

**SUNSHINE COAST
FOOTBALL INC.**

COMPETITION RULES

Adopted February 2011

**SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL INC.
COMPETITION RULES**

INDEX

Clause		Page
1.0	Affiliation to Sunshine Coast Football	3
2.0	Communication Protocol	3
3.0	Minimum requirements for grounds	3
4.0	Alcohol	3
5.0	Smoking	4
6.0	Player Presentation	4
7.0	Registered Colours	4
8.0	Fixtures/competitions (General)	4
8.2	Premiership competition	5
8.3	Uncompleted fixtures	6
8.4	Ineligible Players	6
8.5	Forfeits	7
8.6	Postponed Fixtures	7
8.7	Washouts	7
8.8	Wet Weather Policy	7
8.9	Byes	7
9.0	Finals Series	7
10.0	Scores Recording	8
11.0	Trophies & Prize Monies	8
12.0	Representative Football	9
13.0	Intrastate, Interstate or Overseas Tours by Clubs	9
14.0	Referees	9
15.0	Coaching Code of Conduct	9
16.0	Senior Men & Senior Women Competition Rules	10
17.0	Junior Competition Rules	15
18.0	Disciplinary	19
19.0	Finance	20
20.0	Code of Conduct	20
APPENDIX A	List of Fines	
APPENDIX B	Player Age Policy	
APPENDIX C	Junior Premier League	
APPENDIX D	Interchange Rules	
APPENDIX E	Small Sided Football Rules	
APPENDIX F	Codes of Conduct	
APPENDIX G	Sunshine Coast Football Disciplinary Regulations	
APPENDIX H	Football Federation of Australia National Disciplinary Regulations	
APPENDIX I	FFA Code of Conduct	
APPENDIX J	FFA Spectator Code of Behaviour	
APPENDIX K	Wet Weather Policy	
APPENDIX L	Ground Officials Duties	
APPENDIX M	Team Grading List	

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL INC. - COMPETITION RULES

It is acknowledged that the Zone Council has the right to use its discretion in the implementation of these Competition Rules and their application in the interests of the code. For the purposes of this document abbreviations are Sunshine Coast Football = SCF, Football Queensland = FQ, Football Federation Australia = FFA,

1.0 AFFILIATION TO SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL

- 1.1** Clubs seeking admission to Sunshine Coast Football must complete the appropriate affiliation form which will include details of their home ground, club colours and SCF shall determine if such is acceptable in respect of grounds, location, etc.
- 1.2** Clubs admitted to SCF are required to participate in the Insurance Scheme as determined by Football Queensland.
- 1.3** Clubs admitted to SCF are required to abide by all provisions of the Marketing Agreement as adopted by Football Queensland. Penalties for non-compliance include, but are not restricted to a fine being imposed, not exceeding \$2,000.00 on any participating member. Licensed suppliers and licensed products will be confirmed by Football Queensland and advised to clubs by the SCF Office each year.

2.0 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

- 2.1** Written communication with Sunshine Coast Football must be submitted by a Club Executive member on Club letterhead. Email and facsimile communication must include Club Executive members name, position and electronic signature.

Please note Club members directly contacting the Zone Office will be referred to their clubs Executive. The Club Executive should then officially contact the Zone office if required by the above method.

3.0 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUNDS

- 3.1** Ground markings must be clear and accurate and within the dimensions as specified in the Laws of the Game.
- 3.2** Nets and Corner Posts must be provided and conform to the Laws of the Game.
- 3.3** Assistant Referee Flags are to be made available if required.
- 3.4** Clubs are required to take responsibility for the administration of first aid at their home matches.
- 3.5** Clubs are to provide clean and adequate change rooms, showers and toilet facilities for male and female players.
- 3.6** Separate dressing rooms and showers are required for referees and assistant referees. Admission is denied to any players, members of the public and club officials, before or after the game without the permission of the referee/s and in consultation with the Ground Official.
- 3.7** Clubs are required to provide two separate covered benches for each competitive field. Coaches, Managers, personnel and named reserves are required to occupy these benches or adjacent defined area whilst their team is participating in any competitive match. Coaches and Team Managers must wear FQ Coaching Accreditation tags whilst in the Technical Area.

4 ALCOHOL

- 4.1** Licensing laws apply across most clubs. Different classifications of licences will apply across member clubs.
- 4.2** It is illegal to bring alcohol onto licensed premises and severe fines are applicable by the relevant state government body.
- 4.3** Alcohol must only be consumed in the designated area. SCF Fines also apply as per Appendix A.

5.0 SMOKING

5.1 Under current state legislation smoking is not permitted unless within a properly designated area. Refer: Queensland Government Tobacco Laws – www.health.qld.gov.au/atods/tobaccolaws/existing_laws.com

6.0 PLAYER PRESENTATION

6.1 All players are required to be correctly attired in club uniform.

6.2 Prior to kick off, teams are expected to “run on” from the sideline on the referees whistle.

6.3 Prior to Grand Final kick off teams must meet the referee on the sideline nearest the dressing rooms, follow the referee onto the pitch, line up and shake hands and then disburse in preparation for the commencement of the match.

6.4 As per FQ directive the wearing of skins is permissible only if:

- (a) the skins worn are the same colour as the pre-dominant colour of the shorts
- (b) if skins are not the same colour as the shorts they should not be visible when the player is standing stationary and upright
- (c) They must not come below knee level (i.e. full length skins even the same colour of shorts is not acceptable)
- (d) Upper body skins should be the same colour as the predominant colour in the sleeves of the playing jersey.

7.0 REGISTERED COLOURS

7.1 Each member club of Sunshine Coast Football Inc. shall submit to SCF details of their primary colours and alternate colours for approval and registration.

7.2 No two teams shall play each other in similar colours. Junior teams may play in bibs whilst senior teams must change to an alternate strip.

7.3 Goal keepers colours in all cases shall be distinguishable from the colours worn by all other players.

7.4 In the event of a clash of colours by the competing clubs in Premiership fixtures, the visiting team shall change to their alternate colours, unless otherwise specified by SCF. At the discretion of the Zone Council fines may apply.

7.5 In the event of a clash of colours by the competing clubs in the finals, carnivals or cup competitions, the top seeded team shall retain the right to play in their primary colours. Unless otherwise specified by SCF and at the discretion of the Zone Council fines may apply.

8.0 FIXTURES/COMPETITIONS - General

8.1 The Zone Council shall be empowered to draw up and determine the fixtures of SCF competitions (Age groups to be determined each year) as they deem fit and in the best interests of SCF and the code. The fixtures shall be drawn up and made available to all Members via the Sunshine Coast Football website.

8.1.1 All such fixtures shall belong to and the copyright therein be deemed to be vested in SCF.

8.1.2 Any application for departure from the fixtures as laid down by the Zone Council shall be in writing to SCF and the decision made by the Zone Council regarding this application is final.

8.1.3 Clubs cannot postpone or cancel matches between themselves.

8.1.4 Re-scheduling of Sunshine Coast Football Johnny Warren Pre-season matches must be requested in writing to SCF and will only be approved if the opposition team is in agreement.

8.1.5 The Zone Council may direct a change be made in the draw due to Sunshine Coast Football representative team (A minimum of 3 representative players) to achieve Sunshine Coast Football Inc. objectives.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- 8.1.6** If, after the schedule of fixtures has been determined, the Zone Council determines at the request of a club to change a fixture from one date to another, any expenses over and above those normally associated with the scheduled fixture shall be met by the club which makes the requested change.
- 8.1.7** The Zone Council shall have the power to impose such penalty as they deem fit upon clubs which they find to have brought the code into disrepute by not playing their best teams in the appropriate divisions in which they are engaged (Refer Appendix A).
- 8.1.8** The Rules of Cup competitions shall be determined by the Zone Council from time to time and each competing club shall receive from SCF a list of the conditions of such competitions prior to the commencement of same.
- 8.1.9** No player shall be permitted to register for more than one club in any one competition conducted by SCF unless the correct transfer process is followed.
- 8.1.10** Clubs shall not arrange matches unless permission has been granted. Application for which must be completed on the appropriate match sanction form. An Inter Zone Tour Permit must also be completed for teams traveling outside SCF Zone. These forms must be lodged at least seven (7) days prior to the match date.
- 8.1.11** Sunshine Coast Football Inc. will adopt the Laws of Football as laid down from time to time by FIFA and current interpretations of the same by FQ and FFA in the operation of its competitions.
- 8.2** **Premiership Competition**
- 8.2.1** Each team in each competitive division shall play its opponent on a home and away basis and in that sequence as far as is practicable according to the fixtures as set down by SCF.
- 8.2.2** **Premiership Competition Points**
Teams shall receive three (3) points for a win, one (1) for a draw and nil (0) for a loss.
- 8.2.3** The leading team at the end of the last round of the competition fixtures shall be declared SCF Premiers.
- 8.2.4** **Goal Difference**
Goal Difference shall be taken into consideration when teams are level on points at the end of fixtures. The goal difference shall determine the Premiership team. In all cases where goal difference is to be taken into account, the manner in which it shall be arrived at shall be:-
- (a) The number of goals against is subtracted from the number of goals for.
 - (b) The highest resultant figure from such subtractions shall be deemed to have the best goal difference and shall take precedence in determining positions in respect to plus goal difference.
 - (c) The lowest resultant minus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to have the best goal difference and shall take precedence in determining positions in respect to minus goal difference.
 - (d) Where a team scores through their own goal, such goals shall be taken as having been scored by their opponents in determining teams total goals scored.
 - (e) In the case of goal difference being equal, the team scoring the greater number of goals for shall be declared the winner.
 - (f) Should the factors in (e) be equal, joint Premiers will be declared.
 - (g) If a Premiership competition has an inequality in the number of games played during the one season, the Premiership winner shall be decided (when necessary) by percentage calculated by dividing the total number of points gained for the season by the number of games played.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

8.3 UNCOMPLETED FIXTURES

- 8.3.1** The result of any match which does not reach its natural conclusion for any reason outlined in the Laws of the Game shall be decided by SCF as follows: If the second half has commenced then the match result will stand and the match will not be replayed. If the match is abandoned before the commencement of the second half then the match will be replayed.
- 8.3.2** However, where it has been established by the Zone Council that the game was abandoned due to a team having players sent from the field for misconduct or for any reason deemed by the Zone Council to have been intentional to have the game abandoned, the points will be awarded to the opposing teams with goals being recorded as in By-Law 8.4.2.
- 8.3.3** In such cases where it can be proved beyond reasonable doubt that spectator interference causing an abandonment of a match has been inspired by a person or persons directly associated with any particular club, that club shall be deemed guilty of serious misconduct through association and shall be liable to such penalty as shall be determined by the Zone Council.
- 8.3.4** Any team which causes a match to be terminated before its natural conclusion through a mass walk-off for refusal to allow play to continue shall be deemed to have committed misconduct against SCF and the offending club will automatically forfeit its Good Behaviour Bond.
- 8.3.5** In such cases, the team guilty of the walk-off shall be deemed to have forfeited the match and the points associated with the match shall be awarded to the opponents with goals being recorded as in By-law 8.4.2

8.4 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

- 8.4.1** Any club playing an unregistered, suspended or ineligible player shall be ineligible for any points associated with the match and may be subject to further disciplinary action after referral to the Disciplinary Committee by the Zone Council.
- 8.4.2** In such cases the full points associated with the match shall be awarded to their opponents with a score of 3-0. However, if the number of goals scored by the opposition team is greater than three (3), then the exact number of goals scored by the opposition team will stand.
- 8.4.3** Definitions of ineligible players to which the penalty as described shall apply pertain to:-
- Playing under a false number
 - Playing whilst unregistered
 - Playing whilst awaiting a clearance
 - Playing whilst unfinancial
 - Playing whilst suspended
 - Age definition breach (including moving teams whilst awaiting re-grading)
 - Divisional definition breach
 - Any other misdemeanour as determined by the Zone Council under the Rules and Competition Rules of SCF
- 8.4.4** **Bona Fide Players**
A bona fide player for a club is one who has completed the prescribed FFA registration process and been accepted by SCF.
- 8.4.5** **Ringling in of Players**
Any club found to have knowingly and willfully engaged in the ringling in of a player or players in any SCF match shall be deemed to have been guilty of gross misconduct and, as a consequence, shall be liable to a fine and /or possible disqualification from SCF (Refer Appendix A)
- 8.4.6** **Player Inducement**
Any player found to have willfully signed registrations for more than one club, or a club found to have knowingly induced a registered player of another club to sign a registration form, shall be dealt with by the Zone Council in such a manner as they shall think fit.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

8.5 FORFEITS

8.5.1 Any team failing to fulfill their fixture as scheduled shall be deemed to have forfeited

8.5.2 The points associated with such fixtures shall be awarded to their opponents with a score of 3-0.

8.5.3 Fines and/or point penalties will be imposed on clubs for forfeits, the fees for which will be in accordance with a scale as set down by the Zone Council. (Refer Appendix A)

8.6 POSTPONED FIXTURES

8.6.1 In the event of any Zone fixture not being played due to any causes over which neither Club has control, or being ordered to be replayed or postponed, the match shall be played on a date approved by the Zone Council.

8.7 WASH-OUTS

8.7.1 In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of SCF fixtures through rain rendering grounds unplayable, all such fixtures shall be played at a time and under such conditions as the Zone Council shall determine.

- i. Friday night matches to the **following** Tuesday night
- ii. Saturday Senior matches to the **following** Wednesday night
- iii. Saturday Junior matches to Sunday week
- iv. Under 8 – Under 10 matches to Sunday week

All competitive matches must be re-scheduled and played. On application to SCF non-competitive matches, as per (iv) above, may **not be replayed**.

8.7.2 Wet Weather replays. Games that cannot be replayed at their original venue within 4 weeks from the original match date, will be re-scheduled to the away team's grounds or a neutral venue. This will not affect any following fixture matches, home and away games will not be reversed.

8.7.3 Where Competitive matches are moved by mutual agreement of both teams due to wet weather, the new home team will be responsible for referee fees. Subsequent home and away matches are not affected by this change. i.e. the next fixture match involving these teams will stay as scheduled.

8.7.4 Junior games washed out will be re-scheduled when possible. Should the season become too congested with re-scheduling then games may be cancelled at the discretion of the Zone Council.

8.7.5 Finals may be moved back one week due to any cause over which neither host clubs or SCF have any control i.e. rain renders grounds unplayable. The Grand Final may be played the first week of the school holidays.

8.8 WET WEATHER POLICY

Sunshine Coast Football Inc is aware of the many varied ground conditions that may result in the need to cancel a competition or cup game. At all times the safety of players and officials are of concern. The wet weather policy is formulated by the Zone Council each year. Appendix L.

8.9 BYES

Where there is a bye in a Premiership competition, there will be no points applied and the bye will not be counted as a game for qualification for finals series matches or disciplinary suspensions.

9.0 FINALS SERIES

9.1.1 The four leading teams at the end of the last round of Premiership fixtures shall play the Semi Finals in the following order: 1 v 2; 3 v 4 Refer to 8.2.4 for the determination of placing where teams are equal on points.

9.1.2 The loser of 1 v 2 shall play the winner of 3 v 4 in the Preliminary Final.

9.1.3 The winner of the Preliminary Final shall play the winner of 1 v 2 in the Grand Final

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- 9.1.4** In the event of a match being drawn after normal playing time in any finals series matches, extra time will be played (2 x 15 minutes of Seniors & Women, and 2 x 10 minutes for Juniors). The winner to be determined by the team with the most goals during this period. If however, no goals are scored during the extra time, penalties under FIFA Rules will decide the winner.
- 9.1.5** The winner of the Grand Final in all grades shall be declared SCF Champions.
- 9.1.6** Players eligible to play in the Finals Series must be correctly registered in accordance with the Competition Rules and have played with the club in at least six (6) Premiership matches during the season for juniors as per 9.1.8 and seven (7) for seniors as per Senior Eligibility rules.
- 9.1.7** A player may request dispensation to play in the finals when insufficient matches have been played, as per 9.1.8 eligibility. A non-refundable \$50.00 application fee and medical certificate must be lodged with the Zone Office for the Zone Council to consider the request. The Zone Council will only consider a dispensation where a player has signed on in the first half of the season and then sustained injury or serious illness deeming him / her unfit to play.
- 9.1.8** A junior player must have played at least six (6) Premiership matches in a particular team to be eligible for that team in the final series. This junior player will also then be eligible to play in a higher age group and / or division in the final series once they have satisfied the 6 match qualification. Refer 17.6.12 for further clarification. Seniors refer to Rules 16.13.
- 9.1.9** Should an ineligible player be played in a Finals Series match, the team playing the ineligible player will automatically lose the match which shall be awarded to their opponents and the club will be liable to any further penalty as SCF deem suitable.
- 9.1.10** **ADMISSION CHARGES**
- 9.1.11** Admission fees are applicable during the final series only. These fees are set annually by the Zone Council. Students and all children under the age of seventeen (17) years of age will be admitted free to all SCF final series matches.
- 9.1.12** A pass will be issued to all Coaches and Managers of teams competing in SCF finals matches. Passes will be issued to all Under 17 and senior registered players competing in SCF Finals matches.
- 10.0** **SCORES RECORDING**
- 10.1** The Host Club at all matches conducted by SCF shall be responsible for emailing the respective scores and goal scorers of Premier Men, Premier Reserve Men and Premier Women to SCF's Publicity Officer. Such scores shall be advised in all instances before 1.00pm on Sunday. Failure to advise scores will result in an automatic fine. (Refer Appendix A).
- 10.2** Original Team Sheets must be received in the Zone Office no later than Tuesday. Mid-week and re-scheduled match team sheets must be faxed or emailed to the Zone Office the following day and the originals within 2 working days.
- 11.0** **TROPHIES AND PRIZE MONIES**
- 11.1.1** All trophies and prize monies associated with SCF competitions shall be determined by the Zone Council.
- 11.1.2** The clubs declared Zone Premiers and/or Champions shall be presented with the associated trophy and shall undertake to return same in the like good order and condition to SCF Office on or before the 31st July in the year following their winning such trophy or at such date as the Zone Council from time to time require.
- 11.1.3** SCF shall present to SCF Premiers and Champions in all divisions such number of trophies as determined by the Zone Council to be adequate for each division for distribution to players, coaches, or officials of the winning teams as the club shall nominate.

12.0 REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

12.1 NON JPL

12.1.1 The Zone Council shall be empowered to enter into agreements on behalf of SCF to arrange fixtures whether inter-state, intra-state or inter-league etc, bearing in mind at all times the standing of the State authority in such matters and the interests of the members of SCF.

12.1.2 Where a club fixture team has three (3) or more players unavailable due to sanctioned representative football commitments, including recognised School state football championships, scheduled fixture matches may be re-scheduled by SCF at the request of the club.

12.2 JUNIOR PREMIER LEAGUE

12.2.1 Refer Appendix D

13.0 INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE OR OVERSEAS TOUR BY CLUBS

13.1 Sanction and Inter Zone Travel Permit required for any games not a normal SCF fixture competition.

14.0 REFEREES

14.1.1 All SCF fixtures and competitions must be controlled by a registered referee or as per 14.1.3.

14.1.2 Referees for all SCF fixtures and competitions shall be appointed by the referees' appointments officer.

14.1.3 In the event that the appointed centre referee does not arrive then one of the appointed assistant referees should take control of the match. In the event that the appointed referee and referee assistants do not arrive the following process will be applied. Unqualified officials will be appointed on agreement of the teams. If such agreement cannot be arrived at a home club official shall make the appointment. If either team refuses to take the field a forfeit will be awarded to the other team.

14.1.4 Under 14.1.3 the referee's decision shall be final.

14.1.5 No match shall be deferred due to the unavailability of qualified referees and /or assistant referees.

14.1.6 Referees and assistant referee fees shall be determined annually by Sunshine Coast Football and communicated to the clubs.

14.1.7 Referee fees are payable immediately after the completion of the game.

14.1.8 Where referees attend grounds that are then deemed unplayable prior to the commencement of the match the referee must be paid the full match fee for the first game he has arrived to officiate as per 14.1.9.

14.1.9 Payment of referee fees in accordance with the scale laid down shall be the responsibility of:

- (i) **The Host Club** for all games involving that club for fixtures set by SCF
- (ii) **Host venue and first named team (home team) to pay 50% each** at neutral venue matches.
- (iii) **By the first named team (home team) to pay 100%** when a game is rescheduled to another venue other than the home club due to wet weather, venue unavailability etc

15.0 COACHING CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaching from the side line shall only be carried out by the Coach provided the information is given in a quiet, non-hysterical, non abusive manner. A coach may only enter the field of play with the referee's permission. Standing or coaching by any person is prohibited from behind the goals.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

The referee shall report to SCF misconduct or misdemeanour on the part of spectators, officials, players, named substitutes or other persons which take place whether on the field of play or in its vicinity at any time prior to, during, or after the match in question, so that appropriate action can be taken by SCF in accordance with the Rules or Competition Rules of SCF.

16.0 SENIOR MEN & SENIOR WOMEN COMPETITION RULES

16.1 PLAYING GROUND/EQUIPMENT

16.1.1 Field Sizes

The field sizes shall be of maximum and minimum dimensions as set out in FIFA Rules.

16.1.2 Field Markings

The field markings shall be clear and distinct lines (preferably white in colour) and not more than 120mm wide but must be the width of the goal posts.

16.1.3 Corner Flags

Corner flags 1.6metres above ground level, construction of approved material, must be in place prior to start of play.

16.1.4 Goal Nets

The goal nets should be in good repair and properly secured to cross bar, uprights, and the ground behind the goal prior to the start of the game.

16.1.5 Goal Posts

Goal Posts must comply with Australian standards and with dimensions as set out in FIFA rules.

16.1.6 Match Ball

The match ball must comply with FIFA regulations and FQ licensing agreement. Match balls must be provided by the **Host Club**.

16.1.6.1 Match Ball – Premier Men, Premier Reserve Men and Premier Women – Gorilla G Max II is the official match ball of these divisions and a minimum of two (2) but preferably three (3) Gorilla G Max II match balls must be supplied at all matches. If only two (2) G Max II balls are supplied the third ball must be of match standard. The fine for non-use of officially sanctioned match balls at the start of matches to apply as per Appendix A.

16.1.7.1 Duration of all male senior games shall be 45 minutes each half with a half time maximum of 15 minutes unless otherwise stipulated.

16.1.7.2 Women's games shall be 40 minutes each half with a half time maximum 15 minutes unless otherwise stipulated.

16.1.8 OFFICIALS

16.1.8.1 Host club must provide ground officials on each playing day, wearing identification to which inquiries by team managers or referees may be directed.

16.1.8.2 The ground officials shall introduce themselves to the referee prior to the start of the match. Sunshine Coast Football will provide a list of instructions and responsibilities, which are to be followed closely by all clubs with regard to the appointed Ground Officials for all home games. **See Appendix L.**

16.1.8.3 The referee will liaise with ground officials regarding any crowd disturbances, player send offs etc.

16.1.8.4 The ground officials will ensure referee officials are escorted (if required) onto and from the field of play.

16.1.8.5 The ground official from the host club is responsible for the conduct of all players and team officials on the bench. Only players named on the team sheet will be permitted on the bench together with the Team Coach, Manager and Sports Trainer. These officials must have FQ Identification tags.

16.1.8.6 Ground Officials are not allowed on the field of play during the game without the permission of the referee.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

16.2 FIELD SECURITY

- 16.2.1** It is the Host clubs responsibility to ensure that spectators do not encroach within at least 2 metres from the boundaries of the playing field.
- 16.2.2** Encroachment within the 2 metre marking by spectators and/or officials (other than those permitted on the substitution bench) shall result in a fine on the home club, the amount of the fine to be determined by the Zone Council (Refer Appendix A)
- 16.2.3** A line marking 1 metre either side and up to 1 metre from the playing field in front of the substitution bench will mark the area that team officials and substitutes are permitted to stand in whilst the match is in progress.
- 16.2.4** Club officials can only enter the field of play with the permission of the referee.

16.3 NIGHT LIGHTING

- 16.3.1** Floodlighting will comply with the Australian Standard for Football AS 2560.2.3.1986.

16.4 STARTING TIMES

- 16.4.1** Teams must be ready on the field of play to start the game by the designated game commencement time.
- 16.4.2** Teams not ready to commence the game by the designated starting time may be subject to a fine as determined by the Zone Council (Refer Appendix A)
- 16.4.3** In the event that a match has a delayed start then the match shall cease 5 minutes before the next scheduled game and the time of each half of the game will be reduced accordingly to ensure the following match commences at the designated time. If there is no match following the delayed game, then the full playing time may be played.
- 16.4.4** Referees must be ready on the field to start the game by the designated game commencement time.

16.6 TEAM SHEETS

- 16.6.1** Official team sheets shall be provided by each team and all information requested thereon shall be fully completed. Clubs failing to fully complete team sheets shall be fined (Refer Appendix A).
- 16.6.2** The team sheet shall be available to hand to the officiating referee five (5) minutes prior to the designated starting time of the match.
- 16.6.3** Players arriving late, but who are already recorded on the team sheet, are eligible to take the field with the referee's permission but must ensure they sign the team sheet before taking the field at any time during the game.
- 16.6.4** Players whose names are not recorded on the team sheet at the designated start time are ineligible to take the field for the match. Fines and penalties will be incurred.
- 16.6.5** On completion of the game the referee is responsible for ensuring the team sheet is correctly completed including cards, substitutions and that the correct score is indicated and that the scorers of the goals are correctly recorded. Team sheets are then to be handed into the Host Club.
- 16.6.6** The Manager through a Ground Official can approach the referee to confirm scores, goal scorers and cards awarded.
- 16.6.7** Coaches may **not** approach a referee to query decisions or outcomes of matches. This is not a legitimate reason to approach a referee via the Ground Official.
- 16.6.8** The host club is responsible for lodging completed team sheets with SCF two working days after the match. Mid-week and re-scheduled match team sheets must be faxed or emailed to the Zone Office the following day and the originals within 2 working days. Failure to lodge the team sheets on time will result in a fine being imposed on the club. (Refer Appendix A).

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

16.7 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

16.7.1 The competition will consist of:

Premier Men
Premier Reserve Men
3rd Division
4th Division
Over 35(1)
Over 35(2)
Over 42
Premier Women
Premier Reserve Women
Women's 3rd Division

16.7.2 SCF may add or delete divisions from time to time according to nominations prior to the commencement of each playing season.

16.8 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

16.8.1 All players shall be registered with Sunshine Coast Football Inc. as either an Amateur or Professional player.

16.8.2 Registration forms are available for Amateur or Professional players.

16.8.3 Amateur players are to be governed by the Football Federation Australia statutes.

16.8.4 Professional players must complete the appropriate registration form and must be lodged with SCF upon registration of the player. (refer 16.12.1)

16.8.5 Players who are registered to play Junior Football with their club can also play Senior Football as per the FQ Player Age Policy Document (Refer Appendix C) but only with the same club.

16.8.6 All players must have a completed Sunshine Coast Football Player Identification Card to be a registered player of Sunshine Coast Football. All cards must have a current photo affixed and be signed by an SCF official to be valid.

16.8.7 The Identification Cards for all players participating in that match are the responsibility of the team manager and will be available for viewing by the opposing team and Zone Councillors if requested.

16.8.8 In the event of a club not presenting Identification cards as requested, the club may be fined. Any irregularities should be advised to the Zone office within two working days. No player can be stopped from taking the field due to lack of Identification Cards or queries regarding eligibility but all reported instances will be investigated.

16.8.9 All players must have completed the FFA Player Registration form. All junior players (17 years and under) must also supply a birth certificate which is to be sighted by the Club Official. Seniors players must provide proof of identity.

16.8.10 Duplicate Identification cards should be requested for players who take the field for more than one team. A fee for duplicate cards to be determined at the commencement of each season.

16.8.11 Clubs falsifying official SCF / FQ & FFA registration documents will be fined up to the maximum of \$500.00 and /or be expelled from the competition or otherwise dealt with as determined by the Zone Council.

16.8.12 Clubs shall be permitted to register players as follows:-

Internal transfers (from SCF Club to SCF Club): to 30th June in any year.
New registrations: no cut-off date.
External transfers (from other Zones): no cut-off date.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- 16.8.14** Player refunds will only be issued to clubs for players prior to the 30th April each year. These refunds apply only to players who have NOT taken the field. Once a player has taken the field no refund will be issued even prior to the 30th April.
- 16.9** **PLAYER CLASSIFICATION**
- 16.9.1** **OVER 35'S**
The Over 35's Division is restricted to players who will turn thirty-five (35) years of age or older in that year. No exceptions will be made to this qualification. Refer to the Senior Eligibility rules for further clarification.
- 16.9.4** **OVER 42'S**
The Over 42's Division is restricted to players who will turn forty two (42) years of age or older in that year. No exceptions will be made to this qualification. Refer to the Senior Eligibility rules for further clarification.
- 16.10** **PLAYER TRANSFER/CLEARANCES**
- 16.10.1** International clearance rules apply as per instructions from FQ on a year to year basis. These will be confirmed to Clubs by SCF each year. Clubs requiring the transfer of an overseas player must lodge the request form direct to FQ with associated documentation.
- 16.10.2** Players cannot participate in SCF fixtures or competitions until the transfer advice from FQ has been received.
- 16.10.3** Transfer requests involving player/s who last played outside Australia also have to indicate details of the player's entry permit i.e. Temporary or Permanent Visa entry or any other status that Statutory Authorities may apply as per FQ instructions.
- 16.10.4** Proof of Visa is required before clearance and/or registration is requested. It is the responsibility of the clubs to provide this to FQ.
- 16.10.6** Member clubs of SCF are not permitted to register players on sporting visas.
- 16.10.7** Requests for players on any other type of Visa must be directed to FQ for clarification.
- 16.11** **AMATEUR PLAYERS**
- 16.11.1** FQ & FFA registration procedures will be confirmed by SCF to all clubs prior to the commencement of each season. Amateur players cannot be placed on a Retained or Open to Transfer List of any Club.
- 16.11.2** Amateur players can therefore move from one club to another at the completion of the season.
- 16.11.3** If a player who has signed the Registration Form as an amateur in one season wishes to transfer to another club during the season, he/she can only do so with the permission of the club with whom he/she originally signed. See NRR11 Supplementary Registration Form and NRR08 Cancellation Forms available on SCF website.
- 16.12** **PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS**
- 16.12.1** **Registering**
Register players using Prescribed FFA Forms NRR04, NRR05 and Players Insurance Benefits Form.
- a. Complete the prescribed form NRR04 – completing all questions. A Professional Player contract must have been completed and authorized by both parties.
 - b. Write in the previously allocated FFA number to top right of form as indicated. If this number cannot be provided please request form from FQ using the request form provided.
 - c. Check identity before signing – this is the responsibility of the club
 - d. Player to read Player Insurance Benefits form.
 - e. On completion forms should be taken and dispatched to Player, Club, Zone and then Zone to forward to FQ.
 - f. The original copy of the Player Professional Player Contract must be forwarded at time of lodgement.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

Note: A player can only be registered with one club at a time. A player can only be signed as a professional player during the nominated registration periods (1/1/2010 – 29/2/2010 and 1/6/2010 – 30/6/2010)

16.13 ELIGIBILITY RULES (These rules must be read in full for correct interpretation)

- 16.13.1** Players are taken to have played in the game if their name is on the team sheet, unless it is marked “DNP”. (Did Not Play by the Referee)
- 16.13.2** A Field player’s Division is determined as being Premier Division if their name is on a Premier Division team sheet, unless it is marked “DNP”.
- 16.13.3** A Goal Keeper’s Division (Including Premier Division) is determined as being the Division they have played the most games in whilst in Goals, if an equal number of games has been played in more than 1 (One) Division, the highest Division in which the equal number of games was played becomes the Goal Keeper’s Division. (A Goal Keeper’s Division may vary throughout the season) This rule only applies while playing in Goals, whilst playing on the field, all other rules apply. Goal Keepers must be numbered either 1 (One), GK (Goal Keeper) or RGK (Reserve Goal Keeper)
- 16.13.4** Premier players cannot play 3rd Div & 4th Div unless re graded by SCF, \$50.00 re-grade fee applies, including Goal Keepers. (Refer 16.13.3)
- 16.13.5** Premier Reserve players can play 3rd Div & 4th Div & still return to Premier Reserve (provided they have not taken the field as a Premier bench player).
- 16.13.6** 3rd Div & 4th Div players can play for Premier Reserve & still return to 3rd Div & 4th Div.
- 16.13.7** If 3rd Div & 4th Div players play in Premier Division, they cannot return to 3rd Div & 4th Div.
(These Rules enable 3rd Div & 4th Div to help Premier Men Reserve out when Premier Men Reserve are required to play Premier Men but restricts 3rd Div & 4th Div playing Premier Men & visa versa)
- 16.13.8** O35’s & O42’s can play unlimited for either Premier & Premier Reserve **OR** 3rd Div & 4th Div. Once they have taken the field in any of Premier, Premier Reserve, 3rd Div or 4th Div, they are to abide to rules 16.13.1 through to 16.13.6 & can return to O35’s or O42’s.
- 16.13.9** Junior Players can play unlimited for either Premier & Premier Reserve **OR** 3rd Div & 4th Div. Once they have taken the field in any of Premier, Premier Reserve, 3rd Div or 4th Div, they are to abide to rules 16.13.1 through to 16.13.6 & can return to a Junior Division. Junior Players abide to Senior Rules while playing Seniors & abide to Junior Rules while playing Juniors.
- 16.13.10** Goal Keepers who’s Division is determined as Premier Reserve, 3rd Div & 4th Div, can play unlimited in any Division including Premier Division. (Refer 16.13.3)
- 16.13.11** The maximum number of players allowed on a team sheet is 16 (Sixteen).
- 16.13.12** In SCF Premier Men & Premier Men Reserve teams may substitute no more than three (3) players in a game including extra time if applicable. Once a player has been replaced he shall not be permitted to return to the field of play.
- 16.13.13** In the Over 35’s, Over 42’s, 3rd Division, 4th Division & all Women’s Divisions, unlimited interchange is permitted. (Maximum 16 Players on Team Sheet)
- 16.13.14** A player must have played at least seven (7) matches in a particular team to be eligible for that team in the final series, that player will also then be eligible to play in a higher division in the final series but must to abide to Rules 16.13.1 through to 16.13.10. (A combination of matches over different teams will not warrant eligibility).
- 16.13.12** Where a club has two (2) or more teams playing in one competition, the players must be nominated in their particular team to SCF prior to the first fixture and players will not be permitted to change same division teams at any time during the season.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- 16.13.13** Players playing up from a lower division, after playing three (3) games with one team, must remain in that team and are ineligible to play for the other team in the same division. i.e. they cannot play three games in each team. The player may still play back in his relevant division.
- 16.13.14** Where clubs have any combination of 1st, 2nd or 3rd Division teams in the O35's & O42's, the club must nominate minimum top 9 players in each higher division team & these nominated players are **NOT** permitted to play down - top 9 Division 1 cannot play down into Division 2 and top 9 Division 2 players cannot play down into Division 3. If names are not received in the SCF Office prior to the commencement of the season then the top 9 will be designated from the first nine players listed on the Round 1 team sheet.
- 16.14 REFEREES**
- 16.14.1** All SCF fixtures and competitions shall be controlled by a registered referee refer 16.14.3.
- 16.14.2** Referees for all SCF fixtures and competitions shall be appointed by the Referee Appointments Officer.
- 16.14.3** In the event that the appointed centre referee does not arrive then one of the appointed assistant referees should take control of the match. In the event that the appointed referee and referee assistants do not arrive the following process will be applied. Unqualified officials will be appointed on agreement of the team. If such agreement cannot be arrived at a home club official shall make the appointment. If either team refuses to take the field a forfeit will be awarded to the other team.
- 16.14.4** Under 16.14.3 the referee's decision shall be final.
- 16.14.5** No match shall be deferred due to the unavailability of qualified referees and/or assistant referees.
- 16.14.6** Referees and assistant referee fees shall be determined annually by Sunshine Coast Football and communicated to the clubs.
- 16.14.7** Referee fees are payable immediately after the completion of the game.
- 16.14.8** Payment of referee fees in accordance with the scale laid down shall be the responsibility of:
- (i) **The Host Club** for all games involving that club for fixtures set by SCF.
 - (ii) **Host venue and first named team (home team) to pay 50% each** at neutral venue matches.
 - (iii) **By the first named team (home team) to pay 100%** when a game is rescheduled to another venue other than the home club due to wet weather, venue unavailability etc.

16.15 PROTEST PROCEDURE – Fixtures

- 16.15.1** Protests concerning ineligible, unregistered or over-age players must be lodged on club letterhead within three (3) working days.
- 16.15.2** The protest will be dealt with by the Zone Council.

17 JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES

17.1 PLAYING REQUIREMENTS

17.1.1 Field Sizes

- Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 Refer to Small Sided Football Appendix F.1
Under 12 to 18 Refer to FIFA Sketch

The field markings shall be distinct lines not more than 120mm wide but must be the width of the goal posts.

17.1.2 Corner Flags

Corner flags 1.6 metres above ground level, constructed of an approved material must be in place prior to the start of play.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

17.1.3 **Goal Nets**

The goal nets shall be in good repair and properly secured prior to the start of play.

17.1.4 **Goal Posts**

Goal Posts must comply with Australian standards and with dimensions as set out in FIFA rules.

17.1.5 **Match Ball**

The match ball must comply with FIFA regulations and FQ licensing agreement.

Under 6, 7, 8 & 9	size 3	(550mm min – 585mm max)
Under 10, 11, 12, 13	size 4	(600mm min – 625mm max)
Under 14, 15, 16, 17, 18	size 5	(685mm min – 710mm max)

Match ball must be provided by the host club.

17.1.6 **Duration of Games:-** Duration of Games shall be:

Under 6 & 7	2 x 15 minutes (SSF)
Under 8 & 9	2 x 20 minutes (SSF)
Under 10 & 11	2 x 25 minutes (SSF)
Under 12	25 minutes each way
Under 13	30 minutes each way
Under 14	30 minutes each way
Under 15	35 minutes each way
Under 16	40 minutes each way
Under 17	40 minutes each way

Half time shall be a maximum of 10 minutes.

17.1.7 **Officials**

Each club shall provide one Ground Official on each playing day, wearing identification to which team managers and referees inquiries may be directed.

17.2 **Field Security**

17.2.1 It is the Host clubs responsibility to ensure that spectators do not encroach within 2 metres of the boundaries of the playing field.

17.2.2 Encroachment within the 2 metre mark by spectators and/or officials (other than those permitted on the substitution bench) shall result in a fine on the home club, the amount of the fine to be determined by the Zone Council (Refer Appendix A).

17.2.3 A line marking 1 metre either side and up to 1 metre from the playing field in front of the substitution bench will mark the area that team officials and substitutes are permitted to stand in whilst the match is in progress.

17.2.4 Club officials can only enter the field of play with the permission of the referee.

17.3 **PLAYERS**

17.3.1 The minimum number of players per competitive teams for the game to take place shall be 7 registered players.

17.3.2 The maximum number of players allowed for any game shall be sixteen players per competitive team (excluding Small Sided Football). These players may be interchanged at any time during the game with the referee's permission (refer Interchange rules – Appendix E – rule 1)

17.3.3 Moulded boots are recommended for all junior players.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

17.4 STARTING TIMES – Competitive matches

- 17.4.1** Teams must be ready on the field of play to start the game by the designated game commencement time.
- 17.4.2** Teams not ready to commence the game by the designated starting time may be subject to a fine as determined by SCF (refer Appendix A).
- 17.4.3** In the event that a match has a delayed start then the match shall cease 5 minutes before the next scheduled game and the time of each half of the game will be reduced accordingly to ensure the following match commences at the designated time. If there is no match following the delayed game, then the full playing time may be played.
- 17.4.4** It is the referee's responsibility to have the teams in place to start the match at the designated starting time.

17.5 TEAM SHEETS

- 17.5.1** Official team sheets shall be provided by each team and all information requested thereon shall be fully completed. Clubs failing to fully complete team sheets shall be fined (Refer Appendix A).
- 17.5.2** The team sheet shall be available to hand to the officiating referee five (5) minutes prior to the designated starting time of the match.
- 17.5.3** Players arriving late, but who are already recorded on the team sheet, are eligible to take the field with the referee's permission but must ensure that they sign the team sheet before taking the field at any time during the game.
- 17.5.4** Players whose names are not recorded on the team sheet at the designated start time are ineligible to take the field for the match. Fines and penalties will be incurred.
- 17.5.5** On completion of the game the referee is responsible for ensuring the team sheet is correctly completed including cards, substitutions and that the correct score is indicated and that the scorers of the goals are correctly recorded. Team sheets are then to be handed into the Host Club.
- 17.5.6** The Manager through a Ground Official can approach the referee to confirm scores, goal scorers and cards awarded.
- 17.5.7** Coaches may not approach a referee to query decisions or outcomes of matches. This is not a legitimate reason to approach a referee via the Ground Official.
- 17.5.8** The host club is responsible for lodging completed team sheets with SCF two working days after the match. Mid-week and re-scheduled match team sheets must be faxed or emailed to the Zone Office the following day and the originals within 2 working days. Failure to lodge the team sheets on time will result in a fine being imposed on the club. (Refer Appendix A).

17.6 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS/TEAMS

- 17.6.1** Clubs are required to nominate teams on the Team Nomination form by the date set by the Zone Council each year. No team nominations will be accepted after the due date and clubs will be fined for withdrawal and late nomination of teams after that date. (Refer Appendix A).
- 17.6.2** Players who are registered to play Junior Football with their club can also play Senior Football as per the FQ Player Age Policy Document but only with the same club. (Refer Appendix B)
- 17.6.3** All players must have a completed Sunshine Coast Football Player Identification Card to be a registered player of Sunshine Coast Football. All cards must have a current photo affixed.
- 17.6.4** The Identification Cards for all players participating in that match are the responsibility of the team manager and will be available for viewing by the opposing team and Zone Councillors if requested.
- 17.6.5** In the event of a club not presenting Identification cards to the opposing team manager as requested, the club may be fined. Any irregularities should be advised to the Zone office within two working days. No player can be stopped from taking the field due to lack of Identification Cards but all reported instances will be investigated.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- 17.6.6** All players must have completed the FFA Player Registration form. All junior players (17 years and under) must also supply a birth certificate which is to be sighted by the Club Official.
- 17.6.7** Duplicate Identification cards should be requested for players who take the field for more than one team. A fee for duplicate cards to be determined at the commencement of each season.
- 17.6.8** Clubs falsifying official SCF registration documents will be fined up to the maximum of \$500.00 and /or be expelled from the competition or otherwise dealt with as determined by the Zone Council.
- 17.6.9** Clubs shall be permitted to register players Junior and Senior as follows:-
- Internal transfers - (from SCF Club to SCF Club) to 30th June in any year.**
New registrations no cut-off date.
External transfers (from other Zones) no cut-off date.
- 17.6.10** A player's age is declared as at midnight 31st December each year. Whatever age a player turns in the calendar year is the lowest age he/she may play under.
- 17.6.11** Players may play in any team they are eligible for by age. Teams shall be graded by their club into appropriate divisions taking into account the previous year's results. The Zone Council at its discretion can question the grading of teams.
- 17.6.12** Where clubs have any combination of 1st, 2nd or 3rd Division Junior teams in the same age group e.g. U12(1), U12(2) & U12(3) the club must nominate minimum top 9 Division players across the relevant division. i.e. for these nominated players they are **NOT** permitted to play down - top 9 Division 1 cannot play down into Division 2 and top 9 Division 2 players cannot play down into Division 3. If names are not received in the SCF Office prior to the commencement of the season then the top 9 will be designated from the first nine players listed on the Round 1 team sheet. Note: these nominated players cannot play in the lower divisions. Refer Appendix N
- 17.6.13** The Zone Council, at its discretion, may consult with Clubs to balance age groups/divisions to ensure a viable competition.
- 17.6.15** Player refunds will only be issued to clubs for players prior to the 30th April each year. These refunds apply only to players who have NOT taken the field. Once a player has taken the field no refund will be issued even prior to the 30th April.
- 17.6.16** Eligibility for finals series is defined in By Law 9.1.7 & 9.1.8
- 17.7** **COMPETITION RULES**
- 17.7.1** The Junior Competitions will comprise non-competitive Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 and competitive age 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17.
- 17.7.2** The Zone Council may vary competitions from time to time according to nominations prior to the commencement of each playing season.
- 17.7.3** Refer Competition Rules 8 & 9
- 17.7.4** Female players are to play in female football teams only and not male teams from Under 13 onwards.
- 17.7.5** With the approval of the Zone Council, any player registered in a higher division team within an age group may be re-graded to a lower division in the same age group provided that once being re-graded he must play at least 3 games in the lower division team before being allowed to play again in the higher division. The name of any player re-graded to a lower division team must be advised to SCF Office prior to him taking the field in the lower division team. A player may only be re-graded once only during the fixture season.
- 17.7.6** Any player registered in a lower division team within an age group may play in a higher division team unrestricted without affecting his eligibility for the lower division team.

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

17.7.7 Where a club has two (2) teams playing in the same division within an age group, the players must be nominated in their particular team to SCF Office prior to the first fixture and players will not be permitted to interchange between teams at any time during the season. Players playing up from a younger age group, after playing three (3) games with one team, must remain in that team and are ineligible to play for the other team in the same division. i.e. they cannot play three games in each team. The player may still play back in his relevant age group.

17.7.8 AGE RESTRICTIONS

Males/Females - FQ rulings state:

- (i) A player may not be registered prior to he/she being five (5) years of age by date of birth.
- (ii) Players playing outside their age group refer to the FQ Player Age Policy – Appendix B.

17.8 REFEREES AND REFEREE ASSISTANTS

17.8.1 All SCF fixtures and competitions shall be controlled by a registered referee or as per 17.8.3.

17.8.2 Referees for all SCF fixtures and competitions shall be appointed by the Referee Appointments Officer.

17.8.3 In the event that the appointed centre referee does not arrive then one of the appointed assistant referees should take control of the match. In the event that the appointed referee and referee assistants do not arrive the following process will be applied. Unqualified officials will be appointed on agreement of the team. If such agreement cannot be arrived at a home club official shall make the appointment. If either team refuses to take the field a forfeit will be awarded to the other team.

17.8.4 Under 17.8.3 the referee's decision shall be final.

17.8.5 No match shall be deferred due to the unavailability of qualified referees and/or assistant referees.

17.8.6 Referees and assistant referee fees shall be determined annually by Sunshine Coast Football and communicated to the clubs.

17.8.7 Referee fees are payable immediately after the completion of the game.

17.8.8 Payment of referee fees in accordance with the scale laid down shall be the responsibility of:

- (iv) **The Host Club** for all games involving that club for fixtures set by SCF.
- (v) **Host venue and first named team (home team) to pay 50% each** at neutral venue matches.
- (vi) **By the first named team (home team) and pay 100%** when a game is rescheduled to another venue other than the home club due to wet weather, venue unavailability etc.

17.9 PROTEST PROCEDURE – Fixtures

17.9.1 Protests concerning ineligible, unregistered or over-age players must be lodged on club letterhead within three (3) working days.

17.9.2 The protest will be dealt with by the Zone Council.

17.10 SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL CARNIVALS - attendance

The attendance at SCF sanctioned carnivals is compulsory for all teams in all age groups. Teams will be determined from team nominations received. Fines will apply as per Appendix A for non-attendance.

18.0 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Sunshine Coast Football will follow the Sunshine Coast Football Disciplinary Regulations (APPENDIX G) in conjunction with Football Federation Australia National Disciplinary Regulations (Appendix H), FFA Code of Conduct (APPENDIX I) and Spectator Code of Behaviour (APPENDIX J).

19.0 FINANCE

19.1.1 Club Affiliation Fee

Each Club is required to pay an affiliation fee to SCF each year.

19.1.2 Team Nomination

At the discretion of the Zone Council from year to year.

19.1.3 Withdrawal of Teams / Late Nomination of Teams

Should a club, having nominated a team for SCF fixtures in any year and such team is accepted by SCF, then elect to withdraw that team after nomination or after the fixture draw has been completed, a fine as designated in the Senior/Women and Junior Competition Rules will be imposed on the Club (Refer Appendix A). Should a club, elect to nominate a team after the Team Nomination cut-off date and this team nomination is accepted by SCF, then a late team nomination fine, as designated in the Senior/Women and Junior Competition Rules will be imposed on the Club (Refer Appendix A).

19.1.4 Sunshine Coast Football Finals Series

Expressions of Interest will be called for by SCF each year to host the finals series. Expression of Interest documentation to be forwarded to all Clubs mid-year.

19.1.5 Representative Match Fees

In the case of representative matches SCF will be responsible for paying the referee fees.

19.1.6 Good Behaviour Bonds

Affiliated clubs are required to lodge with SCF a good behaviour bond of \$500 with initial affiliation. On forfeiture of the good behaviour bond, clubs will be required to reinstate the amount within seven (7) days.

19.1.6.1

In the event of a club refusing to play or walking off, the whole of the Bond shall be forfeited. The Zone Council to decide whether further action will take place including disciplinary sanction.

19.1.7 Outstanding Accounts

Affiliated clubs must ensure amounts outstanding of 60 days or more are finalised by Semi Finals. Any clubs with outstanding amounts of 60 days or more, will have their qualifying teams declared ineligible to participate in Finals & the next team on the table will be eligible to take their place in the Finals.

19.2 EXPENSES OF MEMBERS OF THE ZONE COUNCIL

19.2.1

Members of the Zone Council shall be entitled to be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings of SCF, FQ or any associated meeting as deemed necessary.

20.0 CODE OF CONDUCT

20.1.1

A Code of Conduct shall be formulated for SCF by the Zone Council to define actions which may be deemed to "Bring the Code into Disrepute" in all aspects of Football conducted by SCF.

20.1.2

A list of the penalties which will be imposed on members for any breaches of the Code of Conduct will be included in this document.

20.1.3

A copy of the Code of Conduct shall be distributed to all members of SCF at the beginning of each playing season.

Refer also: Appendix F, I, J

21 VIDEO TAPING AND PHOTOGRAPHY OF MATCHES

As per advice from the Commission of Children and Young People and Child Guardian. Refer Appendix P

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

APPENDIX A

LIST OF FINES FOR MISDEMEANOURS AS PER COMPETITION RULES

1	Clubs non-attendance at Standing Committee meetings	\$50.00
2	FORFEITS	
	Seniors First Division – 1 st Division	\$500.00 and loss of ten (10) competition points
	Seniors – 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , Over 35(1) & (2), Under 19	
	48 hour notice	\$200.00
	No notice	\$375.00 plus referee fees
	Less than 7 players at kick off	\$200.00 plus referee fees
	Women – 1 st Division	\$500.00 and loss of ten (10) competition points
	Women – 2 nd Division	
	48 hour notice	\$200.00
	No notice	\$375.00 plus referee fees
	Less than 7 players at kick off	\$200.00 plus referee fees
	Juniors - 48 hour notice	\$50.00
	Juniors without reasonable notice	\$75.00 plus referee fees
	Juniors with less than 7 players at kick off	\$50.00 plus referee fees
	Small Sided Football – Under 8 – Under 10	\$20.00
	Small Side Football Carnivals – 50% to SCF and 50% to the host club	\$60.00
3	Ring in of Players	As per Disciplinary Decision
4	Walk off	Forfeiture of Good Behaviour Bond
5	Spectators Causing Abandonment	As per Disciplinary Decision
6	INELIGIBLE PLAYERS	
	In fixtures	\$200.00
	In finals	\$400.00
7	Teams not in uniform * per player	\$25.00
8	Players wearing incorrect shirt number	\$25.00
9	TEAM SHEETS	
	Incomplete	\$5 + \$5 each offence thereafter
	Supply of incorrect team sheet	\$50.00
	Host club failure to lodge at SCF Office on time	\$50.00
10	Results – failure by host club to email results to Publicity Officer	\$30.00
11	Assistant Referees – non supply by host club as required	\$50.00
12	Spectators – encroaching inside 2 metres of field	\$20.00
13	ALCOHOL	
	Drinking outside licensed area	\$100.00
	Bringing into grounds	\$100.00
14	WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS/ LATE NOMINATION OF TEAMS	
	After close of nominations - Premier / Premier Reserve Senior	\$300.00
	- Senior	\$100.00
	- Junior	\$50.00
	After Draw is Published to Website - Premier / Premier Reserve Senior	\$500.00
	- Senior	\$200.00
	- Junior	\$100.00
	- Small Sided Football	\$25.00
15	Breaches of Instructions re: Ground Officials	\$50.00
16	Clubs falsifying Registration Documents	\$500.00 plus suspension
17	Detrimental Statements to the media	\$1000.00 plus suspension
	Detrimental Statements in Public	\$500.00 plus suspension
18	Wearing and/or supply on non licensed products	\$1000.00
19	Non Use of officially sanctioned match balls	\$200.00

NB: Fines may be increased in the case of recurring offences by clubs/players/officials.

APPENDIX B

FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND PLAYER AGE POLICY

A PDF copy will be included in electronic copies of Competition Rules issued to Clubs. A copy of this document can also be found on the Sunshine Coast Football Website under Clubs / Zone Forms and Documents.

- THE REST OF THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK -

APPENDIX C

REBEL SPORTS JUNIOR PREMIER LEAGUE

**- THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK –
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW -**

Rules of RSJPL available on Sunshine Coast Football website.

APPENDIX D

INTERCHANGE RULES

1.0 APPLICABILITY

Interchange rules will apply for all competitive matches excluding Premier Men and Premier Reserve Men.

2.0 PLAYERS

A maximum of **sixteen (16) players** may be listed on the team sheet and used in the game in **Juniors Under 11- Under 17, Under 18 Girls, Under 19, 3rd Division, 4th Division, Over 35's, Over 42's and Open Women Div 1 & Women Div 3** competitions.

3.0 FIELD MARKING

An area one (1) metre either side of the halfway line shall be marked **off the field of play**. This shall be known as the "interchange zone".

4.0 PROCEDURE

4.1 All interchanges shall take place within the interchange zone.

4.2 The number of interchanges that may be made is **unlimited**.

4.3 A player who has been replaced may return to the field for another player.

4.4 Interchanging is only permitted when the ball is out of play and the referee signals the exchange.

4.5 A coach or manager requesting interchange shall notify the assistant referee or referee at an appropriate time (e.g. when the ball is out of play).

4.6 The player leaving the field shall do so only from the side line, within the interchange zone and shall only cross that line within the Zone.

4.7 The player entering the field shall do so from the interchange zone, but only after the player leaving the field has passed completely over the side line.

4.8 The interchange is complete when the player who was off the field enters the field of play.

5.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

5.1 A player nominated for interchange shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee whether called up to play or not. (I.e. players on the bench are under the same control as players on the field).

5.2 If, during the interchange, an interchange player enters the field before the replaced player has completely left the field, the referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the field, caution the entering player and then re-start the game.

5.3 If during an interchange, the entering player enters the field or the replaced player leaves the field from a place other than the interchange zone, the referee shall caution the offending player.

5.4 Once a player signs the team sheet it will be taken that the player has participated in the match unless otherwise noted by the Referee.

5.5 Players interchanging with the goal-keeper, either from the bench or from with the field shall be recorded by the referee.

APPENDIX E

SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL – RULES

The FFA Optus Small Sided Football Handbook is available on the Football Queensland Website at the bottom of the left hand menu bar. Read through the FFA release to access the **Small Sided Football Handbook** and **Small Sided Football Laws**.

A PDF Copy will be included in electronic copies of Competition Rules issued to Clubs

- THE REST OF THIS PAGE IS LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK -

APPENDIX F

PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS - CODE OF CONDUCT BRINGING THE CODE OR THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE

FOOTBALL

Although discussions and comments are encouraged at any meetings of Sunshine Coast Football Inc, no Club, Player or Official shall make any statement for publication or contribute to any article or interview which might be published in any newspaper, magazine or other publication, and which is likely to:-

- Reflect adversely on policy decisions of Sunshine Coast Football Inc.
- Be detrimental to Sunshine Coast Football Inc., its member clubs, sponsors, or the game in general; or
- Reflect adversely on the performance of Match Officials; or
- Relate to any matter set down for hearing by, any decision of or appeal to any Committee of Inquiry, Disputes Committee or other Tribunal.
- Any act that is seen by the Zone Council to bring the game into disrepute.

Players and Officials shall:-

- Accept and obey all reasonable directions given by Federation Officials, Match Officials and Ground Officials; and
- At all times behave in public in a manner which does not reflect adversely on Sunshine Coast Football Inc., its member clubs, sponsors, or the game as a whole; and
- Not do anything by act or omission which in the normal course of events is likely to incite spectators or others to violence or disorderly acts.

Failure to comply with any of these directions shall be an offence and shall be deemed “Bringing the Game into Disrepute”.

Offenders will be liable to the penalties as defined by the Zone Council of Sunshine Coast Football Inc.

ADMINISTRATION/SPONSORSHIP

Players and officials of member Clubs and Affiliates shall not enter into any individual sponsorship or advertising agreements without the prior written approval of their Club, provided that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld in the absence of conflict with this Code of Conduct.

No member club shall: -

- Grant approval to any Player or Official of that Club to enter into any sponsorship or advertising agreements involving any company or product which conflicts with the aims and objectives of Sunshine Coast Football Inc. or its sponsors; or
- Be obliged to grant approval to any Player or Official of that Club to enter into any sponsorship or advertising agreement involving any company or product which conflicts with the aims and objectives of the Club or its sponsors.

Provided that any aggrieved Player or Official may apply to Sunshine Coast Football Inc. for relief from the operation of the ongoing provisions.

Clubs and their Players and Officials shall not knowingly permit photographs to be taken which may be detrimental to the image of the sponsors of Sunshine Coast Football Inc. and its members. This shall include still photographs, movie and video records or endorsements.

Clubs and their Players and Officials shall not provide or wear any apparel bearing any insignia, logo or sponsorship message which may be detrimental to the image of the sponsors of Sunshine Coast Football and its members.

Players and Official shall not, without first obtaining the written approval of the Chairman of Sunshine Coast Football Inc. or his nominee, write any column or article for publication in any newspaper or magazine provided that such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Failure to comply with any of these directions shall be an offence and shall be deemed “Bringing the Game into Disrepute”. Offenders will be liable to the penalties as defined by the Zone Council of Sunshine Coast Football Inc.

APPENDIX G

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL - DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

1. COMPETITION

- 1.1** The Competition is the Sunshine Coast Football league and includes all matches organised and sanctioned by Sunshine Coast Football.
- 1.2** These Disciplinary Rules are set by Sunshine Coast Football as the competition administrator and supplement the National Disciplinary Regulations in accordance with clause 1.2 of those Regulations.

2. SANCTIONS

- 2.1** The application of sanctions to be issued to Participants for direct red cards will be in accordance with the range of sanctions outlined in the National Disciplinary Regulations.
- 2.2** Where a player receives an **indirect** red card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.
- 2.3** A player who accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the course of the Competition must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:
- (a) Four (4) yellow cards, equates to a one match suspension.
 - (b) A further three (3) yellow cards, during a season, a two match suspension will apply
 - (c) A further two (2) yellow cards during a season, a three match suspension will apply
- 2.4** Finals Series – to include all games played in the final series.

Two cautions incurred automatically means that the player will be suspended for one (1) match. This suspension will take place in the next authorized match in which this player is involved in the finals or carry over to the next years home and away fixtures.

- 2.5** A player who accumulates the following number of **direct** red cards during the course of the Competition or the Final Series must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions, in addition to the sanction for the offence:
- (a) 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension
 - (b) Any subsequent occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension
- 2.6** If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. If a Match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended Player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture.

3. MISCONDUCT

- 3.1** Each Club must ensure that its Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct. Sunshine Coast Football may, consistent with the FFA Statutes, sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct.
- 3.2** Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:
- (a) Five (5) of its Players are cautioned or sent off during a Competition match;
 - (b) Three of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a Competition match;
 - (c) Its Participants collectively show dissent towards a match official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a match official to make or alter a decision;
or
 - (d) Its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

4.0 NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES

- 4.1** The imposition of a mandatory match suspension is immediate. For completeness Sunshine Coast Football will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the mandatory match suspension within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend. For re-scheduled mid-week matches notification will be within two (2) days of completion of the match. For the avoidance of doubt, the mandatory match suspension is effective regardless of whether or not notice was received.
- 4.2** If Sunshine Coast Football has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, a further Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend. For the avoidance of doubt the suspension is effective regardless of whether or not notice was received and the communication of the sanction advised to the player the Club.

5.0 TERMS OF SUSPENSION

- 5.1** While serving a suspension, a Participant (player or team official) may not:
- (a) On the day of a match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the player's race, the dressing rooms or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for the match;
 - (b) If attending a Match, be seated in area normally reserved for Participants; and
 - (c) Within two hours of the start of a Sunshine Coast Football competition or sanctioned match from which the Participant is suspended and within one hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with:
 - (i) Any media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews; and
 - (ii) Any Participant while that Participant is in an area listed within Clause 5.1(a)

6.0 DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES

- 6.1** Except in the case of alleged mistaken identity, there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
- 6.2** A Player or a Team Official may appeal the disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by the Disciplinary Committee by notifying Sunshine Coast Football by 4.00pm the following Monday. (Note: 6.1) A fee of \$100.00 must accompany this appeal and will be heard by the Appeals Committee. The fee is refundable at the discretion of the Appeals Committee on the successful upholding of an appeal.
- 6.3** An appeal against a disciplinary sanction must be heard by the Appeals Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction an Appeals Committee may consider:
- (a) The nature and severity of the infringement;
 - (b) The offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated offence;
 - (c) The culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional, negligent or reckless);
 - (d) Any reasons prompting an offender to commit and infringement;
 - (e) The remorse of the offender; and
 - (f) Any extenuating circumstances.

7.0 SANCTIONS UNDER FFA STATUES

- 7.1** Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club:
- (a) A reprimand;
 - (b) A fine;
 - (c) Place the Club on a bond;
 - (d) A deduction or loss of competition points;
 - (e) Ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
 - (f) Annulment of registration of a player;
 - (g) Suspension from participation in all FFA affiliated match or matches;
 - (h) Exclusion, suspension or expulsion from Sunshine Coast Football;
 - (i) Playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
 - (j) A ban on playing at a particular ground;
 - (k) Annulment of the result of the match; or
 - (l) Other such disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA statutes.
- 7.2** Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a participant:
- (a) A reprimand;
 - (b) A fine;
 - (c) Return of an award;
 - (d) Place the individual on a bond;
 - (e) Ban the registration of Player with any club for a specified period of time;
 - (f) Annulment of registration of a Player;
 - (g) Suspension from participation in all FFA affiliated match or matches;

SUNSHINE COAST FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

- (h) Suspension or expulsion from Sunshine Coast Football;
- (i) Suspension or cancellation of licence or accreditation, including coaching accreditation;
- (j) Termination of registration or playing contract;
- (k) A ban from the dressing rooms and/or substitute benches;
- (l) A ban from entering grounds;
- (m) A ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
- (n) Such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all other circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA statutes.

The following documents are available on the Football Federation of Australia Website:

www.footballaustralia.com.au/ Inside FFA / Statutes and Regulations or contact the SCF Office for a hard copy.

APPENDIX H

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

A PDF copy will be included in electronic copies of Competition Rules issued to Clubs. A copy of this document can also be found on the Sunshine Coast Football Website under Clubs/Forms and Documents.

- **THE REST OF THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK** -

APPENDIX I

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA – CODE OF CONDUCT

A PDF copy will be included in electronic copies of Competition Rules issued to Clubs. A copy of this document can also be found on the Sunshine Coast Football Website under Clubs/Forms and Documents.

- **THE REST OF THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK** -

APPENDIX J

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

A PDF copy will be included in electronic copies of Competition Rules issued to Clubs. A copy of this document can also be found on the Sunshine Coast Football Website under Clubs/Forms and Documents.

- **THE REST OF THIS PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK** -

APPENDIX K

WET WEATHER POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION POLICY

Set out below is the policy regarding postponements in extreme weather and field conditions.

1. Each club is to appoint its own Ground Official and one other person as an alternative in the event that the Club's preferred Ground Official is unavailable.
2. The names and contact numbers of these two people are to be advised to the SCF Office prior to the commencement of fixtures each season.
3. The appointed Ground Official of each Club shall have sole discretion as to whether junior/senior fixtures should be played on his/her Club's grounds after consideration of the condition of the field playing surfaces and safety of players.
4. The Ground Official must make the decision to postpone any games on **Friday night** as follows:

Friday Night Fixtures - 2.00pm on the day of play

5. In the case of **Saturday Fixtures** the Ground Official should consider his/her decision in two parts depending on weather and ground conditions:

Morning Fixtures – 7.00am – absolutely no later than 7.15am
Afternoon and Evening Fixtures – 12.00 Noon (no later)

6. All postponements will be recorded on the Zone Office phone number which should be supplied to all members to call to ascertain if games have been postponed. Postponements will also be recorded on the website.
7. Responsibility for recording all postponements on the wet weather line will be the appointed person from the SCF Zone Office. Club officials must ring this person immediately a decision is made as per steps 4 & 5.
8. Should the club's decision be to continue with play, the appointed referee will, under the laws of the game, have discretion to call off games if he/she considers the conditions unsafe for players.
9. Under the Competition Rules of SCF the game/s will be rescheduled at a time and under such conditions as the Zone Council determines.

Sunshine Coast Football Hotline – 1902 241 169

This number should be widely publicised at your club and all club members made aware of the importance of calling if games are in doubt

Contact Person re: Postponements – Yvonne – number advised to Club Executive only – Club Executives only to call.

APPENDIX L

GROUND OFFICIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Below is a list of instructions and responsibilities, which are to be followed closely by all clubs with regard to the appointment of Ground Officials for all home days.

1. All clubs are required to appoint a designated Ground Official/s for each game.
2. All Ground Officials must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
3. The Ground Official must wear an official Ground Official shirt.
4. The Ground Official is required to make themselves known to the referees. It is suggested that the name/s of the Ground Official be displayed in a conspicuous place in the Referees dressing room.
5. The Ground Official is required to patrol all fields being used throughout the day.
6. The Ground Official must ensure that spectators are not in a prohibited area (i.e. too close to the sidelines, behind goals, near or on player benches etc).
7. It is the responsibility of the appointed Ground Official to ensure that assistant referees have been appointed by the club for games where no official referees are appointed or arrive.
8. The Ground Official is to ensure that spectators behaviour is acceptable (no foul language, abusive comments etc.).
9. The Ground Official will ensure referee officials are escorted (if required) onto and from the field of play.
10. In general the Ground Official should act as Clerk of the Course. They should NOT be involved in any other duties whilst acting in this capacity (not refereeing, coaching, canteen or bar duties etc) They should work closely with the appointed referees to ensure that the day's activities are completed in the best possible atmosphere for player, spectators, coaches, officials and referees.

APPENDIX M

SCF TEAM GRADING LIST - COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS

CLUB _____

AGE GROUP _____ **DIVISION** _____ **TEAM NAME** _____

Note: Must be lodged at the SCF Office at least 7 days prior to first fixture

	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	D.O.B.
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			

*Alphabetical order please for top nine. Players who are playing above their own age group should not be included in the top 9.

MANAGER _____ **COACH** _____

Phone No: _____

How to complete this form:

Junior Teams – Where clubs have any combination of 1st, 2nd or 3rd Div Junior teams in the same age group e.g. U12(1), U12(2) & U12(3) the club must nominate minimum top 9 Div players across the relevant division. i.e for these nominated players they are **NOT** permitted to play down - top 9 Div 1 cannot play down into Div 2 and Div 2 players top 9 cannot play down into Div 3

Two teams in same division ~ Senior & Junior

1. Where a club has two teams in the same division within the same age group, **ALL** players must be nominated in their particular team and the team given a name e.g. White / Green. Players are not permitted to change between the two teams without written permission from the Zone Council.
2. Players playing up from a younger age group into either of these teams – once three (3) games have been played with one of the teams the player is no longer eligible to play in the other team in the higher age group. The player is **still eligible** to play back in their own age group.

No player may, for any reason whatsoever, play any matches with a team in a lower age group or division than that of the players current grading / age group, other than if re-graded into the lower teams. Application must be made to SCF Zone Council.