



2025 STATEWIDE RULES OF COMPETITION

VERSION CONTROL

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RULES OF COMPETITION (ROC) GENERAL

Football Queensland reserves the right to amend, change or alter these Competition Rules on an annual basis. In addition, Football Queensland reserves the right to amend, change or alter these Competition Rules should, in its opinion, is required during the season. The purpose of this is to ensure transparency, consistency, and best practice. The changing of the rules mid-season would only occur in extraordinary circumstances.

This document is specific to the following Statewide Competitions:

- i) FQPL 3 - 6 Men
- ii) FQPL 3 Women
- iii) FQPL (Regional)
- iv) Senior Community Competitive Divisional Leagues
- v) Football Queensland administered Masters Leagues
- vi) Junior Community Competitive Divisional Leagues, including any Girls Only competitions.
- vii) Junior Non-Competitive MiniRoos and U12 Leagues

Due to the large demographic variance and associated competition structures in each region there may be rule variations to maintain optimum viable football competitions. All rules will apply unless a rule is specifically labelled to a region(s). Regions will include:

- a) Regional (all regional areas listed below). Where the competition rules refer to "Regional" it will encompass all regions below otherwise individual regions will be listed if specific rules apply only to that region.
 - i) Far North and Gulf (Cairns)
 - ii) Gulf (Mt Isa)
 - iii) Northern (Townsville)
 - iv) Whitsunday Coast (Mackay)
 - v) Central Coast (Rockhampton, Capricorn Coast, Central Highlands, Biloela, Gladstone)
 - vi) Wide Bay (Bundaberg, Maryborough, Hervey Bay)
 - vii) Darling Downs (Toowoomba, Stanthorpe, South Burnett)
 - viii) Sunshine Coast (Sunshine Coast)
 - ix) South Coast (Gold Coast)
- b) Metro (Greater Metropolitan Brisbane region, both North and South of the River)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VERSION CONTROL	2
RULES OF COMPETITION (ROC) GENERAL	3
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
1 DEFINITIONS	7
2 COMPETITION REGULATIONS	11
2.1 COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS	11
2.2 MONIES OWING TO FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND BY A CLUB	11
2.3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE	12
2.3.1 All Competitions	12
2.3.2 All Senior Competitions Overview	12
2.3.3 FQPL Competitions	13
2.3.4 Community Competitive Competitions	13
2.3.5 Junior Competitions: Under 13 to Under 18	13
2.3.6 Junior Competitions: Under 13	14
2.3.7 Junior Competitions: Under 12	14
2.3.8 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos	14
2.3.9 Masters (Regional Competitions Only)	14
2.3.10 Additional Competitions	15
2.3.11 FQPL Promotion & Relegation	15
2.3.12 Promotion & Relegation Requests/Withdrawal	16
2.4 TEAM COMPOSITION	16
2.4.1 FQPL Overview	16
2.4.2 FQPL VISA PLAYER REQUIREMENTS	17
2.4.3 FQPL Visa Player Table	17
2.4.4 FQPL Player Rosters	17
2.4.5 FQPL Over/Underage Requirements	18
2.4.6 FQPL First Team of the Month/Season Player Votes	18
2.4.7 Community Men's and Women's Competitions	18
2.4.8 Junior Competitions: Under 14 to Under 18	18
2.4.9 Junior Competitions: Under 13	18
2.4.10 Junior Competitions: Under 12	19
2.4.11 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos	19
2.4.12 Team Composition Table	19
2.5 TEAM OFFICIALS	19
2.6 COMPETITION SCHEDULING	20
2.6.1 Senior Competitions	20
2.6.2 Junior Competitions: Under 13 to Under 18	21
2.6.3 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos and Under 12	22
2.6.4 Junior Fixture Scheduling Table	22
2.7 DURATION OF MATCHES	23
2.7.1 Duration of Matches Table	23
2.8 MATCH RESULTS	23
2.9 DETERMINING PLACINGS AFTER REGULAR SEASON	24
2.10 FINALS SERIES	24
2.10.1 Finals Series Format	24
2.10.2 Final Series Venues	25
2.10.3 Procedures to Determine Winner of Final Series Final Game	25
3 ALTERATIONS TO SEASON FIXTURES	26
3.1 WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON	26

3.2	ADDITION TO COMPETITION SEASON	26
3.3	POSTPONED MATCHES.....	26
3.3.1	<i>Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures Due to Representative Duties</i>	27
3.3.2	<i>Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures Due School Commitments (Junior Competitions Only)</i>	27
3.3.3	<i>Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures due to Exceptional Circumstances</i>	27
3.3.4	<i>Rescheduling Process of Postponed Matches Due to Severe Weather</i>	28
3.4	NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH (FORFEITS)	31
3.4.1	<i>Forfeit Fines and Penalties</i>	31
3.5	ABANDONED MATCHES.....	32
3.5.1	<i>Table 1: Outcomes of Abandoned Matches</i>	32
3.5.2	<i>Replay of Abandoned Matches</i>	32
3.5.3	<i>Outcomes of Abandoned Matches as a Direct Response of Actions by a Club</i>	32
4	PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY	34
4.1	PLAYER REGISTRATION	34
4.2	REGISTERED PARTICIPANT INSURANCE	34
4.3	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.....	34
4.4	GRADING OF PLAYERS: ALL COMPETITIONS	35
4.5	SENIOR COMPETITIONS: GRADING OF PLAYERS	36
4.6	SENIOR COMPETITIONS: BORROWING OF PLAYERS.....	36
4.6.1	<i>Senior Competitions: Borrowing of Senior Players in Regular Season</i>	36
4.6.2	<i>Senior Competitions: Borrowing of Junior Graded Players in Regular Season</i>	37
4.7	JUNIOR COMPETITIONS: GRADING OF PLAYERS	38
4.7.1	<i>Age Eligibility Table</i>	39
4.7.2	<i>Playing Below Designated Age Group Dispensation</i>	39
4.7.3	<i>Playing Above Designated Age Group Dispensation</i>	40
4.7.4	<i>Grading of Under-Age Players Team Restrictions</i>	40
4.8	JUNIOR COMPETITIONS: BORROWING OF PLAYERS	41
4.9	DISPENSATION WHEN RETURNING FROM LONG TERM INJURY.....	42
4.10	REGRAIDING OF PLAYERS	42
4.10.1	<i>Regrading of Senior Players in Senior Competitions [ALL regions]</i>	42
4.10.2	<i>Regrading of Junior Players in Junior/Senior Competitions [Metro only]</i>	42
4.10.3	<i>Regrading of Junior Players in Junior Competitions [Regional Competitions]</i>	43
4.11	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY BORROWING EXCEPTION	43
4.12	MINIROOS PLAYER ELIGIBILITY	43
4.13	FINALS ELIGIBILITY	44
4.14	PROTESTS (INELIGIBLE PLAYERS)	44
4.15	BREACHES IN PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PENALTIES & OUTCOMES.....	45
4.15.1	<i>Table of Penalties and Outcomes for Breaches in Player Eligibility</i>	45
4.15.2	<i>Overturning Match Results due to Breaches in Player Eligibility by one Team</i>	47
4.15.3	<i>Overturning Match Results due to Breaches in Player Eligibility by both Teams</i>	47
5	FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS	48
5.1	FACILITIES/GROUND CONDITIONS	48
5.2	THE TECHNICAL AREA	48
5.3	LIGHTING	49
5.4	MEDICAL	49
5.4.1	<i>Stretchers</i>	49
5.4.2	<i>Ambulance Access</i>	49
5.4.3	<i>Blood Ruling</i>	50
5.4.4	<i>Concussion Management</i>	50
5.4.5	<i>Heat Management Strategy</i>	50
5.5	WET WEATHER CANCELLATION PROCESS.....	50
5.5.1	<i>Wet Weather General</i>	50
5.5.2	<i>Mid-week & Friday Night Cancellations</i>	50

5.5.3	Saturday & Sunday Cancellations	51
5.5.4	MiniRoos and Under 12 Cancellations	51
5.6	GROUND OFFICIALS	51
5.6.1	Table of Ground Officials Required	52
5.7	MATCH BALLS	52
5.8	PLAYING STRIPS.....	53
5.8.1	Table of Permitted Clashes of Playing Strip	53
5.9	PLAYER EQUIPMENT.....	54
5.10	JEWELRY.....	54
5.11	ALCOHOL	54
5.12	SQUADI TEAM SHEETS	54
5.13	FIXTURE RESULTS.....	55
6	MATCH OFFICIALS	56
6.1	NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL.....	56
6.1.1	Non-attendance or unavailability of Match Officials in Senior Competitions	56
6.1.2	Non-attendance or unavailability of Match Officials in Junior Competitions	56
6.2	MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES	57
7	INTERPRETATIONS, DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES.....	58
8	APPENDIX: PLAYER MOVEMENT TABLES	58
8.1.1	Junior Player Movement Table (Divisions are based on the Metro 2024 competition and may be subject to change) 59	
8.1.2	Junior and Senior Player Movement Table.....	60
8.1.3	Junior Girls Only and Senior Women Player Movement Table.....	61

1 DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Match – A Competition Fixture which has failed to commence for any reason or has commenced but has been stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.

Age Group – The cohort of players defined by the year(s) they were born.

Away Club/Team – The Club/Team not playing the match at its home ground and/or appearing second on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

Been Listed – Refers to a player appearing on a Squadi Team Sheet.

Borrowed – Using a player in a game that ordinarily plays or is graded into another team e.g. An U13 Division 1 player being used by an U14 Division 1 team (in the same Club).

Cancelled Match – A match that has been deferred, postponed, abandoned, or suspended and is unable to be rescheduled before season end.

Club Assistant – An Assistant Match Official provided by a club for the fixture.

Club Official – Any person involved with the administration, management, or organisation of a club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, directors, representatives, and volunteers. All Key Personnel are Club Officials.

Club Match Official – A Match Official allocated to a match by a club when an FQ Match Official is not appointed who has the same authority and responsibility as an FQ appointed Match Official.

Club/s – A body or incorporated association that has been accepted for affiliation and admittance into Football Queensland's competitions.

Coach – Any person who is registered as a coach in Football Queensland's registration system, Squadi, and is tasked with directing a football team training and match performance.

Competitions – Any or all football divisions, age groups or matches administered by Football Queensland.

Competition Administrator – The staff members of the Football Queensland Competitions Department.

Competition Fixture – Any match that is scheduled and administered by Football Queensland.

Cup Match – Any knock-out cup match, organised and/or administered by Football Queensland or FA before, after or in conjunction with a Regular Season and includes but is not limited to the Queensland Cups.

Division – A particular grade or level of competition within Football Queensland.

FA (Football Australia) – Australia's governing football body.

Facilities Lighting Standards – refers to the [Football Queensland Facilities Lighting Standards Policy](#) as available through Football Queensland and adhering to the Australian Sports Lighting Standards.

Field of Play (FOP) – An enclosed pitch with the entire area within temporary or permanent perimeter fencing; or an open pitch with the entire area within three (3) metres of the boundary line of a football pitch.

FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) – The world governing body of Football.

Final – A competitive match played to determine the winner of a Finals Series or Cup competition administered by Football Queensland.

Finals Series – A set of competitive fixtures played separate to the Regular Season to determine the winner of the Championship as administered by Football Queensland.

First Grade – The top team within a club's FQPL squad (not the U23's).

Fixture – Any match played in a Football Queensland Competition, Cup, other event or tournament under Football Queensland's administration.

Fixture Suspensions – An imposed number of match(es) where a participant is disallowed from participating as a result of disciplinary action.

Forfeit – The failure of a team to participate in a Competition Fixture.

FQ (Football Queensland) – Queensland's governing football body.

FQ By-Law 9 – The current Football Queensland Grievance, Discipline and Tribunal By-Law (which may be amended as appropriate).

FQPL – Football Queensland Premier League.

Goal Difference – The difference between goals scored by a team (goals for) and goals scored against a team (goals against) in a match or season.

Graded – The allocation of a player or team to a division or age group specified by Football Queensland.

Has Started – Refers to a player who commenced a match as part of the starting 11 under the Substitution rule.

Highest Placed Team – The team which finished in the higher position on the competition ladder after the fixture season.

Home Club – The club playing the fixture or match at its home ground and/or appearing first on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

Host Club – A club which hosts one or more Competition Fixtures or Finals at its home venue, whether that club participates in one of those Competition Fixtures or Finals Series matches or not.

IFAB – International Football Association Board, its successor or assignee.

Laws of the Game (LOTG) – The official laws of the game of football and futsal as promulgated by IFAB and FIFA.

League – Specific competitions conducted and declared by Football Queensland.

Lowest Placed Team – The team which finished in last position on the competition ladder after the

fixture season.

Match – See fixture.

Match Official – A referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match day coach, club referee, match commissioner or any other person appointed by FA/Football Queensland/club who assumes responsibility of a match and the participants safety in connection with a match.

Match Day Coaches – Match Official instructor who supports and assists with the development of the Officials on game day.

Metro – Football activities conducted within the metropolitan Brisbane region.

No Result – Recording a '0-0' score line in a Competition Fixture with no points or goals awarded to either Team. A 'No Result' is recorded as a Competition Fixture played.

Non-Participation in a Fixture – A player listed on the official FQPL First Grade Squadi Team Sheet (Match Record) who did not take to the Field of Play (FOP) during the match.

Participant(s) – One that takes part in a football match including, but not limited to: players, coaches, club officials and club supporters (spectators).

Participant (Interchange) - A 'interchange' is a player who has already played in the match and has been substituted (a substituted player) and later in the match returns to play by replacing another player

Penalty Shoot-Out – The alternate taking of penalty kicks from a penalty spot to determine a winner in accordance with FIFA regulations where a match requires a result.

Playing Facilities Standards – The minimum standards a club must adhere to, to be eligible to host fixtures, in accordance with the [Football Queensland Playing Facilities Standards Policy](#).

Postponed – A Competition Fixture which has not commenced as scheduled and is to be rescheduled.

Regional – Footballing activities conducted in regions of Queensland other than the metropolitan Brisbane region. Regions include; South Coast, Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf.

Registered – A player, team official, club official, match day coach, club Match Official or FQ Match Official who is registered in accordance with the applicable Football Queensland Registration Regulations, and/or FA National Registration Regulations, including without limitation seeking an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) where applicable.

Regular Season – The duration of the season, not including Finals Series.

Replica Strip – The shirt/shorts/attire of another club or team, be it professional or amateur (e.g. Newcastle United replica jersey).

Rules of Competition (RoC) – Referring to this document and all associated stipulations, policies, and statutes referred to and herewith.

Sanctioned Match – Any match(es) Football Queensland approves to be played in accordance with the Football Queensland Sanctioning Policy. This includes matches to which Football Queensland does not appoint Match Officials.

Squadi – Football Queensland’s National Registration & Competition Management system.

Team - A football team entered by a club in a League/Competition administered by Football Queensland.

Team Official – A coach, assistant coach, manager, physio/medical staff or other club registered participants who is listed on a Squadi Team Sheet and is allowed in the technical area during a match.

Under 23 (U23) – The supplementary team to the ‘First Grade’ FQPL squad.

Unregistered – A player or club official who is not registered in Squadi.

Venue Managers – The business/person of football facilities not directly leased, owned or managed by a club.

2 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

- a) All matches under the jurisdiction of FQ and all affiliated clubs will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game. This includes all Regular Season and Finals Series matches.
- b) The Rules of Competition outlined herein are complementary to the official Laws of the Game (LOTG) as determined by IFAB on an annual basis and can be found [here](#).
- c) All clubs, players and officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Australia and Football Queensland including;
 - i) National Registration Regulations
 - ii) National Disciplinary Regulations
 - iii) FA Code of Conduct and Ethics
 - iv) Grievance Resolution Regulations
 - v) Member Protection Policy
 - vi) FQ Rules of Competition; and
 - vii) Any other relevant or applicable statutes, policies or regulations including the FQ Disciplinary Regulations and FQ By-Laws.
 - viii) Clubs must remain financial with Football Queensland and adhere to competition rules 2.2.

2.1 COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- a) If Football Queensland (FQ) enters into a sponsorship or commercial agreement, a condition of entry into all FQ Competitions is that a Club is required to comply with any conditions imposed by Football Queensland arising out of the sponsorship agreement. Such requirements may include, but is not limited to; signage, the display of logos on Club websites, jerseys, the use of designated balls etc.
- b) Football Queensland, where possible, will attempt to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact and not intrude on Clubs' existing sponsorship contracts.

2.2 MONIES OWING TO FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND BY A CLUB

All amounts owed by a club to Football Queensland must be paid within 21 days of the date of the invoice (7 days in the case of match official payments) issued by Football Queensland in relation to that amount.

If a club fails to pay any amount owing to Football Queensland in accordance with this, Football Queensland may issue a notice, giving the club a further 14 days to pay that amount.

If a club fails to comply with a notice issued in accordance with this, or agree to a repayment plan with Football Queensland for the amount owed, Football Queensland may, at its sole discretion:

- i. Rule that club [or the applicable team(s) within that club] ineligible to earn competition points in any Competition Fixture or Sanctioned Match in which the club (or team) plays,
- ii. Suspend or expel that club [or team(s)] from any competition fixture (including Cup fixtures) and/or Football Queensland competitions.

- iii. Prohibit that club [or team(s)] from promotion whilst the debt remains unpaid.
- iv. Relegate that club [or team(s)] while the debt remains unpaid.
- v. Deduct points from a club [or team(s)] for the following season where the debt remains unpaid or accrues after 2 weeks of the completion of the outdoor season.

If Football Queensland and a club agree to a repayment plan relating to a debt owed to Football Queensland and the club defaults any of the terms by the stipulated date and time, Football Queensland may immediately and without the need to issue a further notice, impose one or more of the sanctions referred to above.

2.3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.3.1 All Competitions

Football Queensland reserves the right to decide on or amend the size, structure and composition of any competition. Clubs who are members of Football Queensland are eligible to nominate for any competition within the Football Queensland structure, provided they meet the minimum and mandatory requirements for the competition in which they nominate. New clubs are required to apply to compete in Football Queensland Competitions by November 1 of each year. For further information, please refer to the [FQ Club Affiliation Policy](#).

- a) Clubs may not field more than one (1) team in a competition or division level unless the club has applied for, and been granted, an exemption by Football Queensland. All decisions by Football Queensland regarding exemptions from this rule shall be at the discretion of Football Queensland and shall be final. There shall be no appeal from a decision made by Football Queensland.
- b) To field an additional team in a single division, the club must be able to field separate teams. Player movement will not be permitted to move between teams unless a club has applied for and been granted dispensation in writing from FQ Competitions or an applicable Region Manager.
- c) FQ, with feedback from clubs, will determine the number of matches to be played in each division once the final composition is determined.
- d) All competitions within Football Queensland will be contested on a "Home and Away" basis, where possible.
- e) In all competitive age groups and divisions at the conclusion of the regular season, the team that finishes with the highest number of points is deemed the Premiers. In the event multiple teams are equal on points, refer to [section 2.9](#) to determine their placing.
- f) At the conclusion of the regular season, the top four (4) placed teams will participate in a Finals Series to determine the Grand Final Champions and Runners-Up. In the event multiple teams are equal on points, refer to [section 2.9](#) to determine their placing.
- g) FQ may instruct clubs to combine to form a team in a particular age if it is necessary to form a viable competition. The playing strip will be agreed to by both clubs at the start of the season with the guidance from FQ Competition Management.

2.3.2 All Senior Competitions Overview

Senior competitions will consist of FQPL and Community Competitive Competitions. The FQPL competition will be deemed the highest competition followed by Senior Divisional competitions. To form viable divisions Senior Community Competitive competitions may be grouped based on location and competition groupings.

Where FQ deems viable there will be an FQPL and U23 in both Men's and Women's within each Region, along with Divisional Community competitions for men and women in each local area.

2.3.3 FQPL Competitions

- a) Club's may only field one (1) team in a single FQPL Division. Clubs wishing to field more than one team must submit an exemption request to Football Queensland. Each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis. And the outcome is determined at the absolute discretion of Football Queensland. This outcome is considered final and not subject to appeal.
- b) All clubs participating in FQPL must hold, and be compliant with, their relevant FQPL license. Please refer to region licensing documentation for requirements to participate in the FQPL Senior competitions.
- c) Metro FQPL 3-6 and Regional FQPL Men competitions and FQPL 3 Sunshine Coast Women: all participating clubs in these competitions are required to field a "First Grade" team and an "Under 23" team.
- d) FQPL 3 Metro Women and Regional FQPL Women competitions (except Sunshine Coast Women FQPL 3): all participating clubs in these competitions are only required to field a "First Grade" team and not an Under 23 team.
- e) In the event a team has insufficient numbers to play a fixtured match, the highest division in each age group takes priority and must be filled, consideration will be applied if the difference between the two teams is significant. If a club fields a team in a lower division but not the higher division, both teams may be deemed to have forfeited and subject to Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in the [2025 Fines and Penalties Document](#).

2.3.4 Community Competitive Competitions

Community Competitive Senior Divisions will be determined by FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from clubs. There is no promotion to FQPL from Community Competitive League Division 1. The composition of each of the League divisions will be determined on an annual basis based on a combination of the previous season's results and the nominations submitted by each club.

Following the conclusion of Round 4 of the regular season, a club may apply to have a team regraded. These applications will be assessed, and results taken into consideration when deciding the appropriate division for all teams. Football Queensland will also assess the results of each League competition following the first 4 rounds and may seek to regrade a team based on their initial results.

Football Queensland's determination on any regrade application or regrading of a team must be followed and will be final. If a club requests to regrade from Round 5, a fee may be applicable if Football Queensland grant the request. There shall be no appeal against the decision of Football Queensland.

2.3.5 Junior Competitions: Under 13 to Under 18

The composition of the Junior competitions will be determined on an annual basis.

Where multiple divisions occur in an age group, Football Queensland will grade teams appropriately based on a combination of:

- a) Previous season's results and/or
- b) Current team composition of returning players and/or
- c) Nominations submitted by each club.

Where applicable, a series of grading matches may be played to determine final divisions. Where possible, there will be multiple divisions for each age group.

The integrity of the highest-level division in each age group should receive priority. Wherever possible FQ will attempt to provide a top tier competition in every designated junior competitive age group U13 – U18.

Clubs may only field 1 team per division unless an exemption is granted by FQ. Where exemptions are granted eligibility rules will apply.

Clubs will be offered timeframes in which to apply to have a team regraded. These applications will be assessed, and results taken into consideration when deciding on the appropriate division for all teams.

2.3.6 Junior Competitions: Under 13

The Under 13 competition will play the Format according to the National curriculum as issued by Football Australia and Football Queensland. The playing format for Under 13 Competitions is located [here](#).

2.3.7 Junior Competitions: Under 12

The Under 12 competition will play the Format according to the National curriculum as issued by Football Australia and Football Queensland. The playing format for Under 12 Competitions is located [here](#).

2.3.8 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos

- a) The composition of the MiniRoos competitions will be determined by FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from clubs.
- b) The age groups of Under 5 to Under 11 will play Formats according to the National curriculum as issued Football Australia and Football Queensland.
- c) There are no finals in MiniRoos Football and no scoring will be recorded for these age groups. Full details of formats and guidelines for the MiniRoos competition can be located [here](#).

2.3.9 Masters (Regional Competitions Only)

- a) The composition of the Masters competitions will be determined by FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from clubs. Where possible there will be a First and Second Division for each age group.
- b) No slide tackles are allowed (including Goalkeepers). A slide tackle occurs when two or more players are challenging for the ball and any of them "slide" for the ball. Any challenge not made on two feet is to be considered a Slide Tackle. There must be a slide AND a tackle before the challenge can be penalised, but there does not have to be contact between the players. A player is challenging an opponent for the ball if the opponent is within a radius of one (1) metre of the player. These rules apply to a goalkeeper who chooses to play or attempts to challenge for the ball with his/her feet. They do NOT apply to a goalkeeper playing or attempting to play the ball with his/her hands.
- c) No tackling from behind is allowed.
- d) Within each division clubs may field more than one team however each team must be able to field a separate team. Player movement will not be permitted to move between teams.

- e) Players may not play for another team in that Division from the same club. Clubs playing a player in both of its teams will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and may face disciplinary action and sanctions.

2.3.10 Additional Competitions

FQ may conduct additional competitions as it deems appropriate before, during or after the competition season, providing the rules and competitions are sanctioned by FQ for the competition prior to the commencement of the competition (includes cup competitions).

All additional competitions are subject to and should be read in conjunction with these Rules of Competition. In the event of an omission or inconsistency between these rules and the additional rules, FQ will determine and rule on the interpretation.

2.3.11 FQPL Promotion & Relegation

FQPL competitions follow a promotion/relegation system to determine the competition composition for the following year. The only exception to this is in some regional competitions where there is no promotion or relegation due to having only one division. In this instance clubs will be invited by FQ to participate via the provision of an annual Participation License Agreement. All clubs, regardless of promotion or relegation, must meet affiliation and participation licensing requirements to participate in the FQPL. Football Queensland will determine the final composition of its FQPL competitions on an annual basis at its sole and absolute discretion.

FQPL 3 – 6 Men, FQPL 3 Women:

- a) Where two or more FQPL divisions exist in a region the 1st and 2nd placed teams at the completion of the regular season will be eligible for promotion ([with the exception of FQPL 3 – please refer to 2.3.11c](#)).
- b) The teams placed last and 2nd last at the conclusion of the regular season will be relegated to the competition below for the subsequent season where lower FQPL divisions exist.
- c) For FQPL 3 teams to earn promotion into FQPL 2 Men or FQPL 2 Women in the SEQ Region, the first-placed team in the Metro FQPL 3 Men's and Women's competition will be promoted to FQPL 2. The second placed FQPL 3 Metro Men's and Women's team will participate in a Promotion Playoff Series with the first placed FQPL 3 teams from Sunshine Coast, Darling Downs and South Coast. The playoff format, fixtures and any specific regulations will be determined by Football Queensland.
 - i. Promotion is subject to clubs meeting minimum requirements set by FQ
 - ii. Football Queensland will adjust and determine the composition of FQPL 3 Metro competitions based on the results of the above stipulated Promotion Playoff Series, noting that these leagues may feature a differing number of teams to other FQPL divisions should the number of relegated Metro based clubs from FQPL 2 not match the number of promoted clubs out of FQPL 3 Metro in a given season.
- d) As Clubs are only permitted to have one team within any FQPL division, if a team finishes in a relegation position, and the club also has a team in the division immediately below the following provisions will apply regardless of the position of the team in the lower division;

- e) The team in the division below will also be relegated to a lower division (if available). If this occurs, the team who finished 2nd last in the lower division at the conclusion of the regular season will not be relegated.
- f) If no lower division is available, the club will only be permitted to have one team which will be included in the lowest division.
 - i. As clubs are only permitted to have one team within any FQPL division, if the club's team in the higher division is not in a relegation or promotion position, but the lower division team finishes in a promotion position, they will not be eligible to be promoted. If that occurs the next placed team in the lower division will be eligible for promotion.

2.3.12 Promotion & Relegation Requests/Withdrawal

If one or both teams who have qualified for promotion to an FQPL competition advises that they do not wish to exercise the privilege, they must provide their reasons in writing to Football Queensland for review. If the request is granted or any other vacancy arises, Football Queensland will approach clubs to enter the competition in the below order:

- a) The team who finished 2nd last in the higher division will be offered the opportunity to not be relegated.
- b) If they decline the opportunity, or a further vacancy arises, the team who finished last in the higher division will be offered the opportunity to not be relegated.
- c) If they also decline the opportunity, or a further vacancy arises, the position will then be offered to the next highest placed team in the lower division, that has not yet been promoted, until a club(s) accepts the invitation.
- d) In the case of FQPL 2 (where a promotional SEQ playoff is executed), any vacancy that becomes available [rule 2.3.10.c](#) will not apply and Football Queensland reserves the right to seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

In competitions where no relegation exists, or a vacancy occurs due to a team withdrawal or request for relegation, Football Queensland can, if they choose, seek applications from any other club to fill the vacancy.

NOTE: Promotion and relegation rules/procedures may be subject to change, due to variations in competition structures.

2.4 TEAM COMPOSITION

2.4.1 FQPL Overview

- a) FQPL 3 – 6 First Grade Men: In the above competitions, teams may list a maximum of 17 players on the Squad/Team Sheet (a starting 11 and 6 substitutes). During the regular season teams may make up to five (5) substitutions, with a maximum of 3 stoppages in play in a match. Half time substitutions will not be counted as a stoppage in play. Once a player has left the field of play they cannot return.
- b) FQPL 3 – 6 First Grade Men: During the finals series if an FQPL First Grade competitions proceeds to extra time, teams are permitted to utilise the additional listed substitution and one additional substitution stoppage opportunity (regardless of whether the team has already used the full number of 5 permitted regular time substitutes or 3 regular time substitution stoppage opportunities). This brings each teams' total to 6 substitutions and 4 substitution

stoppage opportunities for the entirety of the match. Once a player has left the field of play they cannot return.

- c) FQPL 3 Women, FQPL 3 – 6 Under 23 Men: teams may list a maximum of 16 players on the Squadi Team Sheet (a starting 11 and 5 substitutes). In all competitions unlimited Return Substitutions (Interchange) is permitted and a player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player. Any player that is listed on the Squadi Team Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match, even if they do not take the field of play.

2.4.2 FQPL VISA PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

- a) An Australian Player is any Player who is:
 - i) a citizen of Australia;
 - ii) a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person residing in Australia on a “permanent” visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person’s Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person’s online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
 - iii) the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian Government. For further details see: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.
- b) Any player who does not satisfy the above definition of an Australian player will be considered a Visa player. This includes New Zealand Citizens, who will be considered a Visa or OFC player unless they satisfy the definition of an Australian Player.
- c) Pursuant to Section 2.4.4 below, Clubs will be required to submit documentation to Football Queensland showing the residential/citizenship status of players in any FQPL Senior competitions.
- d) The number of Visa Players permitted for all other squads is unlimited.

2.4.3 FQPL Visa Player Table

Competition	Maximum Number of Visa Players
FQPL 3 and Regional FQPL	5
FQPL 4 - 5	7
FQPL 6	Unlimited

NOTE: The number referenced above refers to the maximum number of Visa players listed on the Team Sheet in any First Team Fixture.

2.4.4 FQPL Player Rosters

- a) All clubs participating in an FQPL Senior competition are required to submit a player roster document containing all registered players in their Senior Squad.
- b) As part of this submission and pursuant to the Football Australia NRSTRs, clubs must submit a passport, citizenship documentation or visa documentation for each player in order for Football Queensland to confirm their status as an Australian player or Visa player.
- c) Should a club wish to use any player in an FQPL First Team fixture that is not on their Player Roster, they must re-submit an updated Player Roster, including the above regulated

documentation for that player.

2.4.5 FQPL Over/Underage Requirements

To encourage the development of younger players clubs must meet a minimum number of Under 23 players in a squad. FQPL 3 Men and all regional FQPL Men squads must have a minimum of ten (10) players combined listed on the Team Sheet for the First Team and the Under 23s in any given round. (Including if the FQPL and Under 23 games are split and played at different times for any reason)

Regional FQPL Women and FQPL 4 – 6 Men have unlimited overage players across their squad.

2.4.6 FQPL First Team of the Month/Season Player Votes

FQPL Main Team Coaches are required to vote for their opposition team's best players in a 3-2-1 format after each game. Club Managers are to liaise with the relevant coaching staff to ensure their team's 3-2-1 votes are submitted through Squadi after each match (home and away). The team player votes must be submitted in Squadi no later than 9am on Tuesday morning following the weekend's fixtures (or the day following a midweek fixture). Failure to submit votes by the above timeline will result in a \$50 fine being issued to the club for each instance of non submission.

A player or coach who is suspended due to receiving a Direct Red Card (excluding R4 or R5) in a match, or due to a Disciplinary Committee Hearing or Match Review Panel into their conduct is not eligible to receive any individual awards.

A player or coach may still be included in the Team of the Season if suspended due to receiving a Red Card (Direct or Indirect) in a match or due to a Disciplinary Committee Hearing or Match Review Panel, subject to the discretion of Football Queensland.

A player or coach is ineligible to win if they have played (defined as taken to the field of play) or coached in less than ten (10) First Team matches at the conclusion of the Regular Season.

2.4.7 Community Men's and Women's Competitions

Community Men's and Women's teams may list a maximum of 16 players on the Squadi Team Sheet (a starting 11 and 5 substitutes). In all competitions unlimited Return Substitutions (Interchange) is permitted. A player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player.

In these Competitions, a player whose name appears on the Squadi Team Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match, even if they do not take the field of play.

2.4.8 Junior Competitions: Under 14 to Under 18

Under 14 to Under 18 Junior teams may list a maximum of 16 players on the Squadi Team Sheet (a starting 11 and 5 substitutes). In all competitions from Under 14 to Under 18 unlimited Return Substitutions (Interchange) is permitted. A player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player.

In these competitions, a player whose name appears on the Squadi Team Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match, even if they do not take the field of play.

2.4.9 Junior Competitions: Under 13

Under 13 Junior teams may list a maximum of 14 players on the Squadi Team Sheet (a starting 9 and 5 substitutes). In all Under 13 competitions unlimited Return Substitutions (Interchange) is permitted. A

player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player.

In these competitions, a player whose name appears on the Squadi Team Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match, even if they do not take the field of play.

2.4.10 Junior Competitions: Under 12

Under 12 divisions follow the [Under 12 National Playing Formats and Rules](#). For auditing and registration purposes each team is required to submit a Squadi Team Sheet for at least one (1) fixture by Round 4 of the competition. Teams that do not submit a Squadi Team Sheet with the full contingency of players by Round 4 may be subject to ineligible player fines or withdrawal from the competition. A minimum of 7 or a maximum of 14 players can be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet.

2.4.11 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos

MiniRoos team structures can be found in the [MiniRoos National Playing Formats and Rules](#). For auditing and registration purposes each team is required to submit a Squadi Team Sheet for at least one (1) fixture by Round 4 of the competition. Teams that do not submit a Squadi Team Sheet with the full contingency of players by Round 4 may be subject to ineligible player fines or withdrawal from the competition.

2.4.12 Team Composition Table

Competition	Maximum Players to be listed on Squadi Team Sheet	Starting Players	Subs Allowed	Substitution Type	Total Subs Allowed in Regular Time	Total Subs Allowed in Extra Time	Subs can return to field
FQPL 3-6 Men First Grade	17	11	6	Substitution	Max 5 Total 3 Stoppages	Max 6 Total 4 Stoppages	No
FQPL 3-6 U23 Men FQPL 3 Women	16	11	5	Interchange	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes
Community Seniors	16	11	5	Interchange	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes
Community Juniors U14-U18	16	11	5	Interchange	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes
Community Juniors U13	14	9	5	Interchange	Unlimited	Unlimited	Yes
Community Juniors U12	14	9	5	Interchange	Unlimited	N/A	Yes
MiniRoos	<i>Please refer to MiniRoos playing formats</i>						

2.5 TEAM OFFICIALS

Football Queensland requires that all Team Officials be registered via the Squadi registration system in accordance with the registration regulations and in alignment with the expectations for players. Each official MUST upload a current, recognizable, passport style photo to their Squadi profile to confirm the identity of the individual. Any individual who does not fulfill this requirement could be deemed

ineligible for all matches they have participated in. Sanctions and penalties may apply to clubs/teams and individuals as per [Section 4.15](#).

A maximum of 5 team officials can be listed on a Squadi Team Sheet and allowed in the technical area during a match. Team Officials can include; a Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, Physio/Medical Staff, and an Assistant. If a team official is not listed on the Squadi Team Sheet the match official can expel them from the technical area. They will also be deemed as an “ineligible player” and subject to fines and penalties as per [section 4.15](#).

Clubs are accountable for their appointed Team Officials and they should be made aware that they are governed by a Code of Conduct. Penalties of suspension of Team Officials, fines, and other penalties and outcomes can be levied upon clubs, where it is found that Team Officials have breached the Code of Conduct.

It is the Team Officials’ responsibility to ensure:

- a) The team has a minimum number of seven (7) players to commence the match.
- b) That the team does not list more than the allowable players on the Squadi Team Sheet.
- c) All players taking the field are eligible to play.
- d) All players taking the field of play are listed on the Squadi Team Sheet.
- e) All players are ready to commence the fixture at the scheduled kick-off time.
- f) Players behave responsibly before, during and after any game.

2.6 COMPETITION SCHEDULING

Football Queensland will schedule the dates, times and venues of all matches in collaboration with our Clubs and their requested preferences. Draft draws will be released to clubs to allow for feedback prior to the commencement of the season. Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule matches on any day, time, and venue and in any format in alignment with the best interests of the competition(s). This includes scheduling matches to accommodate media requirements and Match Official appointments. Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule matches in its absolute discretion.

All Football Queensland matches take precedence in scheduling over non-FA affiliated matches at all Football Queensland Clubs.

2.6.1 Senior Competitions

- a. All FQPL competitions with an associated U23 team will normally be scheduled between Friday and Sunday each week. Games will be scheduled sequentially as specified: Under 23’s, 1st team - on the same day at the same venue in that order. However, if exceptional circumstances exist matches may be separated or reversed upon FQ approval.
- b. All other senior matches (FQPL and Community competitions) will normally be scheduled between Friday and Sunday each week. Where two or more senior teams from the same club are playing at home on the same day, these matches must be scheduled consecutively where possible.
 - i. The exception to 2.6.1b is the South Coast Community Senior competition which is played mid-week on Mondays or Wednesdays.

Day & Time Scheduling/Rescheduling Guide:

Midweek/Friday

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 6pm

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence later than 8.30pm

Saturday

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 11.00am

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence later than 8.30pm

Sunday

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence before 9.00am

No senior matches will be scheduled to commence later than 7.00pm

This is a general guide and Football Queensland reserves the right to scheduled games outside of these times if required or if exemptions are granted.

Exemptions may be granted in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree, for any fixture(s). Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing to Football Queensland for approval and the decision made will be final. The request must be submitted in line with the fixture amendment process.

FQPL 3 – 6 Men and FQPL 3 Sunshine Coast Women: Where there are clashes between the First Team and the Under 23's (i.e., teams from the same club at different venues), the First Team match will take priority for scheduling and the Under 23's will be scheduled to avoid any clash (either with sufficient time between the matches on the same day or on a different day).

2.6.2 Junior Competitions: Under 13 to Under 18

Listed below is the day on which each age group will be predominantly scheduled during the 2025 Football Queensland season. Matches must be scheduled sequentially as specified by Football Queensland.

Day & Time Scheduling/Rescheduling:

Monday - Friday

No junior matches will be scheduled to commence before 6pm

No U13 - U14 matches will be scheduled to commence later than 8pm

No U15 matches will be scheduled to commence later than 8:15pm

No U16 - U18 matches will be scheduled to commence later than 8:30pm.

Saturday

No junior matches will be scheduled to commence before 8.00am

No junior matches will be scheduled to commence later than 7pm

Sunday

No junior matches will be scheduled to commence before 8.00am

No junior matches will be scheduled to commence later than 6.00pm

This is a general guide and Football Queensland reserves the right to scheduled games outside of these times if required or if exemptions are granted.

Exemptions may be granted in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree, for any fixture(s). Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing to Football Queensland for approval and the decision made will be final. The request must be submitted in line with the fixture amendment process.

2.6.3 Junior Competitions: MiniRoos and Under 12

MiniRoos and Under 12 competitions will be scheduled on Saturday. Games will start no earlier than 8am and will flow onto each other until finished at the earliest possible time.

2.6.4 Junior Fixture Scheduling Table

Region	MiniRoos	U12	U13	Under 14	Under 15	Under 16	Under 17	Under 18
Metro Junior Divisional Competitions	Saturday	Saturday	Friday Saturday Sunday	Friday Sunday	Friday Sunday	Friday Sunday	Friday Saturday Sunday	Friday Saturday Sunday
Wide Bay, Central Coast Junior FQPL & North Divisional Competitions	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	N/A	N/A
Central Coast (South) Junior Divisional Competitions	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Friday	Friday	Friday	N/A	N/A
South Coast Junior Divisional Competitions	Saturday Morning	Saturday Morning	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Friday Nights	Friday Nights	Friday Nights
Sunshine Coast Divisional Competitions	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
Northern, Far North Gulf & Mt Isa, Whitsunday Coast	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Friday Saturday	Friday Saturday	Friday Saturday
	**Exceptions to days may be required for Remote Regional competitions and the where lighting permits allows for Girls Only MiniRoo competitions to be played on a Friday night.							

NOTE: Metro Junior Competitions may be scheduled differently during term 2 to avoid clashes with the School Football competition. For example, some Under 16 divisions will be scheduled on a Friday night

while Under 13 - 17 Girls, Under 14 Division 2 and below fixtures may be requested for Saturday to assist with field availability.

2.7 DURATION OF MATCHES

- a) MiniRoos (Under 5 - 11) game times and formats shall be as per MiniRoos National Playing Formats and Rules. Please refer to the formats here.
- b) Under 5 will follow all Under 6 MiniRoos Football Guidelines.
- c) Under 12 game times and format shall be as per [Under 12 Playing Format](#).
- d) Under 13 game times and format shall be as per [Under 13 Playing Format](#).
- e) The duration of matches for each age group are outlined in the table below. After normal time in each half, the match official may add on injury/stoppage time as required, however, this is only applicable for Senior Competitions. No extra time is added for Junior Competitions.
- f) There will be no time added in Junior games, unless in the event of a serious injury requiring an ambulance to be called to remove the injured player from the playing field. In this circumstance the match may be abandoned, or additional injury/stoppage time may be added at the discretion of the match official.

2.7.1 Duration of Matches Table

Age Group	Duration	Interval	Injury/Stoppage Time
Seniors	2 x 45 mins	10 - 15 mins	Yes, at Match Official discretion
Under 18	2 x 45 mins	10 - 15 mins	No
Under 17	2 x 40 mins	5 - 10 mins	No
Under 16	2 x 40 mins	5 - 10 mins	No
Under 15	2 x 40 mins	5 - 10 mins	No
Under 14	2 x 35 mins	5 mins	No
Under 13	2 x 35 mins	5 mins	No

NOTE: Where the competition is a combined age group the match duration will be based on the higher age level in accordance with the table provided.

2.8 MATCH RESULTS

In all Junior and Senior competitive competition fixtures, match points will be awarded as follows:

Match Result	Value	Points Earned
Win	Three	3 Points
Draw	One for both teams	1 Point for both teams
Loss	Nil	0 Points
Bye	Nil	0 Points
No Result	Nil for either team	0 Points for either team

NOTE: No match results are to be recorded for MiniRoos and Under 12 age groups.

2.9 DETERMINING PLACINGS AFTER REGULAR SEASON

For all Junior and Senior competitive competitions/divisions the position of each team at the conclusion of the regular season will be determined based on the following criteria:

- a) Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
- b) If two (2) or more teams are level on points accumulated the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one (1) of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked:
 - i. Highest goal difference.
 - ii. Highest number of goals scored.
 - iii. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the teams concerned.
 - iv. Highest goal difference in matches between the teams concerned.
 - v. Highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned.
 - vi. Lowest number of red cards accumulated.
 - vii. Lowest number of yellow cards accumulated; and
 - viii. Toss of a coin in the event of a tie of two (2) clubs or drawings of lots in the event of a tie of three (3) or more clubs.

NOTE: As MiniRoos and the Under 12 age group do not keep score or play for points final season placings will not be determined.

2.10 FINALS SERIES

Football Queensland will arrange the dates, times and venues of all Finals Series matches. Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule or re-schedule matches on any day, time and place as it sees fit. All Football Queensland matches take precedence in scheduling over non-FA affiliated matches at Football Queensland Clubs.

2.10.1 Finals Series Format

The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the Regular Season will participate in the Finals Series.

The table below explains the finals format for regular season competitions. Each team will be listed based on their placing on the ladder standings. The first listed team in each match is the designated Home Team.

Region and Competition	Final Type	Teams
Metro, South Coast, Darling Downs FQPL, Senior and Junior Community Divisions	Semi Final 1	Second vs Third (2 v 3)
	Semi Final 2	First vs Fourth (1 v 4)
	Grand Final	Highest Placed Semi Winner vs Lowest Placed Semi Winner

Far North & Gulf, Northern, Whitsunday Coast, Central Coast, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast FQPL, Senior and Junior Community Divisions.	Semi Final 1	Third vs Fourth (3 v 4)
	Semi Final 2	First vs Second (1 v 2)
	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi 2 vs Winner Semi 1
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 2 vs Winner Preliminary Final

2.10.2 Final Series Venues

The Final series matches will be held at venues determined by Football Queensland. Where possible Grand Final matches will be played at an independent venue from the two competing clubs.

2.10.3 Procedures to Determine Winner of Final Series Final Game

Senior FQPL and Community Competitions: If the scores are equal after normal time, then 2 x 15-minute periods of extra time will be played in full. If the scores are still equal after extra time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

- a) **METRO, SOUTH COAST, DARLING DOWNS REGIONS 2.10.3.a Exception:** Community Competitive Men and Women will not play extra time if the scores are equal after normal time. Instead, they will go directly to a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner (No extra time will be played).
- i. **Junior Under 13 – Under 18 Competitions:** All finals matches will be played in accordance with the fixture duration for each age group ([See Table 2.7.1](#)). If the scores are equal after normal time, then 2 x 10-minute periods of extra time will be played in full. If the scores are still equal after extra time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

3 ALTERATIONS TO SEASON FIXTURES

3.1 WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON

If a team is withdrawn, removed, or suspended before the competition has started and cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted where possible and the club will be levied an administration fee, and the following will apply accordingly.

- a) If the first cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety, the recorded results for that team will be deleted.
- b) If the second, or subsequent, cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety then the results of the uncompleted cycle will be deleted while the results for all completed cycles will remain.
- c) FQ may re-arrange the draw so that the teams that were due to play the withdrawing team have a bye. Where the competition already had a bye in each round, FQ may change the draw as it sees fit to eliminate the bye.
- d) FQ reserves the right to negotiate with another club/team to come into the competition as a replacement. FQ also reserves the right to decide how points are attributed to the replacement team for the remainder of the season.
- e) The withdrawn club involved will be subject to potential disciplinary action, sanction, and penalties. Please refer to the [Fines and Penalties Document](#) for further information.
- f) Any actions taken by Football Queensland under this section as a result of a team withdrawal from a competition is done so at its absolute discretion and is not subject to appeal.

3.2 ADDITION TO COMPETITION SEASON

If a club or team requests to be added to the competition and is successful, then the following will apply;

- a) If a team enters on or before 50% of the first round (cycle) of fixtures has been played, then the team will replay any missed matches from that round.
- b) If a team enters after 50% of the first round (cycle) of fixtures but before the first round has been completed, then the team will not play any missed fixtures and all future fixtures involving the new team will be played for no points until the next round of fixtures starts.
- c) The above will also apply to the second, and any subsequent, rounds (cycles) of matches.
- d) In the event these provisions create an anomaly, or are impossible to adhere to, then FQ will determine, in its sole discretion, the application of the above rules. The decision of Football Queensland in this respect is not subject to appeal.
- e) The club of the additional team involved may be subject to penalties as determined by FQ.
- f) Note – Points accrued in another competition prior to being added to a new competition will not carry over to the new competition unless FQ deems otherwise.

3.3 POSTPONED MATCHES

The decision to postpone or reschedule competition fixtures can only be made by Football Queensland Competitions staff, except in the event of severe weather. In severe weather matches may only be postponed by the appointed match official at the venue, or by Football Queensland upon advice from

the HOME club prior to the match (as per [Section 5.5](#) – Wet Weather Cancellation Procedures).

Football Queensland may postpone an earlier match or matches on any day to allow a later match or matches to go ahead at its absolute discretion and in consultation with the host club.

Football Queensland reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by one (1) week after the conclusion of the regular season as a nil-all (0-0) draw. Football Queensland may decide not to reschedule a fixture that has no bearing on the final ladder positions. Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it sees fit.

3.3.1 Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures Due to Representative Duties

Any competition team with four or more players/team members unavailable due to representative outdoor football duties, at Football Queensland/Football Federation Australia approved tournaments including state-wide school representative tournaments, will be entitled to have their fixture rescheduled upon application. Supporting evidence must be provided in an application. Applications must be made at least 14 days prior to the scheduled fixture.

Football Queensland will take into consideration what is reasonable, and the decision will be final. Applications due to involvement in local inter-school sport or non-representative sanctioned competitions including but not limited to the Kanga Cup, will not be considered.

Should Football Queensland approve the application to reschedule the match, the process as outlined in [Section 3.3.3](#) will be followed.

3.3.2 Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures Due School Commitments (Junior Competitions Only)

Applications due to school commitments/functions will be assessed on their merits. All applications must be accompanied by a letter from the School Principal/Curriculum Coordinator/Year Coordinator on School letterhead outlining how the event relates to the education curriculum. The application must be received at least fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled fixture. The decision of Football Queensland shall be in its absolute discretion and the decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.

If Football Queensland approves the application to reschedule the match, the process defined in [Section 3.3.3](#) will be followed.

3.3.3 Request to Postpone/Reschedule Fixtures due to Exceptional Circumstances

Clubs seeking to postpone or reschedule a fixture due to exceptional circumstances must make a request in writing to the region applicable contact as stipulated below.

Metro - seqcompetitions@footballqueensland.com.au
South Coast - fqgcadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Darling Downs - fqddadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Sunshine Coast - fqscadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Central Coast - ccadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Wide Bay - wbadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Whitsunday Coast - fqwcadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Northern - fqnorthoffice@footballqueensland.com.au
Far North - fqfngadmin@footballqueensland.com.au
Gulf - fqmiadmin@footballqueensland.com.au

Supporting documentation must be provided and each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Requests submitted with more than 14 days' notice of the scheduled match must provide the following:

- a) Evidence and documentation as to why the match needs to be amended.
- b) Written agreement from the opposition.
- c) A new match date, time and venue that;
 - i. Meets scheduling requirements as per [section 2.6](#).
 - ii. Has a 48-hour buffer from any other scheduled matches that may impact either team.
 - iii. Meets facility standards including lighting if the match is to be scheduled at night.
 - iv. Consideration for match official appointments (i.e. the pairing of the games).

Request made inside 14 days' notice of the scheduled match must provide the following:

- i. All requirements outlined in 3.3.3.c, as well as;
- ii. Available registered club Match Officials that may replace Football Queensland Match Officials for the match and any paired matches if Football Queensland Match Officials are unable to meet the new appointments.

NOTE: requests made outside of standard business hours just before a match will not be addressed. If clubs do not proceed with the scheduled match, they may be deemed to have forfeited the match and be liable for any associated Match Official fees. Fines and penalties may also apply.

Football Queensland will take the following points into consideration on deciding if a match should be postponed due to exceptional circumstances;

- i. The exceptional circumstance and supporting documentation on how the circumstance impacts the team including the number of team members are affected (must be a minimum of 4 players).
- ii. The impact on Match Official appointments, (including paired games - ie the game before or after where the same Match Officials are appointed)
- iii. The availability of dates to replay the match.
- iv. The impact on the opposition and the league.
- v. Field availability, including lighting should an evening match need to be scheduled.
- vi. Travel distances for teams and match officials.

Football Queensland's decision to postpone or reschedule a match will be final and not subject to appeal.

3.3.4 Rescheduling Process of Postponed Matches Due to Severe Weather

If a full round of matches is postponed all matches for that round will be rescheduled to the nearest designated Catch-Up round. The days and kick-off times will remain the same for all matches where possible. If the fields are in use through scheduled regular season fixtures, Football Queensland reserves the right to adjust the match to an alternative time or location during the catchup weekend.

However, if a full round of matches are not postponed, matches will be rescheduled to mid-week by Football Queensland as per the table below. Should the host club not have sufficient field availability on the required date, they may request in writing to Football Queensland for an alternate date.

Region	MiniRoos	Juniors	Seniors	FQPL
Metro	N/A	Tuesday *Subject to home clubs availability	Wednesday *Subject to home clubs availability	Tuesday *Subject to home clubs availability
Darling Downs	N/A	Midweek - within three weeks - clubs to discuss and confirm within 3 days otherwise FQ will schedule with no consultation	Midweek - within three weeks - clubs to discuss and confirm within 3 days otherwise FQ will schedule with no consultation	Tuesday week - unless clubs agree to a more suitable date within 3 day and must be played within 3 weeks. Wednesday week - unless clubs agree to a more suitable date within 3 day and must be played within 3 weeks.
South Coast	Sunday week	U13-U15-Sunday week U16-U18 - Monday week	Monday week or Wednesday week *	Tuesday Week
Sunshine Coast	N/A	Thursday	Tuesday	Women Wednesday Men Tuesday
Central Coast	N/A	Mon/wed (Sunday if	Mon/wed (Sunday if	FQPL: Tues/Thurs

		travel required to Biloela for senior community south)	travel required to Biloela for senior community south)	(Sunday if travel required)
Wide Bay	N/A	Tuesday night	Tuesday night	Tuesday night for local Tuesday night - catch up round for Bundaberg to Fraser Coast
Whitsunday Coast	N/A	Tuesday's - within three weeks - At FQ Discretion	Midweek - within three weeks - clubs to discuss and confirm within 3 days of original fixture date otherwise FQ will schedule with no consolation.	FQPL MEN & WOMEN - midweek - unless clubs agree to a more suitable date (Sunday's if travel required) within 3 days of the original fixture date and must be played within 3 weeks.
Northern	N/A	Sunday	Sunday	Men - Tuesday Women - Monday
Far North	N/A	Juniors = Thursday the following week (5 days)	Sunday following week (9 days)	FQPL men - following Thursday (5 days) FQPL Women - following Wednesday (5 days)
Gulf (Mt Isa)	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

If the designated home club cannot provide a venue to play the match(es) or is unable to provide another suitable Football Queensland approved venue to play the match, the match will be played at the nominated venue of the away club.

If neither club has a venue to play the scheduled match, Football Queensland will designate a neutral venue to play the match.

If a club refuses to play a rescheduled match as per these competition rules, the match may be declared a forfeit and awarded to the opposition club as a win with a 3-0 score line.

Pursuant to the provisions above, the following points must be taken into consideration when rescheduling postponed fixtures.

- a) Should an entire division's round of matches be postponed Football Queensland reserves the right to move any individual matches scheduled in the next available catchup weekend to midweek to allow for a complete round of fixtures to be played during the catchup weekend.
- b) Matches must be rescheduled with a minimum gap of 48 hours from other scheduled/rescheduled fixture's kick off time unless both teams agree, or Football Queensland determines a match needs to be played and other options are not available.
- c) In the event of the rescheduling of a fixture in the final four weeks of the season, the club response timeframes, outlined above, will be reduced to 48 hours (club to respond in this time) and 7 days (clubs to play no less than 7 days from date of advice).

- d) FQPL Competitions with First Team and Under 23 teams: If matches in these competitions are postponed or abandoned due to any circumstances, Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it sees fit.
- e) Football Queensland may in its sole and absolute discretion reschedule a league fixture to avoid a clash with a Cup competition fixture, or to ensure adequate recovery time for a team before or after a Cup competition fixture.

3.4 NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH (FORFEITS)

Any team that fails to fulfil any of its fixtures or finals obligations arranged by Football Queensland will be deemed to have forfeited the match and subject to the Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in [Section 3.4.1](#).

Any team that wishes to forfeit a match prior to the scheduled day and time must notify Football Queensland through Squadi. Football Queensland will then notify the opposition team and match officials.

Any team that is not ready to commence a fixture or finals match within **15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time commencing**, (this includes the ground of the **HOME** team not being ready for kick-off in the opinion of the match officials, i.e., the field must be correctly marked, with nets and corner posts up and goals anchored if required), will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

Any club who receives a forfeit due to venue standards must contact FQ Competitions via Squadi prior to 12pm of the next business day and outline the events that led to the match not being played.

A team deemed to have forfeited may submit a request to review the forfeit if they believe the forfeit was caused by extraordinary circumstances. The request must be submitted by Club Management in writing (or Squadi incident report) to Football Queensland within three (3) days of the forfeit. Football Queensland will review the request and deliver a determination. Football Queensland's decision regarding the forfeit shall be in its absolute discretion and not subject to appeal.

If any team forfeits a fixture for any reason on three or more occasions in the same competition season without satisfactory explanation provided in writing to Football Queensland, they will be asked to show cause as to why they should not be withdrawn from the competition. The decision of Football Queensland to withdraw a team from the competition shall be in its absolute discretion and shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Any team refusing or failing to play the team against which it has been drawn, shall be deemed to have forfeited the game and must contact FQ Competitions prior to the match.

In FQPL Competitions, if a club does not have sufficient players to field an Under 23's and First Team, the 1st team shall take priority. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action against the offending club and both the Under 23's and First Team fixtures will be deemed a forfeit.

3.4.1 Forfeit Fines and Penalties

Any match in all Football Queensland Competitions deemed to have been forfeited will be subject to the following:

- a) The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- b) Football Queensland may impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club(s), player(s) and official(s).

3.5 ABANDONED MATCHES

The match official has the right to abandon any fixture match if, in their opinion, playing conditions compromise participant safety. This includes the physical or mental safety of players, team officials, spectators and/or match officials. If the match official abandons a Football Queensland match at half time or later for both Junior and Senior Competitions, **then the match result at the time of abandonment will stand.**

Football Queensland in its sole and absolute discretion may order the replay of a fixture, notwithstanding the above, for the purposes of competition integrity. The decision of Football Queensland on whether to order a replay will be final and not subject to any appeal. Any replayed match will be played in full.

Any yellow card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld if that Match is not replayed or expunged if that match is replayed. A direct red card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld regardless of whether the match is replayed or not.

Any club found to be directly responsible for the abandonment of a match, will be deemed to have forfeited the match and may be subject to disciplinary sanctions per [section 3.4.1](#).

3.5.1 Table 1: Outcomes of Abandoned Matches

TIME	RESULT
Abandoned before half-time	Replay (unless clubs agree for the result to stand)
Abandoned during half-time break	Result Stands
Abandoned into the second half	Result stands

3.5.2 Replay of Abandoned Matches

Football Queensland in its sole and absolute discretion may order the replay of a fixture, notwithstanding the above provision 3.5.1, for the purposes of competition integrity. The decision of Football Queensland on whether to order a replay will be final and not subject to appeal. Any replayed match will be played in full.

3.5.3 Outcomes of Abandoned Matches as a Direct Response of Actions by a Club

Football Queensland reserves the right to determine the match result if it is satisfied that one (or both) of the competing teams, its players, officials, members or supporters were directly responsible for the abandonment of the fixture. This includes the abandonment of a match due to a team having less than seven players on the field. The decision of Football Queensland shall be in its absolute discretion and is final and not subject to appeal.

Football Queensland may also decide to impose any of the following outcomes:

- a) The match be replayed.
- b) The match be recorded as "NO RESULT"
- c) The match be recorded as 0-0 draw.

- d) The match recorded as a forfeit (3-0) result to the opposition.
- e) Impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club(s), player(s) and official(s).

Any yellow or red cards issued during an abandoned match that has been overturned and a forfeit declared due to the actions of a club will be upheld. If the match result is changed as per 3.5.3.b. or 3.5.3.c. any goal scorers for the team receiving the forfeit will remain, and any goal scorers will be removed for the team responsible for the forfeit.

Football Queensland's determination on the outcome of any abandoned match shall be in its absolute discretion and not subject to appeal.

4 PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY

4.1 PLAYER REGISTRATION

- a) All players participating in competitions administered under these Rules of Competition may only be registered as Amateur Players in line with the provisions established in the National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations.
- b) Football Queensland will request any International Transfer Certificates (ITC) necessary for players that were last registered with an overseas Federation. Clubs must provide all requested documentation and adhere to the ITC regulations including but not limited to not enforcing payment and not fielding the player until an approved ITC clearance has been received.

For the avoidance of doubt, it is the club's responsibility to ensure that any player deemed to require an ITC is compliant before taking the field.

- c) All players must be registered and active in Squadi and then follow the prescribed steps to complete their mandatory registration process in PlayFootball. Payment of the National Registration Fee and being made active is mandated by Football Australia and must occur in PlayFootball in order to be eligible to participate in any fixtures.
- d) For an individual to be eligible they MUST upload a current, recognizable, passport style photo of themselves to their Squadi profile on registration to confirm the identity of the individual. Any player who does not fulfill this requirement could be deemed an ineligible player for all matches they have participated in. Sanctions and penalties may apply to clubs, teams and/or individuals as per [Section 4.15](#).
- e) Amateur players can register and are permitted to be registered at any time. The registration of a player with a club is effective from the date of registration as approved in Squadi online registration. Unless cancelled earlier, registration is effective from the date of the registration until 31st December of that year.
- f) Amateur players are not permitted to re-register with another club within their region after 30th June each year. This is only applicable to players within the same region, players from another region (or member federation) are also permitted to register at any time. These players may still be subject to finals eligibility clauses.
 - i. **NOTE: Players are not able to register for any FQPL competitions after 30 June.** Players are only eligible to play in Senior Divisional and Junior Divisional Competitions. This includes new registrations and players who are moving between clubs from a different region. Players who register after 30 June are not eligible to be borrowed into the FQPL competitions. These players may still be subject to finals eligibility clauses.

4.2 REGISTERED PARTICIPANT INSURANCE

Members may be covered for Personal Accident, Management Liability and Associated Public Liability Insurance under the National Insurance Scheme through GowGates insurance brokers. Policy details and claims procedures are available on the FQ website.

4.3 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

It is each club's responsibility to ensure that any player taking the field for a competitive fixture is eligible to do so, per the competition requirements. To be eligible to participate in any Football Queensland Fixture, players must meet the following criteria:

- a) The eligibility of a player to participate in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ is finalised

upon receipt and approval of all necessary forms and appropriate clearances by FQ;

- b) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ, provided they are registered in line with Football Australia National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations and Football Queensland Registration Procedures.
- c) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ, provided they are not under suspension by any Federation; it is the responsibility of the player and club to be aware of their suspension status.
- d) A registered player is eligible to take part in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ provided they are correctly listed on the Squadi Team Sheet prior to the commencement of the match.
- e) The player is not in breach of any visa player restrictions imposed by these rules of competition (FQPL only).
- f) The player is adhering to the correct grading and borrowing regulations as outlined in this document.

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of any of the above eligibility requirements, the Penalties and Outcomes as [per section 4.15](#) will apply.

4.4 GRADING OF PLAYERS: ALL COMPETITIONS

- a) All players will be classed as graded into the team where they play their first fixture. Players can only be graded into one team at any one time throughout the season.
- b) In the event that a player is being borrowed by a team different than intended for their first fixture the club will need to advise the Football Queensland Competitions Team or regional manager by email.

Metro Seniors & Whitsunday Coast Juniors & Seniors: Exception to this rule is in the senior metro competitions and Whitsunday Coast junior & senior competitions, where players are eligible to play without restriction during the first 4 scheduled rounds of the season to assist clubs in the grading process of their players. After the scheduled round 4 date as per Season Calendar, players will be graded into the team where they play their first fixture after the Round 4 scheduled date. For avoidance of doubt if Round 4 is postponed due to severe weather the original Round 4 Season Calendar date will apply and the first game played after this date will be considered their first fixture for grading purposes. These matches will be included in a player's match appearance tally.

Darling Downs Juniors: Exception to this rule is the junior Darling Downs competitions where players are eligible to play without restriction during the first 2 scheduled rounds of the season to assist clubs in the grading process of their players. After the scheduled round 2 date as per Season Calendar, players will be graded into the team where they play their first fixture after the Round 2 scheduled date. For avoidance of doubt if Round 2 is postponed due to severe weather the original Round 2 Season Calendar date will apply and the first game played after this date will be considered their first fixture for grading purposes. These matches will be included in a player's match appearance tally.

- c) If a Club has been given dispensation to have two or more teams in the same junior or senior division, players are only permitted to play for one team in that competition division. This does not exclude them from playing for other teams within the Club in other competition divisions (subject to all Player Eligibility Rules). Clubs may apply for dispensation to FQ Competitions or their Region Manager to the rule above.

- d) If a player changes clubs during the season, then the “count” of matches played at a level does not carry over from their previous club to their new club. There is no restriction on what division a player can take part in for the new club so long as it is in line with [competition rules 4.1.f](#). This does not include Cup Competitions where restrictions may apply if a player changes clubs – see relevant Cup Competition Rules.
- e) The onus is on the club to be aware of where their player played their first fixture and was subsequently graded. A club can enquire as to the ‘grading’ status of their player according to their understanding, to Football Queensland, if required.

4.5 SENIOR COMPETITIONS: GRADING OF PLAYERS

In addition to Competition [Rules 4.4](#) the following Senior Specific player grading rules apply.

- a) Players must be turning 16 years of age (male), or 15 years of age (female), during the calendar year to be eligible to play in senior men and women competitions.
- b) Where an eligible junior player (15 Girls/16 Boys – 18 Girls/Boys) is participating in the Senior competition only, they must be registered as a Senior player. Junior players registered in seniors only cannot be borrowed back to junior competitions even if they are age eligible.
- c) Boys turning 16 years of age in 2025, or girls turning 15 years of age in 2025 will be required to complete an Ad Hoc Dispensation Request Form before participating in the senior competition.
- d) **Regional:** Masters (over 35’s) Players who participate in the Masters competition are also eligible to participate without restriction in the Community Senior Competitions only. If a player is borrowed into any FQPL division, they will be regraded to the FQPL division and will be unable to return to the Masters competition.
- e) **Sunshine Coast:** A player must be turning 35 year of age in the calendar year to be eligible to play in the Masters Over 35 competition and turning 45 year of age in the calendar year to be eligible to play in the Masters Over 45 Competition.

4.6 SENIOR COMPETITIONS: BORROWING OF PLAYERS

4.6.1 Senior Competitions: Borrowing of Senior Players in Regular Season

- a) If a club has been given dispensation to have two or more teams in the same senior division, players are not permitted to be borrowed into both teams in that division. Clubs can submit an exemption request to FQ Competitions or their Region Manager for exceptional circumstances due to low player numbers. Any decision made by Football Queensland in regard to the request will be final and not subject to appeal.
- b) A team using a player from a lower division/age group at the expense of available players from their own team is in breach of the spirit of this rule and may be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) Participation in Cup Competitions does not contribute towards the number of times a player

may be borrowed into a higher competition.

- d) There will be no restriction on the movement of players between FQPL and Under 23 match-day squads week in and out.

Metro: In exception to 4.6.1.d no more than 5 First Grade starting players may play in the Under 23 division the following week. Clubs can submit an exemption request to play more than the 5 starting players down in exceptional circumstances. The determination made by Football Queensland in regard to the request will be final and not subject to appeal. Should a club field more than the maximum of 5 first grade starting players from the previous week, any additional players will be deemed ineligible and disciplinary action will be taken in line with these rules of competition and disciplinary regulations.

- e) **Metro, South Coast and Darling Downs Regions:** Players may be borrowed to play in higher ranked competitions but may only do so for a maximum of six (6) matches. The maximum number refers to the total number of games the player has played and not to each team they may play in. On the seventh (7th) game the player will be regarded as per [section 4.10](#).

The exception to above rule is players being borrowed into the FQPL 3 Metro Women competition. The borrowing limit will be relaxed to 11 games for players graded to a Clubs highest divisional Metro Community Women's Team.

- f) **Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf Regions:** Players may be borrowed up multiple divisions but must move back down one division at a time, clubs may demote a maximum of four (4) players from the previous round to a single division lower. They may not demote a player more than one (1) division in a given round. E.g. A player cannot be demoted from Division 1 to Division 3. Clubs who do not have teams in all divisions may demote the next available division.
- g) Players may play across two divisions in one weekend however the highest division will determine where they are eligible to play the following week. The mandated order of promotion or demotion for a player will be as follows: FQPL>Divisional>Masters.
- h) **Darling Downs:** For the 2025 season the Metro FQPL 5 and its U23 competition will be deemed a higher level of competition than that of the Darling Downs FQPL 3 and U23 Men. The following borrowing rule will apply for any club that participates in the both the Metro FQPL and Darling Downs FQPL competitions.

Players nominated in the FQPL3 team will be permitted to play in the FQPL5 competition without restriction, however

The player may play a maximum of 6 games in the FQPL5 team/s and on his 7th, game will be automatically regraded to the FQPL5 team/s and will not be permitted to return to FQPL3 (including finals/play off games)

Clubs will be permitted to demote a maximum of three (3) U23 players from FQPL 5 to their FQPL 3 Senior Squad in a given week. These players will not be permitted to play in any FQPL5 (Main team or U23 team) (fixture on the same weekend and the player must be 23 or younger.

Under no circumstance will an FQPL 5 First team player be permitted to drop to the FQPL 3 team.

4.6.2 Senior Competitions: Borrowing of Junior Graded Players in Regular Season

Junior Players graded into a junior team who are turning 16 years of age (male) or 15 years of age (female) may be borrowed into Senior FQPL and Community competitive competitions in line with the

below competition rule restrictions.

- a) Boys turning 16 years of age in 2025, or girls turning 15 years of age in 2025 who wish to be borrowed into senior competitions can do so without restriction.
- b) **Boys turning 16 years of age in 2025, or girls turning 15 years of age in 2025 will also be required to complete an Ad Hoc Dispensation Request Form before participating in the senior competition.**
- c) If a club has two or more teams in the same senior division, junior players are not permitted to be borrowed into both teams in that division. Clubs can submit an exemption request for exceptional circumstances due to low player numbers. Any decision made by Football Queensland in regard to the request will be final and not subject to appeal.
- d) **Metro:** Junior Players graded into a Junior team who are turning 16 years of age (male) or 15 years of age (female) may play in the NPL and FQPL First Team and Under 23 Team without restriction for the purposes of development.
- e) **Metro:** Junior players graded into a junior team may be borrowed into Senior Community teams however, borrowing limits will apply. Players who have been listed on the Squadi Team Sheet more than six (6) times in total in any higher Junior or Senior Community Divisional competition for their current club will be regraded. Please refer to [section 4.10.2](#) regarding rules and restrictions.
- f) **South Coast and Darling Downs:** Age eligible junior players graded into a Junior Team can be borrowed into senior competitions without restriction.
- g) **Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf:** Age eligible junior players graded into a Junior Team may be borrowed into Senior FQPL and Community teams in an unlimited capacity, however senior borrowing rules will apply.

For example: An Under 18 player is borrowed into the FQPL Under 23 team during Round 1. In round 2 the player may only be borrowed in that division, the higher division or one division lower. So, in this example in round 2 the player may return to playing for their Under 18 team without restriction but also may be borrowed into the FQPL Main team, FQPL Under 23 team or the Men's Community Division 1 team. They player may not be borrowed into the Community Men Division 2 team.

- i. The only exemption to this rule is age eligible junior girls being borrowed in the Northern region FQPL Women's and Senior Women's Community competitions. They may continue to be borrowed across both competitions without restriction.

NOTE: Although senior borrowing rules will apply, Junior Players will not be included in the 4 player borrowing limit and can be used in addition to the 4 senior players.

4.7 JUNIOR COMPETITIONS: GRADING OF PLAYERS

In addition to Competition Rules [4.4](#) the following Junior competition player grading rules (and sub rules) apply to junior players playing in junior divisions.

- a) All players in Football Queensland competitions are required to play in their eligible age group unless dispensation has been granted by the FQ Competitions Team or Region Manager. Any dispensation request made to Football Queensland to play outside of a player's eligible age group should be made **only if in the best interests of the individual player** considering their technical, physical, psychological and social development.

- b) **Regional:** Where a combined age group is required for competition viability players born in the Eligible Year of Birth for each age may participate in the competition. For example, Players born in 2008 and 2009 may play in a Combined Under 15/16 competition. Players born either a year above or below this age group must apply for dispensation to participate in the competition using the permanent dispensation request form.
- c) **Regional:** All females are encouraged to participate in the age-appropriate girls' competition however if an all-girls competition is not available female players Under the age of 15 (born 2010) are permitted to play one (1) year down in a mixed competition and will not contribute to the playing down limit in section 4.7.2.c. For girls born in 2009/2008 must submit a permanent dispensation request form should they wish to play down in a mixed age competition.
- d) **Far North & Gulf:** A junior female player aged 12 to 16 may register to play in either the junior grade or junior all-girls grade within their club for which their date of birth makes them eligible, e.g. a 14-year-old girl may register in either the Under 14 juniors or Under 13/15 girls and they are able to participate in both competitions with no restriction, however will be subject to player eligibility rules for the final series.

4.7.1 Age Eligibility Table

Age Competition	Eligible Year of Birth
Under 18	Players born in 2007
Under 17	Players born in 2008
Under 16	Players born in 2009
Under 15	Players born in 2010
Under 14	Players born in 2011
Under 13	Players born in 2012

NOTE: Any player playing outside of their designated competition more than 2 years up, or playing 1 year down as per their birth year (reference table above), must apply to FQ Competitions for dispensation through a Permanent Dispensation Request form.

4.7.2 Playing Below Designated Age Group Dispensation

- a) Clubs may request that a player be regraded downward at any time throughout the season, however regrading is only available for a player born in the calendar year directly above the level they wish to be regraded into, e.g., A player born in 2010 (turning 15 in 2025), may request to play down in the U14s for 2025, however a player born in 2009 cannot.
- b) No team may have more than 2 players playing below their designated age group (e.g., an U14 Division 2 team may not have more than 2 players born in 2010 (15 years old) in their team). The exception to this rule is for Girls Only teams, where a maximum of 3 players can be granted dispensation into a team, upon application.
- c) In any instance of a player wishing to play down an age group, the player's club must submit a Permanent Dispensation Request Form to Football Queensland. The determination as to whether a player can play below their designated age group shall be a decision for Football Queensland in its absolute discretion and whose decision shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- d) Clubs may seek dispensation for the following reasons:
 - i) Playing below their designated age group due to physical size

- ii) Playing below their designated age group due to team viability
 - iii) Playing below their designated age group due to being born in the last 3 months of the year
 - iv) Playing below their designated age group for social/cultural grounds
 - v) Playing below their designated age group due to NEVER being previously registered under FA or NEVER previously playing football
- e) If approved, Football Queensland Competitions will then confirm the decision in writing to the relevant club. Please note that until approval is provided, the player CANNOT participate in matches in the lower age group as an eligible player.
- f) If dispensation is granted for a player to play down an age group, said player may be unable to be borrowed into another team in their original age group under any circumstance at any point throughout the season. If a player is found to have been borrowed into a team in their original age group without approval from Football Queensland, they will be deemed to be an ineligible player.
- g) Football Queensland reserves the right to revoke any dispensation approval regarding a player playing below their designated age group at any point in time.
- h) The decision of Football Queensland will be final on whether to allow a dispensation for a player to play below their designated age group.

4.7.3 Playing Above Designated Age Group Dispensation

- a) Any player wishing to participate in an age group one year above their age can do so without completing a dispensation request.
- b) **Far North/Northern:** In exception to rule 4.7.3.a, all players wanting to play one or more years above their designated age group must be granted dispensation from FQ Competitions or Region Manager. All dispensation requests must be submitted through the Ad Hoc Dispensation form.
- c) Any players wishing to participate in age groups two or more years above their eligible age must also complete the Permanent Dispensation Request Form for a determination from FQ.
- d) In exception to rule 4.7.3.a any player wishing to play up in a combined age group i.e., an Under 15 Girl wanting to play in an Under 17 Girls competition or an Under 14 Boy wishing to play up in a combined Under 15/16 competition, must complete an Ad Hoc Dispensation form.

4.7.4 Grading of Under-Age Players Team Restrictions

Further to all competition rules 4.7 regarding players playing above/below their designated age groups the following team limitations also apply to junior competitions.

Competition	Age Restrictions
All U13 competitions (excluding any combined Under 12/13 age groups)	No more than 6 players born in the year 2013 (turning 12 in 2025) can be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet for any fixture *this includes borrowed players
All U14 competitions (excluding any combined Under 13/14 age groups)	No more than 7 players born in the year 2012 (turning 13 in 2025) can be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet for any fixture *this includes borrowed players

All U15 competitions (excluding any combined Under 14/15 age groups)	No more than 6 players born in the year 2011 (turning 14 in 2025) can be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet for any fixture *this includes borrowed players
All U16 competitions (excluding any combined Under 15/16 age groups)	No more than 6 players born in the year 2010 (turning 15 in 2025) can be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet for any fixture *this includes borrowed players

Clubs may apply to Football Queensland to allow an exception to these restrictions in extraordinary circumstances for a particular match or for the full season. The decision of Football Queensland will be final on whether to allow an exception. There shall be no appeal from the decision of Football Queensland in respect of the granting of an exception.

4.8 JUNIOR COMPETITIONS: BORROWING OF PLAYERS

Wherever possible, borrowing should occur from a team of a lower division within the same age group. Borrowing from a team in the same or higher division in the same age group is NOT permitted unless dispensation has been granted by Football Queensland.

- a) **Metro, South Coast, Darling Downs Regions:** Registered competition players may be borrowed to play into higher divisions of the same age group (including FQ Academy Leagues) and a maximum of 1 division lower if being borrowed into an age group higher but may only do so for a maximum of six (6) matches. The maximum number refers to the total number of matches played up and not to each team they may play in, including games borrowed into senior community competitions. On the seventh game a player will be regraded as per [section 4.10](#). Players cannot be borrowed down from FQ Academy Leagues to community competitions in the same age group.
- b) **Metro:** Players in Under 12 teams participating in the Kangaroo or Bilbies divisions are NOT permitted to be borrowed by teams in U13 Division 2 or lower. Teams in U13 Division 2 and lower may borrow from teams from the Under 12 Wallaby and Quokka groupings.
- c) **Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf:** Clubs are encouraged to borrow players from a lower division(s) within the same age group. Players may be able to be borrowed from a lower division(s) within the same age group a maximum of 6 games, On the 7th game the player will be regraded into the higher division as per section 4.11.

Where clubs are unable to borrow players from a lower division in the same age group, they can borrow players from the next age group down. There will be no limitation on this, but FQ will monitor the movement and should FQ deem that a club is taking advantage of this rule and continually playing a child repetitively across two age groups FQ reserves the right to regrade the player as it sees fit. Any determination regarding this will be made at the sole discretion of FQ and will not be subject to appeal.

- d) In the event that a club does not have options available to borrow players within the above outlined rules, the club must apply to Football Queensland for Exception to borrow no more than 2 players that are not permitted to be borrowed within the above requirements, and to field no more than 12 players' total. This exception must be confirmed in writing before the player(s) can take the field of play.
- e) Players are not permitted to borrow from mixed teams to specific boys or girls teams or vice versa without the consent of Football Queensland via email. The decision of Football Queensland shall be in its absolute discretion and shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- f) If a club is ever in doubt, please contact Football Queensland Competitions, PRIOR to adding

players onto a Squadi Team Sheet.

NOTE: For reference, please refer to the Appendix of Player Movement Tables.

4.9 DISPENSATION WHEN RETURNING FROM LONG TERM INJURY

Clubs may apply to Football Queensland Competitions seeking temporary dispensation for a player who is returning from a long-term injury. If granted, this dispensation will allow a player to return from injury to a lower competition for a capped number of fixtures. An Ad hoc Dispensation Request form must be submitted, including medical documentation outlining the players' injury and an injury management plan for the player that dispensation is being requested for.

4.10 REGRADING OF PLAYERS

4.10.1 Regrading of Senior Players in Senior Competitions [ALL regions]

Metro, South Coast and Darling Downs Regions: In accordance with senior borrowing rules if a senior player plays more than six (6) matches for any higher division(s), that player is no longer eligible to play in their original division including finals and will be automatically regraded to the higher division. Should the player have played for multiple divisions the player will be graded into the team where;

- i) The player has played the greatest number of games.
- ii) If the number of games played are equal for two or more teams the player will be graded into the highest of the divisions.

Once the player is regraded into a team all previous borrowed games in any higher division will remain as part of the player's borrowing tally. Should the player exceed the 6-game borrowing total in higher divisions the player will further be regraded into the higher division.

All Other Regions: Due to the 4 Player Down borrowing rule regrading of players for exceeding borrowing limits will not apply.

4.10.2 Regrading of Junior Players in Junior/Senior Competitions [Metro only]

Metro: In accordance with junior and senior borrowing rules if a junior player plays more than six (6) matches for any higher junior age group(s)/senior community division(s), that player is no longer eligible to play in their original division including finals and will be automatically regraded to the higher division. Should the player have played for multiple age groups/senior divisions the player will be graded into the team where;

- i) The player has played the greatest number of games.
- ii) If the number of games played are equal for two or more teams the player will be graded to the highest of the divisions.

If a junior graded player exceeds the allowable borrows and subsequently become regraded into a senior team, they will no longer be eligible to be borrowed freely into the FQPL First Team or Under 23 team and regular borrowing limits will apply from the time of regrading.

Once the player is regraded into a team all previous borrowed games in any higher Senior Community divisions will remain as part of the player's borrowing tally including FQPL. Should the player exceed the 6-game borrowing total in higher divisions the player will further be regraded into the higher division.

4.10.3 Regrading of Junior Players in Junior Competitions [Regional Competitions]

South Coast, Darling Downs Regions: In accordance with junior borrowing rules if a junior player plays more than six (6) matches for any higher junior division(s)/age group(s) that player is no longer eligible to play in their original division including finals and will be automatically regraded to the higher division. Should the player have played for multiple age groups/divisions the player will be graded into the team where;

- i) The player has played the greatest number of games.
- ii) If the number of games played are equal for two or more teams the player will be graded to the highest of the divisions.

Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Northern, Far North & Gulf: In accordance with Junior borrowing rules if a junior player plays more than six (6) matches for any higher junior division(s) in their age group that player is no longer eligible to play in their original division and will be automatically regraded to the higher division. Should the player have played for multiple divisions the player will be graded into the team where;

- i) The player has played the greatest number of games.
- ii) If the number of games played are equal for two or more teams the player will be graded to the highest of the divisions.

Players may be borrowed to play up an age group if required however FQ will monitor this and should FQ deem that the club is taking advantage and continually playing a child repetitively across two age groups FQ reserves the right to re-grade the player.

Regional: Once the player is regraded into a team all previous borrowed games in any higher division will remain as part of the players borrowing tally. Should the player exceed the 6-game borrowing total in higher divisions the player will further be regraded into the higher division.

4.11 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY BORROWING EXCEPTION

Clubs may apply to Football Queensland to allow an exception to these rules in extraordinary circumstances using an Ad Hoc Dispensation Form.

Any application to borrow players outside of allowable borrowing rules are to be sent to Football Queensland, no later than 5pm of the Thursday prior to the commencement of a team's match. Any applications submitted after the 5pm deadline will not be considered until the following Monday. Any Players found to have been borrowed without permission will be deemed ineligible players and subject to The Penalties and Outcomes as per [Section 4.15](#).

The decision of Football Queensland will be final on whether to allow an exception. There shall be no appeal from the decision of Football Queensland in respect of the granting of an exception.

4.12 MINIROOS PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) Players must turn at least four years of age during the calendar year to register.
- b) Clubs may apply to FQ to run their own internal MiniRoos competition. FQ may decline this application in its absolute discretion, this is not subject to appeal.
- c) In the event FQ grants the application all players must still be registered in Squadi.

4.13 FINALS ELIGIBILITY

Players in competitive age groups and divisions become eligible for finals when they have played a minimum of six (6) matches in any division.

Match Recording: Appearances are recorded via the Squadi team sheet. In divisions using 'Interchange', all players listed on the team sheet are considered as played. In divisions using 'Substitution', players who are marked as having taken the field are considered as played.

Promotion Eligibility: Where a player qualifies by playing six matches in a division, they are subsequently eligible for divisions above it in the football pyramid, but not below. Additionally, players must meet the age eligibility requirements for any divisions they are borrowed into.

Junior to Senior Transition: Junior players wishing to play into Senior finals, where age eligible, must qualify for Senior finals in their own right, i.e. playing six matches for the corresponding Senior division. They then become eligible to play finals in that Senior division and any Senior division higher than where they qualified.

Senior to Junior Transition: Registered Senior players must remain in Senior competitions, upholding the spirit of the game and maintaining competition integrity. (i.e. U16-18) Any registered Senior players that are age eligible for Juniors and wishing to play into Junior divisions require exemption to do so.

Primary Divisions: Where appearances are equal in any two divisions irrespective of whether those divisions are Juniors or Seniors (including FQPL & Under 23), the player is tied to the higher division team and cannot participate in divisions below.

Exemptions: Clubs may apply to Football Queensland for exemption to the eligibility rules. All requests for exemptions must be made via email prior to the commencement of the Finals Series for each particular competition. Football Queensland reserves the right to declare eligible any player it deems to have satisfied the intent and spirit of these rules. The decision of Football Queensland will be in its absolute discretion and is not subject to appeal.

4.14 PROTESTS (INELIGIBLE PLAYERS)

Any club is permitted to lodge a protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player(s). A Squadi Incident Report must be lodged by a designated club official or contact outlining the following:

- a) The details of the specific player(s) involved;
- b) The specific rule(s) that the opposition is alleged to have breached;
- c) Sufficient evidence (photo, video, team sheet) to support the protest;
- d) Should the protest involve the allegation of a player playing under another player's name, the protest is required to include a photograph of the player(s).

Any protest that does not meet the specific requirements as outlined above will not be addressed by Football Queensland.

- a) Protests must be lodged within **14 days** of a completed fixture. After this time, all parties are deemed to have accepted the result of the fixture as it stands. In the final two weeks of the Regular Season and the entirety of the Finals Series, protests must be lodged within 48 hours of a completed fixture.

In the event that the protest is upheld, the Penalties and Outcomes as per [Section 4.15.2](#) will apply. In the event that the protest is dismissed, the match result will stand.

- b) Football Queensland reserves the right to investigate a matter outside of the above timeline if it

suspects that a serious and/or deliberate breach or manipulation has occurred during a fixture. Any decision to investigate a matter outside of the above timeline will be made at Football Queensland's sole and absolute discretion and is not subject to appeal.

FQ also reserves the right to investigate any matter at its own discretion even though a formal protest has not been lodged.

In the case of a breach that results in an ineligible player playing a number of fixtures in succession, Football Queensland reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to take action on the initial fixture only should it be satisfied that the breach was of an accidental nature.

Any decision made by Football Queensland in relation to a player's eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.

4.15 BREACHES IN PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PENALTIES & OUTCOMES

If a player is found to have participated in a match while in breach of any eligibility requirements (e.g., unregistered, suspended, out of age, identity fraud, not on Squadi Team Sheet, ineligible for finals), the player will be deemed to be an ineligible player. The following penalties and fines will apply.

4.15.1 Table of Penalties and Outcomes for Breaches in Player Eligibility

Offence	Competition	Penalties and Outcomes for 1st Offence	Penalties and Outcomes for Repeat Offence (Same Team)
Participation in match while in breach of registration requirements As per Section 4	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Participation in match while serving a disciplinary suspension. As per Section 4.3	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result Extension of suspension at the discretion of Football Queensland	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result Extension of suspension at the discretion of Football Queensland
Participation in a match above/below eligible age without approval from Football Queensland. As per Section 4	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Failure to adhere to overage player restrictions as per 2023 Club Licensing Documents.	FQPL 3 - 6 Men FQPL 3 Women (including U23s)	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result

As per Section 2.4.4			
Failure to adhere to visa player restrictions as per 2023 Club Licensing Documents. As per Section 2.4.2	FQPL 3 – 6 FQPL 3 Women (including U23s)	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Breach of restriction on number of players playing above their age without approval from Football Queensland. As per Section 4.7.4	All U13 and U14 Competitions (excluding FQ Academy U13 Girls)	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Written warning	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of result
Participation in match while in breach of borrowing restrictions as without the approval of Football Queensland. As per Section 4	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Participation in match while in breach of Finals Eligibility restrictions without the approval of Football Queensland. As per Section 4.13	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Participation in match when not listed on the Squadi Team Sheet (If player is determined to meet all other eligibility requirements). As per Section 5.12	FQPL 3 - 6 Men FQPL 3 Women (including U23s)	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
	Junior and Senior Divisional Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Written warning	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Exceeding maximum allowable players on Squadi Team Sheet e.g. 16 players listed but 18 participate overall throughout the match. As per Section 5.12	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document per additional player Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document per additional player Overturning of Result
Incorrect Jersey Numbers listed on Squadi Team Sheet.	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result

As per Section 5.12		Written warning	
Incorrect Photo ID loaded on Squadi Team Sheet. As per Section 5.12	All Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Written warning	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
Failure to submit Squadi Team Sheet by 15 minutes prior to scheduled fixture. As per Section 5.12	All Senior Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result
	Junior Divisional Competitions	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Written warning	Financial penalty as per Fines and Penalties Document Overturning of Result

4.15.2 Overturning Match Results due to Breaches in Player Eligibility by one Team

All overturned results will be recorded as a forfeit and the goals recorded as 3 goals to the team receiving the points and 0 by the team who has infringed the regulations, unless the goal difference for the Team receiving the forfeit is greater than 3, in which case they will receive the number of goals scored for in the match, with the forfeiting team receiving nil. Yellow Cards and Red Cards received in the match will not be expunged and will be included in player accumulation records. Goal scorer stats are retained for players in the winning team.

The above Penalties and Outcomes may be applied at the discretion of Football Queensland, with additional sanctions able to be imposed if deemed appropriate.

4.15.3 Overturning Match Results due to Breaches in Player Eligibility by both Teams

If it is established that both clubs competing in any Football Queensland competition match fielded players who were ineligible to play, the clubs of the ineligible player(s) will be fined as per the Penalties and Outcomes above, and the following will apply:

- a) The match will be deemed as a NO RESULT, whereby, no points will be awarded.
- b) Football Queensland may suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending clubs or players.

If a Finals Series match or Cup match is declared a "No Result", Football Queensland may determine that the match be replayed.

5 FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS

5.1 FACILITIES/GROUND CONDITIONS

Each club must ensure their compliance with the [Football Queensland Playing Facilities Standards](#) available on the Football Queensland website.

The Venue Manager and/or home club must ensure;

- a) The fields are correctly marked, including the technical area, as per FIFA Laws of the Game.
- b) It provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened to the ground and corner flags; if portable goals are used, they are anchored as per the Australian Standards.
- c) It provides toilets/lockable dressing rooms for players and match officials that are hygienic and clean.
- d) It has adequate toilet/refreshment/canteen facilities (within reason) open to the public.
- e) It provides a safe environment for players, officials, and spectators.
- f) The playing surface must not cause a danger to players or officials.
- g) The dimensions of the playing field shall conform to the [IFAB Laws of the Game](#)
- h) Any club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be fined, suspended or have its home fixtures played away.

In the event the HOME team's ground is not ready, in the opinion of the match officials, to commence a fixture or finals match by 15 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time; maybe deemed to have forfeited the match and will be subject to Fines & Penalties as outlined in the [2025 Fines & Penalties document](#).

5.2 THE TECHNICAL AREA

The technical area relates to matches played with a designated sitting area for a team, officials, substitutes and substituted players and shall conform to Laws of the Game.

- a) Each Venue Manager and/or club must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by FIFA guidelines and provide sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match
- b) For all matches played during the Regular Season and Finals Series, a maximum of eleven (11) persons in FQPL First grade Men or ten (10) persons in all other competitions are permitted to occupy the Technical Area for each club during any fixture. This includes the six (6) named substitutes in FQPL Men First Grade or five (5) named substitutes in all other competitions and up to five (5) Team Officials. This can include the coach, assistant coach, the substitutes and team trainer or medical staff.
- c) Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player, or a registered Team Official who can provide the appropriate accreditation at all times; All occupants must be selected on the Squadi Team Sheet, to be allowed in the Technical Area.
- d) All substitutes must wear bibs or an alternative-coloured uniform to both team strips. They must be seated within the technical area but are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area in an area furthest from the opposing team. This is for match officials and players to distinguish them from on-field players.

- e) A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.
- f) Only one person at a time is authorized to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and they must return to their position after giving these instructions.
- g) A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area
- h) Only one person at a time is authorized to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and they must return to their position after giving these instructions.
- i) The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the Match Official's permission, to assess an injured player.
- j) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The Match Official has the right to eject any person from the Technical Area at any time as he/she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left to the Match Official's satisfaction.
- k) Smoking and drinking alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all its occupants, including players, coaching staff, club marshals and officials.

The penalty for breach of this Clause 4.2 shall be at Football Queensland's sole and absolute discretion.

5.3 LIGHTING

Clubs wishing to host twilight and night fixtures must ensure their venue complies with [the Football Queensland Facilities Lighting Standards](#). The club is to submit a certified field lighting audit to Football Queensland for each field (as desired) prior to the season's commencement and have received approval for competition play by Football Queensland. Certification is based on an audit of the lighting system by a qualified lighting consultant/electrician and the club is to pay the cost of the audit. This applies to any fixtures wishing to be scheduled after 3:15pm.

5.4 MEDICAL

All Venue Managers and/or clubs must provide spectator and player medical support service during scheduled matches. The minimum requirement is a person who is First Aid trained being in attendance at each venue hosting scheduled matches.

5.4.1 Stretchers

Venue Managers and/or clubs must ensure the availability of at least one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all scheduled matches and only utilise under the supervision of an appropriately qualified person.

5.4.2 Ambulance Access

Unrestricted access to the field of play shall be provided for Ambulance vehicles when required and be clearly signed.

5.4.3 Blood Ruling

In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he/she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to re-join the game.

In the event blood has spilled onto a player's uniform or attire, the Match Official will instruct that player to change their attire before being permitted to re-join the game. If blood has been spilled/pooled on the field of play the referee may ask for the area to be washed down or covered with sand.

Should the injured player be required to change their uniform, then the match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary.

5.4.4 Concussion Management

Any player with a suspected concussion should be immediately removed from play, and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed by a qualified medical practitioner as per the FA Concussion Guidelines. There should be no return to play on the day of a concussive injury.

5.4.5 Heat Management Strategy

The Match Official should refer to Football Queensland Heat Policy to determine one of the following;

- a) To play the match under standard conditions
- b) To play the match with provision for drinks breaks
- c) To delay the match; or
- d) To postpone the match

The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the Players and Match Officials.

5.5 WET WEATHER CANCELLATION PROCESS

5.5.1 Wet Weather General

All correspondence by Football Queensland sent to clubs in relation to wet weather shall be deemed to have been received by clubs. It is therefore essential for clubs to do the following:

- a) Ensure your contacts for the club are up to date with Football Queensland's Club Contacts and in Squadi.
- b) Ensure the contact(s) has supplied a mobile phone number with their contact details to Football Queensland.

Each club is only responsible for notifying their own club members of field closures.

5.5.2 Mid-week & Friday Night Cancellations

If a club deems that its fields are unplayable as a result of wet weather, clubs must submit a Squadi Wet weather notification to Football Queensland **no later than 3:30pm** on the afternoon of the match. The HOME club is responsible for submitting the notification via Squadi, with Football Queensland to then determine whether matches proceed.

If Football Queensland elects to postpone a match, Squadi will generate a notification to both clubs.

If matches have not been postponed by 3:30pm, it is then the Match Official's (this includes Club Match Officials) decision, on arrival, as to whether matches are to go ahead. Should the Match Official postpone matches, **the Match Official must submit an abandoned match notification via Squadi.**

Should a match be postponed after 3:30pm clubs will incur a charge of 50% of the assigned Match Official fees.

If any HOME club does not abide by the Wet Weather Procedures, they may be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be subject to the Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in [Section 3.4.1.](#)

5.5.3 Saturday & Sunday Cancellations

If a club deems that its fields are unplayable as a result of wet weather, clubs must submit a Squadi Wet weather notification to Football Queensland **no less than three (3) hours prior to the kick-off time**, of the first scheduled match of the day. The only exception to this is for matches scheduled before 9:30am, in this instance the home club is required to submit the Squadi wet weather notification by 6:30am. The HOME club is responsible for submitting the notification via Squadi, with Football Queensland to then determine whether matches proceed.

If Football Queensland elects to postpone a match, Squadi will generate a notification to both clubs.

If matches have not been postponed 3 hours before the match kickoff time, it is then the Match Official's (this includes Club Match Officials) decision, on arrival, as to whether matches are to go ahead. Should the Match Official postpone matches, **the Match Official must submit an abandoned match notification via Squadi.**

Should a match be postponed less than three hours before kickoff clubs will incur a charge of 50% of the assigned Match Official fees.

If any HOME club does not abide by the Wet Weather Procedures, they may be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be subject to the Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in [Section 3.4.1.](#)

5.5.4 MiniRoos and Under 12 Cancellations

Metro, Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Northern: In the event of wet weather and/or a ground closure MiniRoos games WILL NOT be rescheduled.

Whitsunday Coast, Far North & Gulf, South Coast: Should severe weather cancel all MiniRoos and Under 12 games the games will be rescheduled to the next available catchup weekend, following Sunday or alternative available day.

5.6 GROUND OFFICIALS

The Ground Officials must always be clearly visible, wearing an identifiable fluorescent vest and located near the field of play. The number of ground officials required per competition can be found in the table below.

A Ground Official must be over the age of 18 and cannot be involved in any other duties whilst acting in this capacity (i.e. not match officiating, coaching, canteen, or bar duties, etc). The ground official cannot consume alcohol 6 hours prior to or on duty.

The ground official(s) must make themselves known to the Match Officials 10 minutes prior to the match

and provide an escort for all match officials before kick-off, at half time and full time. A Match Official may refuse to commence a fixture if no Ground Official is present. Should a match official not present themselves 15 minutes after the scheduled kickoff time the Match Official may abandon the match.

A full list of Ground Official Roles and Responsibilities can be found [here](#).

Any club found in breach of not providing a ground official or not fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of a ground official is liable to be fined as per the [Fines and Penalties Document](#).

5.6.1 Table of Ground Officials Required

Competition	Ground Officials Required for Regular Season Matches
FQPL Competitions	HOME team to provide ONE Ground Official AWAY team to provide ONE Ground Official
Senior Community Competitions	HOME team to provide ONE Ground Official AWAY team to provide ONE Ground Official
Junior FQA and Community Competitions	HOME team to provide ONE Ground Official AWAY team to provide ONE Ground Official
MiniRoos and Under 12 Competitions	HOME Club to provide ONE Ground Official per 2 fields being utilized. If a centralised venue the home team must provide ONE Ground Official.

5.7 MATCH BALLS

Host clubs are responsible for providing a minimum of three (3) match balls for all fixture games. The designated home team at each match shall ensure that three (3) match balls are supplied to the Match Official prior to the commencement of the match. All three balls shall be of the same brand and must be a licensed match ball.

Match Officials will report breaches of the match ball licensing arrangement to FQ. Licensing regulations provide that any clubs that breach the licensing requirements may be liable for a fine for each breach.

FQ reserves the right to mandate a match ball brand for the purposes of commercial sponsorship within the competition. Mitre is the official match ball for 2025. Below is a table of the minimum match ball required for each competition level.

Competition	Match Ball Size	Match Ball
FQPL 3 – 6 and Regional FQPL	Size 5	Delta One
Community Seniors & Juniors (Under 14+)	Size 5	Calcio Max (minimum ball)
Under 13	Size 4	Calcio Max (minimum ball)
MiniRoos Under 10 – 11 and Under 12	Size 4	Calcio Max (minimum ball)
MiniRoos Under 9 and below	Size 3	Calcio Max (minimum ball)

5.8 PLAYING STRIPS

All clubs must nominate a "Main" and "Alternate" strip on the official club affiliation form. The alternate strip must be of a different colour (this applies to shirts, shorts and socks) to the nominated main strip. Teams must either wear the full "Main" or "Alternate" strip that has been nominated to Football Queensland. A Kit Guide is available on the Football Queensland website but is subjective to submission from clubs.

Teams are not permitted to advertise political slogans/candidates or any alcohol, tobacco or gambling related products or on their playing strips. Sponsorship advertising on playing strips shall conform to the Football Queensland Kit guidelines.

All playing strips must have clearly visible numbers on the back of the jerseys. FQPL also must have the matching number on the front right-hand side of the shorts.

Goalkeepers can wear either their main or alternate strip provided it does not clash with either team or Match Official/Assistants. They **MUST NOT** wear replica strips.

Team captain - Each team must have a captain on the field of play who wears an identifying armband. The team captain has no special status or privileges but has a degree of responsibility for the behaviour of the team.

All first named clubs will be deemed the "HOME" team and will play in their nominated Main colours. In the event there is a clash of both club's Main kit colours, it is the responsibility of the "**AWAY**" team to change to an alternate strip.

AWAY teams must take their alternate strip (shirts, shorts, and socks) to every match and will be required to change if the appointed Match Official requests it as per requirements listed below in 5.8.1.

Team Managers should check the strip worn by their opponents to avoid the likelihood of a clash. The penalty for breach of this clause shall be as per the [Fines and Penalties Document](#).

In the event any parts of either team's kit clashes after changing, a combination of Main and Alternate strips must be worn to avoid any clash.

5.8.1 Table of Permitted Clashes of Playing Strip

Clubs and Match Officials should refer to the following table which lists which items of the strip are permitted to clash for different Leagues.

Region	FQPL 3 – 6 Men, FQPL 3 Women	Community Seniors	All Juniors
Jersey	No clash permitted	No clash permitted	No clash permitted
Shorts	Clash permitted	Clash permitted	Clash permitted
Socks	No clash permitted	Clash permitted	Clash permitted

NOTE: MiniRoos and U12 may wear bibs to resolve kit clashes.

If a Competition Fixture does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that a club did not comply with the requirements above, the offending club may be

deemed to have forfeited the match and will be subject to the Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in [Section 3.4.1](#).

Should a Match Official proceed with a match in which a club has not complied with the requirements above, the Match Official is to report this to Football Queensland and the offending club will be fined and provided with a warning. If any team within the offending club repeats the same offence they will be penalised with a forfeit (See [Fines and Penalties Document](#)).

5.9 PLAYER EQUIPMENT

Refer to Laws of the Game - [Law 4](#)

5.10 JEWELRY

In accordance with FIFA "Laws of the Game", a player is forbidden to wear any jewelry.

Refer to [IFAB Laws of the Game](#) - Law 4

5.11 ALCOHOL

It shall be the licensed Venue Manager and/or club responsibility to enforce all Liquor Licensing requirements in the sale and responsible service of alcohol.

Should persons be seen to be in breach of these rules, the ground official should advise such person to conform to the rules immediately. Should such person(s) refuse to adhere to that request, the ground official shall be at liberty to contact the police to have such person(s) removed.

5.12 SQUADI TEAM SHEETS

Both the home and away teams are expected to have submitted their Squadi Team Sheet with player selections and Team Officials, 15 minutes prior to the scheduled fixture. If teams cannot submit the team sheet for any reason FQ must receive an email before kick off with the team line up. Failure to do so may result in a sanction as per these Rules of Competition or the 2025 Fines & Penalties Document.

Any required changes to the player selections after this deadline must be raised with the Match Official and a Squadi incident report detailing relevant changes must be submitted by the manager/club prior to kick off and the Match Official on entering the results of a game.

Squadi Teams Sheets must be submitted with the following information:

- a) All players and officials participating in the match are listed on the Squadi Team Sheet with an identifiable ID Photo.
- b) All players are listed with the correct jersey number.
- c) No more than the permitted number of players are listed on the Squadi Team Sheet.

If clubs believe information (results, goal scorers and/or cards) have been recorded incorrectly in Squadi, an email must be sent to FQ Competitions or regional manager no later than 7 days after the match result has been loaded. The email must be sent by a designated Club Official.

No Club Official or Match Official has the power to refuse to allow an opposition player to take the field for any reason. If there are any discrepancies between the Squadi Team Sheet and the players and team officials participating in the match the Match Official must include this in an incident report.

Any breaches the submission of Squadi Team Sheets will be subject to fines and penalties in accordance with [Section 4.15](#) and the [Fines and Penalties Document](#).

5.13 FIXTURE RESULTS

If no Football Queensland Match Official is appointed to a match, it is the responsibility of the **HOME club** to submit the results of the match **by 9am Tuesday** following the weekend fixtures (Fri-Sun) and by **midday the following day** for mid-week fixtures (Mon-Thu). Failure to enter scores will result in the score being recorded as 0-0.

- a) At the conclusion of each match, the FQ Match Official or the appointed Club Match Official shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing both Squadi Team Sheets and Send Off/Incident Reports in Squadi.
- b) Once completed, the FQ Match Official or the appointed Club Match Official must ensure that Squadi Team Sheets and any Send-off/Incident Reports are submitted to FQ through the appropriate channels. It is crucial that all information is submitted to FQ by no later than two (2) days after the completion of the match
- c) In the event a club official approaches the FQ Match Official or the appointed Club Match Official seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the Match Official should instruct the club official to send the protest through a Squadi incident report.
- d) The FQ Match Official or the appointed Club Match Official must check that clubs do not list more than seventeen (17) players in FQPL First Grade Teams, sixteen (16) players in FQPL U23s/Community Seniors/U14 – U18 Community Juniors and fourteen (14) players in the Under 13 Community Juniors on the Squadi Team Sheet for any match;
- e) Please note that the Squadi Team Sheets, Match Official Summary & Send-Off/Incident Reports from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript.

6 MATCH OFFICIALS

All Match Officials (including Club Referees) must be registered in Squadi before being able to officiate matches.

Football Queensland Match Officials must wear their official uniform. This includes Teal Shirt for First Year Referees and a pink arm band for Match Officials deemed as a minor (Under the age of 18).

Football Queensland match official appointments will be published weekly on the [Football Queensland Match Day Appointments Webpage](#). Football Queensland appointed match officials will display as FQ Referee next to each match. If the Referee/AR1/AR2 field next to the match is blank no FQ Match Official has been appointed in that position and clubs will need to appoint Club Match Officials.

An FQ appointed Match Official shall have priority over a club appointed Match Official to officiate the match when the FQ Referee Department has made the appointment.

Football Queensland Match Officials may wear Body Worn Video Cameras and may record incidents. This footage may be used in FQ judiciary proceedings.

6.1 NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL

Should the appointed match official fail to honour their appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture; provided they are qualified to officiate the match. In the event of an appointed Match Official failing to honour their appointment, please submit a Squadi incident report to advise FQ.

In the event the appointed Centre Match Official is late on arrival, then the next most senior Match Official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture; provided they are qualified to officiate the match until the appointed Centre Match Official is ready to take over. In circumstances where only one Match Official has been appointed, the home team is requested to provide a Club Assistant to assist the Match Official. If necessary, the away club may be asked to provide an Assistant. However, the game should not start without two Assistants if the Match Official requests them, this decision will be at the Match Official's discretion.

In circumstances where no Assistant Match Officials have been appointed, the home team is requested to provide two Club Assistants to assist the Match Official. If necessary, the away club may be asked to provide an Assistant. Please note, the game should not start without 2 Assistants, however this decision will be at the Match Official's discretion.

If the parties can't agree on the above, but there is a Match Official who has the appropriate accreditation, he/she shall officiate the game, which must be played.

6.1.1 Non-attendance or unavailability of Match Officials in Senior Competitions

If the home team is unable to provide a Match Official, the away team may provide the Match Official. If neither team can provide a Match Official, they may choose to postpone the match. The home team manager must complete an abandoned match submission through Squadi as soon as possible. Both teams must agree within five (5) working days on a date for the rescheduling of the match and advise Football Queensland. If a reschedule is not agreed upon within this time, a 0-0 draw may be recorded as the result of the match. Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule the match.

6.1.2 Non-attendance or unavailability of Match Officials in Junior Competitions

All clubs are expected to fulfil all fixtures regardless of whether a Match Official is present to take charge.

Should any club fail or refuse to participate in any fixture on the above grounds, then the offending club may be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be subject to the Penalties and Outcomes as detailed in [Section 3.4.1](#).

6.2 MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES

All match officials' fees will be invoiced to the club on a weekly basis, where applicable.

- a) **Metro, South Coast:** Regular Season Fixtures - fees are paid by the home club.
- b) Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern, Far North And Gulf: Regular Season Fixtures - fees are split 50/50 between the home and away club.
- c) The Match Official Fee Structure per competition can be found on [Football Queensland website](#).
- d) Elimination/Qualifying, Semi and Preliminary Finals – fees will be shared equally by competing teams.
- e) Grand Finals – fees will be paid by Football Queensland.
- f) Forfeited and abandoned matches – please refer to [Fines and Penalties document](#).

7 INTERPRETATIONS, DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

Football Queensland reserves the right to rule on any interpretation of these rules if any dispute arises. Clubs are advised to seek clarification from Football Queensland if in any doubt as to the meaning of these rules. Applications for variances to these rules must be lodged by the club Secretary to the Manager – Statewide Competitions with all supporting documentation. Football Queensland reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.

A request for a review of a decision in relation to a breach of the Competition Rules will not be considered unless the club seeking the review provides significant new or additional evidence. Football Queensland in those circumstances will review the decision and allow the clubs to provide a submission (written or oral). The decision on the review by Football Queensland will be final and not subject to appeal.

8 APPENDIX: PLAYER MOVEMENT TABLES

8.1.1 Junior Player Movement Table (Divisions are based on the Metro 2024 competition and may be subject to change)

Junior Players Graded Division	Junior Player Movement Eligibility (Players may be borrowed into divisions indicated with a tick in the table below)																																			
	U18 FQA 1-2	U18 FQA 3-4	U18 JL FQPL	U18 Div 1	U18 Div 2	U18 Div 3	U18 Div 4	U16 FQA 1-2	U16 FQA 3-4	U16 JL FQPL	U16 Div 1	U16 Div 2	U15 FQA 1-2	U15 FQA 3-4	U15 JL FQPL	U15 Div 1	U15 Div 2	U15 Div 3	U14 FQA 1-2	U14 FQA 3-4	U14 JL FQPL	U14 Div 1	U14 Div 2	U14 Div 3	U14 Div 4	U13 FQA 1-2	U13 FQA 3-4	U13 JL FQPL	U13 Div 1	U13 Div 2	U13 Div 3	U13 Div 4	U13 Div 5			
U18 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)																																				
U18 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)	✓																																			
U18 JL/FQPL	✓	✓																																		
U18 Div 1	✓	✓	✓																																	
U18 Div 2	✓	✓	✓	✓																																
U18 Div 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																															
U18 Div 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																														
U16 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)	✓	✓																																		
U16 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)	✓	✓	✓					✓																												
U16 JL/FQPL	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓																											
U16 Div 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓																										
U16 Div 2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓																									
U15 FQA 1-2 (SEQ Only)								✓	✓																											
U15 FQA 3-4 (SEQ Only)								✓	✓	✓			✓																							
U15 JL/FQPL								✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓																						
U15 Div 1								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																						
U15 Div 2								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																					
U15 Div 3								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																				
U14 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)													✓	✓																						
U14 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)													✓	✓	✓				✓																	
U14 JL/FQPL													✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓																
U14 Div 1													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓															
U14 Div 2													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
U14 Div 3													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓													
U14 Div 4													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓												
U13 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)																			✓	✓																
U13 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)																			✓	✓	✓					✓										
U13 JL/FQPL																			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓									
U13 Div 1																			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓								
U13 Div 2																			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓							
U13 Div 3																			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
U13 Div 4																			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
U13 Div 5																			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
U12 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)																										✓	✓									
U12 FQA 3 (SEQ only)																									✓	✓	✓									
U12 Kangaroo																									✓	✓	✓	✓								
U12 Wallaby/Quokka																									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

8.1.2 Junior and Senior Player Movement Table

Players Graded Division	Senior and Junior Playing Senior Player Movement Eligibility (Divisions based on the Metro 2023 competition and may be subject to change)																						
	NPL	NPL U23	FQPL 1	FQPL 1 U23	FQPL 2	FQPL 2 U23	FQPL 3	FQPL 3 U23	FQPL 4	FQPL 4 U23	FQPL 5	FQPL 5 U23	FQPL 6	FQPL 6 U23	CM Div 1	CM Div 2	CM Div 3	CM Div 4	CM Div 5	CM Div 6	CM Div 7	CM Div 8	CM Div 9
NPL First Grade	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
NPL U23	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 1 First Grade	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 1 U23	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 2 First Grade	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 2 U23	☐	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 3 First Grade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 3 U23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 4 First Grade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 4 U23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 5 First Grade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 5 U23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 6 First Grade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
FQPL 6 U23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐
Community Mens Div 9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐
U18 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U18 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U18 JL/FQPL	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U18 Div 1	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U18 Div 2	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U18 Div 3	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U18 Div 4	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U18 Div 4	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U16 FQA 1-2 (SEQ only)	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U16 FQA 3-4 (SEQ only)	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U16 JL/FQPL	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
U16 Div 1	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U16 Div 2	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

LEGEND

- ✓ Borrowing (limitations apply)
- ∞ Unlimited Borrowing
- ☐ Cannot be borrowed

This table is based on Metro competition rules.

Please also refer to Regional Specific Rules for borrowing requirements within your region.

Clubs can apply for exemptions for borrowing players outside the parameter of this table.



FOOTBALL
QUEENSLAND