

DUBBO & DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC

2023-2024 : 7-A-SIDE COMPETITION RULES

1. REGISTRATION

- a. All players must be registered with an affiliated club of the Dubbo & District Football Association Inc through the PlayFootball club system.
- b. All players must hold an Active status in PlayFootball and registration invoices paid before taking the field.
 - i. Players who take the field with an open invoice, or Pending status will be classed as an ineligible player.
 - ii. All players must have an acceptable Passport style photo uploaded on PlayFootball. No Sunglasses, No Hats. Photo must clearly show person's face.
- c. Junior female players must have turned fourteen (14) years of age to be registered in the Womens or Mixed
- d. Junior male players must have turned sixteen (16) years of age to be registered in the Mens or Mixed Competition
- e. Junior players aged 18 years and younger must have obtained Player Assessment and returned a completed Consent Form.
 - i. Junior players are not to take the field until this has been received and return confirmation from DDFA has been advised, fines will apply.
- f. Players wishing to play in Over 35s must have turned thirty-five (35) before commencement of the first scheduled match of the summer season.
- g. A player may only play in the team in the competition they are nominated for, and are not permitted to play up, down, or across teams within that competition.
- h. For a player to play in both Mixed and 1] Men's, 2] Women's, or, 3] O35s competition they must be registered within in the same club and pay a competition fee on top of the registration fee.
 - i. A player may only be registered in Mixed and one (1) other type of competition, ie. Mens and Mixed, but not Mens, Over 35s and Mixed.
 - ii. A player may not register to play in both Over 35s, and All Age Mens competition.
- i. A player may not play for more than one club.
- j. A player de-registering prior to 5pm on the Sunday before the first scheduled fixture of the competition will be eligible for a refund of funds.
- k. Any player registered in a team that is removed from competition will not be eligible for refund of funds and will not be eligible to play in another team.
- l. There will be no refund of registration fees once the competition has commenced.

2. NOMINATIONS

- a. All teams must fill out a nomination form with their club, listing the players they are nominating in their team and current club/division they play for.

- i. Nominations will only be accepted if team has registered through a club, no standalone teams are permitted.
 - ii. Nominations must be submitted through the club executive.
- b. This form must include the club's name, team name, shirt colour and competition they are nominating to play in.
- c. A team captain will be listed with their email address.

3. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

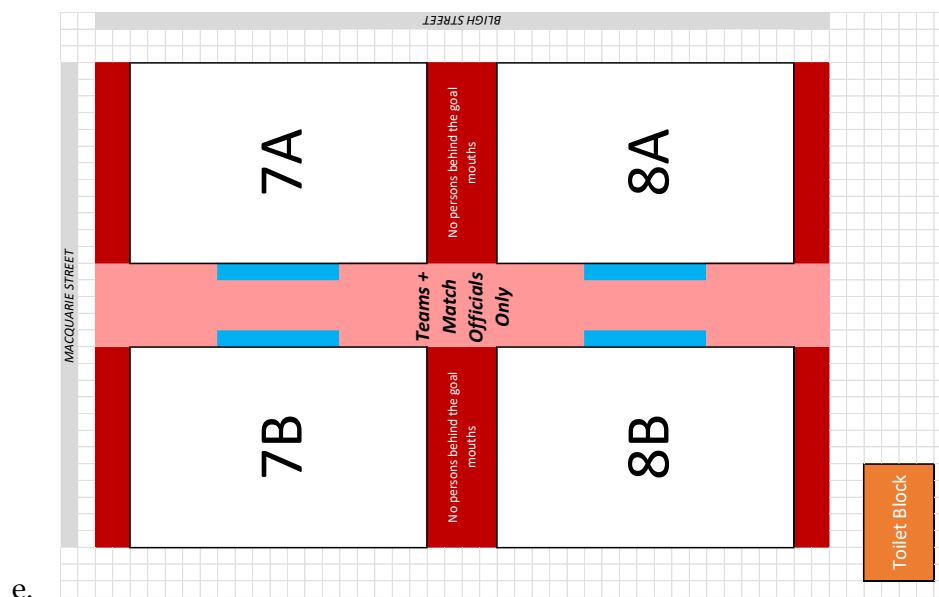
- a. A maximum of fourteen (14) players may be registered for each team.
- b. A maximum of eleven (11) players may be nominated on the match card, consisting of seven (7) field players including goalkeeper, and four (4) interchange players.
- c. A team shall consist of a minimum of four (4) players to take the field of play, one (1) of those players must be a goalkeeper. If a team cannot field four (4) players that team must forfeit the match.
- d. MIXED COMPETITION: there must always be more females on the field than males. For the avoidance of doubt a female may play as goalkeeper. Team makeup examples as follows;
 - i. Seven players – maximum three (3) male, four (4) female
 - ii. Six players – maximum two (2) male, four (4) female
 - iii. Five players – maximum two (2) male, three (3) female
 - iv. Four players – maximum one (1) male, three (3) female

4. INTERCHANGE

- a. A team may make unlimited interchanges during the match. These changes will be made at the halfway line, the player leaving the field must be over the sideline before a new player enters the field.
- b. Match officials are not required to authorise the interchange.
- c. Goalkeepers can only be changed during a stoppage of play and the referee must be notified.

5. FIELD OF PLAY

- a. The field of play will consist of two (2) goals with nets, two (2) goalkeeping areas, and four (4) corner flags.
- b. The area between the four fields will serve as the technical area, and only players listed on the match card, team officials, and match officials are permitted in that area.
- c. A breach of point b. may lead to suspension or abandonment of the match at the discretion of the referee, and in all circumstances must be reported by the referee to the Secretary of the DDFA.
- d. A club found to be liable for a breach of point b. above may be sanctioned at the discretion of the DDFA executive.



6. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- a. Players must not wear anything that is a danger to themselves or any other player, including the wearing of any jewellery, sunglasses, fitness watches, or hard brimmed hats.
- b. All players must wear footwear and shinguards which meet the requirements of the Laws of the Game.
- c. Teams must wear shirts of the same colour and design, each with a unique number that corresponds to the number written beside their name on the match card.
- d. Where clubs have more than one (1) team in any grade, an alternate coloured and numbered strip must be worn provided it does not clash with the opposing team.
- e. The goalkeeper may wear a bib over the top of their playing shirt if it is the same colour and design as their outfield players.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

a. FOUL PLAY

- i. Abusive & violent behaviours such as verbal or physical abuse towards Match Officials, Other Players & Spectators will not be tolerated. This also includes and is not limited to Melees.
- ii. Any player sent off for "Violent Conduct" towards others will be banned from the rest of the competition.
- iii. Players sent off cannot be replaced for the remainder of the match and must leave the vicinity immediately.

8. RESPECT FOR REFEREES

- a. Offences against match officials under Table B of the Schedule to the Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulation will be referred automatically to the Tribunal. The minimum suspension for all such offences committed in the competition is 3 months not including any non-footballing period between the end of the summer competition and the beginning of the winter competition.
- b. Teams from whom a player is sent off for such an offence are liable to expulsion from the competition, depending on the circumstances, at the discretion of the DDFA.

9. LIABILITY FOR SUPPORTER AND SPECTATOR CONDUCT

- a. A Club is responsible, and liable, for the conduct and behaviour of its supporters. Each patron at a Match must comply with the Spectator Code of Behaviour.

10. COMPETITION DRAW

- a. A full competition draw will be made available to each team via GameDay online.

11. DEFERRED GAMES

- a. There will be no deferral of games.

12. WASHOUTS/EXTREME HEAT

- a. There will be no rescheduling of matches if fields are washed out or deemed unsuitable for play.
- b. If a temperature of above 37 degrees Celsius is forecast for the scheduled kickoff time, games may be delayed for a period of time at the discretion of the DDFA. Such a decision will be made by midday on the day of play.
- c. If games are cancelled due to harsh weather an email and social media post will be sent to Clubs and Team Captains by 5pm that day.

13. MATCH CARDS

- a. It is the responsibility of the team listed as the HOME team to supply the match card, DDFA will supply the template for clubs to print their own match cards.
- b. Match cards must be completed in full and given to the match official no later than five (5) minutes before the scheduled kick off time.
- c. A grace period of ten (10) minutes from the scheduled kick off time will apply for a match card to be presented. If no match card is presented the match official will abandon the match, and a forfeit fee applied to the club who did not present the match card.
- d. All players participating in a match must have their full name neatly and clearly recorded in block letters with their shirt number recorded alongside their name in the space provided.
- e. The match official will not start the match until all details on the Match Card have been filled out correctly and legibly, including home and away team names, match date, kick off time and field, shirt numbers listed next to players names.

14. DURATION OF THE GAME

- a. All games will be forty (40) minutes, which will be played in two (2) equal twenty (20) minute halves.
- b. There will be a five (5) minute halftime turn around, where the teams will change ends.
- c. No stoppage time will be played.
- d. Should a kickoff be delayed, the halves will be shortened equally.

15. CORNER KICKS

- a. Corner kicks will not be taken for this competition. A ball exiting over the goal line by the defending team will result in the attacking team taking a throw-in from the corner flag.

16. GOAL KICKS

- a. Goal kicks will not be taken for this competition. Where the ball goes out over the goal line the goalkeeper will throw the ball from anywhere inside their goal area to restart play.
- b. After such a throw the ball must be touched by another player before the goalkeeper may touch it again.

17. SLIDE TACKLES

- a. Slide tackles are not permitted in this competition.

18. OFFSIDES

- a. There are no offsidess in this competition.

19. FREE KICKS

- a. All free kicks awarded will be indirect
- b. Players may only take a four (4) step run up to take the kick.

20. PENALTY KICKS

- a. A penalty kick will be taken from the top of the goalkeeping area
- b. Player may only take a two (2) step run up to take the kick.

21. GOALKEEPERS

- a. After handling a ball a goalkeeper may not kick the ball unless:
 - i. it has been placed (and not simply dropped) on the ground, or
 - ii. it has been touched by another player.
- b. Contravention of this section is punished by a penalty kick.

22. YELLOW CARDS

- a. Any player who receives a yellow card is to be removed from the field of play for five (5) minutes and, during that time, may not be replaced.
 - i. A player who is removed from the field of play under this section may not return without the permission of the referee.
 - ii. A player returning to the field of play after being removed under this section without the permission of the referee must be cautioned.
- b. Any player receiving three (3) yellow cards will be automatically suspended from that team's next match.
 - i. It is the responsibility of each club to keep a record of player's cards.
- c. Any player receiving a further two (2) yellow cards will be suspended for a further two (2) matches.
- d. A player who has received their 6th yellow card of the competition is guilty of misconduct and will be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

23. RED CARDS

- a. Any player sent from the field by the match official will be automatically suspended as per the adopted FNSW send-off guidelines, and must leave the Lady Cutler East complex immediately.
- b. Any team receiving two (2) or more red cards in one match, not including second cautions and denial of obvious goal-scoring opportunity offences, will be removed from the competition.
- c. Any team receiving three (3) red cards within the season, not including second cautions and denial of obvious goal-scoring opportunity offences, will be removed from the competition.

24. COMPETITION POINTS

Win	Three (3) Points
Draw	One (1) Point
Loss	Zero (0) Points
Bye	Zero (0) Points
Forfeit Given	Zero (0) Points, three (3) goals awarded to the opposition Match officials fees applicable
Forfeit Received	Three (3) Points + Three (3) goals awarded

25. FINALS SERIES

- a. There will be no finals series.

26. FINES

- a. FORFEIT – notify day of kick off \$50.00 + match officials fees
- b. FORFEIT – notify day/s prior to kick off \$50.00
- c. PLAYING AN UNREGISTERED PLAYER \$200.00 + 3-0 loss recorded
- d. PLAYING A SUSPENDED PLAYER \$200.00 + 3-0 loss recorded
- e. PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER \$200.00 + 3-0 loss recorded
- f. TEAM REMOVED FROM COMPETITION \$300.00
- g. TEAM WITHDRAWN AFTER COMPETITION STARTS \$100.00

27. MATCH OFFICIALS

- a. Each match will be appointed with one (1) match official, if available.
- b. If a qualified match official is not available
 - i. A player from a team not competing in the match may officiate the match.
 - ii. Teams may appoint a non-qualified match official.
 - iii. A team member from each side must officiate half the match each.
- c. Match official fees will be paid by the DDFA.

THE DECISIONS MADE BY THE DDFA AS COMPETITION ADMISTRATOR, AND THEIR SECRETARIES, IS FINAL AND CANNOT BE APPEALED.

APPENDICIS

Appendix i

Football Australia – Code of Conduct

<https://www.footballaustralia.com.au/sites/ffa/files/2021-04/FA%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20and%20Ethics%20%282021%29.pdf>

Appendix ii

Football Australia – Spectator Code of Conduct

<https://accorstadium.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2023/01/31/football-australia-spectator-code-of-behaviour.pdf>

Appendix iii

Football NSW – Hot Weather Policy

https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/FNSW_Hot_Weather_Policy-3.pdf

Appendix iv

What is an ineligible player?

An ineligible player is someone:

- a. Unfinancial to club or association.
- b. Serving a suspension.
- c. Playing under the name of someone else.
- d. Playing in a competition that is not the one they are registered to.