wear white shorts in all NTFA games unless otherwise approved by the NTFA, or as permitted under 48.8.

47.8 Women’s teams shall be permitted to wear an alternate colour than white for their Away shorts provided that the colour does not clash with the Home Team’s short colour.

47.9 Undershorts may be worn by a Player provided that the material is of a neutral beige colour only, unless the NTFA has approved a Player to wear an alternative colour, and does not contain any sponsor advertising

47.10 The below images outline authorised advertising space on playing shorts. Clubs must also obtain approval for the type of sponsor from the NTFA prior to any new sponsors’ logos being displayed on Club Uniform.



47.11 Players must wear socks of their Club’s approved colours. Socks may have a sponsor's badge/logo on them, if approved. All changes to sock designs and or sponsor logos must be approved by the NTFA.

47.12 Football Boots must be worn when playing in the NTFA and form a part of the official uniform.

Any breach of section 47 shall result in a penalty of \$500.00 per breach applied to the Club.

**48. ON FIELD APPAREL SUPPLY**

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48.1 On-field apparel (warm up clothing, playing jumpers, playing shorts and socks) must be sourced through a reputable supplier.

**49. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Law 9 of the Laws of Australian Football and Section 16 of the National Community Football Handbook applies.

Any breach of Section 49 shall result in a penalty of \$100.00 per breach.

## 50. APPROVED FOOTBALLS

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50.1 Clubs must use approved footballs (Sherrin) in all matches conducted by the Association as follows;

<b>Premier League</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Colour</b>
Men's Seniors	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.
Women's Seniors	Size 4	Yellow for all matches.
Men's Reserves	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.
Boys U/18.5's	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.
<b>Community League</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Colour</b>
Men's Seniors	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.
Women's Seniors	Size 4	Yellow for all matches.
Men's Reserves	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.
Boys U/18.5's	Size 5	Red for matches commencing before 3pm. Yellow to be used for matches commencing after 3pm.

Any variation to the use of footballs outlined in the above schedule requires the agreement of both Clubs prior to the commencement of the match.

50.2 The Home Club shall provide three footballs to the Umpires prior to commencement of each match for use in the match.

50.3 The Home Club shall provide at least one brand new ball for each Men's and Women's Seniors match.

50.4 The Association shall provide footballs for use in Finals matches.

50.5 Clubs may purchase all match footballs (Sherrin) through a reputable supplier.

50.6 Any specific Club Football Sponsorship and Branding requires the approval of the Association Executive.

Any breach of section 50 shall result in a penalty of \$250.00 per breach applied to the Club.

# Part 10 – Awards

## 51. AWARDS

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### **Best & Fairest**

51.1 At the conclusion of each season the Association shall provide an award for the Best and Fairest Player in each Premier League and Division 1 / Division 2 Competition.

51.2 The Field Umpires shall, after each Home and Away match, log onto the Officials HQ system and allocate their preferences for best Players in their game, their first choice to receive three votes, their second choice to receive two votes, and their third choice to receive one vote.

51.3 The Player receiving the largest number of votes at the conclusion of the roster season shall be awarded the Best and Fairest.

51.4 Any Player is ineligible to win the medal if they have been found guilty of an offence against the Laws of Australian Football or these Rules and Regulations during the season, other than an offence related to time wasting, uniform or equipment and melee charges.

51.5 In the event of two or more eligible Players securing the same number of votes, the award shall be shared and presented to each Player.

### **Leading Goal Kicker**

51.6 At the conclusion of each season the Association shall provide an award for the Player that has kicked the most goals in each Premier League and Division 1 / Division 2 Competition.

51.7 In the event two or more Players have kicked the same number goals, the award shall be shared and presented to each Player.

### **Player of the Final**

51.8 At the conclusion of each Premier League and Division 1 / Division 2 Competition Grand Final the Association shall provide an award for the Player adjudged Best Player on the ground in the match.

51.9 The Player of the Final shall be selected by a Person, or panel or Persons, appointed by the Executive in advance of the Grand Final.

### **Representative Teams**

51.10 Following any representative team match/es during any season the Association shall provide an award for the Player adjudged the Best Player for the team in the match/es.

51.11 The Best Player award for each representative team shall be selected by the Coaching Panel of the respective team.

### **Other Awards**

51.12 At the conclusion of each season the Executive may present any other awards it determines from time to time.

# Part 11 – Representative Teams

## 52. REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

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52.1 All registered Players may be selected to play in NTFA representative teams during any season on the following basis:

- Premier League Representative Team – Premier League Players
- Community Representative Team – Division 1 / Division 2 Players

Players selected will be advised of the date(s) of the representative game(s) and the dates and times of trainings by the appointed Coach. All registered Players accept that they may be selected to play representative football when they register to play in the Competition each season.

52.2 All registered Players who are injured at the time of their selection must provide a medical certificate which states the nature of their injury and the expected date of return to training and playing.

52.3 All registered Players who at the time of their selection are unable to train due to work commitments must provide a signed letter from their employer stating their inability to train or play in representative football.

52.4 A Player who has been selected in a representative squad / team and who neglects to train or play or fulfil all requirements as directed by the Coach and/or Executive shall on failing to satisfy the Executive as to their reasons, shall-not be available to represent his/her Club in the following NTFA roster match after the completion of the representative game(s).

52.5 The Executive shall appoint Representative Coaches, Team Managers, Medical Personnel and other support positions required.

## Part 12 – Miscellaneous

### 53. SERVICE OF NOTICE

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Any notice required to be served under these Rules and Regulations may be sent by email or by ordinary mail and in the case of mail shall be deemed to have been received, unless the contrary is claimed, in the normal course of mail delivery.

### 54. NTFA FORMS

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54.1 The Executive may design and alter from time to time such forms for the implementation of these rules as it thinks appropriate.

54.2 A form that is required to be lodged at the office of the League is correctly lodged if it is sent by scanned email within the time specified for the particular form.

### 55. FINANCIAL PENALTIES

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55.1 All financial penalties imposed to Clubs must be paid by the Club within 14 days upon notification. If the penalty is not paid in this time period, the Club will not be permitted to participate in any games for premiership points until the fine is paid in full.

### 56. SPONSORSHIP

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A fine of up to \$1500 for a 1<sup>st</sup> offence will be issued to any club that is in breach of a current agreement with the NTFA's major sponsors in respect to promoting and using other companies products

### 57. INSURANCE

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Each member club is covered by the NTFA's compulsory insurance cover under the AFL's National Risk Program or an equivalent provider. All registered players and officials of a member club will have minimum cover for public and products liability, association liability, personal accident and non-Medicare medical. Each Club has the option of taking up higher levels of cover directly with the AFL's nominated insurer. Clubs must also have workers compensation for any employees.

### 58. EXECUTIVE DISCRETION

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Notwithstanding any provisions of these rules, The Executive or the Board of the NTFA, in exceptional circumstances, reserves the right to make the final determination in relation to any matter not covered within these rules.

## APPENDIX 1 – Forms

Forms can be found at <https://play.afl/clubhelp/handbook-templates>

Doc no.	Form / Template	Section	For use by
B0300	Application to Play in Higher Age Group	<u>3.1(b)(iii)</u>	Player / Club
B0301	Late Transfer Request	<u>3.3(b)(ii)</u>	Player / Club
B0401	Age Dispensation Application to Play Down	<u>4.1(b)</u>	Player / Club
B0501	Standard Player Declaration	<u>5</u>	Player / Club
B0707	Reregistration Application Form	<u>7.7(a)</u>	Player / Football Official
E2202	Incident Referral Form	<u>22.1(b)(ii)</u> <u>22.1(c)</u>	Club Executive Officer
E2301	Notice of Complaint	<u>23.1(a)(i)</u>	Person / Club
E2302	Notice of Complaint - Vilification	<u>10</u> <u>23.1(a)(i)</u>	Person / Club
E2306	Witness Statement Template	N/A	Person
E2501	Tribunal Advocate & Witness Information Form (attached to Notice of Charge / Notice of Breach)	<u>25.3(b)</u> <u>25.3(e)(i)</u>	Person / Club
E2601	Notice of Appeal	<u>26.1(c)</u>	Person / Club / Controlling Body
E2602	Notice of Appeal - Transfer Refusal	<u>3.5(d)(ii)</u> <u>26.1(c)</u>	Player / Club

## APPENDIX 2 – Ground Markings

