



**NATIONAL
PREMIER LEAGUES**

Competition Rules

National Premier Leagues WA

This document must be read in conjunction with the following documents.

FIFA Documents

- FIFA Laws of the Game
- FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players
- FIFA Disciplinary Code

FA Documents

- National Registration Regulations
- National Disciplinary Regulations
- National Grievance Procedure By-Law
- National Judicial Bodies By-Law
- National Arbitration Tribunal Regulations
- National Club Identity Policy
- National Code of Conduct
- National Member Protection Policy
- National Privacy Policy
- National Anti-Doping Policy
- National Spectator Code of Behaviour

Football West Documents

- National Premier Leagues Compliance Regulations
- Football West Match Scheduling Policy
- Football West Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations
- Football West Competition Management Regulations
- Football West Code of Conduct
- Football West Spectator Code of Behaviour

All Matches will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game in force at the time of publication of these rules and as laid down by the International Football Association Board, unless otherwise stated in these rules.

References to the male gender are for simplification and apply to both males and females.

A Club which affiliates with FA and enters Teams into the National Premier Leagues WA Competition is deemed to accept these Competition Rules.

Definitions & Interpretation

The definitions set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations apply to this document except for those definitions set out below:

In these Rules, the following words have the meaning ascribed to them:

- a) **Application** means the application lodged by each Club seeking inclusion in the NPL-WA Competition;
- b) **Business Day** means a day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday in Western Australia;
- c) **Club** means a Club registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations and accepted by Football West into the NPL-WA Competition;
- d) **Competition Season** means any series of competitive Matches in the NPL-WA Competition within one calendar year;
- e) **D&G Tribunal** means the Tribunal established by Football West pursuant to the Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations;
- f) **FA** means Football Australia;
- g) **FIFA** means Fédération Internationale de Football Association;
- h) **Football West Constitution** means the constitution of Football West Limited as adopted on 6 July 2004 and subsequently amended from time to time and published on the Football West website;
- i) **Match** means any game of football conducted by or under the control of Football West which is part of the NPL-WA Competition;
- j) **NPL Juniors** means the Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s and Under 16s of any one Club.
- k) **NPL Seniors** means the First Team, Under 23s, Under 20s and Under 18s of any one Club.
- l) **NPLWA Competition** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Competition operated and administered by Football West and consisting of the NPLWA-M and NPLWA-W;
- m) **NPLWA-M** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Men’s Competition operated and administered by Football West;
- n) **NPLWA-W** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Women’s Competition operated and administered by Football West;
- o) **Regular Season** means the home and away league season and does not include pre-season, friendly or cup games.
- p) **Representative Match** means representative games for State Teams, including School Sport WA.
- q) **Team** means any one or more of the group of Players, which represents the Club (whether formally or informally) in the NPL-WA Competition, as determined by Football West;
- r) **Top Four Cup** means the end of season playoff Competition set out in Part 3 for the NPLWA-M and Part 5 for the NPLWA-W;
- s) **National Finals Series** means the end of season playoff Competition conducted by FA between National Premier League sides from across Australia;
- t) **Promotion and Relegation Playoff** means the playoff series set out in Article 23.
- u) **Player Roster** means the list of Players registered to an NPLWA-M Team as eligible to play for that Team in compliance with the Player Points System and other requirements;
- v) **Player Roster Composition** means the list of Players registered to an NPLWA-W Team as eligible to play for that Team and complying with the various requirements of that list.

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Part 1 – Common Rules

Article 1 - General

1. Football West may at any time alter, add to, clarify or delete any of these rules at its discretion. Any changes to these rules will be communicated to Clubs.
2. The rules contained within this document are valid for all Football West National Premier Leagues Competitions.
3. Where a Rule in this document appears to conflict with a Rule in an Annexure, the Rule in the Annexure takes precedence.
4. Where a Rule in this Part 1 appears to conflict with a Rule in a Part of this document dealing with a specific Competition (for example the Part dealing with the NPL Juniors Competitions) then the Part dealing with the specific Competition takes precedence.
5. Anything that Football West may do under these rules (including but not limited to any action, direction, determination or decision) may be done, given or made, as the case may be, in Football West's sole and absolute discretion unless explicitly stated to the contrary.
6. For the purposes of these rules, the term "Senior Teams" refers to the NPLWA-M first Team, the Under 20s Team and the Under 18s Team. And the NPLWA-W first Team and Under 23s Team. The term "Junior Teams" refers to Teams in the Under 13s to Under 16s age groups inclusive.
7. Notwithstanding any other Rule in any Competition, Football West may investigate any alleged breach of these Rules regardless of the source of the alleged breach. Whether a matter is investigated or not is entirely at the discretion of Football West.
8. A participant breaching any of these rules or those of the accompanying Annexures is liable to a Penalty. Whether a Penalty is imposed or not, or whether a Penalty is reduced or varied is at the sole discretion of Football West. Football West reserves the right to issue a warning for any breach of a Competition Rule prior to the imposition of any penalties, but whether a warning is issued is at the sole discretion of Football West. A Penalty may not be appealed to the Tribunal on the basis that the party is seeking an exercise of this discretion.
9. Where a Penalty is not specified in these rules, Football West reserves the right to use its discretion to determine and impose a Penalty.
10. In the case of a Rule being interpreted in two or more ways, Football West reserves the right to determine which interpretation is valid. Any such determination is final.
11. In the case of a circumstance not being governed by these rules, Football West reserves the right to make a ruling on that circumstance. Any such ruling is final.
12. A Club may apply for an exemption to these rules where it can demonstrate that exceptional circumstances exist. Football West will consider any application and determine whether or not the circumstances are exceptional. Any such determination is final.
13. Football West reserves the right to request the removal of any national flags, slogans or emblems at any time. Refusal to comply with any such request may result in disciplinary action.

14. Football West may, from time to time, organise Matches outside the normal league and cup season between the winning Team of any division and another Team from Western Australia, another Member Federation or another National Association. It is a condition of entry into the NPLWA that if such a Match is organised, the Team chosen MUST participate in that Match.

Penalty for Breach \$1,000

15. Should a vacancy occur in any division for any reason prior to the commencement of the season the vacancy will be filled through a process to be determined by Football West in consultation with the relevant standing committee. For the avoidance of doubt the right to enter a Team in a certain division belongs to the Club rather than the Players of that Team.
16. In the event any Competition season, including the NPL seasons must be modified for any reason at any point Football West has complete discretion to declare that the Competitions are to be conducted under a modified set of rules.
17. Clubs are not entitled to rely upon a Match Official's interpretation of these Rules.
18. Participation in, or promotion to, a Senior NPL Competition does not provide the club with the opportunity to compete in the NPL Juniors Competitions.

Article 2 - Competition Points

1. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat.
2. If two or more Teams are equal on points on completion of the season, the following criteria will be applied to determine the higher ranking Team.
 - a) superior goal difference
 - b) higher number of goals scored
 - c) number of points gained in Matches between the Teams concerned
 - d) superior goal difference in Matches between the Teams concerned
 - e) greater number of goals scored away from home in Matches between the Teams concerned
 - f) lower number of Red Cards
 - g) lower number of Yellow Cards
 - h) drawing of lots

Article 3 - Matches

1. All NPLWA Matches must be played on grass or an artificial surface that has been approved in writing by Football West.
2. The venues, dates and times of Matches will be fixed and published by Football West as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of each season, and except as otherwise provided in these rules, Matches will be played at those venues and on those dates thus fixed.
3. A Club is required to participate in its allocated Matches unless otherwise specified in these rules.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

4. Football West reserves the right to change the date, time and venue of any Match. Football West

may consult with and take into account any representations made by the Clubs participating in the Match in question, and with any other Club or Clubs which may be affected thereby before doing so.

5. In the event that a Team is not ready to commence the Match within 15 minutes following the scheduled kick-off time, the Match must not proceed.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

6. A Match may be played wholly or partly under floodlights if the floodlight installation has been approved by Football West as suitable for the conduct of Matches.
7. In the event of inclement weather, Clubs are obliged to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken in order that the scheduled Matches may proceed.
8. In the event that a Match is ended in a manner inconsistent with the Competition Rules, for example by extra time rather than proceeding directly to kicks from the Penalty mark, or vice versa, Football West reserves the right to allow the Match result to stand, as long as the Match was concluded in a manner consistent with the FIFA Laws of the Game. If allowing the Match result to stand would result in unfairness, the entire Match will be replayed. The decision of Football West in these circumstances is final and cannot be challenged.
9. It is the responsibility of the home Club to enable the ground inspection to be carried out by the Referee.
10. Nets affixed to goalposts must be used in all NPLWA Matches. The Referee must not allow the Match to proceed without nets.
11. The Club named first in any Match is deemed to be the home Team regardless of the venue at which the Match is played.
12. A Match must not continue if either Team is reduced to fewer than 7 Players.
13. Football West may designate Matches to be livestreamed by Football West or by a third-party with approval from Football West.
14. The livestreaming of any Match must be approved by Football West at least 5 business days before the Match takes place.
15. All footage supplied to Football West post-streaming must not include watermarks or any other graphical overlays.
16. Advertising visible during the Broadcast must not promote unhealthy dietary choices or conflict with the interests of current Football West sponsors.
17. Commentary used in any livestream must not conflict with the Football West or FA Code of Conduct.

Article 4 - Postponed, Delayed, Suspended or Abandoned Matches

1. A Match must not be postponed except with the prior written consent of Football West.
2. A Match must not be suspended except:
 - a) on the instructions of the Referee;

- b) by order of the police or other authority exercising its statutory powers to that effect; or
 - c) on the instructions of or with the prior written consent of Football West.
3. A Match must not be delayed or abandoned except on the instructions of the Referee.
4. If the appointed Referee delays, suspends or abandons a Match, he must, within 30 minutes of making such a decision, inform:
 - a) The home Club;
 - b) The visiting Club; and
 - c) The Referee Allocator.
5. A postponed Match may only be replayed at a date and time mutually agreed by both Clubs except in the circumstances specified in paragraphs 7 and 8. The details of the rearranged Match must be communicated to Football West at least 3 business days prior to the Match.
6. If a Club requests the postponement of a Match, Football West reserves the right to require that an alternative date, time and venue are agreed before any such request is granted.
7. If a Match is postponed and the Clubs involved are not able to reach an agreement as to when the Match will be played, Football West will determine the date, time and venue of the Match and any such decision is final. If the rescheduled Match incurs a cost, Football West may pass on that cost to either one or both Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the postponement.
8. If a postponed Match cannot be rescheduled in accordance with paragraph 7, or cannot be completed for any other reason, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw.
9. If a Match is abandoned prior to half time, then the Match will be replayed, unless, in the opinion of the Referee, one or both of the participating Teams caused the abandonment of the Match.
10. If a Match is abandoned at half time or after the commencement of the second half, then the score at the time of the abandonment of the Match will be deemed to be the Match result, unless, in the opinion of the Referee, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club associate from one of the participating Teams caused the abandonment of the Match. If the Referee does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the abandonment, Football West may make a decision about which party or parties are responsible for the abandonment.
11. If a Match is abandoned, and that Match is one in which the outcome must be that one of the Teams must be declared a winner on the day, for example a knock out cup Match, and at the time of the abandonment scores are level, then that Match will be replayed in full, unless in the opinion of the Referee, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club associate from one of the participating Teams caused the abandonment of the Match. If the Referee does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the abandonment, Football West may make a decision about which party or parties are responsible for the abandonment.
12. An abandoned Match which is to be replayed may be arranged at a mutually convenient time and venue by the participating Clubs. Football West must be notified in writing of the date, time and venue of the rescheduled Match at least 3 business days prior to the rescheduled kick-off time.
13. If an abandoned Match cannot be rescheduled through mutual agreement, Football West will

determine the date, time and venue of the Match and any such decision will be final. If the rescheduled Match incurs a cost, Football West may pass on that cost to either one or both Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the abandonment.

14. If an abandoned Match cannot be rescheduled in accordance with paragraph 13, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw. If the abandoned Match is one in which the outcome must be that one of the Teams must be declared a winner, Football West reserves the right to determine the outcome of the Match using any method it chooses.

Article 5 - Forfeited Matches

1. A Team which forfeits a Match will be sanctioned with the following Penalty:
 - a) Senior Teams
 - (i) Written notice to Football West with at least one business days notice: \$500
 - (ii) With no notice or notice on a non-business day \$1,000
 - b) Junior Teams
 - (i) Written notice to Football West with at least one business days notice \$200
 - (ii) With no notice or notice on a non-business day \$400
2. Nothing in paragraph 1 prevents Football West from also issuing a breach notice under the NPL Compliance Regulations for a forfeit of a Match. Football West may also choose to issue a breach notice under the NPL Compliance regulations rather than an infringement notice under paragraph 1.
3. The result of a forfeited Match will be awarded to the opposition Club by a margin of 3-0, unless that score disadvantages the non-offending Team.
4. A Team that forfeits three consecutive Matches or any four Matches may during a season, at the discretion of Football West, be deemed to have withdrawn from the Competition.
5. In circumstances in which both Teams participating in a Match commit offences which carry the sanction of a forfeit, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match played, and award each Team zero points and zero goals, or if that Match occurs in a knockout Competition, disqualify both Teams from that Competition.
6. In circumstances in which a Team is retrospectively penalised with forfeiting a Match, all Match data resulting from the Match will be retained. These data include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Goals scored (with the exception of those scored by an ineligible Player);
 - b) Fairest and Best votes (with the exception of those earned by an ineligible Player);
 - c) Substitutions;
 - d) Yellow cards;
 - e) Red cards.

Article 6 - Playing Strip

1. Each Player's shirt, including the goalkeeper's shirt, must display on its back a unique number

clearly distinguishable from a reasonable distance. The number must be a whole number between 1 and 99.

Penalty for Breach \$50

2. The number 1 may only be worn by a goalkeeper. A substitute goalkeeper must have a unique number on the back of his shirt. That is, where a Team has a substitute goalkeeper, the substitute goalkeeper may NOT have the same number as the starting goalkeeper.
3. Each Player's shirt must display the NPL Logo on the right chest in accordance with the instructions issued by Football West. For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement applies to both the home strip and the change strip for NPLWA-M and NPLWA-W First Teams only.
4. Nothing may be placed on a Player's shirt that covers any part of the NPL Logo. This particularly applies to captain's armbands or black armbands.
5. No part of the Player's attire or the uniform worn by a Club Official may incorporate national flags, slogans or emblems.
6. The home Team will wear its designated home strip unless an exemption is granted by Football West in writing or if otherwise provided for in these rules.
7. Advertising on a strip is permitted except for advertisements which contravene state or federal laws (such as tobacco advertising), Football West or Football Australia Rules, Regulations and By-Laws, advertise products, brands or companies which are in direct conflict with Football West protected sponsors or damage the reputation of the league or Football West or Football Australia. No advertising relating to alcoholic beverages may appear on the playing strip of any Player under the age of 18. Football West reserves the right to require that sponsorship advertising is removed from a playing strip if it deems the advertisement breaches this rule.

Article 7 - Match Officials

1. A Referee arranged by the home Club in accordance with these rules in the absence of an officially appointed Referee assumes the same powers and responsibilities as an official Referee for the duration of the Match.
2. A Referee or assistant Referee arranged by the home Club in accordance with these rules in the absence of an officially appointed Referee, must be at least as old as the youngest eligible Player for the Competition.
3. Participants must identify themselves to the Match Officials upon request.

Penalty for Breach \$100

4. Players and Team Officials must comply with any lawful instruction given to them by a Match Official officiating at an NPLWA Match.

Penalty for Breach \$100

5. Neither Players nor Team Officials may approach a Match Official at any time before, during or after the Match unless invited to do so by the Match Official in question.

6. Match officials must not perform their duties in cases with an existing or potential conflict of interest. Any such conflict must be immediately disclosed to Football West. If there is any doubt as to whether or not any such conflict exists, the Match Official must declare it.
7. While performing their duties, Match Officials must avoid any situation that could lead to actual or perceived conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest arise if Match Officials have, or appear to have, private or personal interests that detract from their ability to perform their duties as Match Officials with integrity in an independent and purposeful manner. Private or personal interests include gaining any possible advantage for himself, his family, relatives, friends or acquaintances.
8. A Club which believes that a Match Official has an actual or perceived conflict of interest may report the matter to Football West and if the Club chooses to report it, must detail the reasons for the alleged conflict. Any reports of alleged conflict which do not contain the reasons for the allegation will be dismissed immediately.
9. In the event that a conflict of interest, either actual or perceived, comes to the attention of Football West, Football West will decide on whether that conflict of interest exists, and what action is to be taken.
10. The decisions of the Referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the Match, are final, even if the decision(s) of the Referee represents a technical error in the Laws of the Game.

Article 8 - Match Documentation

1. Electronic Match Card and Sheets will be used in the 2021 season.
2. An Electronic Match Card is the online form which is used to enter the details of a Match.
3. An Electronic Match Sheet is the printable version of the Electronic Match Card which may be brought to a Match.
4. All NPLWA Competitions will use Electronic Match Cards and Sheets.
5. Electronic Match Cards must be completely and accurately filled out 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the Match.
Penalty for Breach (no Team list submitted) Forfeit & \$200 Fine
6. A complete Match Card includes:
 - a) All Player names;
 - b) All Players assigned a correct shirt number;
 - c) All Team Officials listed;
 - d) Eligible overage Players denoted; and
 - e) Starting Players assigned.
7. A Team must enter a complete Match Card for every Match
Penalty for Breach \$100 Fine
8. A Player whose name appears on an Electronic Match Card or an Electronic Match Sheet is deemed to have participated in the Match as either a Player or a named substitute.

9. The Team list received by Football West will be accepted as the facts relating to the Match, with an Electronic Match Card taking preference over the Electronic Match Sheet.
10. A Club may contact Football West if it believes that the details on the Match documentation have misidentified a goal scorer or substitute.
11. Goal scorer(s) for a particular fixture cannot be contested following the commencement of a subsequent round.
12. Any contest of goal scorers or substitutes should be submitted to Football West with evidence of video footage and must include the following details:
 - a) Fixture details;
 - b) Time of goal scored/substitution;
 - c) Name and shirt number of misidentified goal scorer/substitute;
 - d) Name and shirt number of alleged goal scorer/substitute; and
 - e) Must be submitted by the Club

Article 9 - Player Registration & Eligibility

1. Subject to paragraph 2, an amateur Player may register with an NPLWA Club before **5:00 pm WST on Tuesday 29 June 2021** in accordance with the National Registration Regulations and the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
2. An Australian amateur Player who has not previously been registered with an Australian Club in 2021, may register with any Club before **5:00 pm WST on Friday 23 July 2021** in accordance with the National Registration Regulations and the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.
3. A Player must be registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations to be considered eligible to participate in any competitive Match.
4. A registered Player must not participate in any Match approved by Football West if he or she is suspended or otherwise deemed ineligible by Football West, another Australian Member Federation, FA, AFC or FIFA.
5. It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that a Player participating in a Match is eligible to do so.
6. The authorised representative of each Club participating in the Match is responsible for satisfying himself that the opposition Players are properly registered with Football West.
7. Football West reserves the right to allow elite female Players to participate in any male Competition appropriate to their skill level regardless of age or normal eligibility criteria otherwise described in these rules. In such cases, Football West will determine the most appropriate Competition for those Players on a case by case basis.
8. A Player is ineligible to play if the Player:
 - a) is not registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations;
or
 - b) plays for a Club with which the Player is not registered; or
 - c) plays without an ITC (International Transfer Certificate) where one is required;

- or
 - d) plays within a stand-down period due to a change of status; or
 - e) plays while under suspension; or
 - d) plays while registered for two Clubs at the same time without seeking an exemption to do so (note that the Player is eligible to play for the Club with which he was registered first in these circumstances); or
 - e) does not have proof of registration as described in these rules; or
 - f) plays for a Club, Team or in a Competition when not permitted to do so under these rules; or
 - g) plays in a Match when not listed on a Team list; or
 - h) plays in a Match in which his name has been added to the Team list after the Match has commenced; or
 - i) plays for a Team which causes the maximum number of Players allowed to be listed on a Team list is exceeded; or
 - j) plays under an assumed identity; or
 - k) plays while not eligible to do so for any other reason.
9. If a Player plays in a Match while ineligible, the Club will be liable for a sanction as described in Appendix A of this document. In certain circumstances, the Player may also be sanctioned.

Article 10 - Professional Player Registration Deadlines

1. Professional Players may only be registered during the prescribed registration periods as follows and in accordance with the National Registration Regulations and the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players:
 - a. Men:
 - i. Between Sunday 8 November 2020 and Sunday 3 January 2021;
 - ii. Between Tuesday 16 February 2021 and Monday 15 March 2021;
 - iii. Between Monday 12 April 2021 and Monday 10 May 2021; and
 - iv. As prescribed by FIFA.
 - b. Women:
 - i. Between Sunday 15 November 2020 and Saturday 9 January 2021;
 - ii. Between Wednesday 31 March 2021 and Tuesday 27 April 2021;
 - iii. Between Monday 21 June 2021 and Monday 19 July 2021; and
 - iv. As prescribed by FIFA.
2. A professional Player may be registered outside a prescribed registration period if the Player is a goalkeeper and the Club can supply evidence from a certified medical practitioner declaring that the usual goalkeeper is unfit to play at the time of the registration.
3. A Player registered as a Professional in the W-League may re-register as an amateur

immediately after their last Match as a professional on the condition that the playing contract with their associated W-League Club has ended.

4. Paragraph 3 is an exception to the 30-day stand-down period set out in clause 3.3(a) of the National Registration Regulations.

Article 11 - Non-Player Registration

1. All coaches, assistant coaches, goalkeeper coaches, Team managers, sports trainers, physiotherapists or other medical staff in all age groups of all NPLWA Clubs must be registered on PlayFootball.

Penalty for Breach \$100

2. Other Team Officials who sit in the technical area during any NPLWA Match must be registered on PlayFootball. Where no technical area is marked, Team Officials who are actively involved in any NPLWA Match must be registered on PlayFootball.

Penalty for Breach \$100

Article 12 - Proof of Registration

1. PlayFootball must be used to generate proof of registration including a Player photograph for every Player participating in a Match.
2. Evidence of registration without a Player photograph is not acceptable as proof of registration. The Player must be able to be identified from the Player photograph. A registration without a valid Player photograph renders the Player ineligible until a valid Player photograph is added.
3. Each Team must produce proof of registration for any or each of its Players on request from the opposition Club prior to kick-off.
4. If a Club is unable to produce proof of registration for any Player prior to kick-off after being requested to do so by the opposition Club, the Match may proceed. However, the proof of registration requested must be produced before the end of the Match for that Player(s) to be deemed eligible to participate. If the Club is unable to produce the proof by the end of the Match, the Player(s) will be deemed ineligible.
5. The failure of a Club to produce proof of registration to the opposition Club must be reported to the Referee who must note that failure on the Team list.
6. Proof of registration MAY NOT be requested after the Match has commenced.
7. If a Club has complied with all necessary requirements and wishes to subsequently lodge a protest based on Player eligibility, it must do so in accordance with the conditions specified in the Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations.

Article 13 - Venue

1. The home venue of all Senior NPLWA Clubs must meet the relevant criteria set down by

Football West.

2. The home venue of a NPLWA Junior Club must meet the criteria of a Class D venue as specified in the Football West Competition Management Regulations.
3. Four parking spaces inside the venue must be provided free of charge for Match Officials on Match day for all Matches.
4. 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 by Football West.
5. The home Club, at its own expense, must ensure that a nominated groundskeeper is on duty during all scheduled Senior NPLWA Matches at its home ground, from at least one hour prior to the first scheduled Match.

Penalty for Breach \$300

6. Football West reserves the right to require that its sponsors' signage, and that of the FA and NPL, is prominently displayed at all Matches.
7. Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that NPLWA Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

Article 14 - Technical Areas, Substitutes and Non-Playing Officials

1. A technical area must be clearly marked for each Senior NPLWA Match in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Each technical area must have seating for 10 people.
2. All substitutes, substituted Players and non-playing officials must remain in the technical area while the Match is in progress with the exception of substitutes who are warming up. For the avoidance of doubt, any person who is named on the Team list as either a Player or a non-playing Team Official is required to occupy the technical area unless directed otherwise by the Referee or unless warming up if that person is a substitute.
3. Substitutes who are warming up must:
 - a. warm up inside the confines of the perimeter fence;
 - b. wear a bib which is a different colour to both Teams and the Match Officials; and
 - c. not warm up with a football.
4. Each Senior NPLWA Team may nominate a maximum of 5 substitutes.
5. The 2021 Senior NPLWA Competition Season will be conducted under temporarily amended version of the Laws of the Game allowing for 5 substitutes to be made. In Senior NPLWA Matches:
 - a) Each team will be permitted to use a maximum of five substitutes.
 - b) To reduce disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three opportunities to make substitutions during the game; substitutions may also be made

at half-time.

- c) If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one of the three opportunities for each team.
 - d) Unused substitutions and opportunities are carried forward into extra time.
 - e) Where competition rules allow an additional substitution in extra time, teams will each have one additional substitution opportunity; substitutions may also be made before the start of extra time and at half-time in extra time.
6. Each Team may nominate a maximum of 5 non-playing Team Officials.

Article 15 – Match Scheduling

1. With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period of a senior NPLWA Match must last for a minimum of 35 minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
2. Subject to paragraph 3 the duration of the half time interval is to be 15 minutes.
3. The Referee must adjust the duration of an Under 23s, Under 20s or Under 18s Match when necessary to ensure that the First Team Match commences at the scheduled kick-off time. The half time interval is to be first shortened. The half time interval must be at least 8 minutes long.
4. When a Match is shortened in accordance with paragraph 3, each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal Match fee.
5. In the event that a NPLWA-W Club does not have sufficient Players to field an Under 23s and a First Team, the First Team will take priority.
6. In the event that a NPLWA-M Club does not have sufficient Players to field an Under 20s and a first Team, the first Team will take priority.
7. In the event that a NPLWA-M Club does not have sufficient Players to field an Under 18s and an Under 20s Team, the Under 20s Team will take priority.
8. Spectators are not permitted inside the barrier which separates the field of play from the rest of the venue while the Match is in progress.
9. Once Match schedules have been published, no changes may be made unless otherwise provided for in these rules. A Club may request a Match change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing, not less than six weeks 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 Match change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club.
10. A Club which has been granted a Match change in accordance with paragraph 9 is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged Match.
11. The home Club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed between the technical areas in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first Match of the day until the conclusion of the final Match of the day unless being utilised.

Penalty for Breach \$100

12. Football West reserves the right to instruct home Clubs to increase the minimum-security arrangements for any Match at any time. The cost of any additional security arrangements is to be borne by the home Club.
13. Football West may appoint a Match commissioner at any NPLWA Match as its representative.
14. The Match commissioner must submit a report to Football West following each Match attended.
15. Should the Match commissioner report that a Club has breached any rules or regulations of Football West, then the Club may be sanctioned accordingly. A Match commissioner is classified as a Match Official with the same status as a Referee, assistant Referee, fourth official and Referee inspector.

Article 16 - Ground Marshals

1. The home Club must appoint ground marshals whose duties are:
 - a) to provide an escort for the Match Officials to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period.
 - b) to liaise with Club officials and emergency services if required; and

2. The home Club in a NPLWA-W fixture must provide at least two ground marshals for the Under 23s and First Team Match.

Penalty for Breach \$100

3. The home Club in a NPLWA-M fixture must provide at least two ground marshals for each Under 18s and Under 20s Match.

Penalty for Breach \$100

4. The home Club in a NPLWA-M fixture must provide at least four ground marshals for each first Team Match.

Penalty for Breach \$100

5. It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
6. 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 collecting gate fees may not be a ground marshal).
7. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
8. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
9. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed Referee at least fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

Article 17 - Playing Kit Allocation

1. All Clubs must nominate a home and alternative playing strip. The colours of the home strip's shirts and socks must be significantly different from those of the alternative strip.
2. Nomination for home and alternative playing strips must be submitted by **15th February 2021** in the format supplied by Football West.

Penalty for Breach - \$200 per week outstanding

3. In any Match, 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 in regards to the strip to be worn by either Team, the Referee's decision is final.
4. All Teams must comply with the kit allocated by Football West for the fixture.

Penalty for Breach \$100

Article 18 - Match Balls

1. The home Club in each Senior NPLWA Match will provide the Referee with a minimum of three Match balls no later than ten minutes prior to the commencement of the Match. All Senior NPLWA Matches must use the Football West designated ball. 3 Match balls will be provided free of charge to each Senior NPL Club for use by its senior Teams.

Penalty for Breach \$200

2. All NPL Juniors Matches must use at least two of the Football West designated ball. Two Match balls will be provided free of charge to each Junior Team.
3. In NPL Juniors fixtures the home Club will provide the Referee with two Match balls no later than 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the Match.

Article 19 - Match Officials

1. The home Club is responsible for the payment of all Match Official fees. Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each season.
2. 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.
3. In the absence of one or both assistant Referees, each Team will provide a Club assistant Referee to assist the Referee. If either Club does not comply, then the Match may not proceed.
4. A Club must not refuse to allow an allocated Match Official to officiate at that allocated Match.
5. When a Match is forfeited by a Club, the Match Officials are entitled to receive 100% of the prescribed Match fee to be paid by the Club which forfeited the Match, unless the forfeiting Club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.

6. When a Match is abandoned, the Match Officials are entitled to receive 100% of the Match fee.

Article 20 - Representative Teams

1. If a Club has 4 or more outfield Players or 2 goalkeepers from one Team participating in a representative Match, it may seek the postponement of any Club Match which clashes with the representative Match.
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 Electronic Match Sheets for a minimum of 80% of all Matches up to and including the date of the request to postpone.
3. If the Player is required to participate in a representative Match prior to round six of the season, Football West will determine the Team of a Player from the Electronic Match Cards available. Football West's decision in determining the Team of a Player is final.
4. Players must be released for training, preparation and participation for representative Matches when requested in writing to do so by Football West.
5. Football West may select a Player for a State Representative Team. A selected Player who has accepted selection who misses a State Representative Team session without a valid medical certificate (or other extenuating circumstances) will be suspended from his or her Club Team's next game. Football West reserves the right to determine the validity of any extenuating circumstances and any such decision is final.

Part 2 – NPLWA Men’s Competition

Article 21 - Qualification for Top Four Cup and National Finals

1. Teams will be ranked in their divisions according to the number of Competition points they accrue over the season as specified in Article 2.
2. The Teams which occupy the highest 4 positions in the first, Under 20s and Under 18s divisions will compete in The Top Four Cup.
3. The Club whose first Team finishes in 1st place at the end of the season will qualify for the National Finals Series. Should Perth Glory finish in first place at the end of the regular season, the Club whose first Team finishes in 2nd place will qualify for the National Finals Series.

Article 22 - Promotion and Relegation

1. Promotion and relegation refers to the processes set out in Articles 22 & 23 and expressly excludes any restructure of the NPLWA-M Competition.
2. The NPLWA-M Club whose first Team finishes in last place at the end of the regular home and away season will occupy a relegation position.
3. Should the Club whose first Team finishes in first place in State League 1 meet the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria by the date stipulated for each criterion, the last place NPLWA-M Club will be relegated to State League 1 in the first Team, Under 20s and Under 18s age groups. The first placed State League 1 Club will be promoted to the NPLWA-M.
4. Should the Club whose first Team finishes in first place in State League 1 not meet the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria by the date stipulated for each criterion, the Club’s first Team that finishes in second position in State League 1, and meets the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria by the date stipulated for each criterion, will compete in a two-legged play-off tie against the first Team of the last placed NPLWA-M Club as described in Article 23.
5. The NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria, and the date by which each criterion must be met, are listed at Appendix B.
6. Football West will in its sole discretion determine whether a Club meets the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria.
7. For the avoidance of doubt, and despite anything stated in these rules or the NPL Compliance Regulations, to be eligible for promotion to the NPL, a State League 1 Club is not required to meet any criteria other than those listed in Appendix B as the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria.
8. If none of the State League 1 Clubs that finishes in the top 2 positions meets the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria, there will be no promotion and relegation between the NPLWA-M and State League 1.

Article 23 - Promotion and Relegation Play-Off

1. Should the circumstances described in Article 22.4 be met the two Clubs will take part in a Promotion and Relegation Play-Off.

2. The Club that wins the play-off tie will earn the right to compete in the NPLWA-M Seniors in the next season and the Club that loses the play-off tie will compete in State League 1 in the first Team, Reserves and under 18s age groups.
3. The play-off tie will be played under the following conditions:
 - a) The venue for each leg must comply with the standards set out in Appendix B of the NPL Compliance Regulations. A Club whose regular home venue does not meet these requirements is responsible for arranging a compliant venue at its own cost;
 - b) The State League 1 Club must comply with the following Articles of these rules in relation to the Player Points System and Visa Players:
 - i. Article 24.2;
 - ii. Article 24.3;
 - iii. Article 24.4 (the State League 1 Club is entitled to a 20 point discount as provided for in the Player Point System);
 - iv. Article 24.5;
 - v. Article 24.6;
 - vi. Article 24.7;
 - vii. Article 24.8
 - viii. Article 24.13; and
 - ix. Article 22.
4. The winner of the play off tie will be determined as follows:
 - a) The tie will comprise two Matches
 - b) One Match at will be played at each Club's home venue. Should a Club's home venue not be available, that Club will be responsible for sourcing an alternative venue at its own cost.
 - c) The dates and times of the Matches will be determined by Football West and may not be challenged by either Club.
 - d) The order of the Matches will be determined by Football West.
 - e) The winner of the tie will be the Club that scores the most goals over the two legs.
 - f) Should both Teams score an equal number of goals over the two legs, the winner of the tie will be the Club that scores the most goals in its "away" leg. For the avoidance of doubt, the Club playing its "away" leg is the second-named Club in the Match, regardless of the venue at which the Match is played.
 - g) If a winner cannot be determined through paragraphs e) and f), then two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with The Laws of the Game at the conclusion of the second leg.
 - h) At the end of the second period of extra time, the conditions of paragraph e) will be applied to determine the winner of the tie. The conditions of paragraph f) do not apply once the Match moves into extra time.
 - i) If a winner cannot be determined through the application of paragraphs e) after extra time, the winner of the tie will be decided by kicks from the Penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.

Article 24 - Player Rosters and Periods

1. Every Club must submit a valid Player Roster no later than **10:00am WST on Monday 8**

March 2021.

Penalty for Breach \$300

2. A Player Roster must comprise at least 20 Players and no more than 23 Players. Player Rosters that do not comprise a number of Players in this range will not be accepted and will be deemed not valid.
3. To be eligible to play in First Team Matches a Player must be on the Club's Player Roster, subject to the exemption in paragraph 14.
4. Each Player on the Player Roster will be assigned a points value in accordance with the Player Points System as promulgated by Football Australia from time to time.
5. The total points value of all Players on the Player Roster as calculated in accordance with the Player Points System must not exceed 200. Rosters that have Player points totalling more than 200 will not be accepted and will be deemed not valid.
6. A Player must be registered on Play Football in accordance with the National Registration Regulations before he can be named on a Player Roster.
7. A Player Roster is not official until it has been approved by Football West.
8. For each non-Visa Player on the Player Roster, the Club must provide a copy of either:
 - a) Australian Passport; or
 - b) Foreign Passport and permanent residency visa; or
 - c) Certificate of Australian Citizenship.
9. Other forms of proof of citizenship or permanent residency status may be accepted by Football West in its absolute discretion.
10. Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be added to a Club's Player Roster except:
 - a) Before **10:00am WST on Monday 8 March 2021**;
 - b) Between **9:00am WST Sunday 25 April 2021 and 5:00pm WST Wednesday 28 April 2021**;
 - c) In the case of a Player under the age of 20 who has played in more than 10 first Team Matches of any NPL Club in the current season;
 - d) In the case of an amateur Player whose last registration is with a Club in Western Australia that does not have a Senior NPL Team and the Player has played at least 5 Matches for that Club in the current season. Player Point System value will be determined by Football West.
 - e) In the case of an amateur Player previously registered outside Western Australia;
 - f) In accordance with the Long Term Injury Policy;
 - g) In the case a Player originally listed on the Player Roster is removed in accordance with Paragraph 10 the Club may replace the Player with another Player registered for the Club's U/20's or U/18's as long as the replacement Player is already registered with the same Club; and
11. Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be removed from a Club's Player Roster except:
 - a) Before 10:00am WST on Monday 8 March 2021;

- b) Between 9:00am WST Sunday 25 April 2021 and 5:00pm WST Wednesday 28 April 2021;
 - c) In the case of a Player who is unable to play in the NPL due to a change in work or personal circumstances accompanied by evidence acceptable to Football West; and
 - d) In accordance with the Long Term Injury Policy.
12. A Player removed from a Club's Player Roster in accordance with paragraph 11(c) may not be added onto any Club's Player Roster later in the same season.
 13. No Player may be added to a Clubs Player Points System outside of the transfer windows if their previous registration is with another NPL Club, regardless of any exceptions.
 14. Players under the age of 20 may play for the First Team even if they are not on the Player Roster for an unlimited number of games during the 2021 season.

Article 25 - Visa Players

1. An Australian Player is any Player who is:
 - a) A citizen of Australia; or
 - b) A Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person resident 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
 - c) The holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian Government.
2. A Visa Player is a Player who is not an Australian Player.
3. Each Club may name a maximum of 2 Visa Players on its Player Roster.
4. For each Visa Player on the Player Roster, the Club must provide a copy of the Foreign Passport with the Player's entry visa into Australia.

Article 26 - Match Documentation

1. Each Club must make available a Team list to the Referee on Match day. A copy of the Team list should be retained by the Club. Copies of the Team list must also be made available to:
 - a) Opposition Club; and
 - b) Home Club Media Officer.
 - c) Football West Match Reporter
 - d) Football West Videographer
2. The Team list must contain the full names of Players and non-playing officials who intend to occupy the technical area. For the avoidance of doubt, a Player or non-playing official whose name does not appear on the Team list may not enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the technical area while the Match is in progress.
3. All sections of the Team list must be completed including FA numbers, Team Officials and

formation if applicable.

4. Non-playing officials who sit in the technical area during any NPLWA-M Match must be registered on PlayFootball.

Penalty for Breach \$300 fine per unregistered official

5. Only Players whose names appear on the Club's Player Roster may be listed on the Team list of the first Team with the exception of the circumstances detailed in Article 24.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

Article 27 - Players

1. To be eligible to play in the NPL for any Club except Perth Glory, a Player must meet the following age criteria.
 - a) Under 18s – born in 2003, 2004, 2005 or 2006;
 - b) Under 20s – born 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 or 2005 (subject to paragraph 2);
 - c) First Team – born in 2005 or earlier.
2. An Under 20s Team may include a maximum of 4 Players who were born in 2000 or earlier on the Team list for any Match. Each of these Players must be so denoted on the Team list with an asterisk next to each overage Player's name.

Penalty for Breach (no denotement) \$200

Penalty for Breach (5 or more overage) Forfeit

3. An overage player playing for the Under 20's under paragraph 2 must be registered on the First Team Player Roster during the Registration Window before they are eligible to participate in First Team Matches.

Article 28 - Perth Glory Players

1. To be eligible to play in the NPL every Perth Glory Player must meet the following age criteria.
 - a) Under 18s – born in 2003, 2004, 2005 or 2006;
 - b) Under 20s – born in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 or 2005;
 - c) First Team – born in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 or 2005.
2. All Players on the Perth Glory First Team Player Roster must have a relationship between the Player and Club that complies with the National League Player Contracting Regulations.
3. The Perth Glory First Team on any one Match day may include at most 4 Players born between 1997 and 2001.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

4. The first Team may also include a maximum of 1 goalkeeper who was born in 2000 or earlier on the Team list for any Match provided that the goalkeeper has not started more than 2 A-League games in the previous season and provided that written approval is granted by both FA and Football West.

Article 29 - Admission

1. A maximum of 63 people from the visiting Club must be provided with free entry to the venue for any one Match day for use by the Players, Club officials or a Club's official guests. The visiting Club must inform the home Club in writing the names to be granted free entry by noon on the last Business Day prior to the Match.
2. The Football West videographer and Match reporter for a NPLWA-M Match must be permitted to park inside the venue free of charge.
3. Any person, including a Match Official who is not appointed to the Match, who produces an official Football West pass must be granted free entry into any venue for any Match.
4. All Football West passes are valid only for Football West Matches and may be revoked by Football West at any time.
5. General entry admission fees may be charged to the maximum amounts listed below:
 - a) General Entry - \$10
 - b) Students, Pensioners or concession holders with evidence of status - \$5
 - c) People under the age of 15 – Free
6. Holders of Football West Sponsors Discount Entry Programme Tickets (as advised by Football West from time to time) must be granted access to grounds at the pre-determined discounted admission price. No Club is permitted to refuse entry on these conditions under any circumstances.

Penalty for Breach \$100

7. Any person who produces official Sportradar accreditation must be granted free entry into any venue for any Match. No Club may refuse admission to a person with the correct accreditation.

Penalty for Breach \$200

Article 30 - Prize Money

1. The Club whose first Team finishes in first position will receive \$12,000 prize money.
2. The Club whose first Team finishes in second position will receive \$4,000 prize money.
3. The Club whose first Team finishes in third position will receive \$2,000 prize money.
4. The Club whose first Team finishes in fourth position will receive \$1,000 prize money.
5. Perth Glory FC is not eligible to win prize money. In the event that Perth Glory FC finishes in one of the top 4 positions, the prize money will be redistributed to include the 5th placed Team.

Article 31 - Individual Awards

1. A Fairest and Best prize will be awarded to the best Player in each division of the NPLWA-M.
2. A medal will be awarded to the Player born in 2001 or later who achieves the most votes in Senior First Team Matches, subject to the same conditions set out in paragraph 6.
3. The Referee for each Match will award votes. Three votes will be awarded to the best Player, two votes to the next best Player and one vote awarded to the third best Player.
4. The Player who receives the most votes over the course of the season will win the Fairest and Best prize for his division.
5. If two or more Players tie for the highest number of votes, then a prize will be awarded to each of those Players.
6. If a Player receives a suspension as a result of being shown a Red Card, or as a result of a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary & Grievance Tribunal during the regular season, he will be ineligible to win the Fairest and Best Award for that season. For the avoidance of doubt, if that Player receives a Red Card which is subsequently rescinded as a result of mistaken identity or an obvious error, the Player will be eligible to win the Fairest and Best Award.
7. An award will be presented to the Player who scores the most goals in his division in league Matches throughout the season of the Senior NPL. If two or more Players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those Players.
8. An award will be presented to the best first Team goalkeeper of the year based on votes cast by the Referees at each game in the first Team of the NPL. If two or more goalkeepers have an equal number of votes, an award will be presented to each of those Players.
9. If a goalkeeper receives a suspension as a result of being shown a Red Card, or as a result of a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary & Grievance Tribunal during the regular season, he will be ineligible to win the Goalkeeper of the Year Award for that season. For the avoidance of doubt, if that goalkeeper receives a Red Card which is subsequently rescinded as a result of mistaken identity or an obvious error, the Player will be eligible to win the Goalkeeper of the Year Award.

Article 32 - Fair Play Award

1. Football West will present a Fair Play Award to the Clubs whose NPLWA-M first Teams receive the fewest number of Penalty points during the regular season. Penalty points are accrued according to the following:

a)	Each single Yellow Card issued	1 point
b)	Each indirect Red Card issued (two Yellow Cards to a single Player)	3 points
c)	Each direct Red Card issued	5 points
d)	Each non-playing official expelled from the technical area	5 points
e)	Five or more Players cautioned or sent off in a single Match	5 points
f)	Three or more Players sent off in a single Match	10 points
2. The winner of the Fair Play Award will receive \$2,000.

3. In the event that two or more Clubs receive the fewest Penalty points, the prize money will be shared.
4. Perth Glory FC is not eligible to win the Fair Play Award. In the event that Perth Glory FC finishes the fewest number of Penalty points, the prize will be awarded to the 2nd placed Team.

Part 3 – NPLWA-M Top Four Cup

Article 33 – Competition Format

1. The Teams that occupy the highest 4 positions of each NPLWA-M division (First Team, Under 20s and Under 18s) following the completion of the regular season will compete Top Four Cup.
2. The Matches of each division of Top Four Cup will be structured as follows:

Match Day 1

Match A Team finishing 1st vs Team finishing 2nd

Match B Team finishing 3rd vs Team finishing 4th

The winner of Match A proceeds directly to the Grand Final

The losing Team of Match B is eliminated

Match Day 2

Match C Loser of Match A vs Winner of Match B

The losing Team is eliminated

Match Day 3

Grand Final Winner Match A vs Winner Match C

3. The designated home Team of each Match is as follows:
 - a) Match A – the Team finishing 1st
 - b) Match B – the Team finishing 3rd
 - c) Match C – the losing Team of Match A
 - d) Grand Final – the winner of Match A
4. The venues of all Matches will be determined by Football West.
5. For all Matches except the first Team Match, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, the outcome of the Matches will be decided by kicks from the Penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
6. In the first Team Matches, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
7. Should scores be level at the end of the second period of extra time, the outcome of the Match will be decided by kicks from the Penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
8. One additional substitute may be used when a Match goes into extra time (whether or not the Team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes).
9. The Grand Final winner in each age group will be known as Top Four Cup Winner.
10. The Club whose First Team wins the Grand Final will receive \$10,000 prize money.
11. The Club whose First Team loses the Grand Final will receive \$4,000 prize money.

12. The Club whose First Team loses Match C will receive \$2,000 prize money.
13. The Club whose First Team loses Match B will receive \$1,000 prize money.
14. No prize money will be awarded for the Under 20s or Under 18s.
15. Perth Glory FC is not eligible to win any prize money. Should Perth Glory qualify for the finals, Prize money will be distributed in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this paragraph is not subject to challenge.

Article 34 - Players

1. A Player must have played in a minimum of 5 Matches for a Club in the current season to be eligible to play in any of that Club's Teams in Top Four Cup, subject to other eligibility criteria.
2. A Player who has played in multiple age groups for a particular NPL Team in his Club is ineligible to participate in any Top Four Cup Matches in a lower age group than the highest age group Team for which he has played, unless they have played 50% or more of their Matches for a lower age group.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

3. A Player is exempt from the restrictions specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.
4. Once a Player has started for a Team they are no longer eligible to play in a lower age group than the Team for which they have played for in the Top Four Cup.
5. In Senior Matches, an unused substitute is deemed NOT to have played.
6. A Player who accumulates 2 Yellow Cards in a post-season Competition or finals series must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 1 Match as set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

Article 35 - Match Officials

1. The host Club will pay the Match Official fees for all Matches.

Article 36 - Match Balls

1. The host Club will provide the Match balls for all senior Matches except the Grand Finals. Football West will supply all Match balls for the Grand Finals.

Article 37 - Admission

1. A maximum of 21 people from each Team will be provided with a free entry pass to the venue for any one Match day for use by the Players, Club officials or a Club's official guests only. The visiting Clubs must inform the host Club in writing the names to be granted free entry by noon on the last Business Day prior to the Match.

Article 38 - Squad Lists

1. Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing 4 business days prior to the Match.

Part 4 – NPLWA Women’s Competitions

Article 39 - Player Rosters and Periods

1. Every Club must submit a valid Player Roster Composition no later than **10:00am WST on Friday 2 April 2021.**

Penalty for Breach \$300

2. A Player Roster Composition must comprise at least 18 Players and no more than 23 Players. Rosters that do not comprise a number of Players in this range will not be accepted and will be deemed not valid.
3. A Player must be registered on PlayFootball in accordance with the National Registration Regulations before she can be named on a Player Roster Composition.
4. A Player Roster Composition is not official until it has been approved by Football West.
5. Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be added to a Club’s Player Roster Composition except:
 - a) Before **10:00am WST on Friday 2 April 2021;**
 - b) Between **9:00am WST Monday 5 July 2021** and **10:00am WST Monday 12 July 2021;**
 - c) In the case of a Player under the age of 23 inclusive who has played in more than 8 First Team Matches in the current season;
 - d) In the case of an amateur Player previously registered with a Club in Western Australia that does not have a NPLWA-W Team;
 - e) In the case of an amateur Player previously registered outside Western Australia; and
 - f) In accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy.
6. Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be removed from a Club’s Player Roster Composition except:
 - a) Before **10:00am WST on Friday 2 April 2021;**
 - b) Between **9:00am WST Monday 5 July 2021** and **10:00am WST Monday 12 July 2021;**
 - c) In the case of a Player who is unable to play in the NPLWA-W due to a change in work or personal circumstances accompanied by evidence acceptable to Football West; and
 - d) In accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy
7. A Player removed from a Club’s Player Roster Composition in accordance with paragraph 6 c) and d) may not be added onto any Club’s Player Roster Composition later in the same season.
8. No Player may be added to a Clubs Player Roster Composition outside of the transfer windows if their previous registration is with another NPLWA-W Club, regardless of any exceptions.
9. A Club’s Player Roster Composition may not include more than three W-League Players from the immediately preceding W-League season, for clarity this means the W-League season that began on 27 December 2020.
10. Football West may grant an exemption to the limit set out in paragraph 9 on application by a Club that can show exceptional reasons as to why this limit should not apply. An NTC Team will have a presumption that exceptional reasons exist in relation to this limit.

Article 40 – Team Lists

1. Each Club must submit an Electronic Team Sheet to the Referee on Match day. A copy of the Electronic Team Sheet should be retained by the Club. Copies of the Electronic Team Sheet must also be provided to:
 - a) Opposition Club;
 - b) Home Club Media Officer;
 - c) Football West Match Reporter; and
 - d) Football West Videographer
2. The Electronic Team Sheet must contain the full names of Players and non-playing officials who intend to occupy the technical area. For the avoidance of doubt, a Player or non-playing official whose name does not appear on the Team list may not enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the technical area while the Match is in progress.
3. All sections of the Electronic Team Sheet must be completed including FA numbers, Team Officials and formation if applicable.
4. Non-playing officials who sit in the technical area during any NPLWA-W Match must be registered on PlayFootball.

Penalty for Breach \$300 fine per unregistered official
5. Only Players whose names appear on the Player Roster Composition may be listed on the Team list of the First Team with the exception of the circumstances detailed in paragraph 6.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit
6. A Club may promote a Player from its NPLWA-W U23s Team to play for its First Team up to a maximum of 8 Matches throughout an NPLWA-W season without being required to include such a Player on the First Team Player Roster Composition. Any such Player must meet the age eligibility criteria of the Team from which she is being promoted. For the avoidance of doubt, an overage Player playing in the Under 23s Team may not be promoted unless she is listed on the Player Roster Composition.
7. Once an Under 23s Player has played more than 8 Matches for the First Team in a single NPLWA-W season, the Player must be included on the NPLWA-W Club's First Team Player Roster before she is eligible to play her ninth Match. For the avoidance of doubt, an unused substitute is deemed NOT to have played.

Article 41 - Players

1. To be eligible to play in the NPLWA-W for any Club, a Player must meet the following age criteria.
 - a. Under 23s – born 1998-2006 inclusive (subject to paragraph 2);
 - b. First Team – born in 2006 or earlier.
2. Only female Players are eligible to compete in the NPLWA-W.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit
3. An Under 23s Team may include a maximum of 4 Players who were born in 1997 or earlier on

the Team list for any Match. Each of these Players must be so denoted on the Team list with an asterisk next to each overage Player's name.

Penalty for Breach (no denotement)	\$200 per Player
Penalty for Breach (5 or more overage)	Forfeit

4. A Player who was in the starting Team or who took the field as a substitute in 5 or more fixtures in the most recent W-League season may not play for any Team in the Women's Leagues except for a Club's NPLWA-W First Team and Under 23s.
5. A W-League Player may not play for any Team in the Women's League except for a Club's NPLWA-W Team.
6. A Player who was born in 2006 or later may apply to Football West to be assessed as being competent to play in the NPLWA-W, but is ineligible to play until such competency has been provided to the Club in writing.
7. Once a Player has played for the NPLWA-W First Team, she may not participate in the Womens Metropolitan League in the same season. As a goalkeeper is a specialised position, goalkeepers are exempt from this Competition Rule but must participate as a goalkeeper in the Womens Metropolitan league only.
8. Once a Player has taken the field for a Team of the NPLWA-W First Team on 9 occasions, she may not participate in any Matches for any other Team in the Women's Amateur League for the remainder of the season.
9. A Player who has taken to the field for the NPLWA-W First Team, may not be listed on the Team list of a Team in the Women's Amateur League on the same day.
10. Once a Player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPLWA-W Under 23s on 9 occasions, she may not appear on the Team list of any Team in the Women's Metropolitan League for the remainder of the season.
11. Once a Player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPLWA-M Competition on 9 occasions for any Team, she may not appear on the Team list of any Team in the NPLWA-W for the remainder of the season.

Article 42 - Admission

1. A maximum of 42 people from the visiting Club must be provided with free entry to the venue for any one Match day for use by the Players, Club officials or a Club's official guests. The visiting Club must inform the home Club in writing the names to be granted free entry by noon on the last working day prior to the Match.
2. The Football West videographer and Match reporter for an NPLWA-W Match must be permitted to park inside the venue free of charge.
3. Any person, including a Match Official who is not appointed to the Match, who produces an official Football West pass must be granted free entry into any venue for any Match.
4. All Football West passes are valid only for Football West Matches and may be revoked by Football West at any time.

5. General entry admission fees may be charged to the maximum amounts listed below:
 - a) General Entry - \$10
 - b) Students, Pensioners or concession holders with evidence of status - \$5
 - c) People under the age of 15 – Free
6. Holders of Football West Sponsors Discount Entry Programme Tickets (as advised by Football West from time to time) must be granted access to grounds at the pre-determined discounted admission price. No Club is permitted to refuse entry on these conditions under any circumstances.

Penalty for Breach \$100

7. Any person who produces official Sportradar accreditation must be granted free entry into any venue for any Match. No Club may refuse admission to a person with the correct accreditation.

Penalty for Breach \$200

Article 43 - Prize Money

1. The Club whose First Team finishes in first position will receive \$12,000 prize money.
2. The Club whose First Team finishes in second position will receive \$4,000 prize money.
3. The Club whose First Team finishes in third position will receive \$2,000 prize money.
4. The Club whose First Team finishes in fourth position will receive \$1,000 prize money.
5. Hyundai Football West NTC is not eligible to win any prize money. Should Hyundai Football West NTC qualify for the finals, prize money will be distributed in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this paragraph is not subject to challenge.

Article 44 - Individual Awards

1. A Fairest and Best prize will be awarded to the best Player in each of the First Team and Under 23s divisions.
2. The Referee for each Match will award votes. Three votes will be awarded to the best Player, two votes to the next best Player and one vote awarded to the third best Player.
3. The Player who receives the most votes over the course of the season will win the Fairest and Best prize for her division.
4. If two or more Players tie for the highest number of votes, then a prize will be awarded to each of those Players.
5. A medal will be awarded to the Player born in 2001 or later who achieves the most votes in Senior First Team Matches, subject to the conditions in paragraph 6.
6. If a Player receives a suspension as a result of being shown a Red Card, or as a result of a

sanction imposed by the Disciplinary & Grievance Tribunal during the regular season, she will be ineligible to win the Fairest and Best Award for that season. For the avoidance of doubt, if that Player receives a Red Card which is subsequently rescinded as a result of mistaken identity, the Player will be eligible to win the Fairest and Best Award.

7. An award will be presented to the Player who scores the most goals in her division in league Matches throughout the season of the NPLWA-W. If two or more Players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those Players.
8. An award will be presented to the best First Team goalkeeper of the year based on votes cast by the Referees at each game in the First Team of the NPLWA-W. If two or more goalkeepers have an equal number of votes, an award will be presented to each of those Players.
9. If a goalkeeper receives a suspension as a result of being shown a Red Card, or as a result of a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary & Grievance Tribunal during the regular season, she will be ineligible to win the Goalkeeper of the Year Award for that season. For the avoidance of doubt, if that goalkeeper receives a Red Card which is subsequently rescinded as a result of mistaken identity, the Player will be eligible to win the Goalkeeper of the Year Award.

Article 45 - Fair Play Award

1. Football West will present a Fair Play Award to the Clubs whose NPLWA-W First Teams receive the fewest number of Penalty points during the regular season. Penalty points are accrued according to the following:

a)	Each single Yellow Card issued	1 point
b)	Each indirect Red Card issued (two Yellow Cards to a single Player)	3 points
c)	Each direct Red Card issued	5 points
d)	Each non-playing official expelled from the technical area	5 points
e)	Five or more Players cautioned or sent off in a single Match	5 points
f)	Three or more Players sent off in a single Match	10 points
2. The winner of the Fair Play Award will receive \$2,000.
3. In the event that two or more Clubs receive the fewest Penalty points, the prize money will be shared.
4. Hyundai Football West NTC is not eligible to win prize money. Should Hyundai Football West NTC win the Fair Play Award, prize money will be distributed in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this paragraph is not subject to challenge.

Part 5 – NPLWA-W Top Four Cup

Article 46 - Competition Format

1. The Teams that occupy the highest 4 positions of each NPLWA-W division (First Team and Under 23s) following the completion of the regular season will compete in the Top Four Cup.
2. The Matches of each division of Top Four Cup will be structured as follows:

Match Day 1

Match A Team finishing 1st vs Team finishing 2nd

Match B Team finishing 3rd vs Team finishing 4th

The winner of Match A proceeds directly to the Grand Final

The losing Team of Match B is eliminated

Match Day 2

Match C Loser of Match A vs Winner of Match B

The losing Team is eliminated

Match Day 3

Grand Final Winner Match A vs Winner Match C

3. The designated home Team of each Match is as follows:
 - a. Match A – the Team finishing 1st
 - b. Match B – the Team finishing 3rd
 - c. Match C – the losing Team of Match A
 - d. Grand Final – the winner of Match A
4. The venues of all Matches will be determined by Football West.
5. For all Matches except the First Team Match, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, the outcome of the Matches will be decided by kicks from the Penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
6. In the First Team Matches, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
7. Should scores be level at the end of the second period of extra time, the outcome of the Match will be decided by kicks from the Penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
8. One additional substitute may be used when a Match goes into extra time (whether or not the Team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes).
9. The Grand Final winner will be known as Top Four Cup Winner.
10. The Club whose First Team wins the Grand Final will receive \$10,000 prize money.
11. The Club whose First Team loses the Grand Final will receive \$4,000 prize money.

12. The Club whose First Team loses Match C will receive \$2,000 prize money.
13. The Club whose First Team loses Match B will receive \$1,000 prize money.
14. Hyundai Football West NTC is not eligible to win any prize money. Should Hyundai Football West NTC qualify for the finals, prize money will be distributed in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this paragraph is not subject to challenge.

Article 47 - Players

1. A Player must have played in a minimum of 5 Matches for a Club in the current season to be eligible to play in any of that Club's Teams in The Top Four Cup, subject to other eligibility criteria.
2. A Player who has played in 10 or more Matches for the NPLWA-W First Team in her Club is ineligible to participate in any Top Four Cup Matches in the Under 23s Team.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit

3. A Player is exempt from the restrictions specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 business days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.
4. Once a Player has played for the First Team in the Top Four Cup they are no longer eligible to play in the Under 23s Team for which they have previously played in the Top Four Cup.
5. An unused substitute during an NPLWA-W fixture is deemed NOT to have played.
6. A Player who accumulates 2 Yellow Cards in a post-season Competition or finals series must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 1 Match as set out in the D&G Regulations.

Article 48 - Match Officials

1. The host Club will pay the Match Official fees for all Matches.

Article 49 - Match Balls

1. The host Club will provide the Match balls for all senior Matches except the Grand Finals. Football West will supply all Match balls for the Grand Finals.

Article 50 - Admission

1. A maximum of 21 people from each Team will be provided with a free entry pass to the venue for any one Match day for use by the Players, Club officials or a Club's official guests only. The visiting Clubs must inform the host Club in writing the names to be granted free entry by noon on the last working day prior to the Match.

Article 51 - Squad Lists

1. Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing 4 business days prior to the Match.

Part 6 – Junior Teams

Article 52 - Competition Format

1. Teams will be allocated into 3 conferences for the first 14 rounds of the season before being separated into 4 divisions, based on conference results, for the final 10 rounds.
2. Teams will be ranked in their conferences and divisions according to the number of Competition points they accrue over the season. The order in which Teams finish the Competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Article 2.

Article 53 - Junior Matches

1. Junior Matches must be held in accordance with the Football West Match Scheduling Policy.
2. The home Club must provide one stretcher per venue which is to be placed in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first Match of the day until the conclusion of the final Match of the day unless being utilised.
3. Each Team must have a first aid kit available at the venue on the date of the Match.
4. Spectators may only watch the Match from behind the touch line. For the avoidance of doubt, the home Club must ensure that no spectators are situated behind the goal line while the Match is in progress.

Article 54 - Modifications to the Laws of the Game

1. Matches in the Under 13s and Under 14s age groups will be played over two equal periods of 30 minutes. With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period must last for a minimum of 20 minutes for a result to be recorded.
2. Matches in the Under 15s age group will be played over two equal periods of 35 minutes. With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period must last for a minimum of 25 minutes for a result to be recorded.
3. Matches in the Under 16s age group will be played over two equal periods of 40 minutes. With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period must last for a minimum of 25 minutes for a result to be recorded.
4. Substitutes in junior Matches are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game forbidding further participation in the Match. All substitutes in junior Matches are able to be substituted on and off the field of play on multiple occasions. All such substitutions must take place at the halfway line.
5. The duration of the half time interval will be 5 minutes.
6. 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 Match.
7. Matches in the Under 13s age group must use a size 4 football.
8. The Referee must adjust the duration of a Match to ensure that a following Match on the same field of play commences at the scheduled kick-off time.

9. When a Match is shortened in accordance with paragraph 9, each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal Match fee.
10. No time may be added to the end of each period for stoppages or injuries.
11. The Referee has the power to show yellow or Red Cards and temporarily dismiss a Player.
12. Temporary Dismissal System B as described in the Laws of the Game shall apply only to the cautionable offence of dissent by word or action.
13. A Player who is cautioned for dissent by word or action will be punished by a temporary dismissal period of ten (10) minutes for Matches greater than 60 minutes in duration or five (5) minutes for Matches of 60 minutes or less in duration.
14. Temporary Dismissals are not recorded on the Match card submitted by the Referee and do not count towards accumulation of cautions.
15. In the event of a technical error in the Laws of the Game by the Referee with regard to temporary dismissals, the decision made by the Referee is final.
16. All Clubs must have a technical area marked at all NPL Juniors Matches

Article 55 - Ground Marshals

1. Each Club must appoint ground marshals whose duties are:
 - a) to liaise with Club officials and emergency services if required; and
 - b) to ensure the security of the venue, Players, Match Referees and Club officials.
2. If the Club is using one field of play on a Match date, the Club must appoint at least one ground marshal.
3. If the Club is using more than one field of play on a Match date, the Club must appoint at least two ground marshals.
4. Neither the coach nor manager of a Team involved in a Match may act as ground marshal for that Match.
5. It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
6. 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).
7. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
8. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
9. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed Match Referee, if present, at least five minutes prior to the commencement of each Match.

Article 56 - Match Documentation

1. A Player whose name appears on a Electronic Match Sheet or Electronic Match Card is deemed to have played in the Match. For the avoidance of doubt, a pre-printed squad list which has been stuck to a Match card will be deemed to be the official Team list, and no concession will be given to any inaccuracies in that pre-printed list.
2. Electronic Team Sheets are to include columns for Shirt number, Name, FA number, Goals, Yellow cards and Red cards.
3. At the conclusion of the Match, the Referee will ensure that the Team list is signed by the representatives of both Clubs. A picture of the Team list must then be taken by a home Club representative before returning to the Referee for submission to Football West.
4. The Referee must ensure that the completed Electronic Team Sheet is delivered to Football West electronically within 24 hours of the completion of the Match.
5. The 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 Match.
6. The result of each Match must be entered into SportsTG by the home Club no later than 8:00pm on the day of the Match, unless the Match kicks off after 3:30pm in which case it must be completed by 5pm of the next day.

Penalty for Breach - \$50 for each breach

Article 57 - Players

1. Players are eligible to play in competitions according to the following table:

Age Group	Eligible Male Birth Years	Eligible Female Birth Years
13s	2007 [†] , 2008, 2009, 2010*	2006 [†] , 2007, 2008, 2009*
14s	2006 [†] , 2007, 2008, 2009*	2005 [†] , 2006, 2007, 2008*
15s	2005 [†] , 2006, 2007, 2008*	2004 [†] , 2005, 2006, 2007*
16s	2004 [†] , 2005, 2006, 2007*	2003 [†] , 2004, 2005, 2006*

Birth years with an asterisk (*) require an exemption from Football West to participate in the relevant age group in accordance with Article 7.3.

Birth years with a cross (†) require a medical exemption to play in the age group.

2. Regardless of the eligible years above, which create a presumption that a player may participate in those age groups, a Player seeking to participate in an age group more than one year older than his actual age, i.e. a 13 year old seeking to play Under 15s, must be made in writing to Football West in accordance with the Football West Playing Out of Age Group Process. Such a request may be granted after the Player has been assessed by Football West. The Player is ineligible to participate in the requested age group until written approval has been received from Football West.
3. A male Player may not under any circumstances compete in an age group lower than that for which he is eligible.

4. Once a Player has taken the field of play in ten Matches of NPL, State League or Amateur Competition in the Under 18s, Under 20s/Reserves or First Team, they are no longer eligible to participate in the NPL Juniors and the Junior Boys League during the same season. These Senior Matches may comprise any combination of First Team, Under 20s/Reserves and 18s Team Matches as long as no more than nine Under 18s Matches, no more than five Under 20s/Reserves Matches and no more than one first Team Match is played. Following the ninth Match for the senior Teams, a Player must choose to play in either the NPL Seniors/State League/Amateurs or NPL Juniors and the Junior Boys Team(s) for which they are eligible.
5. A maximum of two Players may play in the next lowest ranked Team in a lower division to that in which those Players normally play including the case where a Player's normal Team is in the NPL. If there is disagreement about the Team in which any such Player normally plays, Football West will make a determination and any such determination is final. For the avoidance of doubt, a Player may not play in a Team which is below the Club's next lowest ranked Team under any circumstances. A Player will be deemed an NPL Player if he has appeared on the Electronic Match Card of his Club's NPL Teams on at least 50% of Matches played by that Player to that date. "The next lowest ranked Team" is defined as either the NPL Team in the age group immediately below the Player's normal Team or the highest ranked junior Team in the same age group that is not an NPL Team.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit + \$500 fine

6. A Player may not play in any age group of the NPL and any age group of the Junior Boys League on the same weekend.

Penalty for Breach Forfeit of Second Match

7. An NPL Player may not play in any division below Junior League-Division 3 under any circumstances.
8. NPL Clubs must not register more than sixteen (16) Players per age group

Article 58 - Match Officials

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.
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 Match by Football West, or that none of the Match Officials allocated to a Match is ready and able to commence the Match within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the home Club will allocate a Referee.
5. If a Referee is appointed by the home Club in accordance with paragraph 4, that Referee must be at least two years older than the age group of the Match in the year of Competition.
6. 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 Match may not proceed.

7. If the appointed Referee suspends or delays any Match that is not completed on the scheduled day, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 3 business days of the scheduled conclusion of the Match outlining the reasons for his actions. The appointed Referee is entitled to 50% of the prescribed Match fee for a suspended or delayed Match and 100% of the Match fee for a suspended or delayed Match, which is subsequently completed or abandoned.
8. When a Match 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 Match, unless the forfeiting Club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.
9. When a Match is abandoned, the Match Officials are entitled to receive the full amount of their normal Match fees.

Appendix A - Ineligibility Penalties

The following table describes the sanctions associated with fielding an ineligible Player during a Football West Match.

Type of Ineligibility	Sanction
Not registered in accordance with the Registration Regulations	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$500 Junior Teams \$200
Plays or is listed on a Team list without an ITC (International Transfer Certificate) where one is required	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$500 Junior Teams \$200 Suspension of 1 Match (Player)
Plays or is listed on a Team list within a stand-down period due to a change of status	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$500 Junior Teams \$200 Suspension of 1 Match (Player)
Plays, is listed on a Team list or coaches while under suspension	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$500 Junior Teams \$200
Enters the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the technical area, the Players' race or any other area within a venue where Club Associates are likely to assemble to prepare for a Match within 15 minutes of the beginning of a Match and 15 minutes after the Match has finished while under suspension.	Deduction of 1 championship point and a fine of: Senior Teams \$500 Junior Teams \$200
Does not have proof of registration (but is otherwise validly registered and eligible to play), or presents proof of registration which does not include a photograph.	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$300 Junior Teams \$100 Fine increases by the same amount for each subsequent offence by the same Team in the same season.

Plays or is listed on a Team list for a Team or in a knockout Match when not permitted to do so under Competition Rules but would otherwise be eligible to play for the Club in a league Match (for example if he is “cup tied”)	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$300 Junior Teams \$100
Plays in a Match when not listed on a Team list but would otherwise be eligible to play	A fine of: Senior Teams \$300 Junior Teams \$100
Plays in a Match in which his name has been added to the Team list after the Match has commenced but would otherwise be eligible to play	A fine of: Senior Teams \$300 Junior Teams \$100
Plays or is listed on a Team list for a Team which causes the maximum number of Players allowed to be listed on a Team list to be exceeded	Forfeit and a fine of: Senior Teams \$300 Junior Teams \$100
Plays or is listed on a Team list under a name other than his own	As per the Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations
Plays or is listed on a Team list while not eligible to do so for any other reason	At the discretion of Football West

Appendix B - NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria

1. All of the following criteria must be satisfied and proof must be provided to Football West by a State League 1 Club on or before the dates stipulated in this Appendix B in order for the Club to be eligible for promotion to the NPL.
2. Football West will assess whether a Club has met the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria and inform the Club of the result of its assessment within 5 business days of the date by which each criterion is required to be met.
3. Football West will inform all NPL and relevant State League 1 Clubs as soon as practicable which of the State League 1 Clubs are eligible for promotion to the NPL.
4. Football West may, in its absolute discretion, allow an exemption to compliance with any of these criteria or the dates by which any of the criteria must be satisfied.

No	Criterion Description	Date by which the criterion must be satisfied during 2021
1	<p>The Club's home venue that it has used during the 2021 State League 1 season must meet the NPL venue requirements as stipulated in the NPL Compliance Regulations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>The Club must have a written in principle agreement to use a venue that meets NPL venue requirements and that has been approved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Club; or • The Club that currently occupies that venue (if applicable); and • The local government authority or owner of the venue that has control over the venue; and • Any other organisation that has an interest in or may impact the Club's ability to use the venue for the duration of the 2022 NPL season. 	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
2	<p>At least one Team entered into each of the Football West Competitions in the Junior Boys League in the following age groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 12s; • Under 13s; • Under 14s; and • Under 15s. <p>At least one Team in each age group must remain active in the Competition for the entire season.</p> <p>A Club that does not fulfil more than 2 fixture commitments in any one age group will be deemed not to meet this criterion.</p> <p>Exception:</p> <p>South West Phoenix FC is not required to field a Team in the Football West Under 12s Competition.</p>	5:00pm WST on Friday 7 May 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.

No	Criterion Description	Date by which the criterion must be satisfied during 2019
3	The Club must have a constitution and a valid and current Certificate of Incorporation issued by the Department of Commerce. Copies of the Club's constitution and Certificate of Incorporation must be provided to Football West.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
4	The Club must provide to Football West the most recent audited copy of its financial statements. The Club's audited financial statements must not be more than 12 months old.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
5	The Club must appoint a Technical Director with a valid coaching accreditation of C Licence or higher and provide Football West with the Technical Director's name and copies of their certification.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
6	The Club must appoint a First Team Head Coach with a valid coaching accreditation of C Licence or higher and provide Football West with the First Team Head Coach's name and copies of their certification.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
7	The Club must inform Football West in writing of the date of its most recent Annual General Meeting and provide a copy of the Club's most recent Annual Report. The Club's most recent Annual Report must not be more than 18 months old.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
8	The Club must provide to Football West a document that outlines the Organisational Structure of the Club showing all Executive positions and the names of the individuals appointed to each role.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.
9	The Club must appoint a medical professional with 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. The Club must provide Football West with the medical professional's name and copies of their certification.	5:00pm AWST on Wednesday 4 August 2021 or such other date as is notified in writing by Football West to Clubs.

Appendix C – NPLWA-W Player Roster Composition

Player Roster Composition NPLWA-W 2021

Player Roster Composition	
Youth Players	Each Team is permitted to have no more than 6 players on their player roster under the age of 17 in any one season (16 years of age or younger on 31st December in that competition season);
Matildas	Each Team is permitted to have no more than 2 current FFA contracted Matildas on their player roster in any one season;
W-League Players	Each Team is permitted to have no more than 3 W-League Players on their player roster in any one season;
Visa Players	Each Team is permitted to have no more than 3 Visa Players on their roster in any one season.

NPLW WA Club First Team PRC Requirements

- At all times during the season, a NPLWA-W Club must include a minimum of 18 Players on its First Team Player Roster and may include a maximum of 23 Players on its First Team Player Roster.
- A NPLWA-W Club may promote a Player from its NPL U23s to play for its First Team for up to a maximum of 8 matches throughout the NPLWA-W season without being required to include that Player on the First Team Player Roster. In order for that Player to be eligible to play in more than 8 First Team matches in that NPLWA-W season, the Player must be included on the NPLWA-W Club's First Team Player Roster.
- Any player who is on the NPLWA-W Player Roster of a club cannot play in a competition outside of the NPLWA-W for that club.
- Clubs can make changes to their Player Roster in the designated transfer windows and as per competition rules.
- Once a player has played in 9 NPLWA-W matches (First Team or U23s), they cannot return to their original competition for that club.
- W-League and U19 NTC graduates (within 1 year) need to be listed on the NPLWA-W First Team player roster.
- Playing in a Match is defined as taking the field of play (i.e. in the starting 11 or entering the field as a substitute). For the avoidance of doubt, it will not constitute playing a match if the Player remains as a substitute and does not enter the field of play.
- NTC are exempt from Player Roster requirements.
- Football West has the right to determine in its sole and absolute discretion as to what category a Player falls under for the purposes of the Player Roster.

Notes and Definitions:

Characteristics:

- A Player may fulfil multiple categories simultaneously i.e. A player may be classified as a Matilda and a W-League Player on a Player Roster.

Age:

- A Players age is based on their age as at 31st December in that NPLWA-W competition season.
- All Players on the Player Roster and competing in the NPLWA-W competition must as a minimum turn 15 years of age by 31 December in that competition season.

W-League Players:

- For the purpose of the Player Roster, a player registered to a W-League club in the preceding W-League season will be classified as a W-League player.
- For the purpose of the Player Roster a W-League appearance is defined as a player who started or took the field as a substitute in a W-League fixture in the preceding W-League season.
- For the purpose of the PRC the preceding W-League season refers to the 2020/2021 season.

Visa Players:

- Any player who is not an Australian Citizen or does not have Permanent Residency status is considered a Visa Player.