

Football Gold Coast Limited

# Competition Management Centre Rules



Updated March 2020

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## **Section 1 - COMPETITION STRUCTURE**

### **1.0 COMPETITION ADMINISTRATION**

1.0.1 Football Gold Coast Limited will be responsible for the administration and maintenance of all outdoor football competitions including but not limited to: -

- MiniRoos (6 to 11-year old's);
- Junior Competition (12 to 18-year old's);
- Senior Women;
- Senior Men.

1.0.2 Clubs, Players and Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Federation Australia and Football Queensland and Football Gold Coast Limited, including but not limited to: -

- i. National Registration Regulations;
- ii. National Disciplinary Regulations;
- iii. FFA Code of Conduct;
- iv. Grievance Resolution Regulations;
- v. FFA National Member Protection Policy;
- vi. FQ Member Protection Policy;
- vii. Football Gold Coast Limited Constitution, By-Laws, CMC Rules and Minimum Standards;
- viii. Other Government Statutes and Legislative Policies.

1.0.3 These rules shall apply to all Men, Women and Junior competition fixtures (including but not limited to pre-season/trial, friendly, league fixtures, cup games, finals series & play-off matches) administered by Football Gold Coast Limited

1.0.4 Football Gold Coast Limited will provide the official fixture list as soon as practicable in accordance with these regulations. These fixtures will include the date, time and location of all matches. These scheduled matches will be published prior to the commencement of the season.

1.0.5 The official fixture list as published will be deemed final. Any requests to vary fixtures must be carried out in accordance with 4.7 of the CMC Rules.

1.0.6 All Football Gold Coast Limited fixtures are played under the FIFA Laws of the Game, unless otherwise specified in these CMC Rules. They will be played in compliance with the Regulations in force and in accordance with Football Federation Australia, Football QLD and Football Gold Coast Limited respectively.

1.0.7 Should Football Gold Coast Limited engage a sponsor, a condition of entry into a Football Gold Coast Limited competition is that clubs are required to uphold any requirements stipulated in the sponsorship contract. Such requirements may include but not be limited to field signage, the display of logos on club websites, use of a sponsor's match ball, use of sponsor apparel, etc.

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

Any club failing to fulfil the sponsorship requirements as directed by FGC, may be removed from the sponsored division/competition and/or may be charged for bringing the game into disrepute and/or could be fined as per section 2 of these rules 'Failing to follow a directive from FGC'.

1.0.8 Participation in any level of competition is subject to the payment of all relevant fees as notified by Football Gold Coast Limited

1.0.9 Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to amend the size, structure and composition of any Division. This includes varying promotion and relegation rules as it sees fit.

- 1.0.10 The Board of Football Gold Coast may direct a change be made in any draw due to unforeseen circumstances or other commitments.
- 1.0.11 Clubs will be invoiced for tickets to the Annual Presentation Night on the following criteria:
- a) Two tickets if the Club has Juniors;
  - b) Two tickets if the Club has Seniors.

Additional tickets will be available for purchase at the Clubs request.

- 1.0.12 Any Club wishing to use the Football Gold Coast name/logo and/or intellectual property for promotional purposes, must obtain permission in writing from Football Gold Coast. Any unauthorised use will result in penalties in accordance with Section 2 of the CMC Rules.
- 1.0.13 Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to insist on all Coaches and Managers being in possession of a valid QLD Blue Card or NSW Working with Children Check each season. Failure to hold a valid card/check will result in the Coach/Manager being removed from their position pending application.
- 1.0.14 Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to insist all Coaches and Managers must be in possession of a Football Gold Coast supplied Officials lanyard. A lanyard will be supplied once a Coach/Manager has registered for the current season, holds a current QLD Blue Card or NSW Working with Children Check and the Clubs register supplied to Football Gold Coast.
- 1.0.15 Each club will need to complete the Affiliation pack to comply with FGC and FQ requirements
- 1.0.16 In exceptional circumstances Football Gold Coast Limited reserves, the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion for the best interest of the game.

## 1.1 COMPETITION POINTS

- 1.1.1 In all competition fixtures, match points will be awarded as

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

- 1.1.2 At the end of the championship season, all teams will be ranked from highest to lowest by virtue of the total number of points received.
- 1.1.3 The highest ranked team in the competition shall be declared Premiers.

### 1.1.4 Goal Difference

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

- a) the Premiers;
- b) the team or teams eligible for promotion to a higher division;
- c) the team or team's eligible to be relegated to a lower division;
- d) the teams eligible to play in the Finals Series in the respective divisions;
- e) all other positions on the points table.

- 1.1.5 Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting the total number of goals AGAINST from the total number of goals FOR in all fixture matches:
- a) the team with the higher or highest resultant plus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team;
  - b) the team with the lower or lowest resultant minus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the superior goal difference and shall be the higher or highest placed team.
- 1.1.6 In the case of goal difference being equal, the team having scored the most goals FOR shall be the higher or highest placed team

- 1.1.7 In the case of teams having an equal goal difference and having scored an equal number of goals FOR:
- a) The team with the higher or highest number of points from matches played between the teams in question shall be the higher or highest placed team;
  - b) If the number of points is equal, then the team with the superior goal difference from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team;
  - c) In the case of goal difference being equal, the team having scored the most goals FOR from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team;
  - d) If the goal difference and goals FOR are equal, then the team that scored the most away goals from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team (sub section (d) is only applicable if an equal number of games were played at each venue).

- 1.1.8 If teams are still equal after taking into account all of the above considerations, the following will apply:
- a) To determine Premiers/Promoted teams/Relegated teams - the clubs concerned shall play off in one deciding match on a neutral ground, the final format, timing and venue shall be determined by Football Gold Coast Limited;
  - b) To determine all other positions on the table - an official of each team will be required to meet with an official of Football Gold Coast Limited and lots will be drawn to determine the final standings on the tables.

## **1.2 MATCH SANCTIONS (INTER/INTRA STATE/OVERSEAS TOUR/FRIENDLIES/CARNIVALS/TOURNAMENTS/COME TRY DAYS)**

- 1.2.1 A Club wishing to host a friendly/trial match/come try day/clinic/carnival/tournament/social competition which has not been organised by Football Gold Coast but is to be held within the Gold Coast Zone involving only Clubs from this Zone, must submit a Match Request Form via the MyFGC portal or an official FQ Match Sanction Request form which can be found on the FGC website. Once submitted Football Gold Coast will consider the request and approve/decline the request which Clubs will receive notification of via MyFGC. Requests must be submitted a minimum of 7+ days ahead of the event.
- 1.2.2 A Club wishing to host an event as outlined in 1.2.1 which will include Clubs from outside of the Gold Coast Zone must complete an FQ editable Match Sanction Request (on the FGC website) and submit via email a minimum of 7+ days ahead of the event to Football Gold Coast. The request will be considered and if approved forwarded to FQ for further approval. FQ will notify both FGC and the requesting Club once the request has been approved/declined.
- 1.2.3 A Club within the Football Gold Coast Zone wishing to travel to an event within the Gold Coast Zone for an event outlined in 1.2.1 should complete an Inter Zone Travel Permit (on the FGC website), attaching a copy of a squad list of those playing and submit via email to Football Gold Coast in the first instance.
- 1.2.4 A Club within the Football Gold Coast Zone wishing to travel to an event outside of the Gold Coast Zone but within Australia for an event outlined in 1.2.1 should complete an Inter State Travel Permit (on the FGC website), attaching a copy of a squad list of those playing, and submit via email to Football Gold Coast in the first instance.
- 1.2.5 A Club within the Football Gold Coast Zone wishing to travel to an event outside of the Gold Coast Zone and also outside Australia must complete a 'Team Travelling Overseas Procedure' form which can be found on the FGC website. This form should be emailed to Football Gold Coast in the first instance no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled fixture.
- 1.2.6 A Club within the Football Gold Coast Zone wishing to host an international team must complete a 'Hosting an International Team Procedure' form which can be found on the FGC website. This form should be emailed to Football Gold Coast in the first instance no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled fixture.

- 1.2.7 Should a Club not receive approval as outlined under CMC Rule 1.2.1 then participation in the event will be considered unsanctioned and subsequently result in any insurance claims for the event being void. Any Clubs/teams participating in unsanctioned events will be fined in accordance with CMC Rule 2.2.

### **1.3 REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS**

- 1.3.1 Club teams that have three (3) or more representative players from the one team are eligible to request a reschedule for any affected game as per CMC Rule 4.7.4. If Football Gold Coast Limited agrees to reschedule the fixture then the new date will be determined as per CMC Rule 4.11.14.
- 1.3.2 Football Gold Coast Limited shall retain claim on any player required to participate in representative fixtures for Football Gold Coast Limited Players not making themselves available for representative fixtures shall be asked to show cause as to why their club should not be fined and the player suspended subject to the findings of the Board of Football Gold Coast.
- 1.3.3 Only Players who are registered with Football Gold Coast Limited zone will be eligible for selection in Gold Coast Zone Representative Teams.

## **Section 2 - FINES & PENALTIES**

- 2.0.1 Fines shall be imposed on clubs, club officials and players for not adhering to the laws of football and/ or the CMC Rules, Football Gold Coast Limited By-laws or Constitution. Fines of a greater amount than those listed under section 2 Fines & Penalties can be imposed on clubs from the recommendation of the Board of Football Gold Coast, Disciplinary or any Sub-Committees endorsed by Football Gold Coast. The maximum fine shall be \$1000 for each offence/incident.
- 2.0.2 Clubs may be fined by the Board of Football Gold Coast, Disciplinary or any Sub-Committees endorsed by Football Gold Coast their opinion they (the Club) have brought the game into disrepute and/or have failed to follow a directive from Football Gold Coast. The maximum fine for each offence shall be \$5000 and/or a maximum bond of \$5000 to be placed on the offending club for a period as specified by Football Gold Coast and/or a Disciplinary Panel.
- 2.0.3 Fines under this section may multiply in accordance with their frequency at the discretion of Football Gold Coast Limited

### **2.1 MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS/ CLUB OFFICIALS**

- 2.1.1 Clubs will be fined for (all fines are per each offence) but not limited to:

i)	Bringing the game into disrepute	up to max.	\$5000
ii)	Foul and abusive language.	up to max.	\$5000
iii)	Violent misconduct.	up to max.	\$5000
iv)	Club / Team misconduct	up to max.	\$5000
v)	Falsification of official documents	up to max.	\$5000
vi)	Falsification of Registration Forms	up to max.	\$5000
vii)	Falsification of Team Sheets	up to max.	\$5000
viii)	Playing an ineligible player	up to max.	\$5000
ix)	Causing a game to be abandoned	up to max	\$5000

- 2.1.2 In addition to above mentioned fines, clubs or individuals could also be fined as per CMC Rule 2.5.



## 2.2 GENERAL FINES

	MiniRoos & Jnr Comp	Snr Comp
Yellow Card - Player	\$5	\$10
Yellow Card – Player Decent – Sin Bin	\$15	\$25
Yellow Card – Coach – Enough is Enough		
• 1 <sup>st</sup> Offence - \$\$\$	\$100	\$100
• 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence - \$\$\$ and 1 Match	\$100	\$100
• 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offence - \$\$\$	\$200	\$200
• 4 <sup>th</sup> Offence - \$\$\$ and 2 Matches	\$200	\$200
• 5 <sup>th</sup> Offence - \$\$\$	\$300	\$300
• Every Yellow Card After - \$\$\$ and 3 Matches	\$300	\$300
Red Card (1 <sup>st</sup> – then compounded i.e. 2 <sup>nd</sup> \$40, 3 <sup>rd</sup> \$60, etc.)	\$20	\$30
Red Card R6 Offence – Enough is Enough		
• 1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$\$ and 1 Match	\$50	\$50
• 2 <sup>nd</sup> offence - \$\$\$ and 2 Matches	\$150	\$150
• 3 <sup>rd</sup> offence - \$\$\$, 4 Matches and removal of 4 competition points	\$300	\$300
Coach/Manager Removal from Technical Area – Enough is Enough		
1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$\$\$ and 1 Match	\$200	\$200
2 <sup>nd</sup> offence - \$\$\$ and 3 Matches	\$400	\$400
3 <sup>rd</sup> offence - \$\$\$, 5 Matches and removal of 4 competition points	\$600	\$600
Inadequately marked fields	\$100	\$100
No technical area marked	\$20	\$50
No corner posts	\$20	\$50
No or inadequate goal nets	\$20	\$50
Failure to pay match officials in a correct manner/area	\$50	\$100
Incomplete/Late Submission of Team Sheets (later than 24 hours after completion of fixture) (per offence/team sheet)	\$25	\$25
Late kick off	\$20	\$50
Failing to supply match day Ground Officials – Enough is Enough	\$100	\$200
Failing to provide Club Match Officials (fine per Official)	\$100	\$100
Failing to use sponsors match balls	\$50	\$100
Failing to play in an approved sponsors strip	\$200	\$500
Use of an unapproved playing strip	\$100	\$500
Forfeit by U6 to U11 team	\$50	n/a
Forfeit by Club/team of a competition game	\$200	\$500
Forfeit by Club/team of a Cup game	\$200	\$500
Forfeit/Removal of Finals Series game (except Final)	\$150	\$250
Forfeit/Removal of Final	\$300	\$500
Forfeit of any FGC approved competition	\$200	\$500
Teams forfeiting games will have all further fines compounded (i.e. doubled, tripled, etc. per offence)		
Participating in an unsanctioned game/tournament	\$100	\$500
Withdrawal or removal of a team		
• After nomination but before draw completed	\$100	\$200
• Once a draw has been completed	\$250	\$500
• Within 7 days of the commencement of the competition	\$400	\$750
• After commencement of competition	\$500	\$1000
<b>The above fines are the maximum applicable per offence</b>		

2.2.2 At the discretion of Football Gold Coast and further to 2.2 Clubs and/or officials and/or players could be subject to further disciplinary sanctions as per 3.0.20 and 3.0.21.

## 2.3 MONIES OWING TO FOOTBALL GOLD COAST LIMITED

2.3.1 Clubs are required to pay in full all debts owing over 30 days to Football Gold Coast Limited on or before 30<sup>th</sup> September each year. This includes monies which may have incurred when an appeal or protest has

been lodged.

- 2.3.2 By November 1<sup>st</sup> each year all clubs must be financial with FGC and must be trading solvent to be considered for entry to any competition. Clubs are also required to submit their most recent audited/verified financial statement and/or awaited reports along with their affiliation pack and Club Constitution.
- 2.3.3 Football Gold Coast Limited will not accept nominations to participate in any competition if the Club is un-financial with Football Gold Coast Limited and if clubs haven't fulfilled CMC Rule 2.3.2.
- 2.3.4 No affiliated club shall be permitted to commence playing in the Football Gold Coast Limited competition season if they are un-financial with Football Gold Coast Limited at the commencement of competition unless written agreement has been reached with Football Gold Coast Limited
- 2.3.5 All outstanding monies owed to FGC must be paid by a Club within specified time as per payment terms stipulated on invoice. Failing which:
- (a) No teams or Players will be registered unless a Clubs account with Football Gold Coast Limited is in credit or paid in full;
  - (b) Football Gold Coast Limited may offset any transfer or compensation fees owed by an un-financial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to Football Gold Coast Limited;
  - (c) Football Gold Coast Limited may offset any prize monies or any refunds due to an un-financial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to Football Gold Coast Limited.
- 2.3.6 In addition, failure to adhere to rule 2.3.5 will result in a Club being sent a reminder notice to bring their account with Football Gold Coast Limited into order. An offending Club will be given 14 days from the date of the reminder notice to bring their accounts with Football Gold Coast Limited into order and thereafter will be charged interest at 12% or an amount decided at the Board of Football Gold Coast's discretion on the outstanding balance.
- 2.3.7 Failure to adhere to 2.3.5 will result in any or all of the following: -
- (a) Three (3) competition points per week the money is outstanding being deducted from each of that Clubs competition teams (senior and junior). A Club subjected to this penalty will be notified in writing when the deduction of points will take effect. Once the points have been deducted, they cannot be reinstated even when the account is paid;
  - (b) Shall lose their right of appeal on any matter;
  - (c) Be suspended from all competitions in which that participating club competes (including Top 4 Series and Promotion/Relegations Playoff Series) until the debt has been resolved;
  - (d) Have any rights, privileges or participation in the activities of Football Gold Coast Limited relating to that club's participation suspended until all debts and obligations have been discharged, except where a dispute over fees remains unresolved. The status of this dispute will be determined by Football Gold Coast Limited;
  - (e) If the reduction of 3 points under this results in a team or teams being relegated, such relegation will stand even if the outstanding monies are subsequently paid;
  - (f) Shall lose their voting entitlements.
- 2.3.8 Notwithstanding rules 2.3.5, 2.3.6 and 2.3.7 Football Gold Coast Limited may in its absolute discretion expel or make the Club re-apply to the Board of Football Gold Coast to be considered for inclusion to the following season's competition if it does not comply with these Rules.
- 2.3.9 Where a club has been suspended under clause 2.3.7, all games involving that club shall affect positional standings with the competition. For each match in which a team cannot participate because of suspension under clause 2.3.7, the opposing team will be awarded a forfeit and will be recorded as a 3-0 score.
- 2.3.10 If a team is removed from the Finals Series as a result of the Club being unfinancial then the teams directly below them will automatically be elevated one place to fill the top four
- 2.3.11 All outstanding monies owed to FGC must be paid by a Club within specified time as per payment terms stipulated on invoice.

Failing which:

- (a) No teams or Players will be registered unless a Clubs account with Football Gold Coast Limited is in credit or paid in full;
- (b) Football Gold Coast Limited may offset any transfer or compensation fees owed by an un-financial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to Football Gold Coast Limited;
- (c) Football Gold Coast Limited may offset any prize monies or any refunds due to an un-financial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to Football Gold Coast Limited.

## **2.4 PENALTIES**

- 2.4.1 Any club or individual found guilty of a breach of the CMC Rules, Football Gold Coast Limited By-laws or Constitution shall be fined up to a maximum of \$5000 per breach.

## **2.5 DISREPUTE**

- 2.5.1 Breaches of any rule as set out in these Competition Management Rules will result in, but are not limited to, fines as set out in section 2.0 and/or 3.0.20 and 3.0.21.
- 2.5.2 In addition to fines as set out in section 2.0, Clubs or individuals may also be fined or sanctioned as per the FFA Code of Conduct for bringing the game into disrepute and/or any other State or National Regulations that may be applicable.

## Section 3 – DISCIPLINARY

- 3.0.1 All disciplinary matters will be subject to but not limited by CMC Rule Section 3, National Disciplinary Regulations, Football Gold Coast Disciplinary Policy and the Enough is Enough initiative.

### LOCAL COMPETITION RULES – Yellow Cards

- 3.0.2 Further to clause 6.1 of the National Disciplinary Regulations, a Player/Coach who accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the course of the season, must serve the following mandatory match suspensions:

#### Player

- a) A Player who accumulates **5 (five)** Yellow Cards during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 1 (one) match from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition / grade in which the 5th Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC.
- b) A Player who accumulates **8 (eight)** Yellow Cards during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 2 (two) matches from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition/grade in which the 8th Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC.
- c) A Player who accumulates **10 (ten)** Yellow Cards during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 3 (three) matches from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition / grade in which the 10th Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC. Further the player may be required to attend a disciplinary hearing where further disciplinary sanctions could be imposed.

#### Coach

- d) A coach who accumulates **2 (two)** Yellow Cards during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 1 (one) match from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition / grade in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC.
- e) A coach who accumulates **4 (four)** Yellow Cards during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 2 (two) matches from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition/grade in which the 4<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC.
- f) Every yellow card after the 5<sup>th</sup> yellow cards that a coach accumulates during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or grade or Club in which those Yellow Cards are handed out shall be automatically suspended for 3 (three) matches from the time of notification by FGC and the said suspension must be served in the competition / grade in which the Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC. Further the player may be required to attend a disciplinary hearing where further disciplinary sanctions could be imposed.

*(# Note – If a player is suspended due to 3.0.2 (a)(b) or (c) then the player is unable to play in any other league/division until the suspension is served in full as stated above).*

*(# Note – If a coach is also a player, yellow cards will be accumulated separately).*

- 3.0.3 A Player who accumulates two (2) dissent yellow cards in one game during the course of the Finals and or Play-Off Series, will be suspended for one match.
- 3.0.4 If a Player receives two Yellow Cards during the same match and therefore receives a Red Card, the two Yellow Cards do not count for the purposes of accumulation of yellow cards.
- 3.0.5 If a Player receives a Yellow Card and then a direct Red Card in the same match, the Yellow Card will count in the Player's accumulation of Yellow Cards.
- 3.0.6 The accumulation of Yellow Cards will be reset to zero at the end of the last Match of the Pre-Season,

the Regular Season, and any Finals Series respectively. This means that Yellow Cards accumulated in the Pre- Season do not carry over to the Regular Season, Yellow Cards accumulated in the Regular Season do not carry over to any Finals Series and Yellow Cards accumulated in the Finals Series do not carry over to the next Pre-Season.

- 3.0.7 Further to 3.0.6, should a player receive a yellow card in accordance with 3.0.2 a to c in the last game of the regular season, then that suspension will carry forward to the Finals Series and/or next regular season (pre- season/trial/friendly game will not constitute games served)
- 3.0.8 A Yellow Card issued to a Player during a Friendly Match does not accumulate toward future matches.
- 3.0.9 A Player who accumulates the following number of DIRECT red cards during the Competition or Finals series, must serve the following mandatory match suspensions:
- a) First red card of the season equates to the standard NDR sanctions;
  - b) Second red card of the season, equates to an additional one (1) match suspension on top of the standard NDR sanctions;
  - c) Third red card of the season, equates to an additional three (3) match suspension on top of the standard NDR sanctions;
  - d) Fourth red card of the season, equates to an additional five (5) match suspension on top of the standard NDR sanctions.

The above could differ where the Enough is Enough initiative takes precedence, the higher penalty will apply.

- 3.0.10 Players suspended as a result of a red card offence must serve their suspension in the competition/ grade/division in which the red card was received, unless determined otherwise by FGC. The player will continue to be suspended for a period of **12 hours** after he/she serves their last match. For the avoidance of doubt, suspensions do carry over from one round to the next in the same competition, including from the pre-season to the regular season to cup fixtures to finals and or play-off series. Suspensions not fully served by the end of the competition season will be completed in the next competition season. (Friendly/Pre-season matches will not constitute suspension served).  
Note: Any sanction received in an FFA Cup match must adhere to FFA Cup Rules.
- 3.0.11 A Player, who receives a match suspension in a Friendly, must serve that suspension in the next Friendly and/or next Competition Fixture as determined by FGC.
- 3.0.12 The imposition of a mandatory match suspension as a result of a red card is immediate. For completeness, Football Gold Coast will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the mandatory match suspension within four (4) days of the completion of the round. For the avoidance of doubt, the mandatory match suspension is effective and must be served regardless of whether or not the notice was/is received.
- 3.0.13 If Football Gold Coast has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, a further Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within four (4) days of the completion of the round.
- 3.0.14 While serving a suspension, a Participant (player or team official) **MAY NOT:** -
- (a) On the day of a Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the players' race, the dressing rooms or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that match;
  - (b) If attending a Match, be seated in an area normally reserved for Participants.
- 3.0.15 Any breach of CMC Rule 3.0.14 could result in the participants and or the club being charged by bringing the game into disrepute and further suspensions or fines imposed.
- 3.0.16 In the event that FGC organise a cup competition it may introduce a variance to the rules by way of its own (Cup) disciplinary rules which will then need to be read in conjunction with this section. In the

absence of such variance the CMC Rules shall apply to competitors.

- 3.0.17 Except in the case of obvious error, the particulars of which are exclusively contained at clause 4.3 of National Disciplinary Regulations, there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
- 3.0.18 Each Club must ensure that its Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct. FGC may, consistent with the FFA Statutes, sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct. Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:
- (a) Five (5) of its Players are cautioned during a Competition match;
  - (b) Three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a Competition match;
  - (c) Its Participants collectively show dissent towards a match official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a match official to make or alter a decision; or
  - (d) Its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.
- 3.0.19 Clubs whose teams are in breach of 3.0.18 will be fined \$100.00 for the first offence, and \$200.00 for every offence thereafter. These fines shall be calculated on a per team basis.
- 3.0.20 Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club if found guilty of bring the game into disrepute.
- (a) A reprimand;
  - (b) A fine;
  - (c) Place the Club on a bond;
  - (d) A deduction or loss of competition points;
  - (e) Ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
  - (f) Annulment of registration of a Player;
  - (g) Suspension from participation in a Match or Matches;
  - (h) Exclusion, suspension or expulsion from the competition.
  - (i) Playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
  - (j) A ban on playing in a particular stadium/venue;
  - (k) Annulment of the result of the match; or
  - (l) Such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes
- 3.0.21 Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Participant if found guilty of bring the game into disrepute.
- (a) A reprimand;
  - (b) A fine;
  - (c) Return of award;
  - (d) Place the individual on a bond;
  - (e) Ban on registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
  - (f) Annulment of registration of a Player;
  - (g) Suspension from participation in a Match or Matches;
  - (h) Suspension or expulsion from the competition;
  - (i) Suspension or cancellation of licence or accreditation, including Licensed Player Agent's licence or coaching accreditation;
  - (j) Termination of registration or playing contract;
  - (k) A ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
  - (l) A ban from entering a stadium/venue;
  - (m) Ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
  - (n) Such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.
- 3.0.22 Coaching from the sideline shall only be carried out by the coach, provided the information is given in a quiet, non-hysterical, non-abusive, non-negative manner. A coach may only enter the field of play with the referee's permission. Coaching by any person is prohibited from behind the goals. The appointed referee, or agreed referee, shall report to Football Gold Coast Limited misconduct or any misdemeanor on the part of players and named substitutes, team officials, spectators, or other persons which take place whether on the field of play or in its vicinity at any time prior to, during, or after the match in question, so that appropriate action can be taken by Football Gold Coast Limited, in accordance

with the CMC Rules and Football Gold Coast Enough is Enough initiative.

3.0.23 Enough is Enough is a locally governed initiative to stamp out poor behaviour by coaches/managers, players and spectators. The following sanctions apply: -

**Coaches**

Sent from the technical area: - Enough is Enough

- 1<sup>st</sup> = 1 x match + \$200 + 1 match
- 2<sup>nd</sup> = 3 x matches + \$400 + 3 matches
- 3<sup>rd</sup> = 6 x matches + \$600 + 5 matches + team deducted 4 x competition points

**Players**

Sent from field for an R6 offence (in addition to sanction): -

- 1<sup>st</sup> = additional 1 x match + \$50
- 2<sup>nd</sup> = additional 2 x matches + \$150
- 3<sup>rd</sup> = additional 4 x matches + \$300 + team deducted 4 x competition points

**Spectators**

- Any poor behaviour will be addressed by the Ground Officials in the first instance.
- Continued poor behaviour will result in a stoppage in the game until the perpetrators leave the area.
- Refusal to leave the area will result in the Match Official abandoning the game, the non-offending team being awarded the win and the offending Club fined as per CMC Rules.

**Section 4 - GENERAL CMC RULES FOR MALES & FEMALES**

4.0.1 Football Gold Coast Limited will adopt the laws of Football as laid down from time to time by FIFA and current interpretations of the same by ruling State bodies in the operation of its competitions.

**4.1 PLAYING GROUND/EQUIPMENT.**

**4.1.1 THE PLAYING ARENA**

4.1.1.1 The field sizes shall be of maximum and minimum dimensions as set out in the FIFA and/or FFA Rules.

4.1.1.2 The surface on the field shall be even and maintained in good order and condition. Which includes regular mowing and clippings removed and any divots repaired as required.

4.1.1.3 The field markings shall be clear and distinct lines (preferably in a white colour) not more than 120mm wide but at least the width of the goal posts.

4.1.1.4 A corner flag, not less than 1.5m (5ft) high, with a non-pointed top and a flag must be placed at each corner

4.1.1.5 The goal nets should be in good repair and properly secured to cross bar, uprights, and the ground behind the goal, prior to the start of the game.

4.1.1.6 It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure they provide a safe environment for their members. To minimise risk and to prevent injury, football goals are to be constructed, installed and secured to the correct Australian safety standards.

All football goals that are installed as a permanent structure on a football pitch must be properly secured, installed at the regulation width and height, as per the Laws of the Game, and should have no sharp edges protruding that may cause injury.

4.1.1.7 If Clubs use portable goals for training or competition, it must ensure that they are anchored as per Australian Standards.

4.1.1.8 Playing field shall be enclosed by a fence which assists in keeping the ball within the field of play and deters spectators from entering the field. If fencing is unable to be installed ropes, corrals or other structures must be used to surround the whole of the ground and should be at least 2 metres from the boundaries of the playing field.

4.1.1.9 For Juniors fixtures only, if spectator fencing, barrier or control ropes are not provided, a clearly defined ground line marking shall be positioned at least 2 metres from the boundaries of the playing field.

4.1.1.10 The technical area shall be defined by a line marking 1 metre either side and up to 1 metre from the playing field in front of the substitution bench will mark the area that team official and substitutes are permitted to sit in whilst the match is in progress. Where a permanent line cannot be used then the technical area must be defined using cones/markers. Only one person is permitted to stand in this area at any one given time. This is the designated technical area as defined by FIFA.

4.1.1.11 Each club must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by CMC Rule 4.1.1.10 and have sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match:

- a) Only persons named on the team sheet shall be eligible in the technical area.
- b) A maximum of ten (10) persons are permitted to be within the confines of the technical area. They may include the coach, assistant coach, the substitutes and either the team trainer or medical staff.
- c) At any one time only **one** person may be standing within the technical area.
- d) Identification Cards shall be worn at all times by the team coach, assistant/s, the team manager and the team physio. Only persons with such identification or designated players as listed on the team sheets shall be allowed in the technical area.
- e) Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions to the player during the match.
- f) The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the technical area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player.
- g) All substitutes must be seated within the technical area. They must wear bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip. When warming up, substitutes are requested to choose an area furthest from the opposing team.
- h) All occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner. The match official has the right to expel any person from the technical area at any time as he or she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left the playing field and the vicinity of the technical area to the match official's satisfaction.
- i) Smoking or the consumption of alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the technical area and all of its occupants, including players, coaching staff, club marshals and officials.

4.1.1.12 In the event that Clubs wish to play night matches floodlighting must comply with Standards Australia AS 2560.2.3/AS2560.2.4.

***#Failure to comply with the CMC Rules 4.1.1.1 to 4.1.1.12 will result in the clubs being fined as per section 2 of the CMC Rules.***

#### **4.1.2 THE MATCH BALL**

4.1.2.1 The match ball is to meet FIFA regulations. The ball shall not be changed during the game unless authorised by the referee.

- Under 12/13 size 4
- Under 14 to Seniors size 5

4.1.2.2 The designated home team shall supply a minimum of three match balls for each home game.



- 4.1.2.3 If Football Gold Coast Limited has a match ball sponsor for any league or division then clubs must use the sponsors' match balls in all competition matches. Failure to do so will result in a fine as per CMC Rule 2.2.

### 4.1.3 PLAYING STRIP AND APPAREL

- 4.1.3.1 Players shall maintain a tidy appearance and shall be dressed in a uniform strip as registered with Football Gold Coast Limited All playing strips must have numbers on the back of the jerseys. Shirts must be tucked neatly into shorts and socks pulled up.

- 4.1.3.2 All Players will not use equipment or wear anything that is deemed dangerous to him/her self or another player (including any kind of jewellery).

- 4.1.3.3 All Players basic compulsory equipment shall comprise:

- a jersey or shirt with sleeves – if undergarments are worn the undergarment must be the same colour as the prominent sleeve colour;
- shorts – if undershorts or tights are worn, they must be of the same main colour of the shorts;
- stockings – if tape or similar is applied externally it must be the same colour as that part of the stocking it is applied to (if the same shade is not possible the nearest shade possible in that colour will be accepted);
- shin guards;
- footwear.

- 4.1.3.4 All Clubs must nominate a “Home” and “Alternate” playing strip, which **MUST** be approved by Football Gold Coast Limited before it is purchased or worn.

If clubs wish to play their junior / men's / women's team in varying strips then all these designs must be submitted to Football Gold Coast Limited for approval before it is purchased or worn.

Clubs/Teams may only play in their registered/approved club strip.

- 4.1.3.5 Senior teams (Men and Women) **MUST** provide two **entirely different** strips to avoid any potential colour clashes on game day.

No part of the alternate playing strip (shirts, shorts & socks) may be the same as the nominated home playing strip – for instance, if a Club nominates white socks for its home strip, it cannot nominate white socks for its alternate strip.

- 4.1.3.6 For MiniRoo's games, alternate colour bibs will be acceptable in the event of a jersey colour clash.

- 4.1.3.7 In Junior competition grades all teams must nominate alternate shirt and socks as a minimum.

- 4.1.3.8 All teams named first on the Football Gold Coast Limited fixtures (including finals draws) shall be deemed the Home Team and will therefore play in their home strip.

- 4.1.3.9 In the opinion of the Referee, if there is a clash of colours at any match, it is the visiting team's responsibility to change into an alternate strip.

Visiting Clubs may be required to wear a combination of their home and alternate strips to ensure the clash is resolved.

It is the visiting teams' responsibility to check the apparel worn by their opponents on a weekly basis to avoid the likelihood of a clash in colour of playing of strips

- 4.1.3.10 In the event of a club fielding a team in colours similar to those of the opposing team, and where the home team or match official is of the opinion that confusion may arise, the home team may raise the issue with the match official who may order that the visiting club change its colours and refuse to allow the fixture to commence until a satisfactory change is made.

Ultimately though, for the game to proceed the match official may request both/either team to partially change in the best interest of the game. If a game cannot proceed due to a clash of strip then the visiting Club will be deemed to forfeit the game and fined as per CMC Rule 4.8.4 and/or 2.2.

- 4.1.3.11 As per CMC Rule 1.0.7, should Football Gold Coast Limited engage an apparel supplier as a sponsor for any league or division then clubs must use the sponsors' apparel in all competition matches. Failure to do

so will result in a fine as per CMC Rule 2.2. Should a club refuse to comply with this rule then they will be removed from the sponsored division and placed in a lower division that does not have any sponsor requirements.

- 4.1.3.12 Goalkeepers may wear any colour/design provided any part of his/her uniform does not clash with either team or match officials. If there is a clash it is the responsibility of the goalkeeper to change regardless if he is from the home or away team.
- 4.1.3.13 Any breach of CMC Rule 4.1.3.1 to 4.1.3.12 competition rules that causes the match not to be played will result in the match being forfeited by the offending team who will be fined as per CMC Rule 4.11.20 and 2.2.
- 4.1.3.14 Any breach of CMC Rule 4.1.3.1 to 4.1.3.12 competition rules that delays the start of the match will result in the offending team fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.
- 4.1.3.15 If a club wishes to change its playing strip e.g.: colour and/or design they cannot do so unless first approved by Football Gold Coast Limited Application must be in writing and accompanied by a colour photo or colour diagram or brochure of the total strip being: - shirt, shorts and socks. Clubs should only order proposed new strip once they receive official notification in writing from Football Gold Coast Limited that their application to change strips/colours has been approved.
- 4.1.3.16 Failure to take the field in a registered/approved strip could result in the club being fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.

#### **4.1.4 DURATION OF GAMES**

- 4.1.4.1 Senior (Men & Women) games shall be 45 minutes each half with a half time interval minimum of 5 minutes, maximum of 15 minutes

Under 12	25 minutes each way – half time interval min 5 minutes/max 10 minutes
Under 13	30 minutes each way - half time interval min 5 minutes/max 10 minutes
Under 14	35 minutes each way - half time interval min 5 minutes/max 10 minutes
Under 15	40 minutes each way - half time interval min 5 minutes/max 15 minutes
Under 16/17/18	45 minutes each way - half time interval min 5 minutes/ max 15 minutes

Half time interval duration shall be as determined by the Referee.

- 4.1.4.2 All games shall adhere to the times stipulated in the above table unless otherwise mutually agreed between the Referee and an Official from both teams. Any agreement to alter the duration of the periods of play (e.g. to reduce each half by 10 minutes due to insufficient light) must be made before the start of play and must comply with competition rules.
- 4.1.4.3 At the discretion of the Referee, additional time may be added at the end of each half to take into account time lost for substitutions, injuries and/or general time lost for unforeseen circumstances.

#### **4.1.5 GROUND OFFICIALS**

- 4.1.5.1 Clubs are required to provide the following: -

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Ground Official Requirement</b>
Premier League & Coast League	HOME Club to provide ONE Ground Official AWAY Club to provide ONE Ground Official
Mid Week Metro	HOME Club to provide ONE Ground Official
Junior Competition	HOME Club to provide ONE Ground Official AWAY Club to provide ONE Ground Official
MiniRoos (Under 8-11)	HOME Club to provide ONE Ground Official per 2 fields being utilized.

- 4.1.5.2 The Ground Official(s) must provide an escort to all match officials on and off the pitch prior to kick-off, at half time and full time. The Ground Official(s) must, at the conclusion of the first half and full time,

meet the referee and his/her assistants on the field at a designated area as agreed with the referee prior to the game.

- 4.1.5.3 Club Officials must be a minimum of **18 years** to officiate in any age or division.
- 4.1.5.4 Ground Officials are not allowed on the field of play during the game without the permission of the referee.
- 4.1.5.5 If Ground Officials are not provided by kick off, the Referee will abandon the game and the non-offending team declared the winner and the offending team fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.
- 4.1.5.6 Ground Officials are responsible for the following: -
- (a) Before the Match the Ground Official
    - Check the Referee's room and make sure it is clean and comfortable.
    - Upon arrival of the Referee's, make known to them that you are the Ground Official in case they need assistance a minimum of 15 minutes prior to kick off.
    - If an Official Referee is not present, ensure that a Referee is arranged either by the Club or by consent of the two teams playing.
    - Check with the equipment officer that an alternate strip is available if required.
    - Ensure payment of Referee fees in the Referee's room.
    - Ensure that three (3) appropriate match balls are available for the Referee.
    - Lock/Unlock the Referee's room as required or provide the Referee with keys.
    - Escort the Referee and Assistant Referee's to the field of play.
  - (b) During the Match Ground Officials
    - Ground Official to carry out rounds of whole of ground and address any inappropriate behavior.
    - Ensure that the spectators behaviour is orderly and is not abusive to the Referee or his assistants, players or other spectators.
    - Remain in close proximity to the area agreed to with the match Referee as they may be called upon by the Referee to deal with any issues affecting the game in process on the field.
    - Direct and assist any ambulance if called to attend a player or any other person.
    - The Ground Official must, at the half time break, meet the Referee and his/her assistants on the field at a designated area as agreed with the Referee prior to the game.
    - Escort the Referee and Assistant Referees from the field of play
    - Be of assistance wherever possible.
- 4.1.5.7 Any club in breach of CMC Section 4.1.5 could be charged with bringing the game into disrepute and be fined in accordance with CMC Rule 3.0.20 and 3.0.21 or 2.5.

## **4.2 STARTING TIMES**

- 4.2.1 Teams must be ready on the field of play to start the game by the designated game commencement time. No leniency will be permitted. A team will be deemed to have forfeited the game if unable to field a team within fifteen (15) minutes of the designated game commencement time and that team will be liable for match official fees and could face further sanctions as set out in CMC Rule 4.8.
- 4.2.2 Teams not ready to commence the game by the designated time shall be fined in accordance with Section 2.0 of the CMC Rules.
- 4.2.3 Home clubs who cause a delay to the commencement of a game at the designated time due to unsatisfactory field markings, nets not in position, corner flags not installed, etc., or are in breach of Section 4.8 of the CMC Rules, shall be fined in accordance with CMC Rules 2.5.1 and/or 2.2 provided that the circumstances are reported by the Referee or the opposing teams' Coach/Manager on the team sheet setting out the circumstances.

### 4.3 ID CARD PROCEDURES.

4.3.1 All competition players (Under 12 to Senior) must upload a current passport sized photograph during their online registration process with Play Football and also in preparation for game day into MyFGC. These photos are to be used to produce the official Football Gold Coast Limited approved photo ID Cards.

4.3.2 ID Cards must be presented and inspected prior to the match commencing using the following procedure:

- a) Team manager or official to complete the team sheet.
- b) All teams to line up at half way line prior to kick off or if by mutual agreement ID cards can be inspected in dressing rooms or adjacent to technical area.
- c) Opposing team official to check ID Cards match the player and tick ID Check box on team sheet.
- d) If no ID card is supplied then that player shall be ineligible to take the field (No ID card No play)
- e) Should a club be unable to produce any official ID Cards and the opposition teams agrees to proceed with the game then all players will be deemed eligible and any protests will be deemed null and void.
- f) If a Club is unable to field a team due to the inability to produce official ID cards and the game does not get played it will be recorded as a 3-0 forfeit to the non-offending team and the offending team will be fined as per CMC Rule 2.2 and may be subject to CMC Rule 4.11.20.
- g) The Referee shall, if requested, witness the checking procedure of the ID Cards, (without being responsible for it) and may not start the match until the procedure has been completed.
- h) If a Referee's assistance is required to inspect ID cards, then this request must be made not less than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off other than in Premier League Men and Women and Coast League 1 where the request must be made 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off.
- i) All ID card verifications MUST be completed before the commencement of the match.
- j) Player whose name is on the team sheet and arrives late must adhere to CMC Rule 4.4.7.

*# Note: It is suggested that the juniors line up at half way 5 minutes before the start of the game and follow the procedure as set out above, and for seniors, managers to do check in dressing rooms at a time which is suitable to the team but must be completed before kick-off.*

4.3.3 Once a team has taken the field FGC will deem that all ID Checks have been carried out and the opposing team has accepted that all players are eligible for that team. Unless a formal complaint is lodged on the team sheet after the game, no investigation into eligibility will be held.

4.3.4 Teams failing to follow the above-mentioned procedure will forfeit the match with a 3-0 result awarded to the opposition and a forfeit fine imposed as per CMC Rule 2.2. The club could also face further sanctions under CMC Rule 2.5.

4.3.5 Any Club found guilty of playing a player under an assumed name will be fined as per CMC Rule 2.1.1, 4.4.3 and 4.4.4, the player will be automatically suspended for a minimum of four matches per offence. Further the Club and/or player and/or Club Official(s) may be fined under CMC Rule 3.0.20 and 3.0.21.

## 4.4 TEAM SHEETS

- 4.4.1 Official Team Sheets shall be provided by each team and all information requested thereon shall be fully completed. Clubs failing to fully complete team sheets shall be fined under Section 2.2 of the CMC Rules.
- 4.4.2 Clubs can only nominate eligible players on team sheets. Ineligible players include, but are not limited to;
- a) Overage player;
  - b) Playing under an assumed name;
  - c) Player under protest;
  - d) Playing without a clearance;
  - e) Playing in the wrong age group/division;
  - f) Playing a suspended player;
  - g) A player not named on the team sheet;
  - h) An unregistered/pending player (non-active) in Play Football;
  - i) A player whose name doesn't correspond with his/her FFA/ID number.
- 4.4.3 If a team is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player(s) the following sanctions will apply:-
- a. If the offending team won the game, the match will be recorded as a 3-0 result and 3 points awarded to the non-offending team;
  - b. If the offending team lost the game, the match result will stand and the result recorded as 3-0 to the non-offending Club unless the score at full time was greater, then that score will stand and the offending team will have 3 points deducted from their season points already accumulated;
  - c. If the game ended in a draw the result would be null and void, the match will be recorded as a 3-0 result and 3 points awarded to the non-offending team and the offending team will have 3 points deducted from their season points already accumulated;
  - d. If a team is found guilty of playing an ineligible player during a:-
    - (i) **Final series** – the offending team will be removed from the competition and the non-offending team will replace them.
    - (ii) **Knock out competition** - the offending team will be removed from the competition and the non-offending team progress to the next round.
    - (iii) **Series played over a home and away leg** – the result will be determined as set out in CMC Rule 4.4.3 (a); (b) or (c).
  - e. The offending club will be fined a minimum of \$50 to a maximum of \$5000 per offence, per ineligible player.
  - f. At the discretion of FGC, the Club President and/or Official(s) and/or Player could be charged under CMC Rule 3.0.20 and/or 3.0.21 and may be required to appear before a Disciplinary Committee which has full power to take further action.
- 4.4.4 If both teams are guilty of fielding ineligible player(s), the match will be recorded as a no result, both teams deducted 3 points (per offence) and both clubs will be fined as per CMC Rule 2.2 and or 2.5.
- 4.4.5 In all Senior and Junior, Men and Women competition fixtures the maximum number of players allowed on the team sheet shall be: -
- a) If you are participating in a division where interchange is allowed the maximum number of fifteen (15) (including goal keepers) can be named.
  - b) If you are participating in a division where the substitution rule applies the maximum number of sixteen (16) (including goal keepers) can be named.
  - c) A team should not list more players on a team sheet than stated above. If a team does so, then any player(s) over and above the maximum allowed to be listed, is (are) considered ineligible and therefore the team/club could be subject to a fine under CMC Rule 4.4.3.
  - d) Consideration will be given to Clubs requesting special dispensation for 15+ players to be registered to one team. Clubs must submit an official request to Football Gold Coast Limited outlining the reason they are seeking to register excess players to a team. If dispensation is

granted, all parents of players within that team must sign a 'parental consent for team with 15+ players' form located on the Football Gold Coast website. Parents of every player must sign to show they understand the implications of having more than 15 players in a team for final approval to be granted by Football Gold Coast.

- 4.4.6 All players intending on taking the field must be recorded on the team sheet prior to submitting online the team sheets to the Referee. No players can be added to the team sheet once submitted.

Players arriving late, but who have already been recorded on the team sheet must: -

- a) Report to the opposition official to verify their identification;
- b) Once the players ID has been verified the player may then take the field with the referee's permission.

- 4.4.7 If a player whose name is on the team sheet does not turn up that player must be removed from the team sheet by notifying the Match Official as the team sheet will be locked. Once the name has been removed off then that player is deemed to have not participated in the match. If the name is not removed, then the club could be fined for an incomplete team sheet/ineligible player as per CMC Rules 4.4.4 and 2.2.

- 4.4.8 Team sheets can be submitted at any time ahead of KO but will automatically lock 15 minutes prior to KO.

- 4.4.9 Once a match has concluded and the Match Official has finalised (Final status) the team sheet in the MyFGC portal, Club Officials must review their team sheet to verify the information submitted by the Match Official is accurate. This should be done within a 24-hour period after completion of the game. If this timeframe is not met, all details entered by the Match Official will be deemed accurate and no further changes will be permitted.

- 4.4.10 In the event that the online team sheets system is inoperable then paper team sheets must be completed in a neat and legible manner failure to do so could see the club fined as per CMC Rule 2.2. When forwarding team sheets to FGC they may be scanned, sent as a photo, hand delivered or posted to reach the offices of FGC no later than 72 hours of the completion of the game. Failure to send the team sheets to FGC in the specified timeframe will result in the club and / or referee fined in accordance with CMC rule 2.2.

## 4.5 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS/TEAMS

- 4.5.1 All players must be registered with Football Federation Australia using Play Football as either an amateur or professional player as per National Registration Regulations, and have a current and valid FFA ID number.

- 4.5.2 Clubs are to nominate teams on the Team Nomination Form with the applicable fee by the date set by the Board of Football Gold Coast each year. No team nominations will be accepted after that date and clubs will be fined in accordance with Section 2.0 for withdrawal of a team after that date.

- 4.5.3 A player can only be registered with one club at a time as per section 9 National Registration Regulations.

- 4.5.4 A player's age is declared as at **midnight 31st December** of the new soccer year. Whatever age a player turns in the calendar year that is the age they play under.

- 4.5.5 All players, coaches, managers and officials are to complete their registration process via Play Football. This will include: -

- a) Supplying all relevant information including uploading a passport size photograph;
- b) Clubs must allocate players/mangers and or officials to individual teams;
- c) Complete a FGC "Team List" form which must include players name, FFA number, date of birth and gender;
- d) Clubs are advised that prior to submitting a Team List to FGC all players must be made '**active**' on Play Football and further only active players may take to the field, otherwise that player/s will be deemed ineligible.

- 4.5.6 Player registration will close as follows prior to the competition match that he/she intends to play in provided the appropriate fee and team lodgment form has been received by Football Gold Coast Limited before the player is eligible to play: -
- a) Weekday Games – 12 noon on the day of the game;
  - b) Weekend Games – 12 noon Friday
- 4.5.7 All Player's registration fees must be paid in full to Football Gold Coast Limited within seven (7) days of the date of invoice to Club
- 4.5.8 Players not registered, made active, nominated and paid for as per 4.5.6 and 4.5.7 will not be eligible to play until all the above guidelines are met. Should a player take the field that is not active they will be deemed ineligible (4.4.2 h) and club fined as per 4.4.3.
- 4.5.9 Clubs, clubs' officers and or players falsifying Official Football Federation Australia Registration documents and or Football Gold Coast documents will be fined in accordance with Section 2.0 of the Football Gold Coast Limited CMC Rules and could face further sanction under CMC Rule 2.5 and/or 3.0.20 and 3.0.21 as determined by the Board of Football Gold Coast of Football Gold Coast.
- 4.5.10 Football Gold Coast Limited may gazette and advertise sign-on dates in the local media.

#### **PLAYER TRANSFER/CLEARANCES**

- 4.5.11 Refer to <https://www.footballgc.com.au/itc-procedure> for national process.
- 4.5.12 There is no limit to visa players.
- 4.5.13 Registration of new players to Clubs within the Zone of Football Gold Coast will have the following limitations: -
- a) Amateur players who have not previously registered for the current season are permitted to register at any time during the season.
  - b) Movement by players between Clubs, within and outside our Zone, will not be permitted after the 30th June of each year. By this date the transfer process must have commenced.
- 4.5.14 As per the National Registration Regulations in one calendar year a player may register with a maximum of **THREE** Clubs but can only play with **TWO** Clubs.
- 4.5.15 A player may only register with one (1) club at a time regardless if he/she plays juniors, seniors or both.
- 4.5.16 It shall be the responsibility of the Club to ensure that all players are eligible to play, have correctly and accurately completed their Play Football registration and have no carry over suspensions from their previous Club. If a player is incorrectly registered, plays without an ITC or plays when under suspension from their previous Club, the Club will be deemed to be in breach of CMC Rule 4.4.2 and fined in accordance with 4.4.3.

#### **4.6 SCHEDULING / FIXTURES**

- 4.6.1 Football Gold Coast Limited will arrange the dates, times and venues of all competition fixtures. Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to schedule or re-schedule a fixture or fixtures on any day, time and place as it deems appropriate, including regular season, trials, cup, play-off games, finals and grading games.
- 4.6.2 All matches that are not scheduled competition or cup matches played within the region or matches outside the region organised by clubs must be sanctioned by Football Gold Coast Limited in order for the participants to be covered by any Insurance Scheme that is in operation at the time of the proposed match. Any club participating in a non-sanctioned match/tournament will be fined as per section 2 of the CMC Rules.
- 4.6.3 Further to 4.6.2 a sanction request form **MUST** be submitted at least **FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS** before the game(s) to enable the appointment of Match Officials (if requested). For example, for a weekend match, the sanction request **MUST** be submitted by the Friday the week before. No match must be played unless

approval from Football Gold Coast has been granted. Any alteration to this rule will be at the discretion of Football Gold Coast.

4.6.4 Any matches including Pre-Season, Trial Games, Pre and Post Season Tournaments must be sanctioned as per CMC Rule 4.6.3 on the condition that they comply with Football Gold Coast Limited CMC Rules, Football Queensland and Football Federation Australia Regulations and any other determinations made to protect the rights, interest and safety of Club Officials and Players.

4.6.5 Where possible Football Gold Coast Limited will appoint referees to all matches sanctioned. Premier League and Coast League One games may only be sanctioned when a Football Gold Coast Referee is able to be appointed.

On the rare occasion that a Football Gold Coast Match Official is not available or does not show for the scheduled game, it will be the responsibility of the Home Club to provide appropriate Match Officials as per CMC Rule Section 5.

No pre-season/trial matches and rescheduled games, involving a Football Gold Coast senior team, will be sanctioned on a Monday in the months of February to September inclusive other than wet weather games as determined by Football Gold Coast.

4.6.6 Any Club found to be in breach of CMC Rule 4.6.3 or 4.6.4, playing a game without Football Gold Coast sanctioning, will be fined as per section 2 of the CMC Rules.

#### **4.7 APPLICATION FOR ALTERATION TO FIXTURES**

4.7.1 Any application for an alteration to scheduled fixtures shall be submitted, via the MyFGC portal, a minimum of 5 days prior to the scheduled fixture. Each request will be determined on its merits and the decision of FGC will be final.

4.7.2 Applications for alterations due to 'social functions' (e.g. weddings, christenings, confirmations or other social or religious events), school trips, overseas trips, interstate carnivals or 'work commitments' will not be considered.

4.7.3 Any request to reschedule a game must be played within a maximum of **2 weeks** from the original date.

4.7.4 Any team with three or more players unavailable due to outdoor football representative duties approved by Football Gold Coast Limited and or school regional representative football may be entitled to have their fixture rescheduled upon application via the MyFGC portal. accompanied by written evidence of player's official selection and representative itinerary. Applications must be made at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.

4.7.5 Should a club's fields be unavailable to host a scheduled fixture (poor lighting, unsafe playing surface, etc.) where possible, FGC will 'swap' the fixture venues, if the away venue isn't available then the home club shall have the right to nominate a new 'host' venue, for the host venue to be acceptable it must meet the minimum standards for the competition, if the home club cannot provide a suitable venue then at its discretion FGC will nominate a venue to host the fixture. Unless otherwise agreed the payment of referee's fees will be the responsibility of the originally scheduled Home club.

4.7.6 In its absolute discretion, Football Gold Coast Limited's will have the right to rule on each application to reschedule games on their own merits.

#### **4.8 NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH**

4.8.1 Any member club or affiliated club that fails to fulfil any of its fixture or finals obligations arranged by Football Gold Coast Limited shall be fined per offence, the game deemed a forfeit and the Club may be subject to further disciplinary action.

4.8.2 For whatever reason, in the event the home or visiting team is not ready to commence a fixture or finals match **within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time**, the referee, at his discretion may allow the club/clubs some extra time to rectify the situation, if the club fails to comply then the match will be abandoned in accordance with 4.10.5 and 4.10.6.



- 4.8.3 In the event that the fixture cannot commence at the designated time due to section 4.1 not being met (unsatisfactory field markings, nets not in position, corner flags not installed, etc.) then the referee, at their discretion, may allow the host / home club some extra time to rectify the situation if the club still fails to comply then game will be recorded as a forfeit and the 3 points and a score of 3-0 will be awarded to the non-offending team and the offending club shall be fined in accordance with CMC Rules 2.2.
- 4.8.4 In the event that the visiting club is not ready to commence a fixture at the designated time due to a clash of strips/uniforms then the referee, at their discretion, may allow the club some extra time to rectify the situation if the club still fails to comply then game will be recorded as a forfeit and the 3 points and a score of 3-0 will be awarded to the non-offending team and the offending club shall be fined in accordance with CMC Rules 2.2.
- 4.8.5 In the event that a team/club hasn't fulfilled its ground official obligations as set out in 4.1.5, the referee at his discretion may allow the club some additional time to rectify the situation after which the game will be deemed as an abandonment as per 4.10.5 and 4.10.6.
- 4.8.6 A team deemed to have forfeited may submit a report, within three (3) working days to Football Gold Coast Limited if they believe the forfeit was caused by exceptional circumstances. Football Gold Coast Limited will review the report and make a determination. Football Gold Coast's decision in regard to the forfeit will be final.
- 4.8.7 In the Premier and First Divisions, if a club does not have sufficient players to field two teams, the senior team shall take priority. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action against the offending club and both the reserve and senior fixtures will be awarded 3-0 to the opposition and the club will be fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.
- 4.8.8 If a game is forfeited as a result of CMC Rule 4.8.2, 4.8.3 or 4.8.4 then the match officials (referee and/or assistant referees) will be entitled to 50% of their fee which will be the responsibility of the offending club.
- 4.8.9 Where both teams fail to commence or fully complete a fixture due to non-acceptance of the authority of the match official appointed under CMC Rule Section 5, Referees and Assistant Referees, both teams shall be deemed as having forfeited the game and fined in accordance with the relevant CMC Rule.
- 4.8.10 Should any team forfeit a fixture for any reason on two or more occasions in the same competition season without satisfactory explanation provided in writing to Football Gold Coast Limited, they will be asked to show cause as to why they should not be removed from the competition and fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.

## **4.9 WITHDRAWAL/REMOVAL/SUSPENSION FROM FIXTURES**

- 4.9.1 If any team in a competition is removed, withdraws or suspended, then the following will apply:
- a) The team is withdrawn, removed or suspended before the competition has started and they cannot be replaced - a bye in the competition will be substituted.
  - b) The team is withdrawn, removed or suspended during the first round - the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a bye in the competition will be substituted.
  - c) The team is withdrawn, removed or suspended during the second or subsequent rounds all points and goals acquired for completed rounds will be retained by opposing teams. The recorded results for that team in the uncompleted round(s) will be deleted and a bye in the competition will be substituted in the uncompleted round(s) and any following rounds
- 4.9.2 The club involved may be subject to further disciplinary action if the team to be withdrawn is not the lowest divisional team in the club, the club will be asked to show cause as to why it should be allowed to withdraw the higher divisional team.
- 4.9.3 If a club withdraws a senior team from a competition other than Premier League or Coast League One, once the season has commenced then that club will be prevented from entering a team in the same or similar

competition for a minimum of 2 years.

4.9.4 If a Club has insufficient players to complete the season in either Premier League or Coast League, then both teams (First & Reserves) will be withdrawn from the competition and the draw adjusted as per CMC Rule 4.9.1.

Further, the Club will be fined \$2000 and be restricted from participating in Premier League or Coast League for a period of two years, unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Football Gold Coast.

4.9.5 If a club invokes 4.9.4 before the start of the season then the following will apply: -

- a) The team that lost the play off in the previous year will be offered the spot to replace the removed team.
- b) If the play off losing team declines the offer the team that was automatically relegated will be offered the spot to replace the removed team
- c) If the relegated team declines the offer then FGC will call for written submissions from clubs to enter a team.
- d) If not suitable candidates are identified in the written submission then no teams will be elevated and the competition we continue with a bye.
- e) Any other option that FGC may deem appropriate for the wellbeing and integrity of the competition.
- f) Any Club voluntarily withdrawing a team from Premier League or Coast League at any time will not be permitted to enter any Senior teams in any of the FGC Senior competitions for a period of 2 years.
- g) At the discretion of FGC, if there are extenuating circumstances FGC will consider on a case by case basis.
- h) If a Club does not accept the invitation to participate in the Premier League competition, they will not be permitted to enter any senior teams in any competition for a period of 2 years, unless authorized by Football Gold Coast or pay an agreed bond as determined by Football Gold Coast.

4.9.6 Breach of any of the rules in section 4.9 could result in a fine as per CMC Rules 2.2.

## 4.10 ABANDONED MATCHES

4.10.1 Once a match has commenced, the Match Referee has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned due to severe adverse weather conditions, serious on field injury requiring ambulance attendance or matters that may compromise the safety of the participants of the match.

4.10.2 If **80 per cent** or more of Normal Time of a Match has been played then the score at the time of abandonment will stand, unless the matter is referred to Football Gold Coast Limited and /or rule 4.10.5 applies.

Competition	Normal Time	80% Normal Time
Under 12	50 minutes	40 minutes
Under 13	60 minutes	48 minutes
Under 14	70 minutes	56 minutes
Under 15	80 minutes	64 minutes
Under 16/18	90 minutes	72 minutes
Seniors	90 minutes	72 minutes

4.10.3 If less than **80 per cent** of Normal Time of a Match has been played before the time of abandonment, then the match may be replayed in full as determined by Football Gold Coast Limited and/or rule 4.10.5 applies.

4.10.4 Further to, but not limited to CMC Rule 4.10.1, the match will be abandoned if: -

- a) Any team has its playing numbers reduced for any reason below the minimum FIFA requirement of seven Players;
- b) The lighting at the venue fails such that in the opinion of the Match Official it is impossible or unsafe to continue to play;
- c) The Match Official determines that playing conditions have become unsafe or untenable for any reason;
- d) The Match Officials determines that the conditions for players, coaches, Match Officials or supporters have become unsafe or untenable for any reason. (e.g.: pitch invasion; crowd disturbance etc.);
- e) Two equal halves cannot be played;
- f) Team/s refusing to continue with game;
- g) Club failing to provide ground officials.

4.10.5 If a Match is abandoned due to a matter set out in rule 4.10.4 and Football Gold Coast Limited or the Tribunal determines that one (or both) of the competing Clubs, or its Club Associates were directly responsible for the abandonment then one of the following outcomes may be imposed:

- a) Match to be awarded as a 'No Result'. In this situation, no points will be awarded to either team for that fixture.
- b) Award Match result as 0-0 draw.
- c) Award result 3–0 to the non-offending Club unless the score at the time of abandonment was greater and in favour of the non-offending Club.
- d) Match result to stand.
- e) Replay game at a neutral venue with no spectators.

4.10.6 Further any Club whose members are responsible for the abandonment of a game will be fined as per CMC Rule 2.1.1. And the offending club may be charged with 'Bringing the game into Disrepute' CMC Rule 2.5 and its officials may be asked to appear before a Disciplinary Council where extra sanctions could be imposed.

4.10.7 If any match is abandoned as per CMC Rule 4.10.1 then the match officials shall be reimbursed by the designated home club as follows:

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| (a) Match terminated before or during half time | 50% of scheduled fees  |
| (b) Match terminated after half time            | 100% of scheduled fees |

4.10.8 Further to CMC Rule 4.10.7, if the match is abandoned as per CMC Rule 4.10.4 (a) or (d) then Football Gold Coast Limited will pay the match officials and the offending club will be charged for the match fees.

4.10.9 Immediately after a decision to abandon a game has been made by a Match Official, the 'abandon game' icon should be selected by the Match Official on the team sheet in the MyFGC portal and details entered as to what caused the abandonment. Failure to adhere to this will result in a fine as per CMC Rule 2.2

#### **4.11 ADVERSE WEATHER / POSTPONED / FORFEITED MATCHES**

4.11.1 Football Gold Coast Limited may cancel any part of or the entire competition round of games because of weather conditions or other abnormal reasons without reference to clubs, providing the period of notice is at least 2 hours where possible. Football Gold Coast Limited will be responsible for issuing notices to the media.

4.11.2 All Competition or pre or post season games may be cancelled at any time at the direction of the local statutory authority (councils) that are responsible for the grounds and maintenance.

4.11.3 If the hosting club considers a ground inspection is required, they are to ring the nominated Football Gold Coast Limited representative before 7.30am or not less than two hours prior to the commencement of the first game.

The name and contact details for the designated representative is to be advised to clubs at the commencement of the season.

- 4.11.4 The representative is to then meet with a club official and jointly inspect the field to ascertain a number of factors, which will include:
- a) Is the ground considered safe for the players and the match to proceed?
  - b) If so, how many matches can be played, taking into account all factors including the likely weather conditions and the expected state of the ground?
  - c) The designated representative will then reach a decision regarding the schedule of matches with Football Gold Coast Limited responsible for advising the opposition club and appointed Referees in the event matches are to be postponed;
  - d) If the nominated representative or nominee is unable to physically attend, he/she can make a decision based on verbal and/or photographic details provided by the Club Official.
- 4.11.5 Early morning inspections are only to be organised with the designated representative when conditions are such that there is doubt as to the safety of the ground. In cases of light rain only, the match referee will inspect prior to the match itself.
- 4.11.6 Senior Men's Premier League grounds will be inspected between 9am–10am the morning of the scheduled fixture to see if the venue is playable. If the venue is not playable the inspector, who will be a Football Gold Coast Limited nominated official will notify both clubs. If the inspector decides not to cancel the game the final decision will rest with the match official of the scheduled match.
- 4.11.7 In all other competition's, games may be cancelled by the referee prior to kick-off if in his opinion he believes that the weather conditions or resultant ground conditions will make playing of the game unsafe for players and officials.
- 4.11.8 Immediately after a decision to cancel a game has been made by the Match Official or Club, the home club must inform the visiting team/teams and referee appointments officer immediately via phone and Football Gold Coast Limited with-in 24 hours via email on club letterhead stating all particulars of game(s) called off.
- Failure to adhere to this will result in a fine as per CMC Rule 2.2
- 4.11.9 Should the club fail to notify the referee appointments officer and the referee's show up for the game the club will be obliged to pay the referee's 50% of their scheduled fee.
- 4.11.10 If after the commencement of the game the weather and playing conditions deteriorate making the game unsafe and unplayable, or as the result of serious injury, then the referee as per CMC Rule 4.10.1 may at his discretion suspend or terminate the game by reason of the elements and as such the Referee will be reimbursed as per CMC Rule 4.10.7.  
The game will be rescheduled as per the CMC Rules 4.11.14 and / or 4.11.15 if CMC Rule 4.10.2 is not invoked.
- 4.11.11 Football Gold Coast Limited is aware of the many varied ground conditions that may cause the need to cancel a competition game. At all times the safety of player and officials are of the utmost concern. Therefore, games may be cancelled by the appointed official or agreed referee if in his/her opinion he/she believes that the weather conditions will make the playing of the game unsatisfactory and unsafe.
- 4.11.12 Once commenced, matches may only be postponed by the appointed match official or by Football Gold Coast Limited Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to reschedule all postponed matches on any day, time and place as it deems appropriate.
- 4.11.13 If a Match is postponed, as per 4.11.12 or by adverse weather then BOTH CLUBS must notify the Football Gold Coast Limited by the next working day after the scheduled Match day. Failing to comply with this could result in the Club being fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.
- 4.11.14 If a match is postponed for whatever reason OTHER than wet weather / waterlogged pitch the Clubs shall be given seven (7) days to confirm a new date, time and venue for the match to be rescheduled or replayed from the date of the postponement and the match must be played within three (3) weeks of the original date. If the two clubs cannot come to an agreement and do not submit the correct paperwork to reschedule the game/s Football Gold Coast will set the date; time and venue for the game and no further correspondence will be entered into. Football Gold Coast's decision will be final.

4.11.15 If a match is postponed due to wet weather or water-logged pitch the following rescheduling program the following will be used as a guide: -

- (a) **Men's Premier League and Coast League 1 (including Reserves)**  
From the weekend to Tuesday week at the same venue at 6.30 and 8.30 or the next available wet weather weekend, whichever is sooner
- (b) **All Saturday Juniors (including MiniRoos)**  
Automatically rescheduled to Sunday week at the same time and same venue
- (c) **All Friday Night Juniors**  
Automatically rescheduled to Monday week at the same time and same venue.
- (d) **Men's Sunday Competitions** (excluding Premier League)  
Automatically rescheduled to Tuesday week at the same venue.
- (e) **Wednesday Night Competitions – including Metro Men & Women**  
Automatically rescheduled to Monday week at the same time and same venue.
- (f) FGC has the discretion to amend the above as deemed necessary.
- (g) If there is a pre-arranged game already scheduled for the venue then that game will have priority and the wet weather game must, depending on ground availability, be played a day earlier or later. If this is not possible then FGC will reschedule the fixture to a time and venue that will see the game played at the earliest time.
- (h) If the scheduled venue is not suitable / available to host the rescheduled game then FGC will reschedule the fixture to a time and venue that will see the game played at the earliest time.
- (i) FGC will consider playing games at a different day and time if both clubs mutually agree on a venue and time.

4.11.16 If due to further wet conditions the rescheduled games are cancelled then all outstanding games will be rescheduled by Football Gold Coast.

4.11.17 All postponed fixtures must be completed one (1) week prior to the last round of competition. If games have no bearing on final standings then at its discretion Football Gold Coast Limited may record the result of any Match not completed within this time frame as a 'no-result'.

4.11.18 Clubs are obliged to fulfil outstanding fixtures as determined by Football Gold Coast Limited, and any Club which fails to do so will automatically forfeit the Match and be fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.

4.11.19 If the result of the any postponed or abandoned game has no bearing on the final standing Football Gold Coast may, in its absolute discretion, determine that a postponed/abandoned game may not be played and the result recorded as a 'no result'

4.11.20 In the event of forfeits the offending club will be fined in accordance with CMC Rule 2.2 And a 3-0 win will also be awarded to the opposing team.

4.11.21 In the event of a postponed or abandoned fixture Football Gold Coast Limited may, after investigation deem a game as a 'No Result'.

4.11.22 Should any match officials turn up to fulfil an appointment to find that one or the other of the teams has forfeited or forfeits before the advertised start time without giving two (2) hours' notice to Football Gold Coast Limited and or the appointments panel coordinator, then the referees shall receive 50% of the scheduled fee paid to them by Football Gold Coast Limited and billed to the club which forfeited.

## **Section 5 - REFEREES & ASSISTANT REFEREES - General**

- 5.0.1 In all cases priority of appointment for referees and assistant referees shall be in accordance with the following procedures in the following order:-
- a) Referees and Assistant Referees who are current full members of Football Gold Coast Limited and have been appointed by their governing body to control the match for seniors, provided the referee is 2 years older than the age of the playing junior teams and in the case of the Under 16 age group, senior referees shall be appointed.
  - b) Currently accredited Referees and Assistant Referees not presently affiliated with any referees body who respond to a home club's request for a Referee and Assistant Referee.
  - c) In the event that 5.0.1(a) and 5.0.1(b) requirements cannot be met then the officials of each of the teams will agree on an appointment of an unqualified referee and/or assistant referee.
  - d) In the case of a disagreement in this selection, the home ground officials must make the appointment.
  - e) In the event that a team does not play a game the result and the team shall be subject to the provisions of CMC Rule 4.8, non-participation in matches.
- 5.0.2 No match shall be deferred due to the unavailability of qualified Referees and/or Assistant Referees. Provision of Referee and Assistant Referee shall be the responsibility of the home club.
- 5.0.3 Under 5.0.1(b) (c) & (d) and 5.1 the appointed or agreed Referee's decisions shall have the same weight as an approved Referee.
- 5.0.4 The duly appointed referee has the power to suspend, or terminate the game whenever by reason of interference by spectators or other case he deems such stoppage necessary. In this case a full detailed report by the Referee will be issued to Football Gold Coast Limited who will review the matter on receipt of this report and take any necessary actions.
- 5.0.5 Football Gold Coast will endeavor to appoint Match Officials to all games, subject to availability.
- 5.0.6 Where Football Gold Coast are unable to appoint a Match Official (centre Referee or Assistant Referee's), it is the 'Home' Clubs responsibility to provide as necessary or be fined in accordance with CMC Rule 2.2.
- 5.0.7 Football Gold Coast Federation Match Officials will take priority over Club Match Officials if both appointed to the same game.
- 5.0.8 In all Premier League and Coast League fixtures the scores must be input into myfgc within 30min of game completion. Failure to do so will incur a \$20 fine.

### **5.1 REIMBURSEMENT OF REFEREES**

- 5.1.2 Gazetted Referees and Assistant Referees fees, as approved by the Board of Football Gold Coast, will be payable for each sanctioned match.
- 5.1.3 If a Club Official is officially appointed as a Referee by Football Gold Coast, he/she will be paid the full scheduled fee as gazetted for a Football Gold Coast official via the online payment system.
- 5.1.4 For competition and non-competition games the home club, as designated on the draw, is responsible for Referees and Assistant Referees fees. Payments for Match Officials appointed to senior competition games will be made online by Football Gold Coast directly to the Federation Match Official(s). Invoices will be provided to Clubs quarterly through the season with the final invoice being an adjustment invoice for any changes.
- 5.1.5 In all Senior competition games officiated by Football Gold Coast Match Officials, payment will be made via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by Football Gold Coast Limited Payment to Match Officials is made every Tuesday for the previous week's games (Monday to Sunday).

- 5.1.6 In all pre-season Senior games officiated by FGC Referees the match officials MUST be paid in the referee's room no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled commencement of the game (unless prior arrangements have been made). **Payment of Referees at the bar, is strictly forbidden.**  
If for any reason whatsoever fees are not paid to referees in accordance with CMC Rule 5.1.6, then the fees will be paid to the referees by Football Gold Coast Limited and the home club will be fined accordingly.
- 5.1.7 In all normal competition and/or finals games, in the event that Football Gold Coast Limited moves the game to a venue other than that of the two competing teams Football Gold Coast Limited will be responsible for the referee fees.
- 5.1.8 Failure to comply with CMC Rule 5.1.5 will result in the club being fined as per CMC Rule 2.2.
- 5.1.9 Payment of Referee's fees in the Junior Top 4 Finals Series will be shared equally by the two (2) competing teams.
- 5.1.10 Payment of Referee's fees in the Senior Finals Series will be the responsibility of the host club / ground.
- 5.1.11 When Football Gold Coast Limited Hosts Grand Finals they will be responsible for the referee fees otherwise the host venue will be responsible for all referees' fees.

Fees for Carnivals shall be by arrangement with the host club or Referee's Director.

## **6.0 JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS COMPETITIVE AGE CMC RULES**

### **6.1 PLAYING REQUIREMENTS**

- 6.1.1 For all Playing / Field Requirements please refer to section 4 of these CMC Rules.

### **6.2 AGE COMPETITIONS**

- 6.2.1 A player's age is declared as at midnight 31st December of the new soccer year. Whatever age a player turns in the calendar year that is the age they play under.  
Football Gold Coast Limited will arrange age restricted competitions for junior players as per the following table.

***Age group Year of Birth qualification***

Under 18 Players attaining the age of 17 or 18 years in registration year  
Under 16 Players attaining the age of 16 years in registration year  
Under 15 Players attaining the age of 15 years in registration year  
Under 14 Players attaining the age of 14 years in registration year  
Under 13 Players attaining the age of 13 years in registration year  
Under 12 Players attaining the age of 12 years in registration year

- 6.2.2 Football Gold Coast Limited will conduct a competition in the above age groups which could comprise of a series of preliminary grading matches, a complete fixture competition and a final series competition.
- 6.2.3 Further to 6.2.2 the structure of the competition may be, but not limited to, the following:
- (a) Gold Coast Junior Premier League (GCJPL)
  - (b) Division 1
  - (c) Division 2
  - (d) Division 3
  - (e) Division 4

Football Gold Coast will determine the number of divisions required based on team nominations received on an annual basis. The size of each division will be at the discretion of Football Gold Coast Limited

- 6.2.4 Clubs will be invited to nominate teams into these divisions on the basis of the previous year's results and will participate across the Gold Coast Zone. Other nominations may be requested should Football Gold Coast Limited see fit. The composition of each division will be determined on an annual basis, as

determined by Football Gold Coast Limited and subject to amount of nominations received.

- 6.2.5 As a general principle the top **TWO** teams of a division in the preceding year will be promoted to the next highest division in the succeeding year and the last **TWO** teams of a division in the preceding year may be relegated to the next lower division in the succeeding year.
- 6.2.6 A team that comprised of **SEVEN (7)** or more registered players of the same team from the previous season is considered to be that same team when deciding on promotion and relegation in age groups and divisions for the new season.
- 6.2.7 Any new teams, which did not compete in the previous season's competition, will be required to submit a team list upon team nomination and their place in the competition determined on the majority of players experience.
- 6.2.8 Should FGC not receive enough nominations in an age group and division to run a viable competition, (min 6 teams), Football Gold Coast may, at its absolute discretion combine two Division's or age groups and/or arrange the draw to ensure a viable competition can be held.
- 6.2.9 Every Coach of a GCJPL team must hold a minimum qualification of a Game Trainer Coaching licence.
- 6.2.10 All Junior Coaches must have a minimum requirement of a Grass Roots licence.

### **6.3 PLAYER AGE POLICY**

Although Football Gold Coast promotes and advocates that all players should play in their appropriate age groups, we are prepared to make the following concessions:

- 6.3.1 In all junior teams, including JPL and MiniRoos, if a Club must combine age groups to form a team, the following restrictions apply:-
  - a) Players may only play one year up from the age group they would be eligible to participate in, in the current season. Where a Club asks a player to play up, his/her age will be considered as his actual age at the time of the application not simply what age group he/she is playing in, i.e. if a player turns 13 in August and is playing up in the Under 14's he/she would not be eligible to play in the Under 15's until he/she obtains the age of 14. Clubs will not be permitted to allow a player play in a higher age group if that player is already playing up out of their age group;
  - b) Prior to competing out of their designated/appropriate age group, the player must have an FGC PA-01 form completed by the parent or guardian and held by the club and provided to Football Gold Coast on request;
  - c) No junior player (except CMC Rule 6.3.3) will be permitted to play 2 years above their age group;
  - d) A player's age is declared as at midnight on the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the new soccer year. Whatever age a player turns in the calendar year is the age group they play under.
- 6.3.2 Clubs may on written application ask FGC to relax the player age policy. Each application will be dealt on a case by case basis and will be determined on its merits by Football Gold Coast, whose decision will be final.
- 6.3.3 In 'Girls Only' competition girls may play up two (2) years with the FGC PA-01 form completed by the parent or guardian and held by the club and provided to Football Gold Coast if / when requested. No female player will be permitted to play more than 2 years above their designated age in junior competitions. Unless governed by 6.3.5.
- 6.3.4 Registered male players who are turning the age of sixteen (16) years by date of birth in the current year are eligible to participate in Under 18 and Senior Men's games with the same club that they are registered for within the Football Gold Coast Limited competition. providing that prior to competing in the under 18's or senior competition, players must have a FGC PA-01 form completed by their parent or guardian and held by their club which must be presented to FGC if / when requested.
- 6.3.5 Registered female players who are turning the age of fifteen (15) years by date of birth in the current year are eligible to participate in Under 18 and Senior Women's games with the same club that they are registered for within the Football Gold Coast Limited competition providing prior to competing, player must have a FGC PA-01 form completed by their parent or guardian and held by their club



which must be presented to FGC if/when requested.

- 6.3.6 Subject to their age female players may participate in male competitions up to and including Under 16.
- 6.3.7 Football Gold Coast will permit individual female players to play one year below their appropriate age group in a male competition unrestricted.
- 6.3.8 On request from FGC, if a club cannot provide a PA-01 form within 24 hours then that player will be deemed ineligible and the club fined as per CMC Rule 4.4.3 and Section 2.
- 6.3.9 No player shall be permitted to play in any age group below his/her actual age. The only exception will be CMC rule 6.3.7 and severe medical condition which will be at the discretion of FGC.
- 6.3.10 If a club has an all girls' team and Football Gold Coast does not receive enough nominations to provide a viable all girls competition for them then Football Gold Coast will consider allowing that team/s to play down in an all boy's competition for the current season only upon submission of the appropriate paperwork.  
Consideration of this rule will only be given to all girl's teams from the U9 to the U18 inclusive.
- 6.3.11 No player may take the field outside their eligible age group, with the exception of CMC Rule 6.3.7 until his/her application has been officially granted by FGC. If a player takes the field outside their designated/appropriate age group without correct paperwork he/she will be deemed an ineligible player and the club will be fined under CMC Rule 4.4.3 and Section 2.
- 6.3.12 Approval of a request under CMC Rule 6.3 by Football Gold Coast Limited shall be for the current playing year only and at the sole discretion of Football Gold Coast Limited and shall be subject to renewal in any subsequent year. Football Gold Coast may withdraw any permission given if it is deemed that the team has gained an unfair advantage. Any such revisions will be immediate and not subject to appeal.
- 6.3.13 It is the responsibility of Clubs to ensure that players are eligible for the competitions / divisions in which they are played.
- 6.3.14 Applications for variances to these rules should be lodged from the Club Secretary to the Regional Development Officer via Football Gold Coast with all supporting documentation.
- 6.3.15 Football Gold Coast Limited reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.

## **6.4 PLAYER CLASSIFICATION**

- 6.4.1 A team having at least seven (7) of their listed registered players present at the nominated starting time must take the field and be ready to start play without delay after the appointed referee indicates to the teams, by word or by whistle, that the match is to be commenced. Should players not be ready to commence, the game will be forfeited.
- 6.4.2 In all Junior Competitions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than four (4) substitutes permitted to be named on the team sheet, as per CMC Rule 4.4.6. Only player's names that appear on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player. In these Competitions, a player whose name appears on the team sheet is deemed to have participated in the match.

All substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place in accordance with Laws of the Game. All substitutions/interchanges made at half time must enter the field from the half way on the referees signal just prior to kick off of the second half.

- 6.4.3 A player registered in their age appropriate age group may play in one higher age group but only in the same, higher or one lower division than that in which he/she is registered, e.g.: U12 Division 1 to Under 13 JPL, Division 1 or 2. No more than three players can play up an age group in any one game outside their registered team.

- 6.4.4 A player, if age appropriate, is registered in a higher age group will only be permitted to play outside his/her nominated team in the same age group in a higher division – ie. 13 year old boy nominated in U14 div 2 may only play in U14 div 1 or U14 JPL with the exception of 7.3.4
- 6.4.5 Any player registered in a higher division team within an age group will not be able to play in a lower division team in the same age group.
- 6.4.6 Any player registered in a lower division team within an age group, may play a maximum of 6 games per higher division team. Once a player plays a seventh game, that player will be deemed automatically regraded to the higher division team and will be ineligible to play in the team he/she was originally nominated in, including finals.
- 6.4.7 Special dispensation for goal keepers will only be considered for a goal keeper playing up a division or age (not playing down a division or age) and will only be permitted to play in goals.
- 6.4.8 In all other junior competitions where Football Gold Coast Limited accepts a Club to enter multiple teams in the same divisions, the following conditions apply: -
- a. A player can play a maximum 4 games in another team from the same club in the same division. Once a player plays a fifth game for a team from the same club in the same division, he/she will automatically be moved to that team and will not be eligible to move/play in any other teams for the remainder of the season.
  - b. Clubs must nominate each separate team using numbers or colours to distinguish between the two teams, i.e. 'Team A' and 'Team B' or 'Team Green' and 'Team Gold';
  - c. A team may use a maximum of three (3) players per game from outside their nominated team.
- 6.4.9 **CMC Rules 6.4.5 to and including 6.4.11 are subject to adhering to section 6.3 of these CMC Rules.**
- 6.4.10 If a club is in breach of CMC Rules 6.4.3 to 6.4.8 then the player will be deemed as an ineligible player and **BOTH** teams (the one he/she is nominated in and the one he/she played down in) may be fined in accordance with CMC Rule 4.4.4 and the club may be fined as per section 2 of the CMC Rules.
- 6.4.11 Football Gold Coast may, if deemed necessary, combine two Division's at the start of a season with the intention of splitting the Division upon completion of Round 1. Should this be necessary, the split Division's will be exempt from 6.4.6.

## 6.5 FINAL SERIES

- 6.5.1 In competitive age groups the Junior Final Series will be played as set out below: -

Competition Size	Finals Series	For format refer to CMC Rule
7 teams or less	Top 3	7.4.2 (a)
8 teams or more	Top 4	7.4.2 (b)

Games will be of normal duration; if drawn at full time, 10 minutes each way extra time will be played. In the event of a game being drawn after 10 minutes each way extra time, a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA rules will determine the winner.

- 6.5.2 Players eligibility for Finals Series fixtures will depend on the following criteria: -
- a) Regardless of where a player is/has been nominated, for the finals series they will be classified as a player for the team that they have played more games for. If they have played an equal amount of games for two teams then they will be classified as a player for the highest-ranking team (age / division);
  - b) The player has played a minimum of four (4) games, for the same club, in the age/grade/division he/she intends to play in;
  - c) For a player to be eligible to play in a higher age group and/or division in the Finals Series he/she must have played a minimum of four (4) games in the team they intend to play in.
  - d) A team may use a maximum of three (3) players per game from a lower registered team within the club as long as the player is eligible by age and that it complies with CMC Rule

6.5.3b;

- e) The only exception to the above is for junior players who have played both senior and junior football throughout the season, those players will be entitled to play in both the junior and senior Grand Finals. These players are exempt from CMC Rule 6.5.3a however must comply with 6.5.3b

**# Note:** All senior competitions are classed as a higher age group.

- 6.5.3 Should teams be required to borrow players, under a hardship clause, from a team from another age group/division within the club, during the Final Series an application must be submitted on club letterhead to Football Gold Coast Limited outlining: -
  - a) The reason the request is being made.
  - b) Name of player, date of birth, team/age/division the player/s are being borrowed from.
  - c) How many games, if any, has the proposed borrowed player(s) played for the team he/she intends to play for in the Final Series.
  - d) Consideration will only be given for players in lower age group/division

Applications to be submitted five (5) working days prior to the Finals Series, each application will be on a case by case basis and the decision of Football Gold Coast Limited will be final. Should a Club play a player without written consent from Football Gold Coast, the Club will be sanctioned as per CMC Rule 4.4.3.

- 6.5.4 Clubs must complete a team list for each team participating in the Finals Series. Only the fifteen (15) players expected to participate in the team for Finals Series are to be nominated on the team list. Team Lists are to be submitted to Football Gold Coast five (5) working days prior to the Finals Series. Only players named on the team list will be permitted to take part in the Final Series.
- 6.5.5 Clubs may on application be permitted to play a lower-level Goal Keeper in a Higher grade Top4/Finals series. No consideration will be given for a higher-level to play in a lower-grade. Applications to be lodged in writing to Football Gold Coast stating the reasons prior to the fixture, where upon, after reviewing, permission may be granted.
- 6.5.6 An infringement of the Football Gold Coast Limited CMC Rules Junior Section will be dealt with in accordance with CMC Rule Section 3 and fines, forfeits and or suspensions may be imposed by Football Gold Coast. Rights of appeal against any such determination are per CMC Rule Section 3.
- 6.5.7 Any breach of section 6.3; 6.4 and /or 6.5 of these competition rules may invoke section 4.4 and 2.5.2 for said breach and clubs will be fined in accordance with Section 2.0 of the CMC Rules.
- 6.5.8 As per CMC Rule 5.1.10, Payment of Referee's fees in the Junior Top 4 Finals Series will be shared equally by the two (2) competing teams, except for the fees for the Grand Final which will be the responsibility of the host club or Football Gold Coast.
- 6.5.9 If Football Gold Coast Limited hosts the Grand Finals it will be responsible for the payment of the referee's fees.

## **6.6 CARNIVALS**

- 6.6.1 Clubs must apply via the FQ editable Match Sanction form (located on the FGC website) for the right to host Age, Invitational, Memorial or Annual Carnival.
- 6.6.2 All carnivals for Under 6 to Under 11's must be played under the rules of regular MiniRoos. Carnivals are to be non-competitive and the keeping of goals scored and tables are not allowed with no finals or winners of the carnival.
- 6.6.3 Once completed, the FQ Match Sanction form should be printed and signed prior to scanning via email, along with tournament/carnival rules, to the Competition Manager for initial Zone approval. If necessary, FGC will then seek approval from FQ and the applying Club will be notified of the outcome.  
  
Any carnivals/tournaments involving international teams must seek details on the process directly from FQ a minimum of 60 days prior to the event to enable FFA to give the request consideration.
- 6.6.4 No carnival must be advertised or commence without Football Gold Coast Limited approval.

6.6.5 Any club in breach of 6.6.3 will be fined in accordance to section 2 and will not be permitted to host/hold any carnivals for the following year.

## Section 7 - SENIOR MEN & WOMEN'S CMC RULES

### 7.1 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- 7.1.1 The Men's Premier League shall consist of:-
- a) Premier Team
  - b) Open Reserve Grade
- 7.1.2 The Men's Coast League 1 shall consist of:-
- a) First Team
  - b) Open Reserve Grade
- 7.1.3 Clubs will not be permitted to have teams lodged in both Premier League and Coast League 1.
- 7.1.4 Depending on demand, Football Gold Coast Limited, will organise various men and women's 'single' team competitions which may be played Mid-week and/or Saturday and/or Sunday. The number and size of 'Divisions' will be at the sole discretion of Football Gold Coast Limited, which could change on a yearly basis.
- In a non-divisional competition, should a Club nominate more than one Metro team in the same competition FGC will determine the makeup and split of each grouping. However, if there is only one division then all teams will be placed in one division.
- 7.1.6 Unless determined otherwise by Football Gold Coast, a viable competition must have a minimum of 6 teams nominated.
- 7.1.7 If required and following a review, at its discretion, FGC may alter/change the makeup of any or all the senior men's and women's leagues and competitions on a yearly basis.
- 7.1.8 In the following competitions, each team can make up to three (3) substitutions in any given match, with no more than five (5) substitutes listed on the team sheet (maximum of 16 players named).
- Men's - Premier League & Coast League 1
  - Women's - Premier League
- a) Once a player is replaced in the above-mentioned competitions, they may **not** re-enter the field of play;
  - b) In these competitions only, players who are named in the first 11 spaces on the team sheet or who have been noted by the match official that they were a used substitute will be deemed to have participated in the match. Any player not noted that they took the field will be deemed to have been an unused substitute and did not take part in the game.
  - c) In games where a result must be achieved (eg finals/playoff games) and in the event of extra time, teams will be allowed one (1) additional substitute during the extra time period. In this case clubs will be permitted to make a total of four (4) substitutions for the match.
- 7.1.9 In all other Men's and Women's Competitions (including Premier League Reserves, Coast League 1 Reserves and Youth), unlimited interchange will be permitted, with a maximum of four (4) substitutes permitted to be named on the team sheet (maximum of 15 players) Only players' names that appear on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player. In these competitions, a player whose name appears on the team sheet is deemed to have participated in the match.
- 7.1.10 All substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place in accordance with the Laws of the Game. All substitutions made at half time must enter the field from the half way on the referees signal just prior to kick off of the second half.
- 7.1.11 For the last competition round of the senior (men & women) football season Football Gold Coast Limited will determine kick off times and dates at its discretion.
- 7.1.12 Any team that withdraw from Premier League and Coast League after there confirmation of acceptance will forfeit any affiliation fees and will be fined \$1000 and will be excluded for two years unless the club can prove exceptional circumstances.

## **7.2 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

- 7.2.1 All players shall be registered with Football Federation Australia as either an amateur or professional player as per National Registration Regulations
- 7.2.2 Where a team consists of seven (7) or more women players then that team is required to play in the Women's competition if, one is provided by Football Gold Coast Limited  
Teams entered into the Women's competition are not permitted to be of mixed genders.
- 7.2.3 Every senior men's and women's club must register / nominate a minimum number of players to each team as per the table below: -
- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| a) Premier League and Coast League One      | - Thirteen (13) players |
| b) Premier League and Coast League Reserves | - Eleven (11) Players   |
| c) All other men's divisions                | - Eleven (11) player    |
- 7.2.4 All other player registration requirements will be as per section 4.5 in these CMC Rules.

## **7.3 PLAYER CLASSIFICATION**

- 7.3.1 Once a player is registered the club must nominate the players into the division/grade in which they are going to participate for the season and complete a team list in Play Football.
- 7.3.2 Players who participate in the Senior Men's Premier League, Women's Brisbane Premier League and Coast League 1 competition are eligible to play in both grades (First and Reserve) regardless of where they have been nominated.
- 7.3.3 In situations where Clubs have teams in various senior men and women competitions, the following restrictions on player movement will apply: -
- Players nominated in the Premier League (men and women), Women's Brisbane Premier League first team and Coast League 1 first team can only drop to the Reserve grade team at their Club, there is no restriction on how many players or games the higher ranked player can play in the Reserves.
  - Once a player has taken the field in four (4) games in Premier League, Women's Brisbane Premier League first team, Coast League 1 first team regardless of where they are nominated, they will be classified under CMC Rule 7.3.2 and will not be eligible to play in the lower (Metro) leagues within their Club.
  - With the exception of 7.3.2 a team may use a maximum of three (3) players per game from outside their nominated team.
  - Players (including BWPL) may play a maximum of four games per season from outside his or her nominated team. Once a player plays a fifth game outside their nominated team, he/she will be automatically regraded to the team they have played the fifth game in and will not be eligible to return to his/her originally nominated team for the remainder of the season. With exception to CMC Rule 7.3.3 a, 7.3.3 b & 7.3.4
  - Clubs with teams in the Women's Brisbane Premier League, will only be permitted to drop Reserve grade players to Women's Metro to a maximum of 3 players per game. (Reserve grade player defined as playing 3 or less games in the Women's Brisbane Premier League first team).
  - In situations where a Club has male and female Under 16 to Under 18 age appropriate players registered and nominated in their senior teams, Clubs will be permitted to use these players in their age appropriate junior team unrestricted. BWPL players will be exempt from this rule
  - Player eligibility will be classed as above-mentioned conditions, if a Club is in breach of this rule then the player will be deemed as an ineligible player and BOTH teams, the one he/she is nominated in and the one he/she played down in, could be deducted three (3) points per offence and the Club fined as per section 2 of the CMC Rules.

- 7.3.4 In all Senior competitions (men & women), players who are turning 18 (or less) during the competition year will be eligible to participate in all senior and Under 16-18 games without restriction. This does not apply to BWPL players and/or BWPL Competition

However, to be eligible to play in Finals for a team, they must meet the qualification requirement as set out in CMC Rule 7.4.10.

- 7.3.6 Clubs may, on application, be permitted under a hardship clause to play lower level players in higher grade Top 4 series fixture and/or Pre/Post season fixtures in the case of goalkeepers, however, all applications will be treated as individual cases. Applications are to be lodged in writing to the office of Football Gold Coast Limited stating the reason, prior to fixture. Whereupon after reviewing, permission may be granted.

## **7.4 FINALS**

- 7.4.1 At the end of the championship season the final standings shall be determined as per section 1.1 in these CMC Rules. The format of the Finals Series is at the discretion of Football Gold Coast Limited to be reviewed on a yearly basis.

- 7.4.2 The highest ranked team in the competition shall be declared Premiers and the Finals Series will be contested as set out in (a) (b) (c) below or unless otherwise determined and announced at the start of the season by FGC.

- (a) Any Division that consists of seven or less teams will have the following stipulations for the Finals Series:

- 1) Top Three
- 2) Team one will progress directly to Grand Final
- 3) Teams 2 and 3 will play preliminary final hosted by Team 2 with the winner progressing to the Grand Final.

- (b) Unless otherwise determined at the start of the season by FGC, the Top 4 Finals Series shall be played in the following format with the exception of 7.4.2 (a): -

- 1) Major Semi Final - First place will host second place;
- 2) Minor Semi Final - Third place will host fourth place;
- 3) Preliminary Final - Loser Major Semi Final will host minor semi-final winner;
- 4) Grand Final - Winner Major Semi Final v Winner Preliminary Final.

- (c) Should a Top 6 Finals Series be required the following format will be used: -

### **Week 1**

Game A – 1 v 2

Game B – 3 v 6

Game C – 4 v 5

### **Week 2**

Game A – 2 v 1

Game D – Winner B v Winner C

### **Week 3**

Game E – Loser A v Winner D

### **Week 4**

Grand Final – Winner A v Winner E

- (a) Game A – Played over two legs, home and away with the highest place team having choice to play home or away first.

- i. The team with the highest points after both legs will be declared the winner and move into the Grand Final.
- ii. In the event the teams being equal on points, the team with the greatest goal difference will decide who goes through to the Grand Final.

- iii. In the event that goal difference is equal, after a 5-minute break 15 minutes each way extra time will be played.
- iv. In the event of a game being drawn after extra time, a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA rules will determine the winner

- (b) In all other games EXCEPT GRAND FINALS the highest ranked senior participant will have the right to host the game. (i.e. Premier League and **Coast League One (1)** Reserve must follow the Senior Premier League team that finished in the same position as they did);
- (c) All other games are straight knockout;
- (d) If the game is drawn after full time then CMC Rule 7.4.3 and if required 7.4.4 will be invoked.

- 7.4.3 In the event of games being drawn after normal duration, after a 5-minute break 15 minutes each way extra time will be played.
- 7.4.4 In the event of a game being drawn after extra time, a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA rules will determine the winner.
- 7.4.5 Selection of venues for Top 4 Finals Series fixtures will be determined by the placing's of all Senior Men and Women's competition grade teams. Football Gold Coast will determine date, time and venue of all Finals once finalists are known.
- 7.4.6 Dates and Times of any/all finals and play-off's will be determined by Football Gold Coast Limited
- 7.4.7 Grand Final Venues will be at the discretion of FGC and will be reviewed and confirmed at the start of each year.
- 7.4.8 In any final's series games, if it is deemed by FGC that the host venue isn't suitable to host a final (insufficient floodlighting; poor ground condition; inadequate changeroom facilities, etc.) then, in the first instance, the host club will have the opportunity to nominate an alternate venue, should that nominated venue not be endorsed by FGC then the games will be held at a venue selected by FGC.
- 7.4.9 Payment of Referee's fees in the Finals Series will be the responsibility of the host club / ground. In the event that Football Gold Coast Limited hosts the game or moves the game to a venue other than that of the two competing teams Football Gold Coast Limited will be responsible for the referee fees.
- 7.4.10 Players Eligibility for Finals and Play Off Series fixtures will depend on the following criteria: -
- a) The player has played a minimum of four (4) games, for the Grade/Division he intends to play in;
  - b) The player has not played more games in the higher Grade/Division, for the same Club, than the Grade/Division he intends to play in;
  - c) It is permitted to use two (2) players who have played more games in a higher Grade/Division, for the same Club, but have played a minimum of four (4) games to qualify in the lower Grade/Division they intend to play in;
  - d) There is no restriction on players from a lower division, participating in higher Grade/Divisions games. Unless they have been re-graded from a higher team to a lower team during the season. There are no restrictions on the number of players;
  - e) For a new player to be eligible to participate in the Finals Series they must have played a minimum of four (4) games for the team they intend to play in.

# Note: Players used as per CMC Rule 7.3.4 will be exempt from rules 7.4.10 (a) and (b) above.



## 7.5 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION.

- 7.5.1 Unless otherwise determined at the start of the season by FGC, in senior men's competition there will be promotion from:-  
(a) Coast League One (1) to Premier League.
- 7.5.2 Unless otherwise determined at the start of the season by FGC, in senior men's competition there will be relegation from:-  
(a) Premier League to Coast League One (1)
- 7.5.3 At the conclusion of the regular round of fixtures, the team finishing in last place (8<sup>th</sup>) in the Premier League will be automatically relegated to the Coast League One (1) for the following season, with the team finishing in first (1<sup>st</sup>) position in the Coast League One (1) being automatically promoted to the Premier League for the following season.  
Further, the team finishing in second last place (7<sup>th</sup>) in the Premier League will play-off a home and away series with the team that finishes second (second) in the Coast League One with the winner being offered a position in the Premier League for the following season.
- In the event a standalone team does not finish in 1<sup>st</sup> place in CL then the highest-ranking CL side will enter into a two-leg play-off with the 8<sup>th</sup> place team from PL. This will only apply to a team finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place.  
If this clause is invoked, then the 7<sup>th</sup> place team in PL will remain in PL and be safe from play-off.
- 7.5.4 If the first team forfeits its right to promotion then the team who finishes second in Coast League 1 will then play off for promotion against the **8<sup>th</sup> placed** team in Premier League and the **7<sup>th</sup> placed** team will be safe from relegation.
- 7.5.5 If the club who finishes second in Coast League One (1) does not meet the minimum standards by the final competition fixture match of the current season it will forfeit the right for a play-off match and therefore the **7<sup>th</sup> placed** team will be safe from relegation.
- 7.5.6 If both the first and second placed teams in Coast League One do not meet the minimum standards by the final competition fixture match of the current season there will be no promotion or relegation for that season.
- 7.5.7 In both play-off series (CL1 v PL and CL2 v CL1) the following will apply: -
- a) Game over two legs, home and away.
  - b) The team from the highest ranked Division will host the first leg.
  - c) Player eligibility will be the same as set out in CMC Rule 7.4.10
  - d) At the conclusion of the second leg the winner will be the team that has the most points after both legs (3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss).
  - e) If points are equal then the team with the best combined goal difference will be declared the winner (the away goal rule does not apply in the Play Off series, away goals will not count for double if the goal difference is equal).
  - f) If goal difference is equal then there will be a 5-minute break then an extra 30 minutes will be played (15 minutes each way) to determine a winner.
  - g) If the goal difference still remains equal then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will determine the winner.
- 7.5.8 The above is subject to review each year and may be changed or altered prior to each season commencing.

## 7.6 COMPETITIONS

### Pre/Post Season Competitions

- 7.6.1 Clubs wishing to organize pre or post season games must apply via the FQ editable Match Sanction Request form (located on the FGC website) for sanctioning of the game. This form should be used for any games against Clubs/teams **outside** of the Football Gold Coast Zone. For games against Clubs/teams **within** the Football Gold Coast Zone, please submit a Match Sanction Request via the MyFGC (online team sheet) platform.
- 7.6.2 Match Sanction Requests must be submitted a minimum of 14 days prior to the requested game.
- No competition must commence without Football Gold Coast Limited approval.

## 8.0 MINIROOS CMC RULES

- 8.0.1 Football Gold Coast will arrange age restricted MiniRoos non-competitive games based on the following table: -

### Age group Year of Birth qualification

Under 6 Players - attaining the age of 5 or 6 years in registration year  
Under 7 Players -attaining the age of 7 years in registration year  
Under 8 Players -attaining the age of 8 years in registration year  
Under 9 Players -attaining the age of 9 years in registration year  
Under 10 Players -attaining the age of 10 years in registration year  
Under 11 Players -attaining the age of 11 years in registration year

- 8.0.2 FGC will call for clubs to nominate teams based on the players ability in an attempt to group like v like players, the groups will be as below: -
- U9
  - U10
  - U11

The divisional break up will be:

- Joeys (first year playing)
- Wallabies (1 – 2 years playing)
- Kangaroos (3+ years playing)

- 8.0.3 FGC will allow clubs, upon request to play their MiniRoos in house subject to the following criteria
- Only open to U6/7
  - Club must make written application to FGC and receive written approval
  - Have a minimum of 8 teams per age group
  - All players must be registered on Play Football and scheduled fees paid to FGC
- 8.0.4 Should a club sign players, but not register them on Play Football and not pay the schedule fees, then that club will be issued a breach notice to show cause why their affiliation shall not be cancelled and fined as per section 2.1.1.

**Laws of MiniRoos football for Under 6 to Under 11 as per FFA Rules & Regulations can be found via the following link: - <https://www.playfootball.com.au/miniroos>.**