

Community Football – FAQ's

1) Why has football been suspended?

This decision has been made as a result of stricter measures imposed by the Federal Government and State and Territory Governments since the original announcement to suspend the playing season on 17 March. In particular, the introduction of measures limiting public gatherings to no more than 2 people means that football cannot be played at this time.

2) Is grassroots football going to be played this season?

Although the 2020 season has been delayed, FFA remains very confident that the 2020 season will resume as soon as it is safe to do so and planning is underway to deliver football competitions and activities in Australia when football resumes.

In consultation with the Member Federations of FFA, the National COVID-19 Working Committee and all levels of Government, FFA will continue to closely monitor all COVID-19 developments, including the individual circumstances of each State and Territory and the measures imposed by individual State/Territory Governments. FFA will provide updates to the football community as the latest information becomes available and in advance of 31 May 2020.

We thank you all for your support, cooperation and understanding through these difficult times and ask that you remain enthusiastic about playing football this year.

3) How will FFA decide on when to resume playing?

All forms of football activity in Australia have been suspended until at least 31 May 2020 due to COVID-19.

Any decision to resume grassroots football will be made in co-ordination with the Australian Government, taking into account the latest health advice at the time to ensure the safety and wellbeing of both the football and wider community, and in full consultation with our State & Territory Member Federations and the National COVID-19 Working Committee. The safety of the football community remains our priority.

FFA will continue to consult with its State & Territory Member Federations, its National COVID-19 Working Committee and the Australian Government, and closely monitor all coronavirus developments, including the individual circumstances of each State and Territory and the measures imposed by State/Territory Governments.

FFA will provide updates to the football community as the latest information becomes available and in advance of 31 May 2020.

4) How much money does FFA collect from my registration fee?

Registration fees are payable by participants to their Club. FFA does not directly receive any of the registration fees paid by participants. These fees include various components, including fees charged by Clubs as well as the governing body fees charged by Zones/Associations and

Member Federations. The Member Federation's component includes player insurance, as well as the National Registration Fee (NRF) that FFA levies on each Member Federation.

The NRF (i.e. the amount FFA receives for each player registration) for 2020 is \$14 per junior and \$33 per senior player.

5) What does FFA do with the National Registration Fee?

FFA is a not-for-profit organisation, meaning that every dollar generated is reinvested in the operations and development of the game of football in Australia.

FFA is responsible for a range of football programs and activities across Australia and internationally. At the grassroots, FFA provides funding for the administration of football development programs including Miniroos and other participation programs for the elderly and culturally diverse communities. FFA also provides registration and competition management systems for the use of registered participants, clubs, zones/district associations and state and territory member federations. FFA oversees eight different male and female national teams at senior and youth level, and administers multiple nation-wide competitions including the FFA Cup, NPL Finals Series, Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League.

In 2019, FFA distributed over \$6m back to State & Territory Member Federations to fund technical, participation and community service programs.

All these activities are funded, at least in part, by the NRF. This means that the football playing community in Australia plays a vital role in supporting the FFA through the State and Territory Federations to deliver essential football activities across all levels of the game.

6) What if I am experiencing genuine financial hardship as a result of COVID-19?

A participant that is experiencing genuine financial hardship as a result of COVID-19 and wishes to seek a refund of football registration fees should contact their local club at first instance. In such cases, FFA recommends that each club take a fair and reasonable approach and, where appropriate, process a refund of the participant's registration fees, including the NRF component.

7) How can I play football at this time?

The safest way to play football during this time is in your own backyard and so FFA, in collaboration with State & Territory Member Federations, has launched a suite of digital assets for participants, including the #PlayAtHomeChallenge. Every week we will announce a skill (demonstrated by a Socceroo/Matilda) for people to master at home, record their efforts, challenge their friends and post their videos on social media.

The latest component of this is the Skills Hub, which is an online resource that allows you to stay connected with the Football community whilst ensuring both your physical and mental wellbeing stay strong, through the completion of various core football skills.

<https://www.playfootball.com.au/skills-hub>