



**NATIONAL  
PREMIER LEAGUES**

# Compliance Regulations

## Article 1 - Jurisdiction

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1. These regulations are made by Football West Limited (**Football West**) pursuant to the Football West Constitution.
2. All clubs that are admitted to the NPLWA Competition are bound by these regulations.
3. These regulations must be read in conjunction with:
  - a) National Premier Leagues Application for Licence submitted by each Club;
  - b) National Premier Leagues Competition Rules;
  - c) Football West Competition Management Regulations;
  - d) Football West Constitution;
  - e) Football West Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations; and
  - f) FIFA Laws of the Game.

## Article 2 - Definitions & Interpretation

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1. In these regulations, defined terms have the meaning set out in the NPL Competition Rules and the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations. The following words have the meaning ascribed to them for the purposes of this document:
  - a) **Application** means the application lodged by each Club seeking inclusion in the NPLWA Competition;
  - b) **D&G Tribunal** means the Tribunal established by Football West pursuant to the Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations;
  - c) **FA** means Football Australia;
  - d) **FIFA** means Fédération Internationale de Football Association;
  - e) **Match** means any game of football conducted by or under the control of Football West which is part of the NPLWA Competition;
  - f) **Team** means any one or more of the group of players set out in Article 3 - of these regulations which represents the Club (whether formally or informally) in the NPLWA Competition, as determined by Football West;
2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - a) headings are for convenience of reference only and do not affect interpretation;
  - b) references to any gender include all genders;
  - c) references to the singular apply to the plural and vice versa;
  - d) references to a person include any other entity recognised by law and vice versa;
  - e) where a word or phrase is defined, its other grammatical forms have a corresponding meaning;

- f) any reference to a party includes that party's successors and permitted assigns;
- g) any reference to any agreement or document includes that agreement or document as amended at any time;
- h) any reference to a paragraph number refers to the paragraph number of the current Article unless stated otherwise;
- i) the use of the word 'includes' or 'including' is not to be taken as limiting the meaning of the words preceding it;
- j) the expression 'at any time' includes reference to past, present and future time and the performance of any action from time to time;
- k) reference to a statute includes all regulations and amendments to that statute and any statute passed in substitution for that statute or incorporating any of its provisions to the extent that they are incorporated;
- l) all monetary amounts are in Australian dollars and are inclusive of GST unless stated otherwise.
- m) any term defined in the Football West Constitution has the same meaning as set out in that document.

### Article 3 - Teams – NPLWA-M Seniors

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1. Each Club is required to field each of the following Teams in every Competition Season for all Matches they are scheduled for:
  - a) First Team;
  - b) Under 20s;
  - c) Under 18s;
  - d) Under 16s;
  - e) Under 15s;
  - f) Under 14s; and
  - g) Under 13s.
2. A first breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 3 breach.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, failing to field a Team is cumulative across all age groups. For example:
  - a) Failing to field a Team in one age group constitutes the first offence;
  - b) Failing to field a Team in the same or different age group constitutes the second offence;
  - c) Failing to field a Team in the same or different age group constitutes the third or subsequent offence.

### Article 4 - Teams – NPLWA Juniors

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1. Each Club is required to field each of the following Teams in every Competition Season for all games they are scheduled for:
  - a) Under 16s;
  - b) Under 15s;
  - c) Under 14s; and
  - d) Under 13s.

2. A first breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 3 breach.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, failing to field a Team is cumulative across all age groups. For example:
  - a) Failing to field a Team in one age group constitutes the first offence;
  - b) Failing to field a Team in the same or different age group constitutes the second offence;
  - c) Failing to field a Team in the same or different age group constitutes the third or subsequent offence.

## Article 5 - Coaching Qualifications

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1. In each Competition Season, every Club must appoint and retain a coach for each Team and must appoint and retain a Technical Director.
2. The minimum qualifications for 2021 for each of the positions listed in Article 3 - paragraph 1 are as follows:
  - a) Technical Director B Licence
  - b) First team coach B Licence
  - c) Under 20s coach C Licence
  - d) Under 18s coach C Licence
  - e) Under 16s coach C Licence
  - f) Under 15s coach C Licence
  - g) Under 14s coach C Licence
  - h) Under 13s coach C Licence
3. Exemptions to this requirement may be given by Football West (at its absolute discretion) if an intended coach or Technical Director is undertaking an appropriate qualification course at the commencement of each Competition Season.
4. Should a Technical Director or coach leave the Club during a Competition Season, that Club must inform Football West in writing within 2 Business Days of the date of departure. Within 10 Business Days of the date of departure, the Club must inform Football West in writing of its timeframe for the replacement of the Technical Director or coach (as the case may be). Should the timeframe submitted by the Club be unacceptable to Football West, the club and Football West must, within 10 Business Days, meet to agree on a timeframe.
5. A first breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article in the same Competition Season is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article in the same Competition Season is a Category 3 breach.

## Article 6 - Governance

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1. Each Club must ensure that its constitution gives every registered player and every other fee-paying stakeholder the right to full membership of the Club, with full voting rights in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*.
2. The Club must conduct an Annual General Meeting in each calendar year in which the Club is admitted to the NPLWA Competition.

3. The Club must host at least one public forum in each calendar year in which the Club is admitted to the NPLWA Competition, inviting parents of players, players, members, and sponsors. Football West strongly encourages each NPL club to hold a minimum of two public forums. A club may conduct a public forum at the same time as its Annual General Meeting.
4. A first breach of this Article is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article is a Category 3 breach.
5. For the avoidance of doubt, in determining the category of breach and the resulting penalty, the number of breaches is to be calculated by reference to the Club's conduct across all Competition Seasons in which the Club participated and is not limited to the Club's conduct during only one Competition Season.

## Article 7 - Finance

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1. The Club must maintain financial records in the form and nature required by best practice and the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*.
2. The Club must make available to Football West or FA any financial information requested in writing by Football West within 3 Business Days of receiving such a request.
3. A first breach of this Article is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article is a Category 3 breach.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, in determining the category of breach and the resulting penalty, the number of breaches is to be calculated by reference to the Club's conduct across all Competition Seasons in which the Club participated and is not limited to the Club's conduct during only one Competition Season.

## Article 8 - Facilities

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1. A Senior Club's home venue must meet the standards set out in Appendix B. A Junior Club's home venue must meet the standards of a Class D venue as described in the Football West Competition Management Regulations.
2. Should a Club's home venue deteriorate to the point that the venue no longer meets the standards in as described in paragraph 1, that Club must inform Football West within 2 Business Days of such deterioration.
3. When Football West receives a notification pursuant to paragraph 2, or itself makes a determination that a Club's home venue does not meet the standards as described in paragraph 1, the Club and Football West must meet within 5 Business Days and agree on a timeframe to rectify the situation and any interim arrangements that may be required by Football West.
4. A first breach of this Article is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article is a Category 3 breach.
5. For the avoidance of doubt, in determining the category of breach and the resulting penalty, the number of breaches is to be calculated by reference to the Club's conduct across all Competition Seasons in which the Club participated and is not limited to the Club's conduct during only one Competition Season.

## Article 9 - Medical

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1. In each Competition Season, every Club must appoint a medical professional for the treatment of players in the First Team, the under 20s and the under 18s teams, who must be listed on the team sheet and occupy the technical area for each Match in which those Teams play.
2. The minimum qualifications for a medical professional is a Level 1 Sports Trainer certificate as recognised and certified by Sports Medicine Australia or a qualified physiotherapist whose name is listed in the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency website.
3. A Club that wishes to appoint a medical professional whose qualifications do not meet those specified in this Article 9 may apply to Football West to have that medical professional approved for that Club.
4. Should a medical professional leave the Club during a Competition Season, that Club must inform Football West in writing within 2 Business Days of the date of departure. The Club and Football West will then meet within 5 Business Days of such notification in order to agree on a timeframe for the replacement of the medical professional.
5. At all competitive game for the duration of the season for NPLWA Juniors a person with a qualified first aid.
6. In each NPLWA Juniors Match, at minimum the home team must have present at the ground a person with a valid Senior First Aid Certificate. For clarity a person who is also a medical professional for the purposes of paragraph 2 will also be considered to have valid certification for the purposes of this paragraph.
7. A first breach of this Article in any one Competition Season is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this Article in the same Competition Season is a Category 2 breach. A third and subsequent breach of this Article in the same Competition Season is a Category 3 breach.

## Article 10 - Reporting & Documentation

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1. Each Club must comply with the reporting and documentation submission requirements as set out in Appendix C.
2. The categorisation of breaches of this Article and the applicable penalty is set out in Appendix C.

## Article 11 - Football West Powers & Discretion

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1. Notwithstanding any other Article in these regulations, Football West may, in its absolute and unfettered discretion, and only in exceptional circumstances and for the sole benefit of the NPLWA Competition as a whole:
  - a) vary any time frame specified in these regulations for compliance with any Article; and/or
  - b) impose any one or more conditions on a Club that is otherwise in breach of these regulations as a condition to that Club remaining in the NPLWA Competition; and/or
  - c) require a Club to meet with Football West to discuss breaches or potential breaches of these regulations.
2. Any party affected by a decision made by Football West under this Article 11 will be notified in writing by Football West of the decision.
3. Football West may audit or request documentation from an NPLWA club at any point in its absolute and unfettered discretion.

## Article 12 - Breaches & Penalties

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1. A breach of any Article in these regulations will be liable to the penalty specified in the relevant Article and in Appendix A.
2. Football West must, by notice in writing, inform a Club of any breach of these regulations and the resulting penalty.
3. Any notice issued pursuant to paragraph 2 for a Category 1 & 2 breach:
  - a) is final and binding on the Club; and
  - b) constitutes conclusive evidence of the commission of the breach; and
  - c) is not subject to review by the D&G Tribunal.
4. Any notice issued pursuant to paragraph 2 for a Category 3 breach is:
  - a) prima facie evidence of the commission of the breach; and
  - b) may be subject to review by the D&G Tribunal.
5. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 & 2, Football West may, in its absolute and unfettered discretion, whether or not a notice has been issued pursuant to paragraph 2, meet and negotiate with any Club that has or may be about to breach these regulations in order to assist the Club to rectify or prevent any such breach, with or without the imposition of conditions, in order to maintain the integrity of the NPLWA Competition.

# Appendix A

## Category of Breach and Associated Penalty

Category	Penalty
<b>Category 1</b>	\$500. The Club will be required to rectify the breach within a timeframe set by Football West and subject to such other conditions as are determined by Football West.
<b>Category 2</b>	An immediate financial penalty of \$1000. In addition to the financial penalty, the Club will be required to rectify the breach within a timeframe set by Football West and subject to such other conditions as are determined by Football West.
<b>Category 3</b>	An immediate financial penalty of not more than \$5,000 or expulsion from the NPL WA Competition, as determined by Football West. If a financial penalty is imposed, in addition to the financial penalty, the Club will be required to rectify the breach within a timeframe set by Football West or the D&G Tribunal and subject to such other conditions as are determined by Football West or the D&G Tribunal (as the case may be).



## Appendix B

### Minimum Venue Requirements for NPLWA Seniors

Field of Play		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Recommended
Dimensions	Field of Play must satisfy the requirements of the Laws of the Game with a minimum width of 60m.	105m x 68m
Perimeter Fence	A temporary or permanent fence fully enclosing the field of play, with a recommended height between 800mm and 1000mm. Any temporary fencing must be approved by Football West. Where it is not possible to erect a perimeter fence, Football West may negotiate alternative arrangements.	An access gate for an ambulance, which is kept closed except when the ambulance is required to move onto the Field of Play is recommended.
Technical Area	Must be present and comply with recommendations in the Laws of the Game. Technical areas must be wholly inside the perimeter fence.	Technical areas should be either side and equidistant from the half way line with a maximum distance of 10 metres between each technical area.
Team Benches	There must be seating for 10 people inside each technical area.	A separate chair with a backrest should be provided for each person who will occupy the technical areas.
Playing Surface	Must be smooth and level to allow the players and match officials the confidence of movement that would not contribute in any way to injuries or unexpected falls.	
Line Markings	Must be white. No other line markings other than those required under the Laws of the Game may be present on the Field of Play.	Marks may be made OFF the field of play 9.15m (10 yards) from the corner arc and at right angles to the goal lines and touch lines to assist match officials at corner kicks. Marks should be made in white paint.
Goalposts	Must be white and when stained by bore water or some other agent, cleaned.	Goal nets should not be suspended by any kind of metal frame or elbow but by some other method which does not constitute a danger to players (eg box nets).
Equipment	A stretcher, 4 corner flags that are free from advertising	

## Venue Facilities

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Recommended
Signage	24m linear metres is to be reserved for FA Sponsorship (Need to Change once confirmed) signage comprising 8m on the centre of the far side of the field (4m each side of the half-way line) and 8m behind each goal.	
Seating Capacity	A permanent structure specifically designed for seating spectators situated outside the clubrooms that provides unobstructed viewing to the field of play and that provides seating for a minimum of 120 people. The structure must be approved by Football West.	A permanent structure specifically designed for seating spectators situated outside the clubrooms that provides unobstructed viewing to the field of play and that provides under cover seating for a minimum of 500 people. The structure must be approved by Football West.
Food and Drinks	The venue must have selling points for food and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.	In addition, an exclusive area for sponsors and VIPs should be set aside.
Toilets	Male and Female Public toilets which are away from the team change rooms and accessible to all spectators.	A public disabled toilet should be provided.
Parking	Sufficient parking for match officials close to the match officials' change room.	50 bays for players and team officials.

## Change Rooms

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Recommended
Home and Away Teams	Must be separate from each other and be large enough for 20 people. Must have hot and cold water showers, toilets which are separate from the public toilets and clothes hanging facilities.	Other equipment recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whiteboard and pens</li> <li>• Mirror &amp; Washbasin</li> <li>• Power Points</li> <li>• Refrigerator</li> </ul>
Match Officials	Must be separate from team change rooms and be large enough for 4 people. Must have a hot and cold water shower, a toilet and clothes hanging facilities.  The match officials' change room may not be used for any other purpose (eg. storage) and MUST be lockable.	Match officials should be able to move to the team change rooms without going through an open area or an area to which spectators and the general public has access. Other equipment recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mirror &amp; Washbasin</li> <li>• Power Points</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refrigerator</li> </ul>
Signage	All rooms must be clearly marked as to their purposes.	
<b>Sports Presentation</b>		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Recommended
PA System	A PA system of sufficient volume to be heard throughout the complete spectator area is required.	<p>A system that can handle both music and speech simultaneously.</p> <p>A CD player or some other means through which music can be played through loudspeakers in the main spectator area.</p> <p>Wireless microphone connected to the PA System.</p>
Scoreboard	A scoreboard erected on one side of the Field of Play, which is visible to people on the opposite side of the Field of Play. The scoreboard must be able to display unique team names and team scores.	
<b>Medical</b>		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Recommended
Treatment Table	An undercover treatment table must be present, which is able to be used by both teams.	A separate Athletes Medical Room is recommended with two treatment tables.

## Appendix C

### Reporting and Document Submission

Document	Description	Date Required	Category of Breach for Non-Compliance
<b>Youth Training Plan</b>	A youth training plan in the format and with the content set down by Football West	Last Business Day of February each year	A breach of this requirement is a Category 1 breach. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>List of Coaches</b>	A report which identifies the coach of each team in the Club's NPL structure which also outlines each coach's qualifications	Last Business Day of February each year	A breach of this requirement is a Category 1 breach. A second or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach.
<b>List of Medical Professionals</b>	A report which identifies the medical professional for the first and the under 20s teams in the Club's NPL structure which also outlines each medical professional's qualifications	Last Business Day of February each year	A breach of this requirement is a Category 1 breach. A second or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach.
<b>Club Constitution</b>	A copy of the club's most recent version of its constitution	Upon entry into the NPLWA or upon adoption of new constitution.	Category 1.
<b>Date of AGM</b>	The date and time of the Club's Annual General Meeting for each year	Five Business Days before the date of the AGM	Category 1. A second or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach.
<b>Date of Public Forum</b>	The date and time of each of the Club's public forums for each year with a description of the people to whom invitations have been sent	Five Business Days before the date of the Public Forum	Category 1.
<b>Player Agent Statutory</b>	A statutory declaration submitted by the	Last Business Day of each calendar year	Category 1. A second breach of this

<b>Declaration</b>	president of the Club that details the existence and terms of any contractual, financial or other relationship with a Player Agent		requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>Academy Statutory Declaration</b>	A statutory declaration submitted by the president of the Club that details the existence and terms of any contractual, financial or other relationship that the Club has with an overseas or interstate club, including, but not limited to, the promotion of a brand associated with that overseas club.	Last Business Day of each calendar year	Category 1. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>Management Structure</b>	The Club must document its management structure to include position titles, positions descriptions and the name of staff filling such positions.	Last Business Day of February each year. Thereafter 10 Business Days after any amendment, alteration or substitution.	Category 1. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>Technical Report</b>	The Club Technical Director must submit a report containing an assessment of the training programs conducted across each youth team. The report will also provide an assessment of talented players applying assessment criteria determined by the State Technical Director.	Within 20 Business Days of the end of the NPLWA season.	Category 1. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>Audited Financial Statements</b>		Within 4 months of the end of the Club's Financial Year. The Club must inform Football West of the date of the end of its Financial Year by the last Business Day of February each year.	Category 1. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.
<b>Annual Report</b>	The Club must submit an annual report which summarises the activities undertaken in all areas of the club, the successes achieved and areas for further development.	Within 20 Business Days of the completion of the Annual General Meeting	Category 1. A second breach of this requirement is a Category 2 breach. A third or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.

**Player Fees**

The Club must submit a report in the format detailed by Football West. The report must contain a breakdown of the costs incurred in delivering the programs and will be assessed by the Football West and FA for their reasonableness. Both FA and Football West shall have the power to require the Club to validate information contained in the report or to require the Club to revise its proposed fees.

Last Business Day of February each year

Category 1 - failure to submit by the start of season automatically elevates the breach to Category 2. A second or subsequent breach of this requirement is a Category 3 breach.