



SECTION 5

COMPETITIONS

5.1 COMPETITION RULES

All fixtures shall be played in compliance with the Regulations in force at the time and in accordance with Football Federation Australia and Football NSW respectively and under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board.

The Board of Directors shall decide from time to time the duration of games played in Grades other than First Grade. The Executive in accordance with the Football NSW By-Laws may vary Competition Rules and Regulations for any Domestic Competition providing due notice of the variations is given to all competing Clubs and the NSW State League Football Referees Inc.

5.2 PLAYING SEASON

The "Playing Season" shall be the period of the year commencing on the date of the first Football NSW Fixture and ending on the day following the last Premiership Fixture.

5.3 MEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE, SUPER LEAGUE AND STATE LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP COMPETITION

- (a) Each Premier League, Super League and State League First Division Club shall consist of two (2) Grades, First Grade, and Grade 20.
- (b) Conference League shall consist of two (2) Grades, First Grade and Reserve Grade.
- (c) In First Grade, Grade 20 and Reserve Grade each team shall play its opponents twice on a home and away basis and in the sequence as far as it is practicable according to the respective grounds being available that meet the criteria as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Football NSW may alter the draw to include, but not limited to, formats including split rounds, split groups an additional rounds in the event of competitions comprising a number of teams not conducive to a two (2) round competition draw.

5.4 AGE QUALIFICATION – MEN'S COMPETITION

The Reserve Grade Competition for the Premier League, Super League and State League First Division shall have an age qualification of Grade Twenty (G20).

To be eligible a player must be 20 years or younger on or after the 1st of January in the year the competition is conducted.



5.5 MEN'S PREMIER UNDER 20'S AND SUPER LEAGUE AND STATE LEAGUE ONE - OVER AGE PLAYERS

- (a) Each team will be permitted to list a maximum of four (4) over age players on the team sheet. Any club found to be in breach of 5.5 (a) may result in a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00
- (b) Any over age player sent from the field of play by the Referee shall be deemed to be still on the field of play for the purposes of this regulation.
- (c) If a club has been found to have played over the maximum amount of over aged players they shall be fined a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500) and the points for the fixture shall be awarded to the opponents with the score line reading three (3) goals to nil (0).
- (d) If the complaint can not be verified then the club making the complaint shall be fined one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150).

5.6 WOMEN'S PREMIER AND SUPER LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP COMPETITION

- (a) The Women's Premier and Super League Premiership shall be for five (5) Grades, 1st Grade, Reserve Grade, Grade 16, Grade 14 and Grade 12.
- (b) Women's Premier League are permitted to register 20 Professional players in their 1st / Reserve squad.
- (c) No player in Women's Super League shall be a professional player.
- (d) No player in women's Premier or Super Grade 16, 14 or 12 is to be a Professional player.
- (e) In all Grades each team shall play its opponents twice on a home and away basis and in the sequence as far as it is practicable according to the respective grounds being available that meet the criteria as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Football NSW may alter the draw to include, but not limited to, formats including split rounds, split groups an additional rounds in the event of competitions comprising a number of teams not conducive to a two (2) round competition draw.

5.7 COMPETITION POINTS

Points shall be allocated as follows for all Premiership Competition matches:

- Win - Three (3) points
- Draw - One (1) point each team
- Bye - No points
- Loss - No points
- Forfeit - Three (3) points to the team receiving the forfeit



5.8 SUBSTITUTES

(a) FIRST GRADE - MEN'S COMPETITION

Each club may at its discretion substitute three (3) field players at any time during a match.

(b) GRADES 20 AND RESERVE GRADE - MEN'S COMPETITION,

Each club at its discretion may substitute five (5) players at any time during a match.

(c) FIRST GRADE AND RESERVE GRADE - WOMEN'S PREMIER AND SUPER LEAGUE

Each club at its discretion may substitute five (5) players at any time during a match.

(d) GRADE 12, GRADE 14 AND GRADE 16 - WOMEN'S SUPER and STATE LEAGUE

Unlimited interchange applies.

The substitute can only be made when play has stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. All Substitute Players shall be nominated on the team sheet prior to the start of the game.

Substitutes cannot be used to replace any player who has been suspended from the match by the Referee.

5.9 DURATION OF PREMIERSHIP FIXTURES

The duration of Premiership Matches shall be as follows:

First Grade

- Two equal periods of forty five (45) minutes.

Reserve Grade/Grade 20/and Reserve Grade

- Two equal periods of forty five (45) minutes.

Any match which falls short of the stipulated duration shall be deemed to have been completed unless ordered to be replayed by the Executive.

5.10 KICK OFF TIMES

(a) Kick off times of all Official Matches shall be as determined by the Chief Executive Officer and shall be detailed in the Official Fixture List.

(b) All matches must start on the nominated time.

(c) Football NSW, in setting down kick off times, may start matches at 9:00 am for any daytime fixture which may include Saturday, Sunday or any Public Holiday.



- (d) Except where special instructions have been issued by the Board of Directors or the Chief Executive Officer, or are contained in other Regulations, all First Grade Matches must start no later than the scheduled kick off time. All other matches prior to First Grade shall be played in two (2) periods that shall allow the First Grade matches to begin at the scheduled Kick-Off time.

Failure to commence fixtures at the set times may result in a fine of \$500.00

5.11 CLASH OF COLOURS

- (a) In the event of a Colour clash, the Visiting Club shall change to a strip which does not include any of the basic colours of the Home Club.

Failure to observe this Regulation may result in a fine of \$500.00

- (b) The Goalkeepers' colours shall be distinguishable from the colours worn by all the other players and the referees.

Any team not playing in their registered colours shall result in their club being fined \$500.00

- (c) The colours worn by ball boys shall be distinct from those worn by either the Players or Match Officials.

The referee shall be the sole arbiter on match day on the question of whether strips clash.

5.12 TEAM CAPTAIN

The captain of each team shall wear a distinguishing arm band to indicate his status.

Failure to observe this regulation may result in a fine of \$100.00

5.13 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

The eligibility of Players shall be defined by Football NSW from time to time.

- (a) A qualified or Bona-Fide Player is one who has signed the appropriate Registration Form, paid a Registration Fee and is registered as per the Regulations of Football NSW and Football Federation Australia
- (b) Any Club playing an ineligible Player shall be ineligible for any points associated with the Match and shall be subject to any Disciplinary action as imposed by the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal.
- (c) Full points allocated for the Fixture shall be forfeited to their Opponents and goals recorded according to three (3) goals scored by the Team obtaining the points to nil (0) by the Team who has infringed the Regulations. The Club shall also be fined a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500). The Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal may increase this fine in addition to imposing any other disciplinary action.



- (d) In the event of the Club which is in default of this regulation being defeated in the match, the Club shall be fined a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500) or a greater amount as determined by the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal in addition to any other disciplinary action imposed.

5.14 POSTPONED MATCHES

- (a) In the event of any match not being played owing to weather or other causes over which neither club has any control, on being ordered to be replayed, it shall be played within fourteen (14) days of the first postponement.

Clubs shall be given forty eight (48) hours after the postponement to determine the venue and date.

- (b) Any club failing to set a postponed fixture in accordance with 5.14 (a) may result in a fine of \$200.00

Failure to comply with the above regulation will result in the Chief Executive Officer determining the venue and date.

5.15 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS - POSTPONED GAMES – SPLIT ROUNDS

- (a) In the event that a Reserve Grade or Grade 20 match is postponed and subsequently played at a date later than the First Grade match of that particular Fixture, players who have played for their club in the First Grade game shall be ineligible to play in the Reserve Grade or Grade 20 match for that Fixture.

- (b) The goalkeeper will be the exception to this rule.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in the team that has fielded an ineligible player as per regulation 5.15 forfeiting the match. Full points allocated for the Match shall be forfeited to their Opponents and goals recorded according to three (3) goals scored by the Team obtaining the points to nil (0) by the Team who has infringed the Regulations.

5.16 TEAM SHEETS

- (a) The Home Club shall be responsible for the provision of Team Sheets. Failure to comply with this Regulation on the part of the Home Club may result in a fine of \$100.00.
- (b) The team sheet must be correctly completed in ink, in a legible manner by both teams. The sheet must contain the names of the players taking part in the match, including the names of the nominated substitutes and their registration numbers.
- (c) The original copy of the team sheet is to be handed to the Referee at least fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled Kick-Off time.
- (d) The Home Team shall complete the team sheet first.



- (e) The numbers on the back of the shirts shall correspond to the numbers on the team sheet handed to the Referee before the commencement of a match and there must be no change of numbers before or during a match except a change of goalkeeper.
- (f) The numbers on the team sheet must correspond with the numbers that are published in fixture programs.
- (g) A maximum of sixteen (16) players only may be listed on the Team Sheet.
- (h) The Referee shall endorse all substitution of players on the Team Sheet.
- (i) All Team Sheets must be sent by the Referee to the Registered Office of Football NSW, by post or delivered by hand, to arrive no later than the Tuesday following a weekend fixture, or forty eight (48) hours following a mid week fixture.
- (j) When a match is forfeited, then the team sheet shall be endorsed accordingly by the Referee.

A Team Official from both the Home/Away clubs are to sign the team sheet at the completion of the Match to confirm the players listed, match officials listed, stood down players listed, half time and full time scores are correct.

Any Team Manager, Team Coach or Club Official supplying false information shall be dealt with as determined by the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal.

Failure to comply with any part of this regulation may result in a fine of \$100.00

5.17 NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- (a) The Home Clubs shall telephone the results through to the Registered Office of Football NSW no later than 5:45pm on the day set down for the Fixture.
- (b) Results of Fixtures played by arrangement as Night Fixtures shall be phoned to the Registered Office or other place arranged by the Chief Executive Officer within thirty (30) minutes of the completion of the last Fixture.

Failure to comply with this regulation may result in a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per grade.

5.18 CLUBS REMOVED OR WITHDRAWING FROM COMPETITIONS

In the event of any Member or Associate Member Club withdrawing or being removed from Football NSW Competitions, the following procedure will take effect to allow the altered Competitions to proceed to a conclusion.

- (a) Removed or withdrawing before Competition has started:

Bye result will apply in Competitions



(b) Removed or withdrawing during first rounds:

All opposing Teams that have played the removed or withdrawn Teams (for the complete first round) shall have points and goals deleted from their records and shall be credited with a bye result. Teams that have not played the removed or withdrawn Team will obtain a Bye result.

(c) Removed or withdrawing during the second round:

All points and goals acquired will be retained by opposing Teams (for the completed first round). Points and goals acquired against such disaffiliated Team shall be lost and Bye results shall be credited for the second half of the Competition.

5.19 FULL STRENGTH TEAMS TO BE PLAYED IN ALL FIXTURES

Each club shall play its full strength team in all fixtures, unless some satisfactory explanation is offered to the Chief Executive Officer. In the event of the explanation not being deemed satisfactory, the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal shall have power at their discretion to impose a fine.

Clubs affected by the selection of more than two players for International Matches may be permitted by Football NSW to postpone their Football NSW Fixture on the days of such fixtures.

5.20 REPORTS OF RESULTS AND CONDUCT OF OFFICIALS

Reports of the result of each game, attendance statistics, and conduct of officials on forms provided by Football NSW must be sent by the Club Secretary to Football NSW Office so they are received within three (3) days after each game.

Clubs failing to comply, or make any error therein or any omissions there from shall pay a fine of \$50.00 or such amounts as the Board of Directors may fix.

5.21 RESPONSIBILITY OF CLUBS FOR BEHAVIOUR OF SPECTATORS

Each Club shall take all such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure the good conduct and behaviour of its supporters on any ground. A Club playing at its own ground, as a team competing in a Final or Championship Series at a neutral venue, or allowing its ground to be used for a match in which it is not participating, shall also take all such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure the good conduct and behaviour of all spectators at that ground.

In the event of a report being made to the Chief Executive Officer that the misbehaviour of spectators has had a material effect on the result of a match, being upheld, the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal may declare the match and result void and order the match to be replayed on such ground and on such date and on such conditions as the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal shall think proper or deduct a maximum of up to two (2) points from the offending club and/or impose such other sanctions as the Board of Directors or the General Purposes Tribunal shall think proper.



In the event of a match being abandoned due to field invasion the Board of Directors or the General Purposes Tribunal shall have the power to have the match replayed or to allow the result to stand.

Any such report shall be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer in writing no later than 5.00pm on the second (2nd) day following the day of the match and shall only be considered if made by the Referee or a Club participating in such match.

5.22 UNREGISTERED PLAYERS

Any club playing an unregistered player shall be ineligible for points associated with the match and shall be liable to such other penalty as the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal may determine. In such cases, the full points for the match shall be awarded to their opponents who shall also be deemed to have won the match by a score of three goals to nil (3-0).

5.23 RING-INS

Any Member, Associate Member or Office holder of any such club or any Player or Coach associated with any such club who is found to have knowingly participated in any practice of "Ringing-In" may be disqualified from participating in any competitions administered by Football NSW or be subject to such other punishment as may be determined by the Board of Football NSW to be appropriate, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

5.24 PLAYER IDENTITY PASSES

Player identity passes are to be made available to the opposing Team Manager for perusal prior to the commencement of the match, and it will be his duty to return the passes to the Club after checking that they are in order.

Team Managers failing to provide the opposing Team Managers with players Identity Passes may result in a fine of \$500.00.

Where a Club detects any abnormality or breach of Football NSW Regulations, or where a Club is unable to produce an identity pass they shall:

- (a) Advise the opposing Club of their intention to report the matter to Football NSW
and,
- (b) Request the players without identity passes to sign the back of the team sheet in the presence of the Referee
and,
- (c) Submit a written report to Football NSW by the Tuesday following the match.

Where any abnormality or breach of regulations involves the true identity of a player participating in a fixture, the Club shall bring the matter to the attention of the Referee and request that he report the abnormality to Football NSW and where the players pass is available the Referee should forward it to Football NSW with his report.



5.25 PREMIERS

At the completion of the Home and Away Premiership Rounds the Team which scores the highest number of points shall be declared the Premiers.

- (a) Should two (2) or more Teams in the same Competition, having completed their Competition, possess the same highest number of points that Team with the better goal difference shall be considered to be the higher. In the event of the goal difference being equal, the Team which has scored the most goals shall be considered the higher.
- (b) If two (2) or more Teams in the same Competition, have the same goal difference, and have scored the same number of goals, then the Team which has recorded the highest number of wins in the Competition shall be declared the Premiers.
- (c) If two (2) or more teams in the same Competition have the same number of points, goal difference, goals for and wins, a play off as determined by the Board of Directors may be played, the winner being recognised as the higher team.

5.26 GOAL DIFFERENCE

In all cases where goal differences are taken into account the manner in which they shall be arrived shall be:

- (a) Number of goals against subtracted from the number of goals for.
- (b) The highest resultant plus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to be the best goal difference and shall take precedence in determining positions in respect of plus goal differences.
- (c) The lowest resultant minus figure from such subtraction shall be deemed to be the better goal difference and shall take precedence in determining positions in respect of minus goal differences.
- (d) Where goal differences are equal, the team having scored the greater number of goals shall be deemed to have a better goal difference than its opponents.
- (e) Own goals - where a team scores through its own goal, such goal shall be taken as having been scored by its opponent in the determination of goal difference and in the determination of teams goals scored.

5.27 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

The following formats shall be used in all Championship Series:

(a) 16, 14 and 12 team divisions

1st Round

- (i) 1st place receives a bye
- (ii) Preliminary Semi Final - 2nd Place Vs 3rd Place
- (iii) Elimination Semi Final - 4th Place Vs 5th Place



2nd Round

- (iv) Major Semi Final - 1st Place Vs Winner of the Preliminary Semi Final
- (v) Minor Semi Final - Loser of the Preliminary Semi Final Vs Winner of the Elimination Semi Final

3rd Round

- (vi) Preliminary Final - Loser of the Major Semi Final Vs Winner of the Minor Semi Final

4th Round

- (vii) Grand Final - Winner of the Major Semi Final Vs Winner of the

Preliminary Final

For purposes of allocating a home team, the team appearing first in the format above shall be considered the home team for each respective match in the Championship Series.

The winner of the Grand Final shall be the Champion Team for their Division and Grade.

(b) 10 and 8 team divisions

1st Round

- (i) Major Semi Final - 1st Place Vs 2nd Place
- (ii) Minor Semi Final - 3rd Place Vs 4th Place

2nd Round

- (iii) Preliminary Final - Loser of the Major Semi Final Vs Winner of the Minor Semi Final

3rd Round

- (iv) Grand Final - Winner of the Major Semi Final Vs Winner of the Preliminary Final

For purposes of allocating a home team, the team appearing first in the format above shall be considered the home team for each respective match in the Championship Series.

The winner of the Grand Final shall be the Champion Team for their Division and Grade.

5.28 DRAWN CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

- (a) If at the conclusion of a First Grade Men's Premier League, Super League, State League Division 1, Conference League or Women's Premier or Super League Championship Series Match the scores are level, the Teams shall play extra time of fifteen (15) minutes each way. If the scores are still level at the conclusion of extra time, the match shall be determined by the Penalty Kick method as prescribed by the International Football Association Board.



- (b) If at the conclusion of a Reserve Grade or Grade 20 Men's Premier League, Super League, State League Division 1, Conference League or Women's Premier or Super League Championship Series Match the scores are level, the teams shall play extra time of ten (10) minutes each way. If the scores are still level at the conclusion of extra time, the match shall be determined by the Penalty Kick method as prescribed by the International Football Association Board.

5.29 PENALTY KICK DECIDERS

If any Match Result is to be decided on Penalty Kicks, the winner will be determined by the penalty kick method as prescribed by the International Football Association Board.

- (a) The referee shall choose the goal at which all of the kicks shall be taken.
- (b) The Referee shall toss a coin, and the team whose captain wins the toss shall take the first kick.
- (c) The referee shall note each player as they take a kick from the penalty mark.
- (d)
 - (i) Subject to the terms of the following paragraphs (iii) and (iv) both teams shall take five (5) kicks.
 - (ii) The kicks shall be taken alternately.
 - (iii) If, before both teams have taken five (5) kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could, even if it were to complete its five (5) kicks, the taking of kicks shall cease.
 - (iv) If after both teams have taken five (5) kicks, both have scored the same number of goals or have not scored any goals, the taking of kicks shall continue, in the same order, until such time as both have taken an equal number of kicks (not necessarily five (5) more kicks) and one has scored a goal more than the other.
- (e) The team which scores the greater number of goals, where the number of kicks taken is in accordance with the terms of the foregoing paragraph (iv) (a), (iv) (c) or (iv) (d) shall qualify for the next round of the competition, or shall be declared winner of the competition, as the case may be.
- (f)
 - (i) With the exception referred to in the following paragraph (ii) only the players who are on the field of play at the end of the match, which shall mean at the end of extra time in so far as a match in which extra time is authorised is concerned, and any who, having left the field temporarily with or without the referee's permission, are not on the field of play at that time, shall take part in the taking of kicks.
 - (ii) Provided that his team has not already made use of the maximum number of substitutes permitted by the rules of the competition under which the match is played, a goalkeeper who sustains an injury during the taking of the kicks and who, because of the injury, is unable to continue as goalkeeper, may be replaced by a substitute.



- (g) Each kick shall be taken by a different player, and not until all eligible players of any team, including the goalkeeper or the named substitute by whom he was replaced under the terms of paragraph (f) as the case may be, have each taken a kick, may a player of the same team take a second kick.
- (h) Subject to the terms of paragraph (f), any player who is eligible may change places with his goalkeeper at any time during the taking of the kicks.
- (i)
 - (i) Other than the player taking a kick from the penalty mark, and the two goalkeepers, all players shall remain within the centre circle whilst the taking of kicks is in progress.
 - (ii) The goalkeeper who is a colleague of the kicker, shall take up position within the field of play, outside the penalty area at which the kicks are being taken, behind the line which runs parallel with the goal-line, and at least 10 yards from the penalty-mark.
 - (iii) The goalkeeper is reminded that he must remain on the goal-line between the posts until the ball is kicked into play.
 - (iv) Unless stated to the contrary in the foregoing paragraphs (a) to (i), the Laws of the Game, and the International Board Decisions relating thereto, shall, in so far as they can, apply at the taking of the kicks.

5.30 ELIGIBILITY OF RESERVE AND GRADE 20 PLAYERS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

No over age player other than a goalkeeper as specified in 5.30 (a) shall be eligible to play in a Reserve Grade or Grade 20 Championship Series Match if he has actually taken the field for First Grade in two (2) of the last three (3) Premiership games in which he has played. Playing two (2) grades on the one day is evaluated on the higher grade. A non playing substitute, that is one who has been listed on the team sheet and does not actually take the field of play in a match, is deemed not to have participated in the match for the purposes of eligibility for reserve Grade and Grade 20 Championship Series Matches.

- (a) Where a player has played in a Reserve Grade or Grade 20 match as the goalkeeper for two (2) of his last three (3) Premiership matches, prior to the Championship Series, he will remain eligible to play as goalkeeper in Championship Series matches of that grade regardless of the fact that he may also have played in a higher grade premiership match on the same day. A non playing substitute, that is one who has been listed on the team sheet and does not actually take the field of play in a match, is deemed not to have participated in the match for the purposes of eligibility for reserve Grade and Grade 20 Championship Series Matches.
- (b) All registered players of any club in Men's Premier League, Super League, State League Division 1, or Women's Premier or Super League that are eligible by age may play in Championship Series matches for their club in Grade 20 regardless of the fact that they may have played in First Grade.
- (c) Where a club has all Grades engaged in Championship Series Matches and where such grades are playing on the same day, then 5.30 and 5.30 (a) and (b) do not apply.



- (d) Failure to comply with the 5.30 (a) 5.30 (b) may result in a fine of \$100.00 and the fixture being awarded to the opponents three goals to nil (3-0).

5.31 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES VENUES

The Chief Executive Officer shall determine the venue for all Championship Series matches.

5.32 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

The format governing Promotion and Relegation shall be as determined by the Board of Directors, from time to time. The following format shall be used to determine promotion and relegation:

Promotion and Relegation generally will be based on Clubs First Grade Teams positions on the Official Points Table at the conclusion of the Premiership Competition in each Division. Providing that the clubs eligible for Promotion meet the minimum requirements and criteria as supplied with membership applications and any other items considered necessary and defined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

5.33 ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Member clubs shall be required to fulfill all criteria within the Membership Application as well as the following:

- (a) All member clubs shall be Limited Liability Companies or Incorporated under the Companies Act,
- (b) All member clubs shall have a Post Office Box
- (c) All member clubs shall have facsimile transmission facilities
- (d) All member clubs shall have a nominated person contactable via email.

5.34 PROMOTION / RELEGATION PREMIER LEAGUE

The Member Club participating in the Premier League Competition who finishes at the bottom of the Cub Championship table in the Premier League becomes liable for Relegation. However, this Club may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply to retain its grading if the Premier of Super League fails to meet the necessary requirements for Promotion.

5.35 PROMOTION / RELEGATION SUPER LEAGUE

Subject to 5.32 and 5.33

- (a) The Member Club whose First Grade side is the Premier of Super League may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply to enter Premier League to replace the Club who finishes at the bottom of the Cub Championship table in the Premier League.



- (b) The Member Club whose First Grade side finishes at the bottom of the Premiership Competition table in the Super League becomes liable for Relegation. However, this Club may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply to retain its grading if the Premier of First Division fails to meet the necessary requirements for Promotion.

5.36 PROMOTION / RELEGATION STATE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Subject to 5.32 and 5.33

- (a) The Club whose First Grade side is the Premier of First Division may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply to enter Super League to replace the Club whose First Grade Team finishes at the bottom of the Premiership Competition table in Super League.
- (b) The Club whose First Grade side finishes at the bottom of the Premiership Competition Table becomes liable for Relegation to the Conference League.

5.37 CONFERENCE LEAGUE

Subject to 5.32 and 5.33

- (a) The Club whose First Grade side wins the Conference League Championship Series becomes eligible for Promotion to First Division providing the club can satisfy the Board of Directors that they can fulfill the criteria required for First Division.

5.39 WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE

Subject to 5.32 AND 5.33

The Member Club who finishes at the bottom of the Club Championship table at the completion of the Premiership Competition in the Premier League becomes liable for Relegation. However, this Club may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply to retain its grading if the Member Club at the top of the Club Championship table at the completion of the Premiership Competition in Super League fails to meet the necessary requirements for Promotion.

5.40 WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE

Subject to 5.32 AND 5.33

The Member Club whose First Grade side finishes top of the Super League Club Championship Table at the completion of the Premiership Competition becomes eligible for Promotion to the Premier League providing the club can satisfy the Board of Directors that they can fulfill the criteria required for Women's Premier League.

5.41 ADDITIONAL CLUBS TO FOOTBALL NSW COMPETITIONS

Any properly constituted Soccer Club with its Home Ground situated within the boundaries of Football NSW Limited, but not competing in Football NSW competitions may be invited by the Board of Directors to apply for entry into Premier League, Super League or any State League Competition, upon such terms and conditions as detailed in the Regulations and defined from time to time by the Board of Directors.



5.42 UNFORSEABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

Nothing in the foregoing shall prevent the Board of Directors of Football NSW from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations concerning Promotion, Relegation, Number of Divisions and composition of Teams in each Division.

5.43 INTERFERENCE WITH COMPETITION FIXTURES

Clubs shall not arrange other Fixtures until after the Official Fixtures are settled nor improperly interfere with other Clubs Home Competition Fixtures.

Clubs in breach of this Regulation shall be liable to such penalties as determined by the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal.

5.44 APPROVAL OF OTHER COMPETITIONS

- (a) Clubs shall not play or be involved in or give approval for any player and/or official to participate in any other competitions unless they have first received the approval of the Board of Directors.
- (b) Registered players, amateurs or Professionals, shall not play or be involved in any other competitions unless that competition has first received the approval of the Board of Directors Football NSW. Any club or player found to be playing in an unauthorised competition may result in such action as determined by the Board of Directors or the General Purposes Tribunal.

5.45 INDUCEMENT– MATCH RESULT

Any club official or player offering or receiving payment or any form of inducement to or from any member or an official or player of any member, or any club official or player receiving or seeking any payment or other form of inducement from any other person or organisation to wrongfully affect the result of any Competition match shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and liable to such penalty as the Board of Directors or General Purposes Tribunal determine.

5.46 RESULT OF GAME

Once Football NSW declares the result of a game or competition after the conclusion of that game or competition then that result will stand. Manager's are to sign the Team Sheet at the end of the match signifying that all details are correct. There will be no appeal against the score line shown on a Team Sheet once it is received by Football NSW.

5.47 SERVING OF SUSPENSIONS

- (a) A player who has been sent off and received a suspension in any Premiership, Championship and Cup fixture shall serve that suspension in the next consecutive Premiership, Championship or Cup fixtures, following the send off that the player's team competes in until the suspension has been served in full.



For the purposes of regulation 5.47 (a), a player must serve the suspension in the grade for which he or she received that suspension, and shall not be eligible to participate in any match until that suspension is served in full.

For the purposes of regulation 5.47 (a) suspensions received in Trial Matches sanctioned by Football NSW shall be served in the clubs next consecutive Premiership, Cup or Championship fixtures until the suspension is served in full.

For the purposes of regulation 5.47 (a) suspensions received in Pre Season Competitions sanctioned and Administered by Football NSW, suspensions received in said Pre Season Competitions are required to be served in those competitions, and in the players clubs next consecutive Premiership, Cup and Championship fixtures until the suspension is served in full.

- (b) A suspended player shall not be eligible to play in any fixture or competition under the jurisdiction of Football NSW or its affiliate members, until the suspension/s has/have been served.
- (c) If a player is suspended in the final fixture of any competition under the jurisdiction of Football NSW or its affiliate members, the suspension/s shall be served in the next competition for which the player is next registered.

For the purpose of this regulation 5.47 (c), the Johnny Warren Cup is not considered a Competition.

- (d) Premiership, Championship and Cup Suspensions cannot be served in representative matches. However, should a player be sent from the field by the Referee during such a fixture, Football NSW would determine what penalty the player shall receive.
- (e) A player, registered as a Youth League player, who is sent from the field whilst playing as a Senior player for his club, shall be ineligible to play in either Youth League or Senior grades until such time as the suspension is served. In serving this suspension the player must stand down the required number of Senior fixtures, unless the Senior season is completed, in which case, the suspension may be served by standing down from Youth League fixtures.
- (f) Notwithstanding paragraph (e), a player must serve the suspension in the grade for which he or she received that suspension, and shall not be eligible to participate in any match until that suspension is served in full.
- (g) A player shall not be eligible to play for their club in another grade on the same day, or during the same fixture, that they are serving a suspension.
- (h) Players under suspension at the time of representative fixtures being conducted shall be ineligible to participate in those representative fixtures.
- (i) Should a player receive a suspension in a representative fixture, that suspension shall be served in the next consecutive matches, be they representative, Premiership, Championship or Cup fixtures, that that players team competes in, until the suspension is served in full.



- (j) Players that have received a suspension during Premiership, Championship or Cup fixtures will be ineligible to participate in any Premiership, Championship or Cup fixtures until the suspension has been served in full.
- (k) Notwithstanding section 5.47 (a) Suspensions may not be served in trial matches or friendly matches.
- (l) Players under suspension at the time a trial match or friendly match are conducted shall be ineligible to participate in that match unless they receive written dispensation to do so from the Executive.
- (n) Players who have been sent from the field of play for an offence that receives more than the mandatory 1 week suspension shall remain ineligible for selection for any official Football NSW match until the Disciplinary Committee have decided on the term of the suspension to be imposed.
- (o) 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.

5.48 RECORDING OF STAND DOWNS

In order for a stand down to be recorded, the team manager must record the players name and registration number on the back of the team sheet.

Should a team manager fail to record a player's stand down on the back of the team sheet, and the player was in fact stood down due to suspension, the club is required to provide a written request to Football NSW to have that match stand down amended on Football NSW records.

Any such request from a club to have a stand down amended after a team sheet has been received is required to be forwarded to Football NSW offices within 3 working days of the match and accompanied by a \$50 administration fee.

5.49 ADOPTION

These regulations were adopted in accordance with By-Law 5.1 on 29 February, 2008 by the Executive and come into force in their present form on 1 March 2008.