

# **Annexe 5**

# **Masters League**

## Article 1 - Competition Format

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1. A club may not enter more than one team into the same division unless the club enters more teams than there are divisions or at the discretion of Football West.
2. There will be a premier division and a division one comprising teams from the metropolitan area.
3. Other divisions will comprise teams, where possible, which are located in similar geographical locations.
4. Teams will be ranked in their divisions according to the number of competition points they accrue over the season.
5. The team finishing in 1st place of each division at the conclusion of the season will be crowned the champion team for that season. The order in which teams finish the competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Article 2.
6. The clubs finishing in 1st and 2nd places of division one at the end of the season, will play in the premier division in the following season.
7. The clubs finishing in 11th and 12th places of the premier division at the end of the season will play in division one in the following season. If there are not twelve teams in the premier division, Football West will determine which teams are relegated, if any.
8. If enacting paragraphs 6 or 7 causes paragraph 1 to be breached, then Football West will determine which clubs are promoted and relegated, if any.
9. There will be no automatic promotion and relegation between division one and the divisions specified in paragraph 3. However, the clubs which finish in 1st position in North Division One and South Division One may nominate to play in Masters Division One the following season. If either or both clubs exercise this option, then the teams occupying 11th and 12th positions in Masters Division One may be relegated subject to other rules and regulations, their geographical locations and the discretion of Football West.
10. A club may request a change to the division of one or more of its teams in the Masters League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to the applicable fees. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.

## Article 2 - Competition Points

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1. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. Points are not transferable between divisions.
2. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the season, the following criteria are applied in order to determine the higher ranking team.

- a) the team with the superior goal difference
- b) the team with the higher number of goals scored
- c) the number of points gained in matches between the teams concerned
- d) the superior goal difference in matches between the teams concerned
- e) the team with the lower number of red cards
- f) the team with the lower number of yellow cards
- g) the drawing of lots

### **Article 3 - Individual Awards**

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1. An award will be presented to the player who scores the most goals in his division during the regular season. If two or more players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those players.

### **Article 4 - Venue**

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1. The home venue of a Masters League club must meet the criteria of a Class D venue as specified in the Football West Competition Management By-Law.
2. A club may request to change its home ground venue but may do so only by written application to Football West. Football West reserves the right to refuse any application if the facilities do not meet the criteria as specified in the Football West Competition Management By-Law.
3. Football West reserves the right to reject any application for a change of venue if the proposed new venue is within 5 kilometres of another Masters League club.
4. Football West reserves the right to require that its sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all Football West fixtures.
5. Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Masters League Fixtures are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

### **Article 5 - Fixtures**

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1. With the exception of abandoned fixtures, each period of a fixture must last for a minimum of 30 minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
2. The duration of the half time interval will be 10 minutes.
3. The referee may adjust the duration of a fixture to ensure that a following fixture on the same field of play commences at the scheduled kick-off time.
4. When a fixture is shortened in accordance with paragraph 3, each match official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal match fee.

5. Once fixtures have been published, no changes may be made unless otherwise provided for in these rules. A club may request a fixture change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing, not less than seven days prior to the scheduled kick-off date. This request may or may not be approved by Football West in its discretion. Any request for a fixture change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition club.
6. A club which has been granted a fixture change in accordance with paragraph 5 is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged fixture.
7. On days in which the temperature is expected to be high, the referee may use his discretion to allow players to take drink breaks. During any such break, all players must remain on the field of play.
8. The home club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first fixture of the day until the conclusion of the final fixture of the day unless being utilised.
9. Each team must have a first aid kit available at the venue on the date of the fixture.
10. The result of each fixture must be sent by SMS to 0452 233 842 or by email to [results@footballwest.com.au](mailto:results@footballwest.com.au) no later than 5:45pm on the day of the fixture, unless the fixture kicks off after 3:30pm.  
**Maximum Penalty for Breach                      \$22**
11. Football West may from time to time nominate any fixture as being under the direct control of Football West. In such circumstances, Football West will determine the conditions under which the fixture is to be played.
12. Substitutes in the Masters League are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game forbidding further participation in the fixture. All substitutes in the Masters League are able to be substituted on and off the field of play on multiple occasions.
13. No more than five named substitutes may be listed on the team list of which a maximum of five may be used in any one fixture.

## **Article 6 - Ground Marshals**

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1. Each club must appoint a ground marshal for each fixture whose duties are:
  - a) to ensure the security and safety of players, match referees and club officials;
  - b) to supervise the conduct of ball persons if provided;
  - c) to liaise with club officials and emergency services if required;
  - d) to ensure the security of the venue, players, match referees and club officials at the conclusion of the fixture; and
  - e) to provide an escort for the referee to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period.

2. Neither the coach nor manager of a team involved in a fixture may act as ground marshal for that fixture.
3. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
4. All ground marshals must have access to all areas of the ground at all times. Ground marshals may not be limited to a specific location (for example, the person working in a canteen may not be a ground marshal).
5. All ground marshals must wear the ground marshal vests which have been supplied by Football West for the duration of the fixture. Lost vests may be purchased from Football West.
6. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
7. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
8. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed match referee, if present, at least five minutes prior to the commencement of each fixture.

## **Article 7 - Match Documentation**

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1. The team list for each fixture must clearly indicate the fixture result, the half-time score, goal scorers if any, times of any goals scored and misconduct offences. Each team list must be correctly signed by the authorised representative of each club and the match referee.
2. The appointed referee, if present, must provide the facts relating to the fixture to the home club within 15 minutes of the completion of the fixture.
3. The appointed referee must ensure that the team list arrives at Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the fixture.
4. The appointed referee must complete a match report according to the instructions dictated by the Referees Technical Committee. Such reports are to be lodged with Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the fixture.
5. If no referee is appointed by Football West, it is the responsibility of the referee appointed by the home club, under the conditions of Article 11 paragraph 4, to ensure that all match documentation is received by Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the fixture, including any reports of expulsions (red cards).
6. Any fixture played without an officially appointed referee whose team lists are not received by Football West within 10 business days of the completion of the fixture will be deemed to have been forfeited by the home club.

## Article 8 - Players

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1. To be eligible to play in the Masters League competition, a player must have been born on 31 December 1977 or earlier.

**Penalty for Breach**

**Forfeit**

2. Once a player has been recorded on the team sheet of a State League team, he may not participate in the Masters League in the same season.

**Penalty for Breach**

**Forfeit**

3. A player who is registered with a current Hyundai A-League club may not participate in the Masters League in the same calendar year.

**Penalty for Breach**

**Forfeit**

## Article 9 - Playing Strips

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1. All clubs must nominate a "home" and "alternate" playing strip.
2. In any fixture, if the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, then players of the away team will be required to change its shirts or socks or both. In the event of any dispute with regard to the strip to be worn by either team, the referee's decision is final.
3. If the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, and the away team is unable to change that part of its attire which is causing that confusion, then the fixture may not proceed. For the avoidance of doubt, bibs may NOT be used.
4. In any fixture, if the shirts of the visiting team are alike or similar to the shirts worn by the match officials, then players of the visiting team will be required to change its shirts. In the event of any dispute with regard to the strip to be worn, the referee's decision is final.
5. A club may have a third strip in addition to its home strip and its alternate strip if it so chooses.

## Article 10 - Match Balls

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1. The home club must provide the referee with three match balls no later than 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the fixture.

## Article 11 - Match Officials

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1. Each club is responsible for 50% of match official fees. Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each season.
2. Match official fees are payable in cash to the match official(s) on the day of the fixture.

3. The allocation of match officials will be determined by Football West. No club may request the attendance or non-attendance of any particular match official.
4. In the event that a referee is not allocated to the fixture by Football West, or that none of the match officials allocated to a fixture is ready and able to commence the fixture within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the home club will allocate a referee.
5. In the absence of one or both assistant referees, each team will provide a club assistant referee to assist the match referee. If either club does not comply, then the fixture may not proceed.
6. If the appointed referee postpones or delays any fixture, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of the fixture outlining the reasons for his actions. The appointed referee is entitled to 50% of the prescribed match fee for a postponed fixture and 100% of the match fee for a delayed fixture which is subsequently completed or abandoned.
7. When a fixture is forfeited by a club, the referee is entitled to receive 100% of the prescribed match fee to be paid by the club which forfeited the fixture, unless the forfeiting club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.
8. When a match is abandoned, the match officials are entitled to receive the full amount of their normal match fees.

## **Article 12 - Representative Teams**

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1. If a club has 4 or more players from one team participating in a representative fixture, it may seek the postponement of any club fixture which clashes with the representative fixture.
2. To be considered as a qualifying player under paragraph 1, and subject to the conditions of paragraph 3, the player must have been recorded on that team's team lists for a minimum of 80% of all fixtures up to and including the date of the request to postpone.
3. If the player is required to participate in a representative fixture prior to round six of the season, Football West will determine the team of a player from the team sheets available. Football West's decision in determining the team of a player is final.