



FOOTBALL
WEST

Match Scheduling Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all Clubs competing in Football West competitions are doing so at times and on days that are not likely to cause inconvenience or disadvantage to competing Teams.

2. General Statement on Scheduling of Matches

Football West is responsible for developing a fixture schedule for all competitions. Once published, changes may be made in accordance with this policy.

Nevertheless, Football West retains the right to reschedule any Match if deemed necessary. As a general principle, all efforts to find a solution acceptable to the Clubs involved in the Match, but should a mutually acceptable solution not be possible, Football West will make a determination.

Football West also recognises that Clubs will request changes to published Match dates and times and this policy outlines how such changes may be made.

3. National Premier Leagues

3.1 Earliest Start Time

- a) Matches may not start before 8:00am;

3.2 Order of Matches

- a) NPLWA-M Matches must be played in the order Under 18's, Under 23's and then First Team if the matches are played on the same day unless approved by Football West.
- b) NPLW-W Matches must be played in the order; Under 21's and then First Team if the matches are played on the same day, unless approved by Football West. Matches will further need to be played within 4 hours of each other.

3.3 NPL Senior Match Schedule Changes

- a) A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point at which the fixtures are published by Football West.
- b) A Club may request a Match change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing. 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.
- c) Football West may approve a fixture change without both Club's consent in circumstances which Football West determines to be exceptional at Football West's sole discretion.
- d) A Club which has been granted a Match change is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged Match.
- e) All matches in the last round of the Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West

4. Men's State League and Women's League Division 1

4.1 Match Schedule Changes

- a) A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures or up to 6 weeks prior to the designated fixture. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point

at which the fixtures are published by Football West.

- b) A Club may request a Match change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing. 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.
- c) Football West may approve a fixture change without both Club's consent in circumstances which Football West determines to be exceptional at Football West's sole discretion.
- d) A Club which has been granted a Match change is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged Match.
- e) All matches in the last round of the Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West

5. Men's Amateur League

5.1 Match Schedule Changes

- a) A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time within 7 days of the release of the fixtures. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. This request must be approved by Football West at its sole discretion. Football West will consider any requests for fixture changes with the Amateur Competition Rules, Article 6.
- b) A Club may request a Match change outside of this 7-day period if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing. 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.
- c) Football West may approve a fixture change without both Club's consent in circumstances which Football West determines to be exceptional at Football West's sole discretion.
- d) A Club which has been granted a Match change is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged Match.
- e) All matches in the last round of the Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West

6. Women's League and Men's Senior Sunday Competitions

6.1 Earliest Start Time

Matches may not start before 11:00am, without approval from Football West or the opposition.

6.2 Match Schedule Changes

- a) Once fixtures have been published, the home Club is permitted to request a change in writing or implement a change via the Competition Management System. Changes are restricted to the kick-off time and pitch number. Change requests will be considered valid if submitted by 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date.
- b) Football West may reject any fixture change submission if the proposed changes will cause unreasonable inconvenience to a Club or Team.
- c) A request to change a fixture any time after 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club. The approval of such requests is subject to Football West's discretion and may or may not be granted.
- d) A Club which has been granted a fixture change is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged fixture.

7. Junior Boys (JDL & JCL), Junior Girls (JDL & JCL) and MiniRoos Matches

7.1 Earliest Start Time

Matches may not start before 8:00am.

7.2 Latest Start Time

Matches may not start after midday, without approval from Football West or the opposition.

7.3 Match Schedule Changes

- a) Once fixtures have been published, the home Club is permitted to request a change in writing or implement a change via the Competition Management System. Changes are restricted to the kick-off time and pitch number. Change requests will be considered valid if submitted by 12pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date.
- b) Football West may reject any fixture change submission if the proposed changes will cause unreasonable inconvenience to a Club or Team.
- c) A request to change a fixture any time after 12pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club. The approval of such requests is subject to Football West's discretion and may or may not be granted.
- d) A Club which has been granted a fixture change is responsible for all costs associated with the rearranged fixture.

8. Regional Teams

Match Schedule Changes

- a) Football West will determine at their absolute discretion the clubs that will be classified as regional teams for the purposes of this policy.
- b) Any match between two clubs with a driving distance of less than 40km will be exempt from the points provided below.
- c) Weekend Matches involving South West Phoenix may not start before 11:00am unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match
- d) Midweek and Friday Night Matches involving South West Phoenix may not start before 7:00pm unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match
- e) Weekend Matches involving Mandurah City FC may not start before 9:30am unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match.
- f) Midweek and Friday Night Matches involving Mandurah City FC may not start before 6:30pm unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West no less than 2 business days before the Match.

9. Postponed, Delayed, Suspended or Abandoned Matches

9.1 Postponed Matches

- a) A Match must not be postponed except with the prior written consent of Football West. Any request for a Match change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club.

- b) 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.
- c) A Match postponed may only be replayed at a date and time mutually agreed by both Clubs except in the circumstances specified in paragraphs d and e. The details of the rearranged Match must be communicated to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to the Match.
- d) 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 participating Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the postponement.
- e) If a postponed Match cannot be rescheduled or cannot be completed for any other reason, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw.

9.2 **Suspended or Abandoned Matches**

- a) A Match must not be suspended except:
 - on the instructions of the Match Official;
 - by order of the police or other relevant authority exercising its statutory powers to that effect; or
 - on the instructions of, or with the prior written consent of Football West.
- b) A Match must not be delayed or abandoned except on the instructions of the Match Official.
- c) If the appointed Match Official delays, suspends or abandons a Match, the Match Official must, within thirty (30) minutes of making such a decision, inform:
 - the home Club;
 - the visiting Club; and
 - the Football West Referee Department
- d) If a Match is abandoned for any reason prior to half time, then the Match will be replayed in full, unless in the opinion of the Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams have caused or contributed to the abandonment of the Match or unless otherwise specified in these Rules.
- e) 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 Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club Associate from one of the participating Teams caused or contributed to the abandonment of the Match. If the Match Official does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the abandonment, Football West may make a decision as to which party or parties are responsible for the abandonment and may impose a penalty on one or both Clubs, or Players or impose some other remedial action for the offending party.
- f) If a Match is abandoned, and that Match is one where an outcome must be determined (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 Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club Associate from one or both of the participating Teams caused or contributed to the abandonment of the Match. If the Match Official does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the abandonment, Football West may make a decision as to which party or parties are responsible for the abandonment and may impose a penalty on

one or both Clubs, or Players or impose some other remedial action for the offending party.

When a match's outcome must be determined and played within seven days, clubs are required to engage in discussions at the venue immediately before departing to agree on a reschedule. The fixtured home team must then notify Football West within 24 hours of leaving the venue, providing details of the agreement, or noting if no agreement was reached, including any proposed reschedule dates. Failure to comply may result in Football West determining the match outcome or imposing penalties in line with the competition rules.

- g) 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 three (3) Business Days prior to the rescheduled kick-off time.
- h) If an abandoned Match cannot be rescheduled through mutual agreement within a reasonable time determined by Football West, Football West will determine the new 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 of the participating Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the abandonment.
- i) If an abandoned Match cannot be rescheduled in accordance with paragraph h, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw. If the abandoned Match is one where an outcome must be determined, Football West reserves the right to determine the outcome of the Match using any method it chooses.