

BENEFITS OF AFFILIATION

-  **Pathways for Players in All Forms of the Game**
Players can challenge themselves at higher levels, participate in representative programs and events, and progress through state and national competitions, offering a pathway to professional football.
-  **Community Grants**
Access to state and national grants supporting initiatives in women's football, infrastructure, and community programs.
-  **National Insurance**
Protects football participants and mitigates risk through a comprehensive insurance program included in registration fees.
-  **Member Protection Framework**
Assists in ensuring that every person involved in football in Australia is treated with respect, dignity, and protection from abuse and harassment, supporting a safe and inclusive environment. Integrity framework, resources and access to state/national Member Protection Information Officers.
-  **Club/Association Resources and Support**
Resources and programs to develop strong, resilient clubs and associations with inclusive cultures and positive environments for players, coaches, volunteers, and officials.
-  **Pathway for Coaches**
Coaching courses at all levels, with CPD opportunities for accreditation and revalidation of qualifications.
-  **Pathway for Match Officials**
Comprehensive development pathways for community and advanced Match Officials, assessors, and instructors, with access to accredited officials for competitions or sanctioned activities.
-  **Governance**
Membership of, and voting rights to, the governing bodies of football in Australia.



Access and Affiliation with FA, FIFA and AFC

- ✓ National and international recognition, access to FA, FIFA and AFC resources, and alignment with global frameworks and programs.

Nationally Recognised Participation Programs

- ✓ Access to delivery of quality participation experiences in all settings from MiniRoos and Sporting Schools to Walking Football.

Registration & Competition Management

- ✓ FW implements and manages modern systems to make the game more accessible for the tens of thousands who register each season. These technological and governance structures benefit players, coaches, referees and volunteers and bring uniformity to administration in WA.

FIFA Compensation

- ✓ Streamlined player transfers and access to FIFA's training compensation and solidarity contributions through the TMS system.

Priority Access, News and Updates

- ✓ Priority ticketing offers, updates on national teams and competitions, and access to Football Australia initiatives.

Exclusive Offers

- ✓ Exclusive on-field opportunities, offers, incentives, and priority/discounted tickets for Socceroos, Matildas and A-League matches.

Government Relations

- ✓ Advocacy and funding for grassroots and high-performance programs, use of facilities, and community initiatives through partnerships with Federal and State Governments.

Policies and Procedures

- ✓ Access to national and state policies, disciplinary procedures, and best practice guidelines for effective governance and operations. This includes access to National Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures.



What Disaffiliation from Football West Means for Our Game

Any decision to disaffiliate from Football West and, by extension, Football Australia and FIFA, has serious short and long-term consequences for football on a whole-of-game level.

Contravenes National & Global Football Governance

✘ Disaffiliation is in direct conflict with the governance frameworks of FIFA, the AFC, and Football Australia. It creates duplication, inefficiencies, and additional costs, diverting time and resources away from growing the game.

Loss of Pathways and Development Opportunities for Participants

Unaffiliated clubs, players, coaches, and referees are ineligible for:

- ✘
- Football West Academy, development programs, state/national competitions and tournaments
 - Country Week and representative team selection
 - Accredited coaching and referee courses

No Access to National and Global Registration

✘ Disaffiliated clubs and players are removed from the Football Australia registration system and FIFA Connect, which tracks participants globally and supports player development and integrity.

Weaker Insurance Protections

✘ Alternative insurance providers may exist, but they are unlikely to offer the same comprehensive and cost-effective cover. Legal waivers are risky and often unenforceable. Smaller insurance pools are vulnerable, one large claim can exceed premiums and collapse coverage. This financial risk is often overlooked, putting clubs and players at risk.

Governance and Systems Impact

✘ Disaffiliated clubs must stop using Football Australia and Football West documentation, policies, and systems. This includes rewriting rules, managing disciplinary and competition issues independently, and losing access to Squadi. Many Local Governments also prioritise facility access for affiliated organisations.

Loss of Official Recognition and Sanctioning

✘ Football in disaffiliated areas would be classified as “unofficial football” and ineligible to have any of their activities/events sanctioned. Participants would lose recognition from Football West, Football Australia, the AFC and FIFA.

A Detrimental Step Backward

✘ Ultimately, disaffiliation undermines unity in the sport, impacts participants and limits our collective ability to grow football in Western Australia.

