

2025 Football West Key Competition Rule Changes

Please note: This table by itself isn't enough to understand all the Competition Rules for each League. What's listed below are just the main changes for the 2025 Competition Season. Clubs and participants should make sure to read the full rule document for each league separately. Also, remember that along with these important updates, the competition dates and birth years are updated every year.

Competition Management Regulations 2025			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
13	1-5	<p><u>Introduction of Rules</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Football West recognises that a Club may choose to engage a Contractor such as a private academy deliver a variety of services to its players including, but not limited to, match day and training services. Football West recognises that Associations may have their own rules and regulations in relation to the participation in their own competitions of Clubs and/or Teams that engage (or otherwise have relationships with) private academies or external providers. Football West further recognises that these rules and regulations will vary across Associations. Subject to satisfying the Team Eligibility criteria set out in Section 3, Article 2 of these Regulations and compliance with paragraph 4 of this article 13, a nominated Team will not be excluded from the Competitions solely because of its (or its Club's) relationship with a private academy or external provider. Clubs agree and acknowledge that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> -There must be no requirement for Players to directly pay a Contractor of a Club in relation to any activities in particular official regular Club training sessions; There must be no requirement for Players to attend additional training or development sessions with a Contractor of a Club; All Coaches appointed directly or indirectly via a Contractor of a Club must be registered as a coach with Football Australia and hold at least a C Diploma coaching licence; All Coaches appointed directly or indirectly via a Contractor of a Club must wear official Club apparel at Club training sessions and on Match days; The Team's playing name must not include the name of, or reference to, a private academy or other Contractor of a Club, and the Team's playing name must otherwise be identical to that used while participating in the Competition; While participating in Matches, Players must wear the Team's usual playing strip and any branding of a Contractor of a Club on that playing strip will be limited to one location and to a size no greater than 60cm²; While at a venue for a Match, any branding of a Contractor of a Club on a Player's 	<p>Football West has introduced these rule changes to clarify club partnerships with private academies and external providers, ensuring fairness, transparency, and consistency across all competitions. The amendments aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect Player Affordability & Accessibility – Ensuring that players are not required to pay additional fees or attend extra training sessions beyond regular club commitments. • Maintain Club Identity & Integrity – Reinforcing that clubs, not private academies, are the primary entities within Football West competitions, with restrictions on academy branding and team naming conventions. • Standardise Coaching Requirements – Mandating that all external coaches hold a minimum C Diploma coaching licence and be officially registered with Football Australia to maintain coaching standards. • Prevent Misrepresentation – Clubs must ensure private academies do not falsely imply that academy participation guarantees direct access to Football West competitions or pathways. • Enhance Competition Integrity – Football West now has explicit authority to remove teams from competitions if they breach key

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		<p>outerwear, bags or other equipment is limited to one location per item and to a size no greater than 60cm²; and</p> <p>h) While at a venue for a Match, Club Officials must wear their usual match day attire but any branding of a Contractor of a Club on that attire will be limited to one location across all attire (including, but not limited to, shorts, pants, t-shirts, polos, hoodies, jackets and caps) and to a size no greater than 60cm²; and</p> <p>5. Should a Team be accepted into a Competition and subsequently be found to be in breach of paragraphs 3 and/or 4 of this article 13 above, that Team may be removed from the Competition by Football West in its absolute discretion and the Club subject to disciplinary sanctions.</p>	<p>provisions, ensuring compliance and fairness for all participants.</p> <p>These updates provide a structured framework for clubs engaging private academies, balancing flexibility for clubs while maintaining affordability, governance, and the integrity of Football West competitions.</p>
11	2	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>2. Football West reserves the right to reject the proposed new name of the Club in its ultimate discretion if it deems the proposed name is inappropriate, misleading, or otherwise unsuitable.</p>	<p>The updated rule provides clearer guidelines on club name approvals, ensuring that Football West can reject names that are inappropriate, misleading, or otherwise unsuitable. The addition of "in its ultimate discretion" reinforces Football West's authority in making these decisions while ensuring transparency and consistency in club naming across competitions.</p>

Community Competition Rules 2025			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	Minor wording adjustments and competition name updates made for clarity and consistency.	These updates ensure clarity and consistency across the regulations by refining wording and aligning competition names with current terminology.

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Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations 2025			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	<i>Minor wording adjustments and competition name updates made for clarity and consistency.</i>	These updates ensure clarity and consistency across the regulations by refining wording and aligning competition names with current terminology.
5	6-8	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>6. <i>Where a Club Associate is the subject of an Incident Report, a Misconduct Report, or an investigation by Football West regarding an alleged act of Misconduct, Football West may impose provisional action on that individual. This may be for any period and under such terms and conditions as Football West deems necessary, in its absolute discretion, to mitigate any risk of harm to others or to the integrity of Football.</i></p> <p>7. <i>Provisional action may include suspension, supervision, restriction of duties or temporary re-deployment, or suspension or restriction of rights, privileges or benefits.</i></p> <p>8. <i>The period of the order in Clause 7 above must not last beyond the date upon which any investigation or any subsequent Tribunal proceedings are concluded.</i></p>	Provisional action allows Football West to take precautionary measures to protect the integrity of football and ensure participant safety while an investigation is ongoing. Actions such as suspension, supervision, restriction of duties, or temporary redeployment provide flexibility to manage risks without pre-judging the outcome. To ensure fairness, any provisional action is time-limited and will not extend beyond the conclusion of the investigation or tribunal proceedings.
6	12	<p><u>Removal of Rule</u></p> <p>12. <i>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.</i></p>	The removal of this rule eliminates automatic suspensions for accumulating two yellow cards in a post-season competition or finals series. This change likely aims to ensure that minor infractions do not disproportionately impact key matches.
8	12	<p><u>Removal of Rule</u></p> <p>12. <i>A Team Official who accumulates two (2) Yellow Cards in a post-season Competition or finals series must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of one (1) Match.</i></p>	

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Annexure 1 – 2025 State League Competition Rules				
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale	
1	7	<u>Introduction of Rule</u> 7. <i>Should a club withdraw during the league season creating a vacancy in any division of the State League that club will be ranked in 12th position in Division 2 for that season and will be relegated to the Men's Amateur Premier League for the following season.</i>	Ranking the withdrawing club in 12th place in Division 2 prevents the need to adjust the standings of other teams or recalculate points, which could complicate the league table and create confusion. This approach provides a clear and consistent outcome for all parties involved.	
20-24	All	<u>Introduction of Rule</u> <i>Reintroduction of State League Reserves & 18's Top 4. See rule document for full details.</i>	The reintroduction of the State League Reserves & 18's Top 4 competition is primarily driven by the need to provide a competitive and meaningful end to the season for players and clubs in the Reserves and Under 18s competitions.	

Annexure 3 – 2025 Amateur League Competitions				
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale	
3	1-3	<u>Amendment of Rule</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Amateur Premier League clubs who wish to be considered for promotion to the State League will be required to indicate their interest in being considered for the promotion eligibility process to Football West in writing by 10:00am WST on the 15th of April 2025.</i> <i>Clubs that have indicated their interest in the promotion eligibility process will be informed of a list of criteria by Football West which must be completed by 10:00am WST on the 16th of June 2025.</i> <i>At the completion of the promotion eligibility process Football West will publish a list of all teams eligible for promotion to the State League.</i> 	<p>Previously, promotion was optional for the first-placed Amateur Premier Division team, with decisions made reactively at the end of the season. The new rules establish a clear, proactive process where clubs must express interest in promotion before the season concludes and meet eligibility criteria within a set timeframe. This change ensures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transparency & Planning: Clubs now know in advance whether they are eligible for 	

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			<p>promotion, removing last-minute uncertainty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability: Clubs must commit to the process, and those withdrawing late face financial penalties to prevent disruptions. • Structured Decision-Making: Football West formally assesses eligibility before the season ends, ensuring only prepared clubs move up. <p>These updates strengthen the integrity and fairness of the competition by ensuring that promotion is not just based on performance but also on clubs' readiness to meet State League standards,</p>
3	8-9	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>7. <i>Should the team that finishes in second position in the Amateur Premier Division choose not to exercise its option of promotion to the State League or not be eligible there will be no promotion playoff for the third placed team in the Amateur Premier Division. Therefore the 11th placed team in State League Division will retain their position in the State League.</i></p> <p>8. <i>Should neither of the teams that finish in first and second position in the Amateur Premier Division choose not to exercise their option of promotion to the state league or not be eligible there will no promotion or relegation in that season.</i></p>	<p>The changes ensure promotion and relegation are based on merit, club readiness, and competition integrity. Removing the 12th-placed State League team's playoff prevents relegation solely due to a lack of eligible promoted teams. If the top two Amateur Premier teams decline promotion, the 3rd-placed team will no longer have a playoff opportunity, ensuring only prepared clubs transition to the State League. If no teams take up promotion, relegation will not occur, maintaining stability across both leagues.</p>

Annexure 4 - Men's Senior Sunday Rules

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	Minor wording adjustments and age eligibility updates.	

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Annexure 5 – Women's Competition Rules			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
8	6,10,11	Major amendments to player movement rules to reflect the introduction of the Under 18s league and changes to NPLW Roster rules.	These rules are designed to maintain the integrity, fairness, and competitive balance of the women's leagues by regulating player movement between divisions.
13	2b	<p><u>Amendment of Rules</u></p> <p>2. A Club participating in the Women's League Division 1 Competition is obligated to field a second team in the Women's Competition. This secondary team can be entered in either:</p> <p>a. Women's League Division 2, or below; or</p> <p>b. Junior Girls League U18 or U16 divisions.</p>	The Under 17's competition was previously one of the ideal competitions for Women's League Division 1 clubs to field a team that players can then be promoted to should first team players be unavailable. With the introduction of the Under 18's league this will now be one of the preferred competitions and pathway for players to be promoted to a Women's League Division 1 team.
20	3	<p><u>Amendment of Rules</u></p> <p>3. If a Club fields a Team in the Women's League Division 1 and has a Team in the Women's League Division 2 and below, Players who have appeared in the Division 1 Team may only appear in their Club's next highest ranked on the same weekend, subject to any other requirements in Article 8.</p>	Allowing Division 1 players to freely play in lower divisions (e.g., Division 2 and below) could create an imbalance, as their higher skill level might disproportionately influence the outcome of matches in lower divisions. This rule ensures that lower-division teams can compete fairly without being overshadowed by top-tier players.
21	1,2	<p><u>Rules relating to promotion playoffs have been replaced with the rules below</u></p> <p>1. Should the Club that finishes in first position in the Women's League Division 2 exercise its option of promotion to the Women's League Division 1 and be eligible for promotion, the Club in last place in Women's League Division 1 will be relegated to the Women's League Division 2.</p> <p>2. Should the Team that finishes in first position in the Women's League Division 2 choose not to exercise its option of promotion to the Women's League Division 1 or not be eligible for promotion, the Team finishing in second place has the right of a play-off with the Team that finishes in last position in Women's League Division 1.</p>	By removing promotion playoffs, the process becomes more straightforward and less resource intensive. The team finishing first in Division 2 is given the option to promote, recognising that not all clubs may wish or be able to promote due to financial, logistical, or competitive reasons.

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27	1	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>1. Entry is compulsory for all Clubs who compete in the NPLWA-W and Women's League Division 1</p>	Previous rules did not allow two teams from the same club to enter the Women's State Cup this led to Women's League Division 1 Clubs that also had an NPLW team not competing in any Cup as well as reducing the number of teams in the Women's State Cup to less than 16. This has now been amended to allow two teams from the same club to enter the Women's State Cup.
32	1	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>1. Entry into the Women's League Cup is voluntary and open to those Teams in the Women's League Central (Division 2 and below), Women's League North and South Divisions.</p>	Allows Women's Masters League teams to enter a Cup Competition if they choose to in the instance that a Women's Masters Cup Competition is not conducted.
37	1	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>1. This cup competition will only be conducted if there are eight (8) or more teams entered in the Women's Masters League.</p>	A minimum of 8 teams ensures that the cup competition has enough participants to create a meaningful and competitive structure. With fewer teams, the competition will lack the number of rounds needed to ensure an enjoyable and worthwhile competition.

Annexure 6 – Junior League Competitions			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
27-41	All	<p><u>Inclusion, deletion and amendment of Rules</u></p> <p>Article 27 – Junior Boys League Players <i>Outlines player eligibility for the Junior Boys League, detailing match limits, the transition to senior competitions, club notification requirements, and penalties for breaches.</i></p> <p>Article 28 – Player Rosters and Movement <i>Specifies requirements for submitting valid player rosters (including deadlines and player count limits), rules on player movement between age groups or clubs, and associated penalties for non-compliance.</i></p>	These updates phase out the old Junior NPL competition to make way for the new Junior Development and Junior Community Leagues. The document is now renamed <i>Junior League Competitions</i> , and Articles 27–41 detail a completely new structure for junior football (13–18-year-olds), covering the Development and Community Leagues, as well as the Development Cup, Community Cup, and Top 4 Cups. These articles should be reviewed in full to ensure compliance.

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		<p>Article 29 – Junior Girls League Players Sets out eligibility rules for players in the Junior Girls League, including movement between leagues (e.g., Women's League) and match participation limits with corresponding penalties.</p> <p>Article 30 – General (Junior Cups) Establishes that the Football West Competition Rules and Part 3 apply to cup competitions, outlines conflict resolution between rules, and details the deadlines for protests or complaints affecting match outcomes.</p> <p>Article 31 – Players (Cup Competitions) Defines general player eligibility for cup competitions, including requirements when playing across multiple age groups and conditions for participation in lower age groups.</p> <p>Article 32 – Junior Girls Cup Competition Format Describes the competition format for the Junior Girls Cup, including team eligibility across various age groups, mandatory or voluntary entry conditions, withdrawal procedures, and match procedures (draws and penalty shoot-outs).</p> <p>Article 33 – Junior Girls Cup Player Eligibility Specifies eligibility criteria for players in the Junior Girls Cup, including minimum match participation, exemption procedures for exceptional circumstances, and penalties for non-compliance.</p> <p>Article 34 – JDL Boys Cup Competition Format Details the format for the JDL Boys Cup, covering eligible age groups, compulsory entry for certain divisions, withdrawal deadlines, the drawing process, and match resolution rules.</p> <p>Article 35 – JDL Boys Cup Player Eligibility Outlines the eligibility criteria for players in the JDL Boys Cup, including match participation requirements, the process for applying for exemptions, and penalties for breaches.</p> <p>Article 36 – JCL Boys Cup Competition Format Sets the competition format for the JCL Boys Cup, covering team eligibility, entry procedures, withdrawal deadlines, the drawing process, and match rules (including limits on substitutes).</p>	
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		<p>Article 37 – JCL Cup Player Eligibility Specifies player eligibility requirements for the JCL Cup, including minimum match requirements, exemption processes for exceptional cases, and penalties for breaches.</p> <p>Article 38 – Junior Girls Top 4 Cup Competition Format Outlines the format for the Junior Girls Top 4 Cup, including qualification criteria based on regular season standings, semi-final and final arrangements, and match resolution procedures.</p> <p>Article 39 – Junior Girls Top 4 Cup Player Eligibility Sets the eligibility criteria for players in the Junior Girls Top 4 Cup, including minimum match requirements, the tracking of player participation, and processes for exemption requests.</p> <p>Article 40 – JCL Top 4 Cup Competition Format Describes the competition format for the JCL Top 4 Cup, including team qualification based on regular season positions, the structure of semi-finals and finals, and match procedures (including handling tied scores).</p> <p>Article 41 – JCL Boys Top 4 Cup Player Eligibility Details the eligibility requirements for players in the JCL Boys Top 4 Cup, including the minimum number of matches required for eligibility, exemption procedures, and responsibilities for tracking compliance.</p>	
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Annexure 7 – Night Series		
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)
1	6	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u> Admission fees for matches at the Sam Kerr Football Centre can be charged at a rate determined by Football West</p>
6	2	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u> All Night Series competitions will use electronic match sheets as per Football West’s competition management system.</p>
15	All	<p><u>Removal of rule</u> Removed the Interchange Subs articles that existed in the State League Night Series which is replaced by substitutions as per the temporarily amended Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.</p>

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Annexure 8 – Australia Cup WA Preliminary Rounds

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)
5	3,4	All Round 2 match officials fees in the Australia Cup are to be paid by cash, all match officials fees from Round 3 and onwards will be paid via invoice from Football West regardless of the teams involved.

Annexure 13 – Youth Club Championships

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)
All	All	<p><i>The new Youth Club Championship rules set out separate competitions for Boys and Girls, detailing eligibility requirements, group and finals phases with clear seeding and playoff structures, and comprehensive player and match official regulations. A bonus/deduction points system is also introduced to promote fair play and proper conduct—penalising match forfeitures, unsanctioned programs, red cards, and misconduct—with the overall champion determined by the highest aggregate club points across age groups.</i></p> <p><i>We recommend that the entire document is reviewed in full to ensure you understand and comply with all updated guidelines.</i></p>

NPLWA Competition Rules 2025

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	<p><u>Update of Definitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>League Season refers to the Home and Away league seasons of both the NPL Men's and NPL Women's Competitions.</i> - <i>NPL Seniors means the First Teams, Men's Under 23s, Female Under 21s, and Men's Under 18s of any one Club.</i> <p><u>Inclusion of Definitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>NST Club Participation Agreement means the agreement setting out the terms on which FA grants, and Clubs accept, the right to participate in the National Second Tier Competition.</i> - <i>NPL Premiers refers to the team with the most amount of competition points at the completion of the League season.</i> - <i>NPL Champions refers to winners of the NPL Top 4 Cup Competition.</i> 	<p>These amendments ensure clarity, inclusivity, and alignment with the evolving structure of the NPL and the introduction of the National Second Tier (NST). Updating the League Season and NPL Seniors definitions ensures both men's and women's competitions are explicitly covered. The addition of the NST Club Participation Agreement provides a framework for clubs entering the NST, while defining NPL Premiers (league winners) and NPL Champions (Top 4 Cup winners) ensures consistency in terminology and competition structure.</p>

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1	15	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>15. <i>Football West may, from time to time, organise Matches outside the normal league and cup seasons between the winning Team of any division and another Team from Western Australia, another Member Federation or another National Association. Additionally, Football West may organise Regional Rounds or other special promotional rounds during the regular season. It is a condition of entry into the NPLWA that if such a Match is organised, the Team chosen must participate in that Match. Failure to do so may incur a Penalty as set out in Appendix A.</i></p>	<p>This amendment clarifies club obligations regarding Regional Rounds and special promotional rounds during the regular season. It ensures clubs understand that participation in these matches is a condition of entry into the NPLWA, reinforcing Football West's commitment to promoting football across WA. The inclusion of potential penalties ensures compliance and maintains the integrity of the competition.</p>
3	7	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>7. <i>The Match Official must determine whether the safety of the Players, Club Officials, Match Officials, and spectators will be compromised by commencing or continuing a Match. The match official will exercise his or her discretion as to whether the match will proceed.</i></p>	<p>This amendment clarifies that the responsibility lies solely with the Match Official to assess player, official, and spectator safety before starting or continuing a match. It ensures that safety decisions are made impartially and reinforces the Match Official's authority in determining whether a match should proceed.</p>
6	9	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>9. <i>All NPL clubs are required to adhere to the NPL Playing Strip Guidelines as distributed by Football Australia. These guidelines must be followed for all official National Premier Leagues (NPL) fixtures and events to ensure consistency, fairness, and professionalism across the competition. Clubs must ensure that their playing strips, including jerseys, shorts, socks, and all associated apparel, meet the specifications outlined in the guidelines provided by Football Australia.</i></p>	<p>This rule ensures uniformity, professionalism, and compliance across all NPL clubs by requiring adherence to Football Australia's NPL Playing Strip Guidelines. It promotes consistency in branding, maintains competition integrity, and ensures that all clubs meet the standardised requirements for official fixtures and events.</p>
7	4	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>4. <i>No NPL First Team match can proceed without a Football West match official present.</i></p>	<p>Requiring an official Football West match official to be present for all NPL First Team matches ensures the enforcement of standardised rules, maintains match integrity, and upholds player safety. This measure guarantees that all matches are officiated by qualified personnel, providing consistency and fairness across the competition.</p>

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9	h)	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p><i>h) plays for a Club, Team or in a Competition when not permitted to do so under these Rules including breaches of the player roster requirements; or</i></p>	<p>This amendment ensures that adherence to player roster requirements is explicitly included as a rule enforcement measure. It strengthens competition integrity, prevents unauthorised player participation, and ensures that all teams comply with roster regulations set by Football West.</p>
20	1	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p><i>1. If a Club has four (4) or more outfield Players or two (2) goalkeepers from one Team selected for a representative Match (all being “Representative Players”), it may seek the postponement of any Club Match that clashes with the representative Match or falls within the period during which the selected players are unavailable due to official preparation or travel commitments related to the representative Match. This request must be submitted within seven (7) days of the players being selected for the representative team.</i></p>	<p>The updated rule clarifies and expands the conditions under which a club can request a match postponement. Key changes include: Inclusion of Preparation & Travel – Clubs can now request postponements not just for the match day but also for periods when players are unavailable due to representative team commitments.</p> <p>Defined Timeframe for Requests – Clubs must now submit postponement requests within seven days of player selection, ensuring timely decision-making and fixture adjustments. These changes provide greater clarity and structure, ensuring fairness for clubs impacted by representative selections while maintaining competition integrity.</p>
21	4-8	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p><i>4. The NPLWA Men’s Premiers shall be determined as the First Team who have accrued the most competition points in accordance with Article 2 during the regular season.</i></p> <p><i>5. Subject to compliance with Article 4, the NPLWA Men’s Premiers shall be eligible to represent Football West in the National Second Tier Competition.</i></p> <p><i>6. The Club qualifying for the National Second Tier Competitions must, by the dates prescribed by Football Australia: Submit to Football Australia a duly executed NST Club Participation Agreement; and Meet Football Australia’s minimum club licensing standards for Member Federation Clubs participating in the National Second Tier Competition.</i></p> <p><i>7. In the event that:</i></p> <p><i>a. A Foundation Club finishes as the NPL Men’s Premiers; or</i></p>	<p>The updated rules provide greater clarity and structure around determining the NPLWA Men’s Premiers and their eligibility for the National Second Tier (NST). They outline specific entry requirements, ensure only eligible clubs can qualify, and introduce contingencies if the Premiers are ineligible. The amendments also confirm that Football Australia has the final say on NST slot allocations.</p>

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		<p>b. An A League Club's NPL Team finishes as the NPL Men's Premier; or</p> <p>c. The Club that finishes as NPL Men's Premiers fails to comply with Paragraph 6 as above the allocated slot for the National Second Tier Competition shall be awarded to the next-best placed Club, as determined under Article 2.</p> <p>8. Football Australia reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to make determinations regarding any aspect of the awarding of National Second Tier Competition slots.</p>	
23	6 (e)(ii)	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p><i>to be eligible to play in First Team Matches a Player must be on the Club's Player Roster or have played five (5) Football West competition matches for the club during the Regular Season.</i></p>	The updated rule clarifies that the five required matches must be Football West competition matches, ensuring consistency and removing ambiguity around what qualifies as a competitive match.
25	2-5	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>2. A Visa Player is a Player who is not an Australian Player.</p> <p>3. Each Club may name a maximum of 2 outfield Visa Players on its Player Roster. These players will attract 20 points on the PPS as Visa players. A Goalkeeper cannot be a visa player unless there is an exemption approved by Football West.</p> <p>4. Each club may name one additional visa player whose country of origin is a member of the Asian Football Confederation or Oceania Football Confederation. These players will not attract 20 points.</p> <p>5. For each Visa Player on the Player Roster, the Club must provide Football West with a copy of the Foreign Passport with the Player's entry visa into Australia.</p>	The updated rule aligns with Football Australia's new regulations, introducing specific limits on visa players. It differentiates between outfield players and goalkeepers, with the latter requiring Football West approval, and allows clubs to register one additional visa player from an AFC or OFC nation without PPS penalties. These changes ensure compliance with national policies while maintaining squad balance.
27	4	<p><u>Moved existing rules previously within NPL Junior rules, into NPLWA Rules</u></p> <p><i>Once a Player has started in nine (9) Matches of NPLWA-M, in the Under 18s, Under 23s/Reserves or First Team, they are no longer eligible to participate in the JDL and the JCL during the same season.</i></p> <p><i>In the NPLWA-M these Senior Matches may comprise any combination of First Team, Under 23s and 18s Team Matches as long as no more than nine (9) Under 18s Matches, no more than five (5) Under 23s/Reserves Matches and no more than one (1) first Team NPL Match is played.</i></p> <p><i>Following reaching the limits on Matches described in (a) or the ninth (9th) Match for the senior Teams, a Player must choose to play in either the NPL Seniors or JDL and the JCL team(s) for which</i></p>	The updated rule clarifies player movement between junior and senior competitions, ensuring a structured transition. It sets clear limits on the number of matches a player can play in NPLWA-M senior teams before becoming ineligible for JDL and JCL. This prevents players from moving back and forth between age groups and ensures competitive integrity while allowing gradual progression into senior football.

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		they are eligible.	
28	3-4	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>3. A Player born in 2003 or earlier must be contracted to Perth Glory on their First Team or as a Scholarship Player. Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix A.</p> <p>4. The Perth Glory First Team may additionally include a maximum of 1 goalkeeper who was born in 2002 or later on the Team List for any Match, regardless of the goalkeeper being listed on the player roster. Written approval will also need to be granted by both Australian Professional Leagues and Football West.</p>	<p>The updated rule reflects agreed changes between NPL clubs regarding Perth Glory's Youth Development Academy (YDA) age limit, shifting from Under 20 to Under 21.</p> <p>Additionally, the rule now applies a clear age cap of 23 years for goalkeepers, replacing the previous restriction based on A-League match experience. These updates align with revised competition structures and provide greater clarity on eligibility requirements.</p>
34 49	6 6	<p><u>Removal of Rule</u></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The removal of this rule eliminates automatic suspensions for accumulating two yellow cards in a post-season competition or finals series. This change likely aims to ensure that minor infractions do not disproportionately impact key matches, allowing teams to compete at full strength in high-stakes games while still adhering to broader disciplinary regulation.</p>
40	7-11	<p><u>Removal of Rules</u></p> <p>7. Once an Under 21s Player has played eight (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.</p> <p>8. A Club may promote an overage Player from its NPLWA-W Under 21s Team to play for its First Team up to a maximum of 4 Matches throughout an NPLWA-W season without being required to include such a Player on the First Team Player Roster Composition.</p> <p>9. Once an overage Under 21s Player has played 4 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 Composition in accordance with Article 39 before she is eligible to play her fifth Match. For the avoidance of doubt, an unused substitute is deemed not to have played.</p> <p>10. A Club may promote a Player from its Women's League Team to play for its First Team up to a maximum of 4 Matches throughout an NPLWA-W season without being required to include such a Player on the First Team Player Roster Composition.</p>	<p>These rules were removed as they are no longer relevant to the current competition structure.</p>

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		<p>11. <i>Once a Women's League Player has played 4 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 Composition in accordance with Article 39 before she is eligible to play her fifth Match. For the avoidance of doubt, an unused substitute is deemed not to have played.</i></p>	
40	6	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>6. <i>A Club may promote a Player from its NPLWA-W Under 21s Team to play for its First Team an unlimited number of matches throughout an NPLWA-W season without being required to include such a Player on the First Team Player Roster Composition in this season.</i></p>	<p>The updated rule removes the previous eight-match limit on Under 21 players being promoted to the First Team, allowing unlimited appearances without requiring First Team roster inclusion. This change aligns with new competition rules, providing greater flexibility for clubs to develop young talent and manage squad depth throughout the season.</p>
43	4	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>4. <i>A Player on a A-League roster or who has a contract (full time or scholarship) may not play for any Team in the Women's League except for a Club's NPLWA-W Teams.</i></p>	<p>The updated rule removes the five-match threshold and instead applies a blanket restriction on any player contracted to an A-League club (full-time or scholarship) from playing in the Women's League, except for NPLWA-W teams. This change simplifies eligibility criteria, ensuring that A-League players only participate at the appropriate competitive level while maintaining fairness in the Women's League.</p>
43	5	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>5. <i>A player listed on a club's First Team NPLWA-W Roster or any NPLWA-W First team sheet that player must not appear on the team list of any team in the Women's League for the remainder of the competition season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.</i></p>	<p>The updated rule expands the restriction to include not just players on an NPLWA-W First Team Roster but also those who have appeared on an NPLWA-W First Team sheet during the season. This ensures consistency in competition integrity by preventing players from moving between NPLWA-W and Women's League competitions unless an exemption is granted by Football West.</p>
43	6	<p><u>Amendment of Rule</u></p> <p>6. <i>Once a Player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPLWA-W Under 21s, that Player must not appear on the Team List of any Team in the Women's League for the remainder of the</i></p>	<p>The updated rule removes the six-match threshold, meaning any player who has appeared on an NPLWA-W Under 21s team sheet is immediately ineligible to play in the</p>

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		<p><i>Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.</i></p>	<p>Women's League for the remainder of the season unless they receive an exemption from Football West. This change simplifies enforcement, ensures clearer player pathways, and prevents movement between competition levels that could impact fairness.</p>
43	7-8	<p><u>Introduction of Rules</u></p> <p>7. <i>If a club fields a team in the Under 18s Junior Girls League any players registered to that team can play an unlimited number of matches in the same club's Under 21's and First Team's subject to player age criteria as described in paragraph 1.</i></p> <p>8. <i>The Under 18's Junior Girls League will be allowed to field 3 overage players born in 2004 or later. These players can be from a club's NPLWA-W teams and may play an unlimited number of matches.</i></p>	<p>The new rules allow unrestricted movement for Under 18s players within their club's Under 21s and First Team, while permitting three overage players (born 2004 or later) to support squad depth and competition balance.</p>
n.a.	n.a.	<p><u>Amendment of Rules</u></p> <p>See Appendix C – NPLWA Women's Roster of NPLWA rules for full details.</p>	<p>The Women's Roster changes for 2025 aim to address long-standing issues in the NPLW, including uneven competition, excessive player movement, and a lack of incentives for clubs to develop and retain players. Unlike the NPL Men, where a national player points system applies, Football West has set its own roster rules based on consultation with stakeholders.</p> <p>The new rules focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Player development – Encouraging stronger junior pathways. • Player retention – Rewarding clubs that keep players long-term. • League balance – Ensuring a fair distribution of talent, including A-League players. • Clarity – Simplifying rules for clubs, Football West, and the public.. <p>These updates ensure a more structured and sustainable approach to women's football in WA,</p>

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			supporting both player pathways and club viability.
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Community Competition Rules 2025			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	<i>Minor wording adjustments and competition name updates made for clarity and consistency.</i>	These updates ensure clarity and consistency across the regulations by refining wording and aligning competition names with current terminology.

Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations 2025			
Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)	Rationale
n.a.	n.a.	<i>Minor wording adjustments and competition name updates made for clarity and consistency.</i>	These updates ensure clarity and consistency across the regulations by refining wording and aligning competition names with current terminology.
5	6-8	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <p>9. <i>Where a Club Associate is the subject of an Incident Report, a Misconduct Report, or an investigation by Football West regarding an alleged act of Misconduct, Football West may impose provisional action on that individual. This may be for any period and under such terms and conditions as Football West deems necessary, in its absolute discretion, to mitigate any risk of harm to others or to the integrity of Football.</i></p> <p>10. <i>Provisional action may include suspension, supervision, restriction of duties or temporary re-deployment, or suspension or restriction of rights, privileges or benefits.</i></p> <p>11. <i>The period of the order in Clause 7 above must not last beyond the date upon which any investigation or any subsequent Tribunal proceedings are concluded.</i></p>	Provisional action allows Football West to take precautionary measures to protect the integrity of football and ensure participant safety while an investigation is ongoing. Actions such as suspension, supervision, restriction of duties, or temporary redeployment provide flexibility to manage risks without pre-judging the outcome. To ensure fairness, any provisional action is time-limited and will not extend beyond the conclusion of the investigation or tribunal proceedings.
6	12	<p><u>Removal of Rule</u></p> <p>13. <i>A Player who accumulates 2 Yellow Cards in a post-season Competition or finals series must</i></p>	The removal of this rule eliminates automatic suspensions for accumulating two yellow cards in a post-season competition or finals series. This

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		serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 1 Match as set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.	change likely aims to ensure that minor infractions do not disproportionately impact key matches.
8	12	<p><u>Removal of Rule</u></p> <p>13. A Team Official who accumulates two (2) Yellow Cards in a post-season Competition or finals series must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of one (1) Match.</p>	

Long-Term Injury Policy

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)
3	2	<p><u>Introduction of rule</u></p> <p>References the introduction of new NPLW Player Roster Composition Rules.</p>

Match Scheduling Policy

Article	Paragraph	Notable Change(s)
3,4,5	1	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All matches in the last round of the League Season must kick off on the same date and time unless an exemption is granted by Football West. This rule will apply to the NPL, State League and Amateur Leagues.
8	n.a.	<p><u>Movement of rules regarding Regional Teams into a new article</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Football West will determine which clubs are classified as regional teams for the purposes of this policy, - Any matches against Mandurah City and South- West Phoenix that has a driving distance of less than 40km the provisions of this policy will not apply.
9	2, F	<p><u>Introduction of Rule</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When a match needs to be rescheduled on short notice, Football West requests that clubs discuss the situation before leaving the venue and inform Football West of their discussions regarding the postponement.