

Standing Committee Recommendation

To: Chief Executive Officer
From: State League Standing Committee
Date: 23/08/2021

Recommendation (provide a detailed description of the recommendation)

Remove Top 4 Play Offs from State League 2 First Team Only

Describe the Issue or Idea (give a concise description of the issue focussing particularly on the problems that are being experienced)

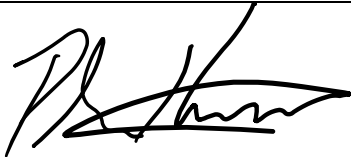
- The State League Top 4 Cups were introduced last year as a one-off novelty cup due to COVID-19 impacts on the 2020 season. Namely no leagues had promotion or relegation last year and there was no State Cup Final, so the Top 4 Cup created some interest and fun at the end of a generally redundant season
- 2021 has been vastly different. There has been a State Cup Final, and promotion and relegation were reintroduced with Dianella already promoted from Division 2 to Division 1.
- Having spoken to the Top 5 clubs in State League 2 (Dianella, Kingsley Westside, Wanneroo, Gosnells, Murdoch) there is generally little to no interest from these clubs in the First Team Top 4 Cup, with the exception of Dianella who will not need to take part in the Promotion play-offs having already finished top of Division 2
- With the exception of Dianella, all other clubs are firmly fixed on the promotion play-offs. At the end of a long 22 game league campaign the Top 4 Cup creates an unnecessarily high risk of players getting injured or suspended in the semi or final and missing the promotion play-offs over the following weeks.
- This is not a risk shared by the 11th placed team in Division 1, who will enjoy a rest while their play-off opponents from Division 2 are involved in cut-throat cup semis and final.
- Please note that all clubs remain fully supportive of the Top 4 Cups being retained for the Under 18s and Reserves competitions, as these teams are not involved in promotion and relegation play-offs, and their season will come to an end after the Top 4 Cup.

Describe the benefits of Football West implementing the Recommendation

Ensures that Competition Integrity is maintained
Provides emphasis and interest in the Divisional playoff

List the Clubs or Club Associates that have been consulted in reaching the recommendation

State League Standing Committee
State League Clubs that are eligible to qualify for top four and divisional playoffs.



Signature

23rd August 2021

Date

Phil Kelly
Standing Committee Chair