



**2011 RULES OF COMPETITION
WOMENS LEAGUE**

As at 2nd March 2011

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1. GENERAL MATTERS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMPETITIONS

1.1 *Application and Definitions*

1.1.1 These rules shall apply to all levels of Women's Competition as defined in rule 2.1 and administered under the auspices of CF.

1.1.2 If any provision of these Rules is held invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction then the remainder of these Rules and the application thereof shall not be affected thereby and shall continue to be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1.1.3 Terms defined in the CF Constitution, CF Registration Regulations or the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations shall have the same meaning in these Rules unless otherwise stated.

1.1.4 Notwithstanding rule 1.1.3 in these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

ACTAS Scholarship Holder means a Player who is on an ACT Academy of Sport full scholarship and whose primary registration is with ACTAS

ACTAS Training Agreement Player means a Player whose primary registration is with a different club to the ACTAS Club, but with approval from Capital Football via a Supplementary Registration Form request, is eligible to train with and play with ACTAS in a different competition to that of her primary registration

CF means Capital Football

CFDDR means the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulation.

Club means a football Club which is registered with FFA and is affiliated with Capital Football

Club Affiliation Criteria means any written criteria published by CF relating to the affiliation, amalgamation or merger of Clubs including but not limited to these Rules

Club Associate(s) means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:

- (i) Club Office Bearers;
- (ii) Club Officials (coach, team manager, anyone who is officially associated with the Club).
- (iii) Players of a Club;
- (iv) Members of a Club;
- (v) Supporters of a Club;
- (vi) a Club

Home Grown Player means a Player who has been registered with the same Club for at least three (3) consecutive years

FFA means Football Federation Australia

WLM means Women's League Manager

WSAC means Womens Standing Advisory Committee

MSS means the Minimum Security Standards published by CF from time to time

RSAC means the Referee's Standing Advisory Committee

Supplementary Registration where a player can apply to play in two different competitions for two different clubs

Tribunal means the CF Tribunal established under the CFDDR

- 1.1.5 For the purposes of these rules the following expressions shall apply:
- The area within these rules referred to, as the “A.C.T.” shall be the area controlled by Capital Football as directed and approved by the FFA
 - Where the terms “team” or “teams” are used, it is implied that the team or teams involved are under the control of and are the responsibility of their club, and therefore any sanctions or penalties applied to a team or teams may also be applied to the club
- 1.1.6 Participation with CF will be as set out in the ACT Football Federation Constitution and or By-Laws. Clubs will be required to meet the criteria as determined by the Board of Capital Football and outlined in the Constitution.
- 1.1.7 Nothing in the Capital Football Competition Rules shall prevent the WLM / WSAC of Capital Football from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations concerning Promotion, Relegation, Number of Divisions and composition of Teams in each Division.
- 1.1.8 Subject to the Constitution and these rules, the WLM / WSAC shall have the power to determine and enforce decisions regarding the control, administration or organisation of the Women’s League competitions.

1.2 *Consequences of Breach*

- 1.2.1 In addition to any consequences stated in these Rules, any proven breach of or failure to comply with an obligation or requirement set out in these Rules will amount to Misconduct and may be subject to the provisions of the CFDDR.
- 1.2.2 To avoid doubt where these Rules do not specify the consequences of a breach or failure to comply with these Rules such breach or failure to comply will still amount to Misconduct and may be subject to the provisions of the CFDDR.

1.3 *Amalgamation and Mergers of Clubs*

- 1.3.1 Amalgamations / mergers between Clubs shall be formulated prior to 1st December annually. Applications received after 1st December, may be considered by CF in its absolute discretion.
- 1.3.2 Where two (2) or more Clubs wish to amalgamate they shall:-
- (a) Apply to CF in writing for its approval for such amalgamation. The letter is to be signed for and on behalf of the amalgamating Club’s Committees
 - (b) Submit the name of the proposed new amalgamated Club and provide:
 - (c) A copy of the notice of General Meeting of both Clubs
 - (d) A copy of the signed record of attendance at the General Meetings of both Clubs,

- (e) A copy of the minutes of the General Meetings of both Clubs, signed by the Office Bearers of the Club which confirms the approval by Club members of the amalgamation
- (f) Submit a copy of the proposed Constitution, or, if the proposed new Club is intending to become an Incorporated Association, the proposed Statement of Purpose and Rules
- (g) Submit the names of the proposed Office Bearers
- (h) Upon incorporation registration of any new entity to run the amalgamated Club, if any, provide to CF a copy of a certificate of incorporation or other such documentation as CF may require in respect of that new entity

1.3.3 Amalgamating Clubs may nominate the League or Division in which they wish to participate provided it is a League or Division in which one of the amalgamating Clubs would be eligible to participate in the season immediately following.

1.3.4 Before amalgamation is approved all outstanding financial obligations and playing commitments of both Clubs to the CF must be fulfilled.

1.3.5 On approval all Players of amalgamating Clubs shall be deemed to be Players registered by CF as players of the newly formed Club.

1.3.6 The newly amalgamated Club must fulfill its commitments and be responsible for all the terms and conditions of any Players' agreements with each of the amalgamating Clubs current at the time of amalgamation.

1.3.7 After approval of amalgamation CF shall declare a vacancy or vacancies in the appropriate League or Division and this vacancy or vacancies may be filled or left vacant at the discretion of CF.

1.3.8 Where two or more Clubs intend to amalgamate CF is to be advised prior to any formal meetings of the respective Club Members being convened and CF may be represented at such Meetings.

1.4 *Monies Owing to CF*

1.4.1 Subject to Rule 1.6 all outstanding amounts owed to CF, as well as annual team affiliation fees, as determined by CF, must be paid by a Club within 30 days of invoicing failing which:

- (a) no teams or Players will be registered unless a Club's account with CF is in credit; and
- (b) CF may offset any transfer or compensation fees owed by an unfinancial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to CF

1.4.2 In addition, failure to adhere to rule 1.6.1 will result in a Club being sent a reminder notice to bring their accounts with CF into order. An offending Club will be given 21 days from the date of the reminder notice to bring their accounts with CF into order otherwise a failure to do so will result in

three (3) competition points being deducted from each of that Club's teams in competitions to which these Rules apply. A Club subjected to this penalty will be notified in writing when the deduction of points will take effect.

1.4.3 Notwithstanding rules 1.6.1 and 1.6.2 CF may in its absolute discretion expel a Club from Competitions if it does not comply with this Rule.

1.4.4 Clubs are required to pay in full all debts owing to CF on or before 31st October each year. This includes monies which may have incurred which an appeal or protest has been lodged.

1.4.5 Clubs who are in debt to CF and of which any amount is outstanding at any time after the due date:

- shall lose their right of appeal on that matter
- be suspended from all competitions in which that participating club competes
- have any rights, privileges or participation in the activities of CF relating to that clubs 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 the WSAC
- reduction of three (3) points under rule 1.6.2 results in a team or teams being relegated, such relegation will stand even if the outstanding monies are subsequently paid

1.4.6 Where a Club has been suspended under clause 1.6.5, all games involving that Club shall affect positional standing's with the competition. For each match in which a team cannot participate because of suspension under clause 1.6.5, the opposing team will be awarded a forfeit and will be recorded as a 3-0 score.

1.5 *Protection of Important Fixtures*

1.5.1 No Club or any entrepreneur may stage any tournament in the A.C.T. area on a day on which an A-League or W-League fixture is scheduled to take place in the A.C.T. except with the consent of the A-League or W-League Club or Capital Football.

1.5.2 Where an International or an Inter-State match is scheduled for the A.C.T., CF may direct that for any one or more CF competitions no matches shall take part on that day.

1.6 *Non Scheduled Matches*

1.6.1 Any Club staging or taking part in any competition, tournament, friendly match, or other match which does not form part of CF schedule of matches, or which is not played under the jurisdiction of CF, shall notify CF in writing and complete and lodge the relevant documentation as required by CF. Fixtures between Capital Football clubs require at least two (2) working days notice (seven (7) working days notice if Match Officials are required). Fixtures involving Clubs who are not Capital Football Clubs will require sanctioning from the appropriate Association and such notice must be received by Capital Football at least three (3) working days prior to the scheduled kick off. This excludes internal / intra Club matches.

- 1.6.2 No Club shall promote a team to play or permit any of its Players to play in any competition or with anybody not affiliated directly or indirectly with a FIFA-approved league, association or federation.
- 1.6.3 Any Club or Association wishing to participate in any Interstate or International matches, tournaments or events, must apply in writing to the CF for prior approval. Fixtures involving interstate FFA approved clubs or Associations requires at least one months notice for sanctioning.
- 1.6.4 For further information on matches played by Member Clubs either interstate or overseas please refer to the Capital Football Visiting Teams Policy.

1.7 Insurance

- 1.7.1 CF will negotiate and as it sees fit, appoint insurance companies to provide cover for Club Officials and Players registered with CF provided Clubs are incorporated at all times and are involved in a sanctioned event.

Insurance of Players

- 1.7.2 All Players taking the field of play (or training) must be insured through CF's Insurer (or as otherwise allowed by CF). The Player's insurance will be collected by CF at the time of Player registration (refer to the Summary of Cover as posted on CF Website for policy details):
- (a) Players who participate in competition fixtures without having their registration details updated relevant to their Club will be deemed ineligible
 - (b) The CF insurance policy will be null and void unless all players participating in football are legitimately registered or otherwise eligible to play competition matches

1.8 Strict Liability of Clubs

- 1.8.1 Each Club shall be responsible for the conduct of Club Associates at or in the vicinity of any Match or event in which a Club is engaged or is in attendance regardless of the responsibilities attaching to any other person or entity in respect of such a Match or event.

1.9 Media Comment and Match Day Programs

- 1.9.1 Clubs and Club Associates must not make derogatory or detrimental comment(s) to the media about CF or the performance of Match Officials. Any such complaints should be made in writing to CF. They also must not write a column for publication without first obtaining the approval of CF, provided that such approval shall not, at any time, be unreasonably withheld and shall be deemed to continue until withdrawn by CF.
- 1.9.2 Match Officials are prohibited from making any comment to the Media in regard to any fixture of CF at any time.

- 1.9.3 All Premier League Clubs are required to submit first grade playing squads by close of business each Wednesday prior to the weekend's fixtures.
- 1.9.4 Ground announcements must be made in English.
- 1.9.5 A breach of this Rule may result in a fine at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and further disciplinary action as set out in the CFDDR.

1.10 *Change of Club Name*

- 1.10.1 Any Club that wishes to change its registered Club name must provide the information in rule 1.12.3 in writing to CF, which will then be considered by CF.
- 1.10.2 All applications for a Change of Club Name must be made outside of the winter season, but not later than 1 December unless otherwise allowed by CF.
- 1.10.3 This application will be assessed in two (2) parts outlined below, and it is imperative all aspects of these requirements are adhered to when applications are lodged.

Part A – Prior to CF Ratification

- (a) The Club must submit on letterhead its request for change of Club name
- (b) Provide full disclosure of information including the reasons for the request
- (c) The 'name' should be representative of the broader geographic area within which the Club is located and shall not make any reference to any ethnic name, slogan, sponsor or business. In addition, the 'name' shall not contain initials of any type that can be interpreted as non-representative of the geographic area
- (d) It is imperative that the application for change of name includes an alternative name that can be assessed, again with full disclosure as per item (ii) and (iii) above

Part B – Once the Change of Name has been ratified by the Club it will provide to CF

- (a) A copy of the Minutes of Special General Meeting of the Club, approving the Change of Name
 - (b) Evidence of Registration of the new Club (Business) Name with the appropriate entity
- 1.10.4 CF will assess all change of name applications only when all of the above information has been lodged with CF and it may reject any application for a change of name as it sees fit.

1.11 *Ticketing and Refunds of Money*

- 1.11.1 This clause is applicable to all CF Competition Fixtures where admission fees are charged.
- 1.11.2 Clubs that charge admission fees must hand over an admission ticket to the paying customer when the exchange of money is made.
- 1.11.3 Gate attendants or security staff whose role it is to collect the admission ticket, must ensure that the ticket is torn in half and given back to the customer at the point of entry as proof of purchase.
- 1.11.4 Customers that present an authentic CF Media Pass, CF Special Pass or are aged 14 years or younger, will be granted free entry and will not be issued an admission ticket.
- 1.11.5 It is the customer's responsibility to ensure that he or she retains proof of purchase.
- 1.11.6 This ticketing clause is to be displayed at the ticket box at all venues where admission fees are charged.
- 1.11.7 Paying customers will be entitled to a full refund from the Home Club on the day of the game provided the main fixture has been called off prior to the conclusion of the first half of the Match for reason of light failure or unsuitable ground conditions.
- 1.11.8 To be eligible to receive a full refund on the day of the game, the paying customer must: Present to the Home Club or the Club charging admission fees, the admission ticket (or part thereof) as proof of purchase that he or she was issued when entering the ground.
- 1.11.9 If the main fixture is abandoned after the conclusion of the first half, then no refund will be given.

1.12 *Ground Security*

- 1.12.1 The Home Club is responsible for providing appropriate arrangements to ensure the orderly behaviour of spectators and provide for the protection of Match Officials, Players and Officials at CF fixtures.
- 1.12.2 Each CF Home Club is required to provide Club Match Officials and / or security and / or police or MSS as directed by CF or if the club believes the fixture requires such measures.
- 1.12.3 CF Tribunal will take into account the security measures implemented by Clubs, when assessing any misconduct charges that may be brought before them.
- 1.12.4 In addition, each Club must take every step to ensure change rooms are not accessed by unauthorised personnel and to safeguard the valuables of Match Official(s).
- 1.12.5 The visiting team is responsible for the valuables of its Players and valuables that are left in change rooms are done so at their own risk.

- 1.12.6 It shall be the duty of both Clubs to maintain control of spectators, to prevent any disturbance amongst its spectators and to generally assist the WSAC, Match officials or Capital Football staff in the preservation of order and good discipline at any match. Failure to do so shall result in the imposition of penalties and / or sanctions as the WLM sees fit.
- 1.12.7 In the event of a report being made to Capital Football that the misbehaviour of spectators has had a material effect on the result of a match, being upheld, the WLM may declare the match and result void and order the match to be replayed on such ground and on such date and on such conditions as the WLM shall think proper or deduct a maximum of up to three (3) points from the offending club and / or to impose such other sanctions as the WLM shall think proper.
- 1.12.8 In the event of a match being abandoned due to field invasion the WLM shall have the power to have the match replayed, to allow the result to stand or award a forfeit if it so determines. Any such report shall be lodged with Capital Football in writing no later than 5.00pm on the second (2nd) working day following the day of the match and shall only be considered if made by the Referee or a Club participating in such match.

1.13 *Representative Teams*

- 1.13.1 Any Player registered in the A.C.T. under the FFA National Registration rules will be eligible to represent A.C.T. in representative games, camps or tours and each such Player must make themselves available for training, preparation and participation for representative matches, camps or tours when requested by CF.
- 1.13.2 All Clubs must release Players for training and preparation for, and participation in, representative matches, camps or tours, when requested by CF.
- 1.13.3 Where a Club has three (3) or more Players from one (1) team participating in a CF approved representative match, camp or tour which conflicts with a scheduled match of that team, it may seek the postponement of that fixture. CF shall determine the outcome of that request in its absolute discretion and that decision cannot be appealed or reviewed.
- 1.13.4 Players selected who are under the age of 18 years will be required to supply CF with a letter of consent from their parent / guardian for any representative team activity.
- 1.13.5 A Player in a team representing CF must accept all reasonable directions of the team management or other CF Officials and must not engage in any public acts of misconduct or unruly public behaviour while representing CF.

1.14 *Prohibited Items*

- 1.14.1 Clubs, Official(s), spectators and / or Players under the jurisdiction of Capital Football are prohibited from using and / or displaying in logos, letterheads, clothing (including playing strip), programs and/or newsletters, any of the following items:
- National Flags other than the Australian Flag

- Banners, emblems, symbols or slogans which promote a political objective or movement
- Maps other than a map of a geographic area of Australia or part thereof

- 1.14.2 Flares, fireworks, loud hailers or instruments prohibited by law are not permitted at any Capital Football event. The lighting of flares or other flammable objects and or the throwing of objects is strictly prohibited in all CF sanctioned fixtures.
- 1.14.3 No Club may distribute, disseminate, broadcast or publish by any means whatsoever whether electronically or otherwise any material in a language other than English, with the prior written consent of CF to do so.
- 1.14.4 All Clubs must have the prior written approval of CF before introducing or incorporating any design, emblem or slogan onto any Club logo or name, product or medium, including but not limited to playing strips, promotional material, Club letterhead, banners, advertisements, public announcements, website or any other form of communication.
- 1.14.5 CF may request the immediate removal of any offending material without notice at any time.
- 1.14.6 Clubs will be held fully accountable for the actions of their Club Associates.
- 1.14.7 Each Club must take steps to ensure that its Club Associates are made aware of this prohibition and do not breach this requirement, regardless of whether the Club is playing at home or away.
- 1.14.8 Clubs or Club Associates who are in breach of this Rule will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules. In addition CF may deduct points from a team or teams or take further disciplinary action if it sees fit.

1.15 *Racial and Religious Vilification Code*

- 1.15.1 CF has endorsed a Racial and Religious Vilification Code for all Clubs and its players (referred to in these Rules as Racial and Religious Vilification Code) which forms part of these Rules. The Racial and Religious Vilification Code is displayed on the CF web site within the Member Protection Policy <http://www.capitalfootball.com.au> .
- 1.15.2 Racial and Religious Vilification includes any act, otherwise than in private, which:
- (a) is reasonably likely, in all circumstances, to offend, insult, humiliate, or intimidate another person or a group of people; and,
 - (b) is done because of the race, colour or national or ethnic origin of the other person or of some or all of the people in the group
- 1.15.3 The Racial and Religious Vilification Code requires Clubs to:
- (a) ensure that players and Club Associates do not engage in Racial and Religious Vilification against any person,

- (b) continuously educate their players and Club Associates about Racial and Religious Vilification,
- (c) publish information on the subject of racial and religious vilification to players and Club Associates; and
- (d) use their best endeavours to ensure that all Club Associates act in a manner which is consistent with the objectives of the Racial and Religious Vilification Code.
- (e) adopt an action plan, which is contained in the Racial and Religious Vilification Code

1.15.4 Any person wishing to lodge a letter of complaint under the Racial and Religious Vilification Code, must address their correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer of CF within 7 days after the date of the alleged offence.

1.15.5 A conciliation hearing will then be convened to discuss and resolve the matter.

1.15.6 If conciliation is not achieved, then CF may lay charges of Misconduct against those alleged to be responsible and refer the matter to the Tribunal.

1.16 *Inducements - Player and Match Result*

1.16.1 Any Club Official or Player offering or receiving payment or any form of inducement to or from any Member or an Official or Player of any member, or any Club Official or Player receiving or seeking any payment or other form of inducement from any other person or organisation to wrongfully affect the result of any competition match shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and liable to such penalty as the WLM determine, including possible life suspension. The payment of a win bonus to a Player by his registered club shall in no way contravene this clause.

1.16.2 Any Club, Official or Player found guilty directly or indirectly of inducing or attempting to induce, a registered Player of another Club to leave for any purpose whatsoever the Club for which he is registered, shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to be expelled or otherwise dealt with by the WLM.

1.17 *Property Damage / Ground Cleanliness*

1.17.1 Any Club found guilty of causing damage to property at any ground shall be required to pay the total cost of repairing such damage or the total cost of replacement of such property and shall be subject to other such penalties and / or sanctions as the WLM sees fit.

1.17.2 Home Clubs or other such clubs designated by Capital Football must collect litter and leave grounds, spectator areas, dressing rooms, toilets and pavilions in a satisfactory condition, empty all bins in to the supplied hopper or they shall pay the cleaning costs as demanded by the competent authority.

1.18 Sponsorship, Advertising and Marketing

- 1.18.1 CF will seek to obtain a sponsorship or sponsors to assist with the funding of Capital Football's competitions and representative fixtures. All competing Clubs are bound by any Sponsorship, Licensing or Marketing arrangements and consequent conditions introduced by CF in respect of the conduct of Capital Football's competitions. Clubs may be required to display at grounds or on uniforms in all competitions, such badges and / or logos as determined by CF. The positioning of such signs, badges or logos shall be determined by CF.
- 1.18.2 Clubs or Club Associates who are in breach of this Rule will be fined at level BR3 for each match and / or instance under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules. Failure to comply with clause 1.20.1 will also be subject to such action as determined by WLM.

1.19 Bonds and Fines

- 1.19.1 The WLM shall prior to the start of the season determine the Schedule of Penalties for the impending season. Such changes will not come in force until two (2) weeks after approval.
- 1.19.2 Teams, Players, Clubs or Club Officials found guilty of breaking the Women's League Competition Rules may have penalties and / or sanctions imposed upon them. Such penalties may be financial, deduction of competition points and/or suspension or expulsion from any competition.
- 1.19.3 Any monetary bond placed upon a participating club by CF should be for a specific period of time and that period of time is decided upon by CF.
- 1.19.4 All fines imposed by these rules must be paid within thirty (30) days of invoicing, except for fines dealing with individual suspended players. These fines must be paid either before the 30 days or before the player can play, whichever is the sooner.

1.20 Protests, Disputes and Misconduct

- 1.20.1 The WLM / WSAC or Disciplinary Committee may investigate any complaint of:
- Any breach of these rules
 - Unsportsmanlike or unbecoming conduct against any Club, Member or Official thereof, Player or Coach
 - Violence or threats of violence or intimidation or
 - Conduct that brings or may bring the game into disrepute
- 1.20.2 Before the WLM / WSAC or Disciplinary Committee investigates any such complaint written particulars thereof are to be given to the club or any person concerned prior to any meeting being held, and the Club or person concerned shall be given an opportunity to appear before the WLM & WSAC or the Disciplinary Committee and to participate in the enquiry and to offer such defence or submissions as she or he thinks fit.

- 1.20.3 If the WLM / WSAC or Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that the particulars of any such complaint has occurred, it may impose penalties as follows:
- Suspension for such period of time as may be determined from CF or from any competition conducted by or in conjunction with CF
 - A fine in the case of a club not exceeding \$10,000.00 or in the case of an individual not exceeding \$5000.00
 - Recommendation to the CF Board for expulsion from CF or from any competition conducted by or in conjunction with CF
- 1.20.4 Affiliation of CF shall constitute a binding agreement between Capital Football and the respective Clubs to refer within 72 hours of the incident of protest, all protests, claims and complaints to correct committees in writing accompanied by the required deposits. All correctly lodged protests, claims and complaints shall be heard and determined by the correct committees as quickly as possible and always before any delay or adjournment shall render ineffective in whole or part the nature of any such protest, claim or complaint.
- 1.20.5 If any dispute or disagreement shall arise between a Club and any of its Players in respect of each other's obligations pursuant to a contract entered into between them, or as to the interpretation thereof, such dispute or disagreement may be referred by the Club or player to CF for determination.

2. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.1 General Information

- 2.1.1 These rules shall apply to all Women's Premier League, State League, Masters and Under 18 competition fixtures (including league fixtures, cup games, finals series & play-off matches) of CF. CF will provide the official fixture list as soon as practicable in accordance with these rules.
- 2.1.2 All CF fixtures are played under the FIFA Laws of the Game, unless otherwise specified in these rules. They will be played in compliance with the regulations in force and in accordance with Football Federation Australia and CF respectively.
- 2.1.3 Clubs shall not play or be involved in or give approval for any Player, Official and / or team to participate in any other matches within and / or outside the A.C.T. that are not part of the scheduled competitions unless they have first received approval from CF. Such requests shall be in writing no less than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled date of each match and where appropriate the CF Visiting Team's Policy should be adhered to. Any Club or Player found to be playing in an unauthorised competition will not be covered by CF insurance policy and the Club and / or Player face such action as determined by the CF.
- 2.1.4 CF shall provide the final draws fourteen (14) days prior to the first round of the competition.
- 2.1.5 Any disputes between two (2) or more Clubs as to the arrangement of fixtures shall be referred to and decided by the WLM / WSAC.
- 2.1.6 Dislocation of any fixtures for any cause whatsoever shall be immediately reported to CF by the Clubs concerned.
- 2.1.7 All rearrangements of fixtures by Clubs shall be submitted to and approved by the WLM. A fixture may be played wholly or in part under floodlights provided that the lighting meets the requirements and that any alteration to the starting time has been given due approval.
- 2.1.8 Notwithstanding any other rule, the WLM reserves the right to alter or amend any fixture after it has been nominated in the Official Fixture List and shall provide seven (7) days prior notice

2.2 Women's Premier League

- 2.2.1 The Women's Premier League (Premier League) shall consist of three (3) divisions comprising of a number of Clubs as determined by CF in its absolute discretion.
- 2.2.2 Each Premier League Club shall:
- (a) Field a senior team (PL), Premier League Reserves (PLR) and Premier League 18 (PL18) under the conditions specified by CF

- (b) provide CF with an email address of the Club Secretary or other official for the purposes of immediate communication
- (c) provide appointed coaches with the following minimum Coaching qualifications:
 - PL & PLR Senior Licence
 - PL18 Youth Licence

2.2.3 Premier League 18's:- Players must be no older than 18 years of age before 31 December of the calendar year of the competition i.e. A Player who will turn 18 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age.

2.2.4 The Premier League teams shall play each other over 21 Rounds, unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.2.5 The team finishing top of the Division at the conclusion of the home and away season will be crowned League Champions.

2.2.6 At the conclusion of the season, the top four (4) placed senior teams must play compulsory finals series to determine the Premier League Grand Final winner and runner-up.

2.2.7 Under no circumstances shall any one Club be represented more than once in the Premier League Competition.

2.3 State League

2.3.1 The State League Competition shall comprise of ten (10) team Divisions unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.3.2 All State League teams in all Divisions will play each other over 18 Rounds unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.3.3 The team finishing top of each Division at the conclusion of the season will be crowned League Champion.

2.3.4 At the conclusion of the season, the top four (4) placed teams must play in a finals series to determine the Division Grand Final winner and runner-up.

2.3.5 CF recommends that all coaches in the State League competitions hold a minimum Youth Licence.

2.4 Masters League

2.4.1 Masters teams shall consist of veteran players who are 35 years of age, or older, by the 31 December in that calendar year.

2.4.2 Masters Players are eligible to play in the State League competition as per Regulation 2.7.

- 2.4.3 All Masters League teams will play each other on over 18 Rounds unless otherwise determined by CF.
- 2.4.4 The team finishing top of each Division at the conclusion of the season will be crowned League Champion.
- 2.4.5 At the conclusion of the season, the top four (4) placed senior teams must play in a finals series to determine the Division Grand Final winner and runner-up.

2.5 *Best and Fairest Voting and Eligibility (Women's Premier League only)*

- 2.5.1 The Best and Fairest Award shall be voted on in each Match by the Match Official in accordance with Rule 6.8.
- 2.5.2 Votes shall be cast in a 3-2-1 format with three (3) votes given for the Player adjudged by the Match Official to be the best and fairest in each match.
- 2.5.3 A Player who receives a Red Card as defined in the CFDDR regardless of whether or not the penalty for that Red Card is reduced at the Tribunal shall be ineligible to win the award.
- 2.5.4 A Player who has a Red Card revoked for mistaken identity shall be eligible to win the award.

2.6 *Competition Nominations*

- 2.6.1 Clubs will only be eligible to nominate a team/s in the Women's League competition if they are financial with CF and have had their application for league participation accepted by CF.
- 2.6.2 Each year the WLM shall call for nominations for all Women's League competitions for the following season. The WLM shall also set the closing date for these nominations.
- 2.6.3 All nominations shall be made upon the official nomination form provided to clubs by the WLM which will include the following information:
- Division for which the nomination is being submitted
 - Preferred home ground and training ground
 - Colours of the playing strip (shirt, shorts & socks) and alternate strip for all teams nominated
 - Playing history of team and reason for division nomination
- 2.6.4 All nominations shall be inspected and vetted by the WLM. Clubs that have provided inadequate information or information not in accordance with these Regulations on the official nomination form shall be informed of such irregularities and shall be given seven (7) days in which to resubmit their nomination.

- 2.6.5 The WLM reserves the right to determine the appropriate league of each nomination, by taking into account the previous season's results, playing strength of the club and the formation of the division.
- 2.6.6 The WLM reserves the right to reject team nominations.
- 2.6.7 Nominations received after the closing date will only be accepted at the discretion of the WLM and placed into Leagues as determined by the WLM / WSAC.
- 2.6.8 Should a Club submitting a nomination form withdraw any team after a date to be set by the WLM the Club will be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

2.7 *Player Status / Eligibility / Identity*

- 2.7.1 PL competitions will be regarded as one (1) Division, followed by State League 1, State League 2, etc. The complete ratings are as follows:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Premier and Premier League Reserves | Rating 1 |
| • PL18 and Under 18 | Rating 1 (age restrictions) |
| • State League 1 | Rating 2 |
| • State League 2 | Rating 3 |
| • State League 3 | Rating 4 |
| • State League 4 | Rating 5 |
| • Masters (over 35 years) | Rating 5 |
- 2.7.2 No Player under the age of 14 may play in the Women's League competition. The Player must be turning 14 years by the 31 December in that calendar year.
- 2.7.3 Players aged between the age of 12 and 14 wishing to play in the Women's League for developmental reasons must make a formal request on Club letterhead to the WLM / WSAC with the following information:
- (a) A statement from the Club indicating the request is for the development of the Player and the nominated league is the most appropriate
 - (b) A statement by the Coach of the team the player wishes to join, assessing whether the player's skill levels are appropriate for playing in an older age group
 - (c) A statement from the Players parents / caregiver acknowledging that they have been informed by the Club of their intention to play the Player in an older age group
 - (d) A medical / physiotherapist assessment completed by a qualified medical practitioner which states that in the assessor's opinion, the Player is physically capable of playing in a higher age group

- 2.7.4 In the Under 18 competition (including PL18s), Clubs are allowed to register / play no more than two (2) Players who are turning 19 by the 31 December in that calendar year.
- 2.7.5 Each season, Clubs must assign every registered Player for that Club into one (1) of a team. The list of Players assigned to each team will be used to determine the League Status of all Players and must be forwarded to the WLM for approval. Lists will be made available to all Women's League Clubs. Masters Players should be included on a Masters team list only but will be allowed to play in Premier League (PL) and State League (SL) subject to allowed player movements in this clause.
- 2.7.6 Players can only be assigned to one (1) team.
- 2.7.7 Premier League team lists must include a minimum of 11 Players, including one (1) nominated goalkeeper. State League, Masters and Under 18 team lists must include a minimum of 13 Players, including one (1) nominated goalkeeper.
- 2.7.8 League Status of Players must be approved by the WLM. The WLM / WSAC have the authority to change a Players' League Status.
- 2.7.9 Premier League Players may only play down in State League 1 and / or Masters. Premier League Players are free to move between PL competitions unrestricted (barring any age restrictions).
- 2.7.10 A maximum of four (4) statused Premier League Players may play in the Premier League Reserves competition at one time.
- 2.7.11 A maximum of four (4) Premier League and / or Premier League Reserve Players can play in the Premier League Under 18 competition at one time, as long as they meet the age requirements.
- 2.7.12 No more than two (2) State League Players are allowed to play in one (1) competition below their nominated League Status at one time.
- 2.7.13 Players are free to play in any competition higher than their nominated League Status.
- 2.7.14 Players who have entered the field of play in PL (all competitions) will be included as playing a match. Players listed on the match card in SL, Masters and Under 18s will be deemed to have played in that match.
- 2.7.15 Where two (2) teams from one (1) Club are in the same competition, Players must be assigned to one (1) particular team. Those Players are only eligible to play for the team they are assigned to in that competition and may not play for the other team without reclassification.
- 2.7.16 If a club is found to have breached any rules in Clause 2.7, they will be deemed to have played an ineligible Player. The match will be awarded to the non-offending club as a forfeit with the score line 3-0 and the offending club may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

- 2.7.17 The eligibility of players shall be defined by CF from time to time. A qualified or Bona fide Player is one who has completed the registration process and is registered as per the Women's League Competition Rules and not currently serving a suspension. It is the responsibility of the club to check with CF that all their Players are registered through the Myfootballclub data base (FFA National Data Base). Any Club playing an ineligible Player shall be ineligible for any points affiliated with the match and shall be subject to any disciplinary action as imposed by the WLM. Full points allocated for the fixture shall be forfeited to their opponents and a 3-0 forfeit result will be awarded. The Club shall also be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules plus costs associated with the match or a greater amount as determined by the WLM in addition to any other disciplinary action imposed.
- 2.7.18 A "Ring in" is an ineligible Player, either because she is not registered, belongs to another team, is unable to play in that grade due to various reasons including age restraints, but who has been asked by a Club, team or another Player to fill a spot on a team and knowingly plays when they are ineligible to do so. Any team found guilty will be sanctioned. Any Player who 'knowingly' plays as a 'ring-in' will be suspended for four (4) matches. Any participating club or Office holder of any such club or any Player or Coach affiliated with any such club who is found to have knowingly participated in any practice of "Ringing-In" may be disqualified from CF or be subject to such other punishment as may be determined by the WLM / WSAC to be appropriate, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.
- 2.7.19 Prior to any match the managers of both teams shall complete an official Match Card as specified in these rules. At the same time, and if so requested by either manager, the manager of each team will present to the other manager player proof of identification of any player listed on the Match Card. Where a Club suspects any abnormality or breach of CF Rules, or where an opposing Club is unable to produce proof of identification they shall:
- Advise the opposing Club of their intention to report the matter to CF:
 - Make notification in the comments section of the match card of their intention to report the matter
 - Submit a written report to CF within 72 hours following the match
 - Submit photographic evidence to support any abnormality
- 2.7.20 Where an abnormality or breach of rules involves the true identity of a Player participating in a fixture, the Club shall bring the matter to the attention of the Match Official and request that they report the abnormality to CF. The Match Official may also confirm that suitable identification was produced and recorded on a report to CF. Any Club who fails to produce Player proof of identification upon request from the opposing Team Manager, Capital Football representative (staff / WSAC member) or Referee shall be liable to a penalty as determined by the WLM. If a club wishes to protest against an ineligible Player, or protest against any aspect of the conduct of a match or dispute any details contained on a match card, they must write to the WLM setting out details of the basis of the protest (supporting documents) within 72 hours of completion of the match.
- 2.7.21 A Player not listed on the Match Card prior to kick off who then plays in that fixture is an ineligible Player. Any team found guilty will be sanctioned as per clause 2.8.14.

- 2.7.22 CF may grant permission to a Club to field 'Guest Players' in approved fixtures, in accordance with FFA National Registration Regulations.
- 2.7.23 Clubs are entitled to seek permission from CF to register a maximum of three (3) ACTAS Scholarship Holders as Supplementary Registered Players. This excludes players on an ACTAS Training Agreement.
- 2.7.24 If a Club has more than three (3) Home Grown Players who have accepted an ACTAS Scholarship, the Club is entitled to register all of these players and will not be permitted to seek to register any more ACTAS Scholarship Holders. Clubs should therefore give careful consideration to those players they wish to register prior to the season.

Example

- (i) *If a Club has four (4) home grown players, the Club can seek Supplementary Registration for all four players after obtaining permission from CF and the ACTAS coach to do so*
- (ii) *If a Club applies to seek Supplementary Registration for two (2) of its home grown players who have accepted an ACTAS Scholarship and decides to register another ACTAS Scholarship Holder who does not meet the home grown player definition, that Club may seek permission from Capital Football to register all three (3) of those players but is not permitted to register any other ACTAS Scholarship players, whether they are home grown or not*
- (iii) *The following season, the Club is permitted to seek to register all four (4) of their home grown players but would not be permitted to seek to register the player recruited in the previous year. If the Club chooses to register the previously registered non home grown ACTAS player, then the Club would only be permitted to seek to register two (2) additional ACTAS Scholarship Holders whether home grown or not*

- 2.7.25 CF has the right to decline applications for Supplementary Registration.

2.8 Other Competitions

- 2.8.1 CF may conduct other competitions before, throughout and after the conclusion of the playing season.
- 2.8.2 Rules for these competitions shall be set by the WLM prior to the commencement of any competition but at all times shall be subject to the following rules:
- No club may enter more than one (1) team in any Competition except with the express permission of the WLM or WSAC
 - All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game and a result in knockout matches obtained in accordance with Regulation 5.3
 - Only players correctly registered with CF shall be eligible to play
- 2.8.3 Players become competition (Cup) bound once they have played in a match, except:
- A Player may move into a higher competition once she has played in a lower competition
 - No Player can drop back to a lower competition once she has played at a higher level

- In a Round Robin series the movement of Players may take place if the teams are in a different competition in the qualifying games
- If Clubs have more than one (1) team in the same competition the Players will remain exclusive to the team that they are registered with prior to the Player participating in that competition
- Once a team is qualified to proceed into the next round the movement of Players is no longer permitted

2.8.4 A Player cannot play for more than one (1) Club in any competition.

2.8.5 Clubs playing Players in other competitions who are therefore ineligible to play are subject to sanctions and penalties as per the Women's League Competition Rules.

2.9 Clubs Removed or Withdrawing from Competitions

2.9.1 In the event of any Participating Club withdrawing or being removed from CF Competitions, the following procedure will take effect to allow the altered Competitions to proceed to a conclusion:

- Removed or withdrawing before competition has started
- Bye result will apply in competitions
- Removed or withdrawing during first rounds:
- All opposing teams that have played the removed or withdrawn teams (for the complete first round). Points and goals deleted from their records and shall be credited with a bye result. Teams that have not played the removed or withdrawn team will obtain a Bye result.
- Removed or withdrawing during the second or subsequent rounds:
- All points and goals acquired will be retained by opposing teams (for the completed first round). Points and goals acquired against such disaffiliated team shall be lost and Bye results shall be credited for the second half of the competition.
- Where deemed necessary, the WLM shall fine the Club at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules may also sanction the club who withdraws from a competition.

2.9.2 The WLM / WSAC has the power to advise a club which particular team will be withdrawn if they believe it is warranted or in the best interest of the competition.

3. FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

3.1. *Facilities / Ground Arrangements*

- 3.1.1 Each Club must ensure that it complies fully with the criteria set out below.
- 3.1.2 CF shall approve all grounds for all matches sanctioned by CF shall allocate Clubs a ground that conforms to the guidelines stated by the WLM.
- 3.1.3 Any Club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules, suspended or have its home fixtures played away.
- 3.1.4 CF may grant special dispensation to Clubs who are in the process of upgrading their facilities in accordance with CF's requirements.

Goalposts

- 3.1.5 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 and installed to the correct safety standards. The main areas of concern are:
- (a) Construction of goal frames for either fixed or portable use
- (a) Securing and stability of the goal frame
 - (b) Net fixings to the frame of the goal
 - (c) The net itself (noting that metal pegs are prohibited when securing the net to the ground)
- 3.1.6 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.
- 3.1.7 If a Club uses portable goals for training or competition, it must ensure that these goals conform to the current Standards Australia Handbook "Portable Football Goalposts – Manufacture, use and storage". The manufacturer of portable goals should provide the Club with a certificate of conformity.

Nets, Ground and Line Markings

- 3.1.8 Products such as agricultural limestone, or water based spray paint or other similar material which will not endanger ground users or damage turf grasses, are the substances that should only be used for line marking. Ground markings must be clear and accurate and within the dimensions specified in the Laws of the Game.
- 3.1.9 To ensure the safety of all players, Match Officials and spectators, any Club found in breach, will not be able to play any home matches until the breach has been rectified or CF grants dispensation from these requirements.

3.1.10 In all matches sanctioned by the WLM the home team shall dress the ground, and if appropriate, ensure adequate line-marking and such equipment shall remain in place for all matches being played on that ground on that day.

3.1.11 A home Club whose match is postponed / abandoned due to the use of prohibited substances for marking their grounds (as above), will forfeit the match and three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team. The home Club will also incur a fine at level BR 4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules as set out in the CFDDR.

Pitch Exclusion Zone

3.1.12 All spectators and non-participants must be either behind barriers surrounding enclosed pitches or a minimum of three (3) metres away from all sidelines or five (5) metres from all goal lines at all matches. Such an area shall be termed the "pitch exclusion zone".

3.1.13 On grounds which contain adjacent playing pitches and on which matches are being played side by side, no person other than the Match Officials and person previously approved by the Capital Football shall be permitted to position themselves between these playing pitches during the progress of any match.

3.1.14 The only persons permitted within the pitch exclusion zone at any time during the progress of any match shall be:

- (i) The competing Players and reserves from each team;
- (ii) The Coach and Manager
- (iii) The officiating referees and linesmen
- (iv) First-aid or emergency services personnel
- (v) Nominated club officials wearing Capital Football Official vests
- (vi) Accredited media personnel
- (vii) Ball kids
- (viii) A member of the WSAC
- (ix) CF Staff

3.1.15 Failure by Club Match Officials to ensure the above will result in fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and / or sanctions as determined by the WLM.

3.1.16 CF or a CF Representative such as a Venue Manager, has the authority to approve matches outside these regulations as they see fit.

Women's Premier League – Requirements (wherever possible)

3.1.17 *Playing Arena*

- (a) The pitch markings must fall between the following range wherever possible:
 - (i) minimum length of 100 metres
 - (ii) minimum width of 60 metres.

- (b) The field of play must be rectangular and enclosed and have a limited number of entrances all of which can be locked. The pitch shall be an evenly grassed surface and well drained, all internal field markings must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game. A permanent fence (or barrier) around the pitch secured to the ground, with a minimum height of 1.1 metres, and at minimum three (3) metres in distance from the side lines and five (5) metres from the goal lines
- (c) Goalposts, goal nets and corner flags of approved material, colour and dimensions as per the current Laws of the Game. Corner flags must not feature nationalistic emblems or reference
- (d) Two coaches / substitutes benches / dugouts, with adequate seating for 8 people

3.1.18 *Players' and Match Officials' Amenities*

- (a) Two players' and one Match Official's lockable dressing rooms, with exclusive access to:
 - (i) A shower area, floors and walls to 1.2 metres, finished in impervious material, providing hot and cold showers
 - (ii) The designated Player's dressing rooms, with a tiled and / or stainless steel shower area
 - (iii) Toilet facilities.
- (b) All Premier League clubs have available at all home fixtures a designated First Aid Officer. The name of the First Aid Officer / Organisation in attendance must be recorded on the Match Card in the appropriate position. The provision of first aid can be achieved by the following means: qualified person with a first aid certificate or higher qualification, a Medical Practitioner at the ground or having a member of the St John's Ambulance Service (or equivalent) in attendance at matches.
- (c) All changing room structures must be permanent buildings
- (d) No access is permitted to the Match Officials change rooms unless authorised by the Match Official
- (e) A working mobile phone must be made available by both teams to the match referee if required

3.1.19 *Spectator Amenities*

- (a) Spectator amenities shall be fully enclosed with perimeter fencing, at least 1.8 metres high
- (b) At least one toilet block for male and female patrons situated not more than 50 metres from the playing field
- (c) A canteen / kiosk serving hot and cold drinks and snack foods compliant with all health and council regulations

- (d) Disabled toilet access (where installed)

3.1.20 *Other*

- (a) A media viewing area/room, providing unobstructed views of the playing arena and scoreboard (where installed)
- (b) A fully functional Public Address system that is audible to all parts of the venue, including social areas (where installed)
- (c) External signboard, displaying the names of teams playing (where installed)

Women's State League and Masters Competitions – Requirements (wherever possible)

3.1.21 *Playing Arena*

- (a) The pitch markings wherever possible must fall between the following range:
 - (i) minimum length of 90.
 - (ii) minimum width of 55 metres.WLM can approve pitch markings which do not conform.
- (b) The field of play must be rectangular. The pitch shall be an evenly grassed surface, all internal field markings must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game
- (c) A permanent fence (where erected) around the pitch meshed to the ground, with a minimum height of 1.1 metres, and at minimum 3 metres in distance from the side lines and goal lines
- (d) Goalposts, goal nets and corner flags of approved material, colour and dimensions as per the current Laws of the Game. Corner flags must not feature nationalistic emblems or reference
- (e) Two coaches / substitutes benches/dugouts (where applicable), with adequate seating for 8 people

3.1.22 *Players' and Match Officials' Amenities*

- (a) Access to toilet facilities and change rooms (where erected)
- (b) Basic first aid equipment.
- (c) All changing room structures must be permanent buildings.

3.2 Technical Area

- 3.2.1 Each Club must clearly mark out the Technical Area as stipulated by FIFA guidelines (Premier League & Finals only).
- 3.2.2
- (a) A maximum of eight (8) persons are permitted to be within the Technical Area. Seating shall be supplied by the home team in sufficient quantity
 - (b) This can only include the coach and assistant coach, the team manager, the substitutes and either a doctor or physiotherapist
 - (c) All persons must remain seated within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances. For example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the Match Official's permission, to assess an injured Player

3.3 Match Cards

- 3.3.1 The home Club shall be responsible for the provision of Match Cards. Failure to comply with this regulation on the part of the Home Club shall attract a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.
- 3.3.2 The Match Card must be completed in ink, in a legible manner by both teams (home team responsibility to supply and usually completes first):
- (a) Clubs must list in the Match Card all Players taking part in a fixture (Name, shirt number, FFA number) maximum of 16 Players, Club Match Officials and full match details and must produce to the Match Official a Match Card, not less than 15 minutes before the commencement of any Match
 - (b) A Player listed on the Match Card will be deemed to have participated in the fixture. If a Player is listed on the Match Card and did not take part in the fixture, the Match Official or the Team Manager is to mark "DNP" on the match card
 - (c) If:
 - (i) a Player listed on the Match Card is ineligible
 - (ii) a Player who takes the field is not listed on the Match Card or is ineligible then that Player's Club will be guilty of Misconduct
- 3.3.3 (a) Where a Club suspects any abnormality or breach of CF Regulations or where an opposing Club is unable to produce proof of identification they shall advise the Match Official and the opposing Club of their intention to report the matter to CF. The Match Official or the Club must note the details on the Match Card. The Club must submit a written report to CF within 72 hours following the match. Any Club who fails to produce

player proof of identification upon request shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules

(b) Any Club that wishes to lodge an official protest must do so in accordance with CFDDR

3.3.4 Both teams must ensure the Match Official completes a Match Card after the game:

(a) Representatives from each team must sign the Match Card at the conclusion of the fixture and should do so only after the appointed Match Official has recorded all outstanding details

(b) Once signed by all parties at the conclusion of the fixture, each Club must take their copy of the Match Card

3.3.5 Where a Club causes a match to be delayed due to incorrect completion of a Match Card, late production of a Match Card, Player identification or similar administrative matters, the delay shall be reported by the Match Official to CF. The Club responsible shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

3.3.6 Under no circumstances shall two (2) Players playing in the same team at the same time be permitted to have the same shirt number.

3.3.7 All Match Cards (including any Send Off or Incident Reports) must be sent by the Match Official to the Registered Office of CF to arrive by 9am on the second (2nd) day or by 9am the first (1st) working day (whichever is the latter) following the fixture (Premier League fixture Match Cards must arrive one (1) working day following the fixture). The Home club is responsible for the delivery of the original Match Card when the match does not have an appointed Match Official. It is to be delivered to CF within two (2) working days. Failure to submit the Match Card within seven (7) days from the completion of the match by the home team will result in a 3-0 win recorded to the away team and shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

3.3.8 When a match is forfeited the Match Card shall be endorsed accordingly by the Match Official.

3.3.9 Any Club Associate supplying false information shall be deemed to have been guilty of Misconduct and dealt with under CFDDR.

3.3.10 Players listed in the first eleven (11) spaces of the Match Card shall be deemed to have started in that match, unless otherwise indicated in the Match Card.

3.3.11 Failure by teams to complete a Match Card in accordance with these rules shall attract a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules for each irregularity on any match card.

3.4 Player Numbers – Substitution / Interchange

3.4.1 Players

A Match is to be played by two (2) teams, each consisting of not more than eleven (11) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven (7) players.

3.4.2 For the subsequent fixtures the substitution regulations apply and the following maximum substitute numbers apply:

- Premier League Up to three (3) substitutes are allowed
- Premier League Reserves Up to four (4) substitutes are allowed

3.4.3 For all other Divisions (including the Premier League Under 18s) the interchange rule applies and a maximum of five (5) players can be included on the Match Card for this purpose. There is no limit to the number of interchanges. Substitutions and interchanges are only permitted at the half way line and when the referee has indicated that a change can be made. If the Match Official deems that a Club is contravening the spirit of the game by interchanging excessively to waste time the Match Official can refuse to allow an interchange and caution the offending team if appropriate.

3.4.4 All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area.

3.4.5 Substitutes may warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing an alternative coloured uniform to the team strip.

3.4.6 When warming up, substitutes must choose an area furthest from the opposing team or as advised by the appointed Match Official.

3.4.7 Any club who makes more substitutions than allowed under section 3.4 will forfeit the match resulting in a 3-0 score.

3.5 Club Match Officials / Security / Police

3.5.1 (a) Premier League Clubs must provide a minimum of two (2) Club Match Officials to each fixture

(b) All other Divisions including must provide a minimum of one (1) Club Match Official to each fixture where there is more than two (2) spectators

(c) Where Clubs from one competition may play Clubs from another competition the number of Club Match Officials required from both Clubs shall be the number required by the Club of the higher competition

3.5.2 Club Match Officials must:

(a) be in clearly identifiable Officials vests

- (b) be visible at all times
- (c) work together with Club Match Officials from the opposition Club to deal with any disturbances that may arise, assist with the welfare of the Match Referees, escort dismissed Players from the playing area
- (d) be responsible for the welfare of the officiating Match Referees from the time they arrive at the ground until the time they depart the ground. As part of their responsibilities they must escort the Match Official and Assistant Match Officials to and from the field of play at half time and full time
- (e) report to the Match Referee fifteen (15) minutes prior to kick off time of the matches. Failure by teams to observe this clause shall attract a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules

3.5.3 Match Referees should not leave their dressing rooms to enter the field of play, or leave the field to return to their rooms, until identifiable Club Match Officials are present.

3.5.4 Club Match Officials will be responsible for making sure unauthorised personnel are kept out of the Match Referees' change rooms.

3.5.5 Each team is responsible for the safety of their players' property. Anything left in a change room is done so at the owner's risk.

3.5.6 CF may increase the minimum Club Match Officials arrangements for any fixture at any time. All associated costs must be met by such parties as CF sees fit.

3.5.7 A failure by a Club Associate to comply with rule 3.5 shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

3.6 Match Balls

3.6.1 Premier League: The home Club shall provide the appointed Match Official with three (3) match balls (CF approved) no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the scheduled fixture. For all other Divisions, each team (Home and Away) will supply one CF approved match ball.

3.6.2 At the conclusion of the game, the match balls will be returned to the relevant Club by the Match Officials

3.6.3 All Clubs must use a licensed match ball from one of CF's licensed ball manufacturers as advised by CF from time to time.

3.6.4 Any breach of the match ball licensing arrangements must be reported to CF by the Match Official.

3.6.5 A failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

3.7 *Players Strip / Apparel*

3.7.1 *Clothing and Protective Gear*

- (a) All teams must nominate a “Home” and “Alternate” playing strip. Clubs may only play in their registered club strip
- (b) Teams must provide two (2) entirely different strips to avoid any potential colour clashes on match day.
- (c) Predominantly black playing shirts (including goalkeepers) will not be permitted under any circumstances
- (d) All teams named first on the CF fixture shall be deemed the Home Team and will therefore play in their home strip excluding Weston Creek
- (e) If there is a clash of colours at any match, it is the visiting Clubs 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. In the event of a Club fielding a team in colours 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, the Match Official may order that the visiting Club change its colours and refuse to allow the fixture to commence until a satisfactory change is made. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women’s League Competition Rules.
- (f) Team Managers must check the apparel worn by their opponents on a weekly basis to avoid the likelihood of a clash in colour of playing of strips.
- (g) A Club may be penalised pursuant to the CFDDR if:
 - (i) a Match does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that such Club or team did not comply with rule 3.7.1 (e)
 - (ii) a Club changes their home or alternate playing strip without CF’s prior written approval, and this change results in a match being postponed
- (h) Goalkeepers may wear any colour except black, provided it does not clash with either team or the Match Official. Any failure to do so must be reported to CF by the Match Official and an offending Club may be fined at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Women’s League Competition Rules
- (i) All Players are required to wear shin guards (provide adequate protection) at all times whilst on the field of play

3.7.2 *Jewellery / Eyewear*

- (a) FIFA 'Laws of the Game' state that Players are forbidden to wear any equipment that may be dangerous to either the Player herself, or to another Player. This includes, but is not limited to, jewellery and spectacles
- (b) All jewellery, including wedding bands and any studs, rings, bars or other body-piercing jewellery must be removed before a Player enters the field of play. No taping of any type is permitted
- (c) Any Player wearing jewellery will be cautioned and removed from the field of play until the Match Official is satisfied that the Player has removed the item in question. There are no exceptions to this rule
- (d) Any Player requiring vision correction should consider wearing contact lenses, or wear spectacles that:
 - (i) are firmly secured with a sports band or adjustable strap
 - (ii) have purpose-designed and closely fitted curled ends on the arms
 - (iii) are specially designed protective sports glasses constructed of plastic with rubberised cushioning and no metallic parts

3.8 ***Stretchers / First Aid***

- 3.8.1 It is recommended that each home Club must allocate one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all fixtures
- 3.8.2 Each Club must ensure that stretchers are placed at the half way line prior to the commencement of each fixture and that they remain inside the barrier / fence, in a safe and accessible position to first aid staff, for the duration of the match.
- 3.8.3 Wooden or canvas stretchers are prohibited. Clubs must ensure their stretchers comply with current Australian Standards.
- 3.8.4 It is recommended that Clubs have a person trained in first aid present during all matches (mandatory Premier League).

3.9. ***Results of Matches***

- 3.9.1 Subject to this rule results of each match may be communicated to CF by any of the following methods:

Telephone: (02) 6175 7110
Facsimile: (02) 6260 4999
Email: womensleague@capitalfootball.com.au
On-line: www.sportingpulse.com

3.9.2 Clubs which fail to notify CF of the results of any match by the time stipulated may be fined at the level of BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and may be further penalised under the CFDDR.

3.9.3 *Premier League*

Both Clubs must ensure that the match results are communicated to CF as directed no later than 60 minutes after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day:

- (i) Match results for all Divisions
- (ii) Premier League only (goal scorers, time of goals scored)
- (iii) Results should be directed to the CF Media Officer mobile (supplied separately to the Premier League clubs) and / or media@capitalfootball.com.au
- (iv) The Match Official must provide the completed Match Card to CF by close of business one working day after the completion of the match
- (v) Both Clubs are required to enter the match records (as directed by CF) to the on-line results system no later than 90 minutes after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day

3.9.4 *State League & Masters League*

- (a) The Match Official must provide the completed Match Card to CF by close of business two (2) working days after the completion of the match
- (b) Both Clubs are required to enter the match records (as directed by CF) to the on-line results system no later than 180 minutes after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day

3.9.5 If no Match Official is appointed or present then the home team must communicate match results to CF (all competitions)

3.10 **Correspondence / Communication**

3.10.1 All correspondence by CF to Clubs shall be deemed to have been received by Clubs:

- (a) in the case of email or fax communication immediately
- (b) in the case of communication sent by mail two (2) days after such communication was posted

3.10.2 Clubs must ensure that postal mailboxes, specified email accounts and the CF Website is checked regularly, and that any information received is forwarded to the addressee or relevant parties.

3.10.3 All correspondence received by CF from Clubs must be on Club letterhead and signed by a Club Official, or if sent by email, from the Club's email address as registered with CF.

3.10.4 All Clubs must have a designated active email address.

3.11 Smoking / Drinking At League Venues

- 3.11.1 It is prohibited for anyone to smoke or consume alcohol within the confines of the playing and spectator area. This includes the team bench within the Technical area and anywhere on or within 5 metres of the touchline.
- 3.11.2 The Club must obtain a license as required under the Liquor Licensing Act to sell alcohol and abide by those conditions as set out in the Liquor Licensing Act. Clubs are not permitted to sell drinks in glass containers. Failure to comply with this clause will render a fine at the level of BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and may be further penalised under the CFDDR.
- 3.11.3 Clubs are responsible for ensuring that smoking and drinking alcohol are confined to legitimate public areas (which includes non smoking in permanent seating) at a distance no less than 5 metres from the playing field.
- 3.11.4 If any person is in breach of this rule, both the individual and if the person is a Club Associate, that person's Club, may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and face disciplinary action under the CFDDR.

4. FIXTURE DETAILS

4.1 *Duration of Matches*

4.1.1 *Periods of play*

- (a) Premier League fixtures will be played over two (2) equal periods of 45 minutes
- (b) All other fixtures will be played over two (2) equal periods of 40 minutes
- (c) The Match Official may cut short any Match if in the Match Official's opinion playing conditions compromise player safety or otherwise only if:
 - (i) it is in line with FIFA rules
 - (ii) he or she has consulted with the coaches of each participating team

4.1.2 *Half time interval*

The half-time interval must be a minimum of five (5) minutes and no longer than fifteen (15) minutes in duration. The duration of the half-time interval may only be altered with the consent of the Match Official.

4.1.3 *Allowance for time lost*

- (a) Allowance is made in either half for all time lost through:
 - (i) substitution(s)
 - (ii) assessment of injury to Players
 - (iii) removal of injured Players from the field of play for treatment
 - (iv) wasting time
 - (v) any other cause
- (b) The allowance for time lost is at the discretion of the Match Official

4.1.4 *Match Commencement*

- (a) Matches will commence at the appointed time, or in the event of a match whose commencement is dependent upon the completion of the previous match, within ten (10) minutes of the conclusion of the previous match
- (b) Kick off times of all official matches shall be as determined by the WLM and shall be detailed in the Official Fixture List
- (c) If a team fails to enter the field of play, or has insufficient Players for the match to proceed, after fifteen (15) minutes of the programmed starting time, the referee shall inform both teams that the game has been called off, and notify Capital Football Office in writing

- (d) Failure to commence a fixture at the set times will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules
- (e) CF may schedule matches from 9:00am for any daytime fixture which may include Saturday, Sunday or any Public Holiday

4.2 Abandoned Matches

- 4.2.1 Matches in any cup or league fixture may only be abandoned by a decision of the Match Official. The WLM shall also have the power to abandon any CF fixture or competition.
- 4.2.2 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 CF.
- 4.2.3 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 at a time to be determined by CF.
- 4.2.4 The Match will be abandoned if:
 - (a) any Club has its playing numbers reduced for any reason below the minimum FIFA requirement of seven (7) 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 Official, in consultation with security staff and ground officials, determines that the conditions for Players, coaches, Match Officials or supporters have become unsafe or untenable for any reason
- 4.2.5 If a match is abandoned due to a matter set out in rule 4.2.4 and CF 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

- 4.2.6 Further any Club Associate responsible for the abandonment of a game will be fined at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and may be guilty of Misconduct and may be subject to further penalties under the CFDDR.
- 4.2.7 Home teams at non ACT Government owned grounds where practical shall inform visiting teams if their ground is closed. If the grounds are closed by Friday by ACT Sportsgrounds, then the CF Office shall notify the radio stations and the referees of the cancellation of those Women's League games.
- 4.2.8 In the event of all games in the Women's League round being cancelled, they shall be replayed on the first available wet weather allowance weekend. If however no wet weather allowance weekends are available and an alternative date for these games cannot be supplied by either the Clubs or the WLM / WSAC, no points shall be awarded to any team and the games will not be replayed.
- 4.2.9 In the event of some games being played and others not when the WLM has not cancelled the games and ACT Sportsgrounds has not closed the grounds (or the game(s) are at grounds not under the control of ACT Sportsgrounds), the results for the played matches shall stand and the un-played games shall be played on the first available wet weather allowance weekend. If no wet weather allowance is available it is up to the clubs involved to organise a new venue, date and time for the un-played match in accordance with this rule and in consultation with the WLM. It should be remembered that all Women's League games need the approval of the WLM. If none of the possible options are taken up the game will be classed as a no result and neither team will be awarded points.
- 4.3 *Postponed Matches***
- 4.3.1 Matches may only be postponed by the Match Official or by the WLM or CEO or a designated officer of CF.
- 4.3.2 If a Match is postponed, the home Club must notify the CF by the next working day after the scheduled match day.
- 4.3.3 Clubs shall be given fourteen (14) days to confirm a new date, time and venue for the match to be replayed from the date of the postponement and the match must be played prior to the final round of the regular season. If Clubs cannot reach an agreement CF will determine the new time and date for playing of a postponed match. Such decision is not open to appeal or review. Clubs are obliged to fulfill outstanding fixtures as determined by CF and any Club which fails to do so will automatically forfeit the match and may face action under the CFDDR. Any Club failing to set a postponed fixture in accordance with this rule will result in a fine at level BR3 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.
- 4.3.4 Any fixture ordered by CF to be replayed must be completed by no later than one (1) week before the conclusion of the relevant season. CF may record the result of any match not completed within this time frame as a 'no-result'.

4.3.5 Only Officers of CF are permitted to approve the schedule or reschedule any fixture. Any Club Associate or Club found guilty of rearranging a league fixture, or requesting the appointment of Match Officials outside a set kick-off time or date, will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules and may be subject to further penalties under the CFDDR.

4.3.6 In addition to the above, CF may record the final score of any such Match as a 'no result'.

4.4 Forfeits / Walk offs

4.4.1 Any Club that, without just cause, fails to fulfill an engagement to play the fixture/s or any of them on the appointed date, time or venue/s shall for each and every offence forfeit that fixture/s. The offending Club shall also be liable for any reasonable expenses incurred by its opponents relative to that fixture or fixtures. The offending Club may then be dealt with by the WLM or Disciplinary Committee.

4.4.2 Matches shall start within fifteen (15) minutes of the stipulated starting time. Any team that refuses to begin a match after this period shall have forfeited the match. When a match starts later than the stipulated time, short time shall be played. Two (2) equal halves shall be played at all times.

4.4.3 Teams must field at least seven (7) of its registered Players at the start of any match. If a team fails to enter the field of play or has insufficient Players for the match to proceed after fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled starting time the referee shall inform team officials present that the game has been called off. Failure to do so shall result in the offending team forfeiting the match.

4.4.4 In the event of any team forfeiting its match the following procedure shall take effect:

(a) Full points allocated for the match shall be forfeited to its opponents and the goals recorded according to three (3) goals scored by the team getting the points to nil (0) by the team who has infringed the regulation

(b) Clubs who advise CF in writing at least five (5) working days notice that they will forfeiting a match will be fined at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

(c) Clubs who fail to provide sufficient notice as set out in 4.4.5.b will be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.; pay all appropriate Match Officials fees, ground hire costs and pay compensation to opposing Club as determined by the WLM

(d) Teams forfeiting on three (3) occasions without a satisfactory explanation shall be removed from the competition and may lose affiliation to Capital Football.

4.4.5 In the event of a walk-off by one Club prior to the completion of a match, the team will be considered to have forfeited the match, and the Club shall be liable to additional penalties and / or sanctions as the WLM / WSAC sees fit.

4.5 Extreme Weather Conditions

- 4.5.1 CF and / or the Match Official may postpone, delay or abandon any fixture due to extreme weather conditions that may endanger participants such as but not limited to excessive heat / humidity or poor weather.
- 4.5.2 If the Match Official postpones delays or abandons any fixture due to extreme weather conditions, he or she must outline the reasons in writing within 48 hours of the conclusion of the fixture.
- 4.5.3 If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles must be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any Player to take a drink during the course of the game. If conditions are considered extreme by the Match Official, he or she may allow a 2 minute break during the course of each half.

4.6 Restrictions on Ground Usage

- 4.6.1 CF may take whatever action is deemed necessary if a fixture or fixtures are affected by restrictions to the usage of grounds.

4.7 Match Points

- 4.7.1 In all competition fixtures, Match points will be awarded as follows:

WIN	-	Three (3) Points
DRAW	-	One (1) Point
LOSS	-	Nil (0) Points
NO RESULT	-	Nil (0) Points for either team
BYE	-	Nil (0) Points
FORFEIT	-	Three (3) points per regulations

- 4.7.2 CF may record any fixture as a 'no result'.

- 4.7.3 (a) At the end of the season, all teams will be ranked from highest to lowest by virtue of the total number of points received
- (b) If one or more teams finish the season on the same number of points, their final position will be determined as follows:
- (i) The team with the greatest Goal Difference will finish higher
 - (ii) if Goal Difference is the same, then the team that has scored the most Goals FOR will be deemed to have finished higher
 - (iii) if Goal Difference is the same and Goals FOR is the same, then the final order will be determined by the results of matches played between the teams
 - (iv) if the aggregate scores between the teams are the same, then away goals will count as double

- (c) If one or more teams have the identical number of points, Goal Difference, Goals Scored & Conceded, and the results between the teams is the same, then those teams will be deemed to have tied.

4.8 Non - Participation in CF Fixture

- 4.8.1 Clubs are obliged to participate in fixtures as determined by the CF. Any Club which fails to do so will be penalised as follows and may also be subject to further sanction under the CFDDR:
 - (i) the match will be awarded to the opposing team (as a 3-0 result)
 - (ii) a fine at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules
 - (iii) if both teams refuse to play, CF may award a 'no result'

4.9 Change of Fixture Requests

- 4.9.1 Change of venues will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Any application for a change of venue must be submitted to CF, on Club letterhead and signed by a Club official, no less than five (5) working days prior to the Match. CF will then consider the application and notify both Clubs of its decision.
- 4.9.2 Clubs requesting a fixture change must submit such a request to CF and the opposing Club on Club letterhead and signed by the appropriate Club Officer, fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the match for consideration. The request must be supported by the opposing Club. Where CF grants such a postponement the match shall be played within the rules governing postponed fixtures. Each team can only postpone three (3) fixtures per season unless the WLM grants effected Club special permission due to exceptional circumstances.
- 4.9.3 Should an opposing Club be unable to recoup expenses resulting from a deferral, the WLM / WSAC shall determine the amount of compensation to be paid. Such compensation shall be the responsibility of the Club granted the deferral. Clubs will not be eligible to claim compensation for lost income or expenses for reusable items.
- 4.9.4 If the request is judged by CF to be frivolous (e.g. weddings, baptisms, confirmations or other social events) CF may reject that request without further consideration.
- 4.9.5 Premier League Clubs requesting the rescheduling of a match or fixture will have the matter referred to the WSAC for determination. The WSAC will take into consideration details of the request and the ongoing effect it may have on the PL competition and any effect a reschedule will have on the PL fixtures. Only where the WSAC considers the circumstances to be exceptional will matches or fixtures be rescheduled.
- 4.9.6 CF's decision in regards to rescheduling of league fixtures will be final and binding on all parties and shall not be appealable.

4.10 *Admittance to Fixtures*

- 4.10.1 In all cases where the costs of running the fixture are being met by CF, all gate takings shall be retained by CF.
- 4.10.2 Clubs shall be permitted to engage in the sale of season tickets for home fixtures to their supporters. Season tickets shall be only used for the home Premiership matches of the Club by whom such tickets were distributed.

4.11 *Media and Other Passes*

- 4.11.1 CF may withdraw a CF Media Pass at any time.
- 4.11.2 No Club may refuse entry to a holder of:
 - (i) a current CF or FFA Media Pass
 - (ii) a current CF Special Pass
 - (iii) a current FFA Gold Passwithout CF's prior written consent.
- 4.11.3 CF Special Passes are not valid for entry to non-CF sanctioned tournaments or fixtures.
- 4.11.4 CF may request team lists from clubs participating in the Finals series.
- 4.11.5 Any Club who fails to abide by Clause 4.10 & 4.11 will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

5. FINALS SERIES

5.1 *FIFA Laws of the Game*

- 5.1.1 All matches under the jurisdiction of Capital Football will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 5.1.2 The competition rules outlined below are in addition to those stipulated in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 5.1.3 A copy of the FIFA Laws of the Game can be found on the FIFA website at www.fifa.com and a copy of the Women's Competition Rules can be found at www.capitalfootball.com.au.

5.2 *Finals Competition Format*

- 5.2.1 The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the season will progress to the Finals Series. The Finals Series format will be released by CF prior to the commencement of the series.
- 5.2.2 The semi finals series format will consist of the top four (4) teams playing one round of 1v4 and 2v3 with the winners progressing into the final.
- 5.2.3 Host venues will be determined at the absolute discretion of CF during the course of the season.
- 5.2.4 If any Finals Series fixture is postponed, abandoned or cancelled, that fixture will be scheduled at an alternative day and alternative venue to be determined at the absolute discretion of CF.

5.3 *Procedures to Determine the Winner of Matches in the Finals Series*

- 5.3.1 All matches played in the Finals Series will be played over one leg.
- 5.3.2 If at the conclusion of any final, the scores between two (2) teams are tied, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of ten (10) minutes will be played (All Premier League fixtures will play two (2) equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes). The conditions of FIFA Law 8 will apply.
- 5.3.3 If scores are equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game, to determine the winner of the match.
- 5.3.4 The winner of the Grand Final shall be deemed the Finals Series winner for their Division and Grade.

5.4 Substitution / Interchange Rules

- 5.4.1 For all matches played during the Finals Series, the substitution and interchange regulation 3.4 applies.
- 5.4.2 The maximum number of substitutes applies throughout the complete match (including extra time). The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the Match Card as directed above.
- 5.4.3 Teams wishing to make a substitution shall inform the 4th Match Official (if appointed) of the Players involved in the substitution.

5.5 Technical Area

- 5.5.1 For all matches played during the Finals Series, a maximum of eight (8) persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area of each Club during any fixture. This includes the five (5) named substitutes and up to three (3) registered Team Officials.
- 5.5.2 Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player or a registered Team Official.
- 5.5.3 Registered Players seated in the Technical Area must be clearly identifiable.
- 5.5.4 A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.

5.6 Discipline

- 5.6.1 Any Player who accumulates two (2) yellow cards in the Finals Series will be suspended from their Club's next scheduled fixture.
- 5.6.2 If a Player receives a red card in the Finals Series, their Club will be notified of the Player's suspension in writing within the terms of the Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations.

5.7 Trophies

- 5.7.1 Perpetual Trophies awarded to Clubs are to be returned to the Capital Football Office by 31 August each year. This rule also includes pre-season competitions. Failure to return such trophies will be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

6. MATCH OFFICIALS

6.1 *Match Officials Fees / Appointments*

- 6.1.1 The Match Official fees as set out in the CF website will apply but are subject to change at any time.
- 6.1.2 Unless otherwise stated, payment of all fees for Match Officials must be made by both teams. CF will invoice Clubs monthly after the completion of each fixture.
- 6.1.3 For all Premiership and Cup Finals or games, which are, in the opinion of the WLM / WSAC or the RSAC of special importance, the WLM has the right to challenge the appointment of Match Official by the RSAC. In such a case the appointment shall be subject to a vote taken by the WSAC.
- 6.1.4 The appointment of all Referees and Assistant Referees to officiate at CF fixtures shall be vested in the RSAC, who shall be authorised to enlist the assistance of such persons (Referees Appointments Officer) and adopt such procedures, as it shall deem most beneficial in the making of such appointments. The Evaluation Reports, as defined in the Competition Rules shall be used to assist the RSAC in determining the selection of referees.

6.2 *Assistant Match Officials*

- 6.2.1 A maximum of two (2) Assistant Match Officials shall be appointed to a fixture to assist the Match Official wherever possible.
- 6.2.2 If insufficient Assistant Match Officials have been appointed, each team must provide a linesperson to assist the Match Official. Failure to comply will result in a 3-0 loss to the offending team.

6.3 *Non-Attendance or unavailability of Match Official*

- 6.3.1 If the Match Official fails to honour his or her appointment, the next most senior Match Official ('Replacement') will take charge of the fixture (unless the referee is not qualified through age or ability to referee the fixture).
- 6.3.2 If the Match Official is late arriving at a fixture, the Replacement will take charge for the whole match.
- 6.3.3 If no registered Match Official is present to act as the Replacement, the home Club must arrange the appointment of a person to act as Match Official for the fixture. It is recommended that the Club appointed Match Official should have sat a referee's information course within the last three (3) years. A Club appointed Match Official will have the power to sanction Players in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

6.3.4 All Clubs must fulfill all fixtures, regardless of whether or not the Match Official is present to take charge. Failure to do so may result in a fine and other action under the CFDDR.

6.4 *Decisions of the Match Official*

6.4.1 The decisions of the Match Official or Assistant Match Official about any fact connected with the play are final and cannot be disputed by any party. A Match Official may change a decision if he or she realises that decision is incorrect, or on the advice of an Assistant Match Official, provided the play has not re-started.

6.5 *Duties of a Match Official*

6.5.1 Prior to the commencement of each match, the Match Official must complete a Pitch & Facility Inspection and then ensure that any abnormalities are reported to CF within two (2) working days.

6.5.2 A Match Official who has been appointed by CF to a match, shall without delay, report to CF any instance or instances of misconduct or foul play during the progress of the match which led to the dismissal of a Player or Players from the field of play. Any reports received by CF pursuant to this rule shall be dealt with by the WLM or referred by the WLM to the Disciplinary Committee, or WSAC. The Match Official shall also report any instance of misconduct irrespective of whether such misconduct occurred before, during or after such match, and whether it shall have lead to the player(s) being ordered from the field or not.

6.6 *Match Records*

6.6.1 At the conclusion of each match, the Match Official shall consult with his or her Assistant Match Officials and confirm the correctness of all Match information before completing any Match Records. Match Official must complete the following:

- Names of the Match Officials
- Result of match
- Substitutions (ON or Off) and names of goal scorers (times of goals for Premier League)
- Cautions and send offs and any other match related reports

6.6.2 Match results and reports must be submitted to CF by 9am on the second (2nd) day or by 9am on the first (1st) working day whichever is the latter (Premier League no later than one (1) working day) after the match date.

6.6.3 If a Club Official protests to the Match Official about the fielding of an ineligible Player, the Match Official must instruct the Club Official to lodge an official protest in accordance with the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulation.

6.6.4 The Match Official must ensure Clubs do not list more than 16 Players on a Match Card.

6.6.5 Subject to any protest the Match Records received from the Match Official will be accepted as the accurate and official record of a match.

6.7 *Player Safety and Blood Rule*

6.7.1 It is the Match Official's responsibility to ensure that all Players taking the field of play are wearing equipment that is safe to themselves and any other person.

6.7.2 If a Player is wearing any equipment which may endanger herself, or any other Player (see Rule 3.7) it is the Match Official's responsibility to ensure all such equipment is removed before the Player enters the field of play.

6.7.3 The Match Official must ensure that any Player who suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood leaves the ground immediately for the purpose of receiving medical attention outside the field of play.

6.7.4 The Match Official may allow the injured Player to rejoin the game only after the Match Official is satisfied that the wound has been safely covered and contained.

6.7.5 If a Player's uniform or attire has blood spilt on it, the Match Official may require the Player to change his or her attire before rejoining the game.

6.7.6 If the injured Player is required to change her uniform, and a shirt displaying the same number as the original shirt is unavailable, the Match Official may in his or her discretion allow the Player to wear an alternative numbered shirt.

6.7.7 Alternatively, in such circumstances, a team may replace the injured Player in accordance with any applicable interchange rule.

6.8 *Best and Fairest Votes*

6.8.1 At the conclusion of each Premier League match, the Match Official must complete the Best and Fairest Votes and, within two (2) working days submit these to CF. Votes must be recorded on the Match Card as per clause 2.5.

6.9 *Evaluation Reports*

6.9.1 All Women's League Clubs across all the Divisions will have the option to complete an Evaluation Report for each referee of their Club's matches - home and away. It is compulsory for Premier League, Premier League Reserves and Premier League 18's to complete a Referee Evaluation Report after every match. Each club that does not return any number of their reports in any one week will incur a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Women's League Competition Rules.

- 6.9.2 Evaluation Reports should be completed at least an hour after the completion of the fixture and should be delivered to CF no later than Wednesday after the completion of the fixture. All reports received by CF will be treated as strictly confidential between the person making the report, CF and members of the Referee's Technical Committee.
- 6.9.3 The prime function of the Evaluation Report shall be the recording of an evaluation into the performance of the referee or assistant referees.

7. REGISTRATION

The Registration Process is set out in the CF Registration Regulations

8. CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

The Australian Sports Commission has produced the following 'Codes of Behaviour', which have been adopted not only by football, but also by most sports in Australia. These codes are deemed to be incorporated into these Rules of Competition and are outlined below. There are also FFA and CF policies in place that must be abided by.

8.1 *General*

It is vital that everyone involved in sporting activities, whether they are athletes, coaches, parents, officials or supporters, understand their responsibilities to ensure that all participants enjoy the sport.

It is strongly recommended that all players, parents, officials, coaches and members be given a copy of these codes by their Club, and that each Club ensures the codes are clearly displayed in their clubrooms.

As well as reading and seeking to understand the instructions contained in the codes, CF asks all participants to recognise that there are underlying principles which extend beyond those specific instructions. No one must engage in violent acts, verbal abuse, offensive language or behaviour, or acts likely to incite others, including spectators, to engage in such behaviour, or any other conduct that is detrimental to the spirit or image of the game.

8.2 *Player Code of Conduct*

- Play by the Rules and in the spirit of fair play and abide by the Laws of the Game
- Do not argue abuse or address the Match Official
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport
- Maintain your focus and work hard for yourself and your team
- Be a good sport and be prepared to acknowledge good play whether it is from your team or the opposition

- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition
- Play for your own enjoyment, and not just to please parents and coaches
- Remove all jewellery prior to training and Match play, as it is a hazard to you and those around you
- Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s), including the consumption of alcohol at any time

8.3 Coach Code of Behaviour

- Be reasonable in your demands on younger players time, energy and enthusiasm
- Teach your players to abide by the rules and Laws of the Game
- Do not argue abuse or address the Match Official.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and is appropriate to the age and ability of the players
- Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and the decisions of the Match Official
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining the extent of a player's injury and beyond that, when players are returning from injury to training and Match play
- Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices (refer to Coach Accreditation Criteria)
- Remind all players to play within the spirit of the game at all times
- Ensure players are good sports and ensure each team member shakes the hand of their opponents at the conclusion of every Match
- Do not smoke or consume alcohol from the team bench (Technical Area) or sideline
- Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them

8.4 Administrator Code of Behaviour

- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and assist in raising the standards of coaching and officiating
- Ensure everyone involved in football emphasizes fair play, and not winning at all cost
- Be tolerant and calm under pressure and approach problem solving in a supportive manner as members and players will expect you to set an example for others
- Make every effort to educate persons who breach these guidelines from time to time

8.5 Match Official Code of Behaviour

- The match official's code of behaviour is detailed in the CF Referee's Handbook.

8.6 Spectator Code of Behaviour

- It is important that all spectators at a Capital Football (CF) approved fixture are able to enjoy the match in a safe and comfortable environment. Accordingly, each person present at a CF fixture must:
- Respect the decisions of the Match Officials
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their race, colour, religion, language, and political views, national or ethnic origin
- Not engage in the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other Spectators, Team Officials (including coaches) or Players
- Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form whether lawful or otherwise, including but not limited to the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting
- Comply with CF's 'Conditions of Entry', at all venues, and any ticketing conditions
- Not carry, light or throw flares or missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators)
- Not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority
- Conduct them self in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of CF, Football Federation Australia (FFA), and football generally

Any person who does not comply with this Code or who in the opinion of CF causes or attempts to cause or is reasonably likely to cause a disturbance may be evicted from the venue and banned from attending future matches held on behalf of CF, for a period of up to 2 years from when the eviction occurred. Any offender who then breaches the ban order against them may be charged with trespass and subject to further penalties and sanctions, including the possibility of further legal action.

Where CF receives a complaint from a member of CF or a club (no later than 72 hours following the match) concerning the conduct of a registered member with CF and such conduct was not subject of a report to CF by the Match Official the WLM may call on the member to answer a charge that the conduct complained of constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial interests, welfare or image of CF or the Game.

SCHEDULE 1 FEES AND FINES

A. FINES FOR WOMEN'S LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

NOTES

- **PENALTY UNIT** – 1 Penalty Unit shall be **\$25.00**
- Unless otherwise specified in this Regulation CF may impose a Fine for Misconduct for such amount as it sees fit.

In the case of breaches of the Rules of Competition these fines are in addition to any penalties or consequences set out in the relevant Rules of Competition, the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations or which are imposed as a consequence of any other charges which may arise from a breach of the Rules of Competition

PART 1. BREACHES OF RULES OF COMPETITION

Offence Code	Penalty Units <i>First Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i>	Penalty Units <i>Second Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i>	Penalty Units <i>Third or subsequent Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i>
BR 1	1	2	4
BR 2	2	4	8
BR 3	3	6	12
BR 4	4	8	16
BR 5	6	12	20
BR 6	12	24*	48*
BR 7	20	40*	80*

*Plus in addition to the penalties set out above CF may deduct 3 championship points from the Relevant Team