



**NATIONAL
PREMIER LEAGUES**



**FOOTBALL
WEST**

Long Term Injury Policy

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, Status and Transfer 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 Behavior

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

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.

Terms used in this document have the meanings given in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

Any request pursuant to this policy will be considered by Football West in its sole discretion taking into consideration timing, Under 21 squads, Under 20 squads, Reserves and Under 18 squads among any other factor which Football West deems relevant.

Article 1 General

1. This policy applies to the following Competitions:
 - a) NPLWA-M;
 - b) NPLWA-W;
2. Nothing in this policy will take precedence over the rules contained within each Competition's own Competition Rules.
3. References to the player points system ("PPS") do not apply to Competitions which do not use the PPS.
4. A Player is deemed to be removed from the Player Roster on the day that the Club receives notification from Football West that the Player has been removed.

Article 2 Long Term Injuries

1. An injury is classified as a Long Term Injury if a player is unable to play due to injury for a minimum of six (6) weeks.
2. If a Player is suffering from a Long Term Injury, a Club may apply to Football West to remove that Player's name from the Player Roster and replace that player with an eligible replacement player ("**Replacement Player**"). This may be done outside of the Player Roster windows dictated in the Competition Rules but cannot be done after **Round 16** of the Competition.
3. A Club must complete the Long Term Injury Application Form and attach supporting medical evidence.
4. Football West may approve or not approve the application or require further evidence, including (but not limited to) a report from a qualified medical practitioner as described in the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (WA) Act 2010.
5. During the course of the Competition Season, each NPLWA club will be permitted to apply to Football West to remove a maximum of four (4) Player's names from the Player Roster.
6. Once a Player is removed from the club's Player Roster due to a Long Term Injury, the Player is not eligible to play for the Club in any capacity for a minimum of six (6) weeks from the date of removal from the Player Roster.
7. Once a Player is removed from the Club's Player Roster due to a Long Term Injury, the Player is not eligible to play for the Team until they are added back onto the Player Roster.

Article 3 Player Points System

1. Switching Player penalty points will apply as per the PPS as set out by FA.
2. The existing Player Points Cap (200 points) remains in place and must not be exceeded under any circumstances including as a result of the registering of Replacement Players under this policy.
3. The maximum number of Visa Players may not be exceeded at any time.

Article 4 Players Returning from Long Term Injury

1. At the conclusion of the specified term of the Long Term Injury, subject to paragraph 3, the returning Player may be placed back on the Club's Player Roster and the Replacement Player will be removed from the Player Roster. This change will not take formal effect until the Club has notified Football West in writing they wish to make this change on their Player Roster.
2. A Player returning from a Long Term Injury may not be added to the Club's Player Roster less than six (6) weeks from the date of approval of his removal from the Club's Player Roster due to a Long Term Injury;
3. The Replacement Player may be retained on the Player Roster if the Club is able to retain that Player within the maximum number of Players and points on the Player Roster.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, if a Player is to be removed from the Player Roster when the injured Player returns, the removed Player MUST be the Replacement Player.