



By-Laws

St. George Football Association Incorporated (**SGFA**)

Updated: 26 February 2016

St. George Football Association

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PART 1 - AFFILIATION OF CLUBS

1. By-Laws

These By-Laws cover the activities and conduct of all persons associated with the game of Football, under the jurisdiction of this Association and should be read in conjunction with the Constitution. All policies adopted and published by the Association shall form part of the By-Laws.

All matches played under the auspices of the Association shall be played according to the laws of Football as laid down by F.I.F.A. except to the extent that such laws are varied by these competition rules and/or by any binding decision of the Football NSW Limited or any other body as appropriate as the Association may from time to time determine.

2. Penalties

Penalties may be imposed for any breach of these By-Laws, and for any other matter concerning the conduct of Football which is not expressly mentioned in these By-Laws.

3. Alteration & Amendments to By-Laws

(a) Alterations/Amendments

Proposed amendments or alterations of these By-Laws and competition rules shall be made in writing to the Secretary no later than 15th August in any year and any such proposals will be forwarded to the Constitution & By-Laws Committee who shall deal with them in accordance with the Associations rules.

(b) Proposals Distributed to Clubs

After review by the Constitution & By Laws Committee, a copy of the proposed amendments to be considered by the Delegates will be distributed to all Clubs at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the next General meeting.

(c) Voting

The By-laws shall only be varied by a vote of a majority of persons present entitled to vote.

(d) Delegates

The meeting of Delegates may resolve to alter/amend the By-laws, and any such changes will have immediate effect. The changes must be confirmed/accepted at the next General Meeting.

4. Affiliations

(a) Re-Affiliations

- (i) Any previously affiliated Club wishing to participate in the competitions conducted by the Association shall apply in writing on the official affiliation form. The form shall be forwarded to the Hon Secretary by the due date. Late applications may be considered at the discretion of the Board. A Club or Clubs that are un-financial due to debts incurred in a previous season will be rejected.
- (ii) Clubs seeking re-affiliation must register a minimum of three (3) teams.
- (iii) Clubs seeking re-affiliation must supply to the Board a copy of the current Club Constitution and a copy of a current Certificate of Incorporation.

(b) New Affiliations

- (i) Applications for a new affiliation from Clubs not previously affiliated in this Association must be submitted in writing prior to the last date before team nominations are due and will be approved or rejected by a full meeting of the Delegates.
- (ii) Such applications will be placed upon the relevant meeting agenda for due consideration. Any Club wishing to affiliate with the Association must bear a district name pertinent to an area within the SGFA boundaries.
- (iii) New Clubs seeking a new affiliation must register a minimum of three (3) teams.
- (iv) Clubs seeking affiliation shall submit Club team colours for approval and, at the same time nominate the colour scheme of their alternate strip. Registration of colours may be refused if they are similar to those of a previously affiliated Club seeking re-affiliation.
- (v) Clubs seeking affiliation must supply to the Hon Secretary a copy of the current Club Constitution and a financial plan.

(c) Non-Sporting Bodies

Where a Club or Organisation cannot comply with the above requirements, the Association can consider accepting them as a non-sporting body. Non-sporting bodies seeking affiliation may register from one (1) to two (2) teams. Once accepted, non-sporting bodies are considered a "club".

5. Child Protection

All clubs applying for affiliation must certify they comply with the NSW Child Protection Act (as amended).

6. Good Faith Fee

- (a) A Club may be requested to lodge a Good Faith Fee as part of a remedy/ penalty for poor conduct of its members, players, supporters and officials that is deemed contrary to the Association. Good Faith fees shall be lodged for a period not exceeding 24 months.
- (b) The fee may be forfeited to the Association by a Club which fails to discharge Association duties or acts in a manner prejudicial to the Association.
- (c) A Good Faith Fee if not forfeited shall be refunded to the Club on receipt of a written request after the period of the Fee has expired.
- (d) A Club, which fails to discharge its duties in one season, may be required to lodge a Good Faith Fee for the following season.

7. Player Registration Fees

(a) Payment of Fees

Determined each year at the AGM, will be payable in two parts, i.e. A minimum \$300.00 must be lodged with the application for affiliation, the balance is payable in three installments:

- (i) The first payment shall be equal to the number of players listed on the team sheets when they are submitted to the Association.
- (ii) The second payment shall be equal to the number of late registrations up to 30th April which will be provided by the Association utilising the software program in use at the time.

The total due will be invoiced and payment must be made within twenty one (21) days of this date.

- (iii) The third and final payment of registrations shall be the balance of registrations as at 30th June will be confirmed by the Association utilising the registration system in use at the time. The total due will be invoiced and payment must be made within twenty one (21) days of this date.

(b) Late Payment of 1st Installment

The I.D. cards will not be issued to clubs until such time as the clubs have paid the first installment of their registration fees. If any club fails to pay any installment by the due date they will incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule (refer to Schedule A) summarized in Part 6 of the By-Laws and be charged interest at a rate of 20% per annum or part thereof of the total due until paid.

8. Copies of By-Laws

Copies of By-laws are to be available on the Association web-site.

9. Resignation

Any club wishing to resign from the Association shall notify the Hon Secretary in writing stating the reasons. No resignation shall be accepted unless all prescribed fees and monies have been paid.

10. Grounds

Clubs seeking affiliation must ensure that they have access to adequate facilities or have made arrangements to host the teams submitted. Failure to do so may result in disaffiliation on the part of the non-sporting bodies or Clubs not previously affiliated.

11. Match Fees

(a) Amounts Due

- (i) The Association shall from time to time determine registration and match fees payable by clubs in respect of each player registered with the Association.
- (ii) Match fees shall be paid on a team basis and not as to the number of players a team shall field.
- (iii) In the event of team forfeiting a match, match fees, including referee fees, if applicable for both teams shall be paid by the team/club forfeiting the match. If thirty-six (36) hours prior to the match being played notice is received by the Association Secretary, match fees for both teams shall not be charged. Fines in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Part 6 of the By-Laws will be applied.
- (iv) In the last four (4) competition matches of the season any team forfeiting a match will be charged double match fees including referee's fees if applicable. Fines in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Part 6 of the By-Laws will be applied.
- (v) Match fees shall be paid for all trial games, competition round robin and other games organised by the Association, and for knock out games, but shall be waived for all Final Series, representative trial games and Football New South Wales representative games.

- (vi) If a team is withdrawn from the competition after the competition has commenced then match fees for that team are to be paid for the remainder of the season.
- (vii) If a team is withdrawn after grading but before the season commences, the club will incur an Administrative Fee.
- (viii) If a team is withdrawn after the season commences then not only will Part 1- 11a. (vii) apply but also the club will incur an Administrative Fee.

(b) Terms of Payment

- (i) Each club will be sent invoices together with details of Association fees. These will be sent to the contact address of the nominated Secretary as listed in the Association contacts list, unless otherwise agreed with the Association.
- (ii) All invoices will be payable within 30 days of the date of the invoice. Invoices can be paid by cheque or direct deposit to the Association account (with subsequent email notification to the Association Treasurer).
- (iii) If any installment due is not received by the due date, Clubs will be charged:
 1. Fines in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws will be applied.
 2. Interest of 20% per annum or part thereof of the total due until paid.
- (iv) Where a club disputes line items of an invoice, such dispute is to be put in writing, and the value of the disputed line items deducted from the amount invoiced and due. The invoice for the following month will make adjustment for the disputed items should they be found by Association not to have been correctly deducted.
- (v) Notwithstanding all of the above, the Association Treasurer is empowered to apply discretion in special circumstances.

12. Definitions

Definitions recorded in the SGFA Constitution also apply in these By-Laws, including:

Delegate Club President, or Vice President or Club Secretary

U12 means a player that is under 12 or attaining the age of 12 in that Football year

SGFA St George Football Association (Inc)

Association St George Football Association (Inc)

SGFRA St George Football Referees' Association (Inc)

New Player One not previously registered with this Association or not registered the previous year

Football Year From 1st January to 31st December

New Club One not affiliated in the previous season

Registration Fee Fee set at AGM to cover full Association costs per player either student or non-student per season

PART 2 - ADMINISTRATION

1. Registration of Teams - Application Forms

- (a) Clubs shall complete the following team registration forms for teams to be entered:
- (i) *Nomination for teams* - Clubs must make any team nominations in accordance with the Association's Team Grading Forms.
 - (ii) *Team Grading forms* – one for each team and must contain a minimum number of eleven (11) players' names, or the Team Grading Form may not be accepted by the Association.
 - (iii) For Squads, forms must have a minimum of twenty two (22) names.
 - (iv) Any forms failing to denote the age & division last played by each player may be rejected by the Association. Where the player has no previous history "N/A" should be entered against the player.
 - (v) *Team Grading forms* - may be changed to contain any information that the Grading Committee deems necessary for competent grading to be carried out.
 - (vi) Incomplete grading forms will be rejected by the Association and returned to the Club concerned. The Association will also notify the affected Club. Following such rejection, the Club will be granted 48 hours to provide the necessary information and resubmit the grading form to the Association. Teams which fail to provide all necessary information by this second deadline will not be accepted into the competition.
 - (vii) MiniRoos (Non-Competition) teams Under 6 to Under 7 must list a minimum of four (4) players and Under 8 & 9's must list a minimum of seven (7) players and Under 10 & 11's must list a minimum of nine (9) players.
- (b) *Team Grading forms* - must be submitted to the Association by the nominated date in February each year. Application forms will not be accepted after the due date.
- (c) It is a Clubs responsibility to ensure that the grading applied for on the Team Grading Form is in line with that of the ability of the players nominated on the said form. After the Association has graded teams from the information supplied on Team Grading forms only four (4) players nominated on this form may be graded into other teams. Any Club whose team does not comply with this direction may, at the discretion of the Grading Committee be subject to any or all of the following:
- (i) The team will be re-graded into another grade or division.
 - (ii) Loss of all points and/or goals for that team.
 - (iii) The team may be withdrawn from the competition.
 - (iv) A fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws will be applied for each team in violation of this by-law.
- (d) Teams withdrawn after completion of the competition structure shall be liable to a fine as per (c).

2. Grading of Teams

- (a) The Competition Secretary shall review the team nominations and grade them for consideration by the Grading Committee.
- (b) The grading of all teams shall be determined using the following criteria:
 - (i) Teams previous year's competition placing;
 - (ii) Experience of team members
 - (iii) Promotion/ relegation for teams finishing as Champion and last in each grade for single team competitions.
- (c) The Grading Committee shall review the grades as above as soon as practical after team nominations. Minutes shall be kept explaining the reason and justification for any grading changes made.
- (d) Clubs shall be notified of the grades as soon as practical after grading has been completed.
- (e) Clubs may appeal the grading their teams are assigned. Appeals must be in writing to the Association within 72 hours immediately following the original issue of grading. The Grading Appeal Committee will consider such appeals received and either issue a revised grading or confirm the original grading.
- (f) Depending on the assessed standard of players seeking supplementary grading, (i.e. after round 3) the team grading may be altered at the discretion of the Grading Committee.
- (g) However, in considering whether any team is to be re-graded or not, the Grading Committee shall have a discretion, to be exercised in exceptional circumstances to alter the structure of the competition, by changing the format, for example, from an 8 team competition to a 6 or 10 team competition, or vice versa..
- (h) Where after Round 4 a team (s) has either lost all 4 games or won all 4 games by an average margin of 4 goals or more then the team will be considered for regrading. The Grading Committee may use its discretion where teams do not meet this criteria, if discretion is used the Grading Committee should discuss the matter with the team prior to movement.
- (i) When a team is re-graded up or down it shall be placed into equal fifth (5th) position in the league table of the division into which it is re-graded, that is, with the same number of competition points, wins, losses, draws, goals for and goals against as the team which was placed fifth in that competition prior to the re-grade.
- (j) Following the appeal review at Part 2 – 2 e., appeals to the Board can only be lodged for teams re-graded as a result of a Part 2 - 2 e. appeal they did not initiate. Appeals must be in writing to the Association within 48 hours immediately following the publishing of re-grades issued under Part 2 - 2 e. The Board will consider and determine such appeals in line with Part 2 – 2 b. Clubs will have no further right of appeal.

3. Registration of Players/Managers/Coaches - ID Card

Players, Team Managers, Team Coaches shall register under the following rules:

- (a) Before being permitted to play in any competition matches, all players must be formally registered as players of the Association.
- (b) Before being permitted to be present in any official capacity in any competition matches, all coaches, managers and club officials must be formally registered as such with the Association.
- (c) Registration of players, coaches, managers and club officials can only be achieved using the FFA's electronic registration system My Football Club.

- (d) Registration of players, coaches, managers and club officials may commence immediately following confirmation of all team grading (1st Sunday of March). The My Football Club registration synchronization must be made with the Association Office no later than 5.00pm on the 2nd Sunday in March.
 - (i) Data received after that deadline may render the team(s) involved ineligible to play in the first round of the competition.
 - (ii) The team(s) will remain ineligible to play until all data is received.
 - (iii) Any match not played as a result of this by-law will be deemed to have been forfeited by the “unregistered” team.
- (e) Late or additional registration applications must be:
 - (i) input into the SGFA's nominated registration system; and
 - (ii) listed on the Late Registration Sheet; and
 - (iii) be accompanied by the required identification and/or paperwork; and
 - (iv) be received by the Association Registrar no later than 7.00pm on the Tuesday of each subsequent week for players seeking eligibility to play on the following weekend.
- (f) The 30th June each year shall be the deadline for final player registrations and transfers.
- (g) All clubs are required to maintain electronic and/ or hardcopy records of all player, coach, manager and officials registration details and supporting documentation including application forms proof of identity, proof of age, codes of behaviour and declarations made under the Child Protection Act. The Association reserves the right to audit Club Registration Records during the season and issue appropriate penalties for inadequate or falsified records.
- (h) It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that any person nominated on the registration form as a student, is a full-time student receiving instruction at a recognised educational institution.
- (i) A player's age is determined by the actual age on 31st December of the current season, i.e. the age the player turns in that calendar year except for players wishing to register for O/30's, O/35's or O/45's. For those competitions a player must have turned 30, 35 or 45 respectively on or prior to 30 June of the current season.
- (j) A player may not register in an age grade more than two years above the lowest age grade to which he/she is entitled to register, up to and including Under 16 years. Exceptions may be granted where:
 - (i) there is no applicable age team available at the Club for the player to register in; and
 - (ii) a letter of approval in writing from the player's parent or guardian is provided; and
 - (iii) the Grading Committee grants permission (reasonable permission will not be withheld).
- (k) A player must register in the division most suitable to his/her ability. The divisional status must be recorded on the ID card.
- (l) The Registrar or an authorised officer is the only person who may issue a new player a Registration Card. Lost ID cards will be replaced and charged to the Club in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws will be applied.

- (m) Any player registering to wear glasses during play must wear same in any ID photograph that will be used to produce the Player Registration card. Additionally the player must produce an Optician's statement that the glasses are of safety glasses. Such statement serves to indemnify this Association against accident to wearer or their glasses. The Player Registration card is to be endorsed glasses approved.
- (n) De-registrations of players will only be allowed up to the last Round before 30th June each year, provided that the player has not been recorded on any team sheet.
- (o) Players shall only register for a single team, without the express permission of the Association.
- (p) Any team playing a player that is not correctly registered with that team, or not eligible to be playing in that team, shall lose points which the team may have gained whilst fielding such player, and any such competition points shall be awarded to the opposing team as a win on forfeit. Refer Part 3 clause 17.
- (q) Any player found guilty of giving false information to the Association for the purpose of registration shall be subject to an automatic suspension for a period of six (6) competition matches, and shall in addition be liable to such further penalty as the GPT may determine.

4. Proof of Identity/Proof of Age.

Clubs entering teams in Association competitions shall be required to produce on demand to the Association Registrar, satisfactory proof of age and/or proof of identity of each player registered.

- (a) Satisfactory proofs of age shall be one or more of the following:
 - (i) For players registering in an under 18 or older competition
 - certified copy of birth certificate
 - certified copy of valid passport
 - certified copy of current driver's licence
 - a proof of identity card issued by the NSW Roads & Traffic Authority
 - document issued by Australian Government
 - (ii) Where a player is seeking registration in an under 18 or older competition but wishes to be registered at the student rate, the player shall present a current valid student identification card issued by the institution which he/she attends. The student identification card shall be in addition to one of the three formal proofs listed above
 - (iii) For players registering in under 6 up to and including under 17 competitions:
 - certified copy of birth certificate
 - certified copy of valid passport
 - certified copy of current driver's licence
 - document issued by Australian Government
- (b) Unless the proof document copy has been certified by a Justice of the Peace, the Club Registrar or a member of the Club's executive committee must sight the original and certify to this fact.
- (c) Proof of age and/or identity proof, and, for under 18 age group and older players registering at the student rate, proof of student status must be presented each year upon application to register.

5. Duration of Registration

A player shall be registered only for the current year in which he/she registers. Any registration form signed in one year shall not be valid for the following year. Year shall mean the period 1st January to 31st December.

6. Priority of Registration

When a player signs two or more registration forms with different Clubs, he/she will be deemed to be registered for the Club first recorded on the My Football registration site

7. Transfer and Regrade of Players - Time Limit

All movement of players shall cease at the 30th June. Players playing out of their registered team after that date are ineligible players and shall incur penalties laid down in these By-Laws.

8. Transfer between Associations

A player registered in one Association must produce a written clearance from the Association before transferring to another Association during the current season (Football NSW directive).

9. Transfer between Clubs in This Association

A player registered in one Club may transfer to another Club only after de-registering on My Football Club and the acceptance of this de-registration by the Secretary of the original Club. De-registration should not be unreasonably withheld.

- (a) The Player shall complete a new player's registration on My Football Club for the new Club.
- (b) The new Club shall submit the paperwork as directed by the Association and the registration synchronized with the system.
- (c) The Association Registrar shall authorise and issue the new Player ID Registration Card.
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the transferring club to ensure that the Players ID Registration
- (e) Card is returned to the Association Office.

10. Transfer between Teams

A Club wishing to re-grade a player shall apply in writing to the Association and the reason for the request shall be nominated therein. The ID card must accompany the written application.

- (a) On approval of the re-grade by the Grading Committee, the Association shall issue the player with a new ID card.
- (b) When withdrawing a nominated team from the competition, the transfer of players from one team to another necessitates application for re-grading of all involved players.

11. Temporary Transfer between Teams

A limit of four (4) players shall be allowed to play up per team in any one match conducted by this Association.

Notwithstanding Part 2 Clause 7 Transfer and Regrade of Players, a junior or senior player may play six (6) matches for his/her Club in a higher age grade or division. If he/she plays six (6) games out of his/her original team for any one team other than the team they are registered in they must be regraded and he/she will not be eligible to play for any team until such time as a re-grading is requested of the Association in writing and is subsequently approved.

Junior Players (up to 17 years of age)

- (a) When a player is registered in a team above his/her true age, e.g. a true Under 11 is playing as an Under 13, he/she may not play up more than two years above his/her true age without special dispensation.

Junior players may play for a team of their club other than the team for which they are registered only in the following circumstances:-

- (i) In the same age group – any higher division e.g.
Player registered in 12B division may play in 12A division team;
Player registered in 12D division may play in 12A, 12B or 12C division teams.
- (ii) In the next higher age group – in the same or higher division e.g.;;
Player registered in 12A division may play 13A division;
Player registered in 12B division may play 13A and 13B division teams;
Player registered in 12C division may play 13A, 13B and 13C division teams;
- (iii) Two age groups higher – in the same or next lower division e.g.;;
Player registered in 12A division may play 14A and 14B division teams;
Player registered in 12B division may play 14A, 14B and 14C division teams;
Player registered in 12C division may play 14A, 14B, 14C and 14D division teams.
- (iv) In Girls competitions the following will apply:
Refer to the Girls Playing Up Rules document, as published by the Competition Secretary yearly.

- (b) If a player turns 17 by 31 December of the current season,
1. a female player may play in any applicable older competition.
 2. a male player may:
 - (i) register in U17, U21 or All Age; and
 - (ii) must stay in that age group for the season; and
 - (iii) play in any applicable older competition;

When registered in U17 & U21, the playing up rules apply (refer c. below).

- (c) When preparing the match sheet prior to the game commencing RTO's must note any players on the match sheet not registered in that team by recording the actual Team ID of the player in the column provided next to the player's name.
- (d) Where two or more teams of the same Club play in the same division, no movement of players between these teams is permitted unless players are officially re-graded.

Senior Players

(e) For a Senior player playing out of his/her registered team shall be of an equal or lower division than the team, which he/she plays. That is:

- a **Premier League** player may only play in **PL**;
- a **Division A** player may only play **Division A or PL**;
- a **Division B** player may play **Division B, or A or PL**;
- a **Division C** player may play **Division C, B, or A or PL**;
- a **Division D** player may play **Division D, C, B, or A or PL**;
- a **Division E** player may play **Division E, D, C, B, or A or PL**;
- a **Division F** player may play **Division F, E, D, C, B or A or PL**;
- a **Division G** player may play **Division G, F, E, D, C, B or A or PL**;
- a **Division H** player may play **Division H, G, F, E, D, C, B or A or PL**;
- a **Division I** player may play **Division I, H, G, F, E, D, C, B or A or PL**.

In other words, a player may only play up in age or division and not down in age or division.

(f) For Over Age competitions :

- (i) An O/35 player cannot play in any other competition.
- (ii) An O/45 player cannot play in any other competition.

(g) Where two or more teams of the same Club play in the same division, no movement of players between these teams is permitted unless players are officially re-graded.

12. Clearances

Any player who seeks and is refused a clearance from his/her Club may make written application to the Association for permission to transfer.

(a) Federation

Players seeking new registration with this Association must be in possession of a clearance from their last Federation Club.

(b) Boundary

All teams must have the majority (**ie > 51%**) of their players resident within the boundaries of this Association. Players living outside the SGFA boundaries with 5 years or greater service playing for an Association Club are exempt from this rule. Non compliance with (b) above renders the team ineligible for registration.

13. Transfer and Re-grades In One Season

A registered player may be granted only one transfer or one re-grade in a season. No transfer between Clubs or re-grades may take place after the conclusion of the last Round of the normal season in any year, except players from another Association with clearances to be approved by the Association.

14. Playing With another Club

No registered player of an affiliated Club may play with another Club.

15. Playing With another Association

No player registered with this Association is permitted to be registered with any other Football Association for the same season.

16. League Competition Points

Points allocated shall be as follows:

(a)	Win by result:	3 points
(b)	Win by forfeit:	3 points and 3-0 result or the score at the time of abandonment, Whichever is higher.
(c)	Bye:	3 points
(d)	Draw:	1 point
(e)	Loss:	0 points
(f)	Loss by forfeit:	0 points and 0-3 result or the score at the time of the abandonment.

17. Competition Timetable

- (a) Where possible, the competition shall commence on the first Saturday in April and finish on the last Sunday in August. Age group kick-off times and days games are played on will be as determined by the Association and may be varied from year to year as circumstances dictate.
- (b) **No of Rounds:**
Where possible, the competition shall be 18 rounds.
- (c) **Washed out Rounds:**
- (i) The Competition Secretary shall nominate two dedicated wash out days to be used when a complete round is washed out.
 - (ii) A round shall be deemed a wash-out when 75% of available fields are closed.
 - (iii) Where a round is partially washed out, the un-played games shall be scheduled to be played over the following two weeks. Games not played in the designated time period without Association approval shall be deemed cancelled and the points withheld from both teams.
 - (iv) Round 18 Partial wash-outs will be replayed as soon as practical.
 - (v) Round 16 to 18 full wash-outs will not be replayed, and the round will be cancelled.
 - (vi) Where a round is washed out, and the teams are unable to play the washed out game no later than before the semi-finals, the Competition Secretary shall evaluate the impact of any such game or games in each age/division. Where it is deemed that the washed out game(s) would impact on the semi-final and Champion positions the competition secretary may cancel the particular round for that age/division to ensure no team gets an unfair advantage.
- (d) **Public Holidays - Anzac Day - Easter:**
Competition matches shall not be played on Anzac Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday. The Competition Secretary may schedule games on Easter Monday and other public holidays for senior squads only as and when required.

18. Competition Structure

Subject to a sufficient number of teams requesting admission to any particular age group or category, the competition shall be comprised of the following groups:

- (a) **Age Restricted Competitions:**
- (i) Non Competitive – Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 (boys, girls, mixed) to be known as MinRoos Games as per rule 25 for Modified Games and shall be separate to other Association Competitions.

- (ii) Competitive
- 1) Boys: may consist of teams in the following age groups:
 - Under 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and Under 21
 - (Girls may play in boy's team in any age group up to U/12 inclusive)
 - 2) Girls: may consist of teams in the following age groups:
 - Under 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18
 - 3) Men: may consist of teams in the following age groups:
 - Over 35 and Over 45
 - 4) Women: may consist of teams in the following age groups:
 - Over 30W

(b) Open Competitions:

- 1) Men: may consist of teams in the following age group/categories
 - Premier League (first & reserve grade)
 - All Age A Squad (first & reserve grade)
 - All Age B Squad requires a minimum of 8 squads to create a competition otherwise will revert to single grade as below
 - All Age B, C, D, E ...etc
- 2) Where no All Age B squad competition is formed during the previous season promotion to the All Age A squad competition will be upon application to the Grading Committee which will be review along with the relegated squad from the previous season.
- 3) Women: may consist of teams in the following age group/categories
 - Premier Women's League
 - All Age WA, All Age WB ...etc

(c) Number of Teams per Division

- (i) Premier League & AAA Men - 10 teams
- (ii) All other divisions - Up to 10 teams (subject to variation)
- (iii) Where, in the opinion of the Grading Committee, there are six or fewer teams of suitable ability to constitute a first division, then that division may be framed on a six team basis
- (iv) Where there are 11, 12, 13, and 14 teams in a particular age group, they shall be divided into two divisions
- (v) Where there is an uneven number of teams in a particular age group and a bye spot becomes unavoidable, the bye spot is to be allocated in only one division, at the discretion of the Grading Committee. However, in such situations the Grading Committee cannot grade a team above its ability.
- (vi) No division shall contain more than two teams from the same club.

19. League Positions

- (a) **Champion:** The team leading on competition points at the completion of the League shall be named Champion. When two or more teams finish on equal points, the winners shall be determined by goal differences (goal difference is determined by subtracting goals against from goals for). When goal differences are equal, the team scoring the greater number of goals shall be determined Champion; if results still equal the placing will be determined by which team has the most number of wins.
- (b) **Minor Positions:** Positions 2 to 4 shall be determined in the first instance on points, then goal differences, then goals. When goal differences are equal, the team scoring the greater number of goals shall be the higher position; if results still equal the placing will be determined by which team the most number of wins to determine positions 2 and 3.
- (c) **Champion of Champions:** This competition is conducted by Football NSW. The Association will invite the Champion from Division A from each age group to represent the Association. Failure by a team to confirm acceptance of the invitation within 14 days may result in another team being invited to represent.
- (d) Any team registered by the Association that is on a **Good Faith Bond** is automatically ineligible to play in any Football NSW tournament or competition outside the Association competition.

20. Semi-Finals, Finals, Grand Finals

Eligibility for participation in the finals series will be determined after the completion of the League Competition. Entry into and competing in the finals series is subject to any breach of the rules by any team within the competition and final's series. When the League Competition has been completed the first four teams in a grade shall play-off to determine the Premier.

- (a) In the event that scores are equal at full time in the final series extra time will be played. The winner will be decided as follows:
 - (i) If the match is drawn at the completion of extra time, the game will be awarded to the team that finished highest on the competition table;
 - (ii) For Under 17 and above and all Senior teams, if the Grand Final match is drawn at the completion of extra time, a penalty shootout will take place to decide the winner. Only the players that were on at the field at the completion of extra time will be permitted to take part in the penalty shootout. No substitutions/inter changing of players will be permitted prior to the commencement of the penalty shootout with the exception of an injured goalkeeper. Players are not permitted to leave the field during the period of the penalty shootout.
- (b) In the final series, an official Referee and Assistant Referees shall be appointed. Should a referee and at least one (1) assistant referee not be available, the game shall not be played.
- (c) In the final series allowance shall be made for all time lost through substitution/interchange, injuries and the transfer from the field of injured players, time wasting or other causes. This allowance shall be at the discretion of the referee.
- (d) Any team(s) found guilty of causing a game to be abandoned or forfeits a game shall be ineligible to take any further part in the final series and receive any awards.

21. Duration of Extra Time - Semi-Finals, Finals, Grand Finals

- (a) For competition teams up to Under 16 age grades shall play five (5) minutes each way with no time off before extra time or at half time of extra time. At normal full time a toss of a coin by the referee shall determine which end of the field each team shall defend or which team shall kick off.
- (b) Under 17 and Over shall play ten (10) minutes each way.
- (c) Squads - Premier League, All Age A & All Age B shall play fifteen (15) minutes each way.

22. Eligible Players

Players must have played (taken the field) in three (3) competition matches within the season with the team they are playing for in any semi-final, final or grand final match. Byes and/or matches lost on forfeit do not count for the purpose of determining three (3) competition matches.

23. Method of Play

- (a) **Semi Finals** 1 v 2, 3 v 4
- (b) **Finals** Loser of 1 v 2 plays winner of 3 v 4.
- (c) **Grand Finals** Winner of 1 v 2 plays winner of Final.

The winner of the Grand Final shall be declared “**Premier**” and the loser shall be known as “**Grand Final Runner Up**”.

24. Perpetual Trophies

Trophies shall be awarded to the Premier of an age grade at the conclusion of the Grand Final, or at some other suitable occasion.

- (a) Association trophies remain the property of the Executive of the Association and Clubs are responsible for their return. Trophies must be returned in a clean condition suitable for presentation to the Hon Secretary not later than 15th February each year. Clubs shall incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws for failure to return trophies on time. Misplaced and damaged trophies shall be replaced/repared at cost to the holding club
- (b) Should a trophy be damaged or lost when under the control of a Club, the Club shall be held responsible and charged with the cost of any repairs necessary.
- (c) Engravings on perpetual trophies awarded to teams will be undertaken by the Association.

25. MiniRoos - Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 Age Grade – Modified Games

Shall be known as MiniRoos and will be as stated in FFA’s guidelines.

- (a) The rules of MiniRoos shall be separate from other Association Competitions.
- (b) The decisions of the Competition Secretary relating to MiniRoos shall be final. No correspondence will be heard.
- (c) MiniRoos is non competitive with no scores recorded, no points awarded and no final series.

26. Special Competitions

The Association may conduct special competitions.

- (a) No Club special competition may take precedence over an Association fixture at any time. Association commitments and fixtures must be discharged before any outside commitment.
- (b) All players who participate in any special competitions organised by Clubs must fulfill any Association commitment before playing for the Club.
- (c) Clubs must notify the Association of any fixture held outside this Association in which their players participate.

27. Grounds

- (a) The Association shall have control of fields as nominated by affiliated Clubs whilst Association games are in progress.
- (b) The Competition Secretary shall have complete discretion to reschedule or move any match, after taking into account home ground advantage. This would include games rescheduled due to wet weather.

28. Teams Withdrawn

- (a) All matches played by teams withdrawn from the competition shall be treated as a 'bye' from the first game of the last uncompleted round in that competition.
- (b) In the event of a team being withdrawn from the competition (before the completion of an entire round of the competition) then the results for those matches already played by the team being withdrawn, and all matches that the withdrawn team would have played to complete that round will deemed to have been forfeits, and competition points and goals awarded in accordance with Part 2- 16.
- (c) If a team has completed a full round of the competition before it withdraws, then all points, goals for and goals against shall stand for all games completed in the full round. For uncompleted rounds, all games against that team will be treated as byes.

29. Attendance at General Meetings &/ or Meetings of Delegates

Any affiliated Club failing to be represented at either a General Meeting and/ or a Meeting of Delegates by at least one (1) Delegate (without reasonable excuse) shall be fined in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.

PART 3 - PLAYING RULES AND MATCH PROCEDURES

1. Home Team

The team listed first in the competition draw is the home team.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

Various duties and responsibility statements in the SGFA's RTO Handbook form part of these Bylaws.

(a) Ground Officials

- (i) At all matches, there shall be a minimum of two Ground Officials (one Ground Official from each team), wearing an appropriate vest as issued by the Association.
- (ii) The Ground Officials shall remain in proximity of the game once it has commenced.
- (iii) Ground Officials' duties shall be to see that spectators, coaches, and managers, do not encroach on the sidelines or the pitch, and see that good order is maintained.
- (iv) Should any incidents arise out of a match that is for consideration by the Association, each Ground Official shall complete a written report into such incidents for the Association.
- (v) The Ground Officials shall appear at any inquiry as witnesses, if required.
- (vi) All Ground Officials shall have attained the age of eighteen (18) years of age.
- (vii) If a Ground Official is not provided, the game may not go ahead at the discretion of the referee.

(b) Technical Area

- (i) All grounds upon which matches are played are to have technical areas. The "**Technical Area**" will be an area two (2) metres either side of the halfway line. Dimensions of Technical Area 4m x 1m (full field) or 3m x 1m (Midi Fields). Where practicable, grounds are to be roped-off at least two (2) metres from both side lines. Such roping off shall be the responsibility of the home club. Where roping-off to a distance of two (2) metres is not possible the roping-off shall still be carried out but to standard determined by the Association.
- (ii) Only one (1) Registered Team Official (RTO) from each team shall be permitted inside the **Technical Area** on each field whilst the game is in progress. All interchange players will be allowed in the Technical Area provided they are wearing bibs. The RTO may be allowed on the field with the Referee's permission.

3. Starting Times for Matches

- (a) Matches shall be played on grounds and at times stipulated by the Competition Secretary and Association
- (b) Matches shall commence at the stipulated time, however a team is permitted five (5) minutes grace beyond the scheduled starting time where the team has an insufficient number of players with which to commence the match. This by-law does not relate to Modified Games.
- (c) Where the match starts late under Part 3– 3b. above, the Referee may shorten the total match time to avoid delaying the start of subsequent matches. The match may be shortened only to the extent that it starts late, and must be played in two equal halves.

- (d) Competition teams must field at least seven of that team's registered players at the commencement of the match and at all times during the match.
- (e) Any team failing to take the field by the stipulated time (plus five minutes grace) or failing to have sufficient players available shall be deemed to have forfeited the match and shall be liable for referees expenses and a fine in accordance with the By-laws.
- (f) Where in any Squad competition, a team is forced to abandon a game due to the number of players becoming less than seven then the result for both grades will be a loss on forfeit.

4. Wet or Inclement Weather

The Association may abandon matches. In the event of a ground being adversely affected by weather, the referee's decision on whether the match is played is final.

- (a) Clubs acting of their own volition seeking to withdraw fields shall firstly inform the Association of their intent by 7.00am of game day for confirmation and to allow opposing teams to be notified of changes through their respective Club Secretaries.
- (b) Should any or all fields be withdrawn by decision of the Association, notification regarding cancellation will be the responsibility of the Association.
- (c) For all Senior Competitions that are played on Sundays (ie AA Women, O35 Men, O45 Men etc) where grounds are rendered unplayable and fixtures have to be postponed then:
 1. these games will only be made up on designated spare Sundays where possible; and
 2. Teams in these competitions will not be rescheduled to double up and play any catch up games back to back on a Saturday and Sunday over the same weekend; and
 3. If any washed-out round cannot be played in full during the season that entire round will be cancelled and no scores recorded.

5. Deferred Matches

Matches will only be deferred at the discretion of the Association. Requests supported by a valid reason must be forwarded to the Association Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the date of requested deferment.

6. Forfeited Matches

- (a) Matches shall commence at the scheduled time on grounds arranged.
- (b) A team failing to play the match arranged shall forfeit the match and may incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws per game forfeited.
- (c) Teams forfeiting on three (3) occasions without satisfactory reasons will be automatically removed from the competition.
- (d) When possible, 36 hours notice should be given to the Association, the opponents and referees by any team unable to play a scheduled match. Failure to do so shall render the team liable for match officials' fees if applicable.
- (e) Teams withdrawn or suspended from their competitions by the Association for whatever reason shall have their affected matches treated as forfeits.

7. Abandoned Matches

- (a) Where for any reason other than weather or ground condition a match is abandoned after the referee has blown their whistle to commence, reasons for abandonment shall be forwarded to the Association by:
 - (i) The match officials by written report
 - (ii) Both Club Secretary's by written report.
 - (iii) Both Team Managers by written reports through their Secretaries.
 - (iv) All reports to be in the hands of the Association no later than 12.00pm on the Monday following the match abandoned. Failure to lodge a report will result in the matter being decided in accordance with Part 3- 7e. in your absence.
- (b) In the event of a match being abandoned for any reason as in Law 5 of the Laws of the Game, the replay or otherwise shall be at the discretion of the Association, subject to Part 3- 7f. To reach its decision, the Committee shall consider the amount of time played and to whom or what the abandonment is attributed.
- (c) In accordance with the SGFA's Zero Tolerance policy, the referee may abandon a match under following circumstances:-
 - (i) A violent incident occurs on the field of play involving four (4) or more players engaging in violent conduct ("melee").
 - (ii) One or more persons invade the pitch and engages in or promotes violent, offensive or threatening conduct.
 - (iii) Note: A person entering the field of play without the referee's permission shall be considered a "pitch invasion".
 - (iv) A match official is threatened or is physically assaulted
- (d) In the event of a match being abandoned pursuant to Part 3- 7c., all parties implicated may be required to attend a hearing before the General Purpose Tribunal (GPT) at its next scheduled meeting after all reports have been submitted pursuant to Part 3- 7.a., and be subject to the penalties prescribed in Part 3- 8.b.
- (e) At the next scheduled General Purpose Tribunal (GPT) meeting the GPT must, subject to Part 3 7a. iv), determine the outcome of the match.
- (f) In the event of a match being abandoned by the match officials for reasons of violence including but not limited to those mentioned in Part 3- 7.c., the team or teams reported by the match official(s) shall be suspended from their next competition round.
 - (i) Where both teams are held responsible by the Association the abandoned match shall be voided and not replayed.
 - (ii) Where one team is held responsible by the Association, the abandoned match shall be awarded to the non-offending team and the non-offending team will be entitled to receive the competition points and the greater of the goals for a forfeited match or the score as at the time of the match being abandoned. The non-offending team will also be allowed to play their next competition round after the abandoned game.

8. Zero Tolerance

SGFA endorses a Zero Tolerance Policy in relation to violence on the Football field as a basic presumption.

- (a) Teams shall be held responsible for the behavior of their officials and spectators.
- (b) Where;
 - (i) a member of a team and/or associated team official is found guilty of physical assault upon a match official; or
 - (ii) a team and/or associated team official is found guilty of unsportsmanlike behavior or of bringing the game into disrepute, regardless of whether the game has been abandoned, or whether such behavior is before, during, or after the game;

The team shall forfeit twelve **(12)** competition points, or be withdrawn from the competition for a period to be determined. This will be in addition to any penalties imposed under Part 3- 7.f.

- (c) Teams and/or team officials found guilty of more than one offence under Part 3- 8.b. in the same calendar year will be withdrawn from the competition for a period to be determined.
- (d) Clubs and/or teams and/or team officials found guilty of submitting inaccurate, false, misleading or vexatious reports to the Association will be subject to the provisions outlined above.
- (e) Any team playing in a squad competition found guilty of an offence within Part 3 By-law 8. and/or 7, then the punishment applicable to that team will also be applicable to the other team in the squad.
- (f) Clubs or teams found guilty of unsportsmanlike behaviour, disobeying a directive of the Association or Judiciary Committees or of bringing the game into disrepute may be withdrawn from the competition for a period to be determined and/ or be relegated for the following season.

9. Duration of Matches

- (a) Duration of matches for each age division is shown below:

- (i) All matches are to be of two (2) equal halves.
- (ii) The half time break is not to exceed 5 minutes.

- (b) The duration of games shall be as follows:

6 and 7 year old	30 minutes
8 and 9 year old	40 minutes
10, 11 and 12 year old	50 minutes
13 and 14 year old	60 minutes
15 and 16 year old	70 minutes
17 year old and above	90 minutes
All Age M & W	90 minutes
Over 30W, O35M & O45M	90 minutes

- (c) Apart from the Final Series, no **INJURY/STOPPAGE TIME** shall be played in any competition match.
- (d) In the event of a match being played for less than 75% of the normal time set out in the above schedule, the referee is to lodge a report. The match will be deemed null and void and shall be replayed. This does not apply to matches that are abandoned under Part 3 – 7. above.
- (e) Any game that where it can be proved that equal halves were not played or a delay occurs, through injury, in the first half that prevents the game being finalised within the allocated time, shall be replayed.

10. Ball Sizes

In all competition matches the following ball sizes as approved by FIFA shall be used:

Age Group	Football Size
Under 6's / 7's / 8's/ 9's	No. 3 Ball – not less than 560mm (22 inches)
Under 10's / 11's / 12's/ 13's	No. 4 Ball – not less than 610mm (24 inches) and not more than 660mm (26 inches)
All Other Grades	No. 5 Ball – not less than 680mm (27 inches) and not more than 700mm (28 inches).

The non-availability and/or suitability of a match ball from a team at the commencement of the game shall be noted by the referee on the match sheet. Fines will be applied in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.

11. Players' Equipment

- (a) Players in all matches shall play in registered uniforms in Club Colours, comprising shirts or jersey, shorts, socks, shin guards and acceptable footwear.
- (b) Where the Colours of opposing teams are similar and would cause confusion, the Club that has registered the Colours first shall have priority and the other team shall change into an alternate strip for those games.
- (c) For age groups U10 and over, numbered shirts shall be worn. Regardless of the age group, if numbered shirts are worn, the team sheet shall be completed with the numbers and failure to comply will incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.
- (d) All new playing shirts, or altered playing shirts, are to be presented either as made-up shirt or a coloured design diagram, to the Board for first approval. This shirt or diagram will then be presented to the Delegates for final approval. No new colours, or changes to the colours or design of playing shirts, are to be approved with the shirt or diagram being presented to the Association.
- (e) In the event that a club seeks to register the same [or substantially the same] colour for its playing strip as an existing strip, the club which registered the colours first shall have the priority. If no club has previously used the colours, the first club to apply shall have priority. The Association will keep a record of all clubs that must change when player's strips clash.
- (f) A photograph album is to be maintained of all playing shirts that have been approved. Front and back photographs are required.
- (g) No team will be allowed to play in any strip that has not been approved by the Association and a photograph supplied to the Association. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in the team forfeiting the game.

12. Match Officials (Referees & Assistant Referees)

The Association shall liaise with the St George Football Referees Association Inc. (SGFRA) in regard to the appointment of referees to all fixtures of the Association's competitions. The Association Secretary/General Manager is entitled to query appointments by the SGFRA which he/she considers may be detrimental to the cause of the game.

- (a) When an official referee is not in attendance by exactly five minutes before the kick-off time, the home team shall appoint a person as referee. The referee appointed must be at least 18 years of age.
- (b) Once appointed a referee must control the whole match. The Referee's decisions are final and binding. He/she has all the rights, powers and responsibilities of an official referee and shall be accorded the same respect by the teams as would an official referee
- (c) At the completion of the match the Referee shall sign the team sheet as the controlling official.
- (d) Should **BOTH TEAMS** be unable to agree on a suitable substitute referee, they shall:
 - (i) Not proceed to play the match without a referee, and
 - (ii) Complete the match sheet details, recording on the sheet that the match was not played due to there being no suitable person to referee, and
 - (iii) Return the match sheet to the Association office.
 - (iv) The team managers or captains of both teams shall submit a written report through their Club to the next Association meeting to show cause why the match should not be automatically cancelled and the points withheld from both teams
- (e) Only errors in the application of the Rules of the Game shall be deemed grounds for appeal against a referee's decision.
- (f) Wherever possible official assistant referees shall also be appointed for each match. If no official assistant referees are available, each team shall appoint an assistant referee who shall be under the direction of the referee.
- (g) Notwithstanding any decision of the Association that a ground or grounds are fit for play, the referee shall have the right to decide the fitness or unfitness of the ground for play.
- (h) Where a player is injured during the course of the game the Referee shall follow F.I.F.A. guidelines except in non competition where the referee shall stop play immediately on injury.
- (i) The referees are to note on the match sheet the checking of I.D. cards by the opposing R.T.O's. If any I.D. cards are not at the field then those players do not play.
- (j) In all cases where a player is sent from the field of play, the referee shall note this on the match sheet and shall, in addition, provide the Association with a written report on the circumstances giving rise to the send-off. The report must specify with as much particularity as possible the offence for which the player was sent off.
- (k) **Referee and Assistant Referee Fees Where Applicable**

These fees will be paid to the Referee by the clubs before the commencement of each match except for the Final Series. The fees for the Final Series are to be borne by the Association.

Each assistant referee shall receive 50% of the referee's fee.

Non Comp Age 6 - 11	Referee only
Comp Age 12 – 16	Referee only
Comp 17 – 21	Referee, 2 assistant referees
AA - PL	Referee, 2 assistant referees
AAW - PWL.	Referee, 2 Assistant referees
O/35, O/45	Referee, 2 Assistant referees

13. Team Sheets - ID Cards - Send-offs - Cautions - Suspensions

Match details and results are to be recorded on the team sheets provided by the Association.

The team sheet will be a single copy only and players' names and ID number shall be clearly printed.

- (a) Prior to the commencement of a match, team managers and/or coaches, shall prepare the team sheet and hand to the referee.

Each team shall complete a list of players for the match on the appropriate match sheet up to a maximum of sixteen (16) players. Each player is identified by;

- (i) Name
- (ii) Age/grade from I.D. card
- (iii) Team stated on I.D. card for player playing out of age group
- (iv) Shirt number (every player must have an individual number on their shirt. Should a player not be there at the start of the game the shirt number can be entered if he takes the field).
- (v) Tick beside the player's name in the appropriate column for players commencing the game.

Failure to comply with the above shall result in teams being fined.

It is the responsibility of BOTH team managers to verify the final score and to collect the team sheet from the referee at the conclusion of each match.

- (b) Non SGFRA referees are to ensure that all sections of the team sheet are completed. **The referee shall sign the team sheet.**
- (c) Each Club/ Team is to return the official team sheet to the Association Office by no later than 9:00am on the Monday following each round of competition.
- (d) Substitute/ interchange players will be ticked on the sheet when taking part in the game. Any player whose name is ticked shall be deemed to have taken part in that game. If no names are ticked then all players are deemed to have played in that game.
- (e) No player may take the field of play until an ID card bearing the same true name as the player, the same true likeness and age/division is presented for inspection to the RTO of the opposing team.
- (f) Each player must have his/her ID card in their possession and the ID cards must be inspected by both team managers. Teams failing to produce ID cards prior to the commencement will automatically forfeit the match, and incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws. Any subsequent game conducted is not sanctioned and no discussion regarding results or outcomes of such game will be entertained.
- (g) No protest or appeal concerning a match shall be heard unless both Clubs concerned agree that the ID cards have been sighted by the opposing coach or manager prior to the game being started.

- (h) The ID cards of the reserve players that are not in the run on side or arrive after kick off shall be presented for inspection by the opposing team's RTO as the player takes the field.
- (i) If a player is sent from the field by the referee, the referee will record the offence on the team sheet and request his/her ID card from the RTO to be submitted with the referee's report to the SGFA's office within 2 days. The card plus the referee's report shall be supplied to the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, it is the responsibility of the RTO of the team which the player was sent off to ensure that the players ID card is given to the referee immediately after the game in which the player was sent off.
- (j) Should the player be suspended, his/her ID card shall be retained by the SGFA. ID cards can be collected after the last match of the suspension has been served from the SGFA's office at the appointed time.
- (k) A player receiving three (3) cautions for the first time in a season is to surrender their ID card to the Association and be "*stood down*" by his/her Club for one (1) competition round. A player receiving a further three cautions in a season is to surrender their ID card to the Association and be stood down for two (2) competition rounds. **The Association is not required to give notice to Clubs when players have incurred the mandatory number of cautions.**
- (l) A caution, once given may not be withdrawn.
- (m) In the event of player being sent from the field, he/she shall be automatically suspended for one match.
- (n) Players or teams receiving a specified number of match suspensions must serve their suspension/s appertaining to completed matches. Forfeits, byes, abandoned matches, terminated matches or complete washouts, do not count as completed matches. A match constitutes any fixture arranged by the Association including regular competition, representative commitments and State fixtures.
- (o) Any Yellow card caution and/or Red card send off issued to a player in a match not completed will still stand.
- (p) Team officials are to provide their RTO photo ID card to the match referee before kick off. Team Officials failing to provide SGFA Photo ID will not be permitted to remain within the technical area.

14. Players Temporarily Playing Up

The registered age grade of any player temporarily playing in a higher grade shall be recorded against their name on the team sheet. Failure to comply will incur a fine for each offence in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.

15. Minimum Number of Players

Before a competition match can commence, teams must be able to field a minimum of seven (7) registered players. Should a team be unable to comply at any time thereafter the match shall be terminated by the referee and deemed a forfeit. Points shall be awarded to the opposition and goals scored by either team shall stand.

16. Suspended Persons

Any person (players, official, spectator) serving a suspension is not permitted inside the fenced/roped area of the field. Refer Part 4A & 4B.

17. Penalties for Playing Ineligible Players

An Ineligible Player includes:

- a person that is not registered with any team part of the SGFA;
- a player that is registered with an SGFA affiliated Club & team and is excluded by reason of any SGFA By-Law and /or any official football rules from playing for that Club with another of its teams and/ or in another competition eg age, grading, gender, exceeding number of games allowed to play up, etc;
- a player that is registered for another Association, Club and/ or team;
- a person that registers to play using incorrect information relating to true identity and age.

Note: a player that is registered with the SGFA and is serving a suspension is deemed a suspended player and is not an ineligible player.

- (a) For failure to abide by these Bylaws, a player may be deemed ineligible.
- (b) Any team that fields a player deemed ineligible shall (for each match that the player/person has played) be deemed to have lost each match, and:
 - (i) The result recorded as a loss on forfeit; and
 - (ii) A fine will be imposed in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws; and
 - (iii) Will forfeit a further three competition points, and
 - (iv) May be fined an additional registration fee, and
 - (v) May be dealt with additionally as the Association deems fit.
- (c) A player who, whilst unregistered or ineligible, plays in any official match conducted under the auspices of the Association may be suspended for a period up to 12 months commencing on the date that the penalty is advised to the players club by the Association.

18. Change of Players during Play

(a) Interchange

- (i) For all age groups, five (5) players (including the goalkeeper) may be used for unlimited interchanging at any time during the game, in accordance with the Interchange Procedures in Part 3 – 18b. below.
- (ii) Names of interchange players must be recorded on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the game. Failure to comply with this procedure deems the player or players' ineligible.
- (iii) Interchange players must at all times have their strip covered when adjacent to the field of play or inside the technical area while a match is in progress.

(b) Interchange Procedures

- (i) "Interchange zone" will be an area one metre either side of the halfway line
- (ii) An interchange is one, which is made when the ball is out of play, and for which the following conditions shall be observed:
 1. the player leaving the field shall do so from the sideline, crossing over at the sector called the interchange zone;
 2. the player entering the field shall also do so from the interchange zone, but not until the player leaving the field has passed completely over the sideline;
 3. A player nominated for interchange shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee whether called upon to play or not;

4. The interchange is completed when the player who was off the field, enters the field. From this moment they become a player and the player whom they replaced ceases to be a player.
- (iii) The number of interchanges made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field for another player
 - (iv) If during an interchange, an interchange player enters the field before the replaced player has completely left it, the referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the field, then caution the interchange player and then restart the game.
 - (v) If during an interchange, an interchange player enters the field or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the interchange zone without permission, the referee may caution the offending player.
 - (vi) The interchanging of players will cease, at the completion of normal & extra time. Only the players on the field at the completion of the game are permitted to participate in the penalty kicks, subject to over-riding rules set by FIFA. No interchanging at this time is permissible.
 - (vii) No entries, notes, writings or alterations of any nature may be placed on a team sheet by any other person than the referee. The referee is the only person to report or make alterations to a referee's card. Penalty for infringement is in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.

Failure of a team to comply with any of the above shall result in loss of game on forfeit.

19. Corner Kicks: U12

For Under 12 age grades, Corner kicks shall be taken on the goal line 7.3 metres (8 yards) from the edge of the penalty area towards the corner flag.

20. Twenty Five (25) Metre Rule: U12 & U13

For Under 12 and Under 13 age grades,

- (a) Goal Kicks will be taken from anywhere within the 5.5 metre area (6 Yard box) and defending Players will be required to retreat at least twenty-five (25) metres to allow the attacking Team to build up play out of the back third.
- (b) An attacking Player will not be able to encroach inside the 25 metre area until a defending Player has had his/her first touch of the ball once the whole ball has vacated the 18 yard box.
- (c) If an attacking player encroaches prior to the defending Player having his/her first touch then the goal kick will be retaken.
- (d) The 25 metre line must be marked by the Home Team via placement of a cone or pole to the side of both touch lines, 25 metres from the goal line at both ends of the field.
- (e) If in the opinion of the Referee, the 25 metre rule is being utilized to waste time by either the attacking or defending Team, the Players guilty of the perceived time wasting will be cautioned.

21. Free Kicks U12

When a Free kick is awarded to the defending side within 11 metres (12 yards) of the goal line, it shall be taken from an imaginary line drawn through the penalty spot (12 yards from the goal line). When the offence occurs between the imaginary 12-yard line and the 18-yard line, the free kick shall be taken from where the offence occurred.

22. Team Sheets

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of the each team to forward team sheets to the Competition Secretary.
- (b) A fine shall be imposed on the Club in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws, for each team sheet not submitted to the Association Office by 9.00am on the Monday following the weekend game.
- (c) If a team sheet is not at the Association Office within 7 days of the match being played a further penalty of 3 competition points will be deducted from the offending team.
- (d) Unsatisfactorily completed team sheets shall incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws per each team sheet.

23. Competition Results

All Clubs shall submit the results of all matches played on a Saturday or Sunday to the Association via the electronic record system by no later than 7.00pm on each match day. In addition, Clubs must use and submit match sheet forms provided by the Association to record the results. Any Club failing to submit results, for each result not received by the nominated time shall incur a fine in accordance with the Association Fines Schedule summarized in Schedule A of the By-Laws.

24. Deferral of Games

No games will be deferred except in the following circumstances;

- (a) any team playing in the Quarter Finals or above of State competitions shall not be required to play on that Saturday prior to the Sunday competition;
- (b) any team required to travel to the country for State competitions shall not be required to play on that Saturday prior to the Sunday competition;
- (c) any team playing which is scheduled to play their competition matches on Sunday and are in the Quarter Finals or above of State competitions shall not be required to play on any day of that weekend.
- (d) any team playing in a State competition that is scheduled to play an association competition match on the same day shall not be required to play on that day.

The deferred game shall be rescheduled.

<p>PART 4A - PROCEDURES RELATING TO JUDICIARY MATTERS</p>
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1. Judiciary Committee

- (a) The Judiciary Committee (as defined by clause 20.8 of the SGFA Constitution) shall meet from time to time and if and when required to hear and determine matters assigned to it under these By-Laws or referred to it by the Board.
- (b) The Judiciary Committee may, at the discretion of the chair, meet more than one time in one week.

2. Jurisdiction

- (a) The Judiciary Committee shall have the powers to hear matters relating to incidents that occur during the ordinary course of a football match relating to players, RTOs and/or Officials. For the avoidance of doubt, the Judiciary Committee shall have the power to hear all send-off reports and minor incident reports.
NOTE: Incidents that are of a serious nature (as defined in part 5) must be referred to the General Purpose Tribunal for determination.
- (b) Determinations of the Judiciary Committee are deemed to be decisions of the SGFA.
- (c) In the event that the Chair of the Judiciary Committee deems a matter that has been referred to the Judiciary Committee to be a matter serious in nature, then the Judiciary Committee shall refer the matter to the General Purpose Tribunal for determination.

3. Submission of Reports

Referees

- (a) In the event that a player is sent from the field during a game, the Referee is to submit a report to the SGFA Secretary by close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played. The SGFA Secretary shall then refer the report to the Judiciary Committee for determination.

Clubs

- (b) If any member of the SGFA or affiliated club witnesses any event that, in their opinion, is in contravention of the SGFA Constitution and/or these By-Laws, then that member and/or affiliated club may submit a report to the SGFA Secretary by close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played. The SGFA Secretary shall then refer the report to the Judiciary Committee for determination.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, no report received by the SGFA Secretary after close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played shall be considered by the Judiciary Committee.

4. Powers of the Judiciary Committee

- (a) The Judiciary Committee has the power to:
 - (i) Receive and consider any report submitted to it in accordance with these By-Laws;

- (ii) Determine whether the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official subject of a report has prima facie a case to answer;
 - (iii) Inform itself in any matter of fact in any manner it deems suitable provided that such a manner is not prejudicial to the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official that is to appear before the Judiciary Committee for any reason whatsoever;
 - (iv) Determine whether the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official has committed an offence;
 - (v) Determine and set punishments and/or sanctions that it considers appropriate in accordance with By-law 6 of Part 4 of these By-Laws.
 - (vi) Stand down any player/ RTO/ Team Official/ Club Official where it considers a prima facie case to answer exists, until they appear.
- (b) In relation to send off reports, the Judiciary Committee is to determine the matter at first instance based on the report being considered.

5. Procedures at Judiciary Committee Meetings

Meetings Generally

- (a) The chairman of the Judiciary Committee shall, at the commencement of each season, determine the procedures at the meetings of the Judiciary Committee, and such procedures shall be published to the Meeting of Delegates prior to the commencement of competition fixtures for that year.
- (b) A quorum for the Judiciary Committee shall be at least three (3) members of the Committee. In the event that at least three (3) Committee members are not available, the Chairman may then call upon a member of the Association to make up the quorum.
- (c) Each person appearing before the Judiciary Committee shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to present their case.
- (d) A player deemed to be a minor by law appearing before the Judiciary Committee MUST be accompanied by at least one (1) parent/guardian or have written consent from the parent/guardian for a Club Official or any other person to accompany them to the Judiciary Committee hearing.
- (e) The Committee may, at its sole discretion, permit any other person to appear before it.

Players/Clubs/Officials Requested to Appear

- (f) All players, Club Officials requested to attend the Judiciary Committee are to attend on the day specified in the Judiciary Committee Minutes.
- (g) Failure to attend when requested will result in the player being suspended until they appear.
- (h) Failure of Club Officials to appear could result in the Club/Team being suspended from all competitions until they appear.
- (i) Failure to appear by any party when requested will result in that party forfeiting their right of appeal.
- (j) A fine as defined in the fine schedule for non-appearance at Association meetings is also to be imposed on the Club for any non-appearance.
- (k) Notwithstanding the above the relevant matter may be heard in accordance with Part 4A clause 4. a) of these By-laws.

Conflict of Interest

- (l) In the event that a member of the Judiciary Committee has a conflict of interest in relation to a particular incident being decided by the Judiciary Committee, then it is the responsibility of that member to declare the interest in the determination of that incident and shall remove themselves from deliberations relating to that incident.
- (m) The Chairman of the Judiciary Committee may exercise discretion to either allow a Judiciary Committee member to determine an incident or request that a Judiciary Committee member remove themselves from deliberations.
- (n) A Judiciary Committee member must comply with a request to remove themselves from deliberations if made in accordance with clause 5.m) in Part 4 of these By-Laws.

6. Penalties

General Penalties

- (a) The Judiciary Committee shall impose sanctions as outlined in Schedule B.

Suspended Sentence

- (b) The Judiciary Committee may, at its sole discretion, determine to set a suspended sentence in conjunction with any other penalty.
- (c) A suspended sentence given in accordance with sub-by-law 8.b) shall be expressed in a number of fixtures and shall be operative for that number of fixtures only. *For example, a suspended sentence given to a player for a term of 5 matches shall operate for 5 matches and upon completion of the 5th match from the date the suspended sentence was given the suspension shall lapse and no further action is to be taken against that player.*
- (d) In the event that a player appears before the Judiciary Committee prior to the expiration of a suspended sentence, then that player shall be sentenced in relation to the offence for which the player is presently before the Judiciary Committee as well as the offence for which the player was given the suspended sentence.
- (e) The Judiciary Committee shall, at its sole discretion, determine that penalties shall commence either from the date of determination of the matter or from the date of the commission of the offence.

Fines & Bonds

- (f) The Judiciary Committee may, at its sole discretion, impose a fine on any RTO/Team Official/Club Official that appears before the Judiciary Committee. The fine imposed by the Judiciary Committee must be in accordance with the Fine Schedule. In the event that an offence is not referred to in the Fine Schedule, the Judiciary Committee may set any fine it considers reasonable having consideration to all the facts and circumstance of the matter.
- (g) The Judiciary Committee may, at its sole discretion, impose a bond on any RTO/Team Official/Club Official that appears before the Judiciary Committee. The value of the bond shall be determined by the Judiciary Committee.

7. Failure to Appear at a Judiciary Committee Meeting

- (a) Persons who, after being required to attend a judicial hearing, fail to appear at the relevant Committee Meeting or who fail to communicate with the Association shall remain under compulsory suspension until such time as they appear. A person may request in writing to have their case heard in their absence.
- (b) A person, who has failed to attend when requested, may be forwarded a letter requesting them to appear at a specific time and place. If the person refuses to attend the nominated hearing, or fails to respond, the case may be heard in their absence.

8. Suspended Players

Competition Games

- (a) Any player who plays whilst suspended shall be liable to further punishment at the discretion of the Judiciary Committee in accordance with these By-laws. The players' Club will be fined \$200.00 and the game will be declared a Loss on Forfeit.
- (b) For the purpose of defining suspensions, competition games shall be deemed to be any premiership competition fixture including forfeits in case of teams winning on forfeit, actually controlled by St. George Football Association Inc or Football NSW.
- (c) For the purpose of defining suspensions, with regard to competitions involving squads, a competition game shall be deemed to be any premiership competition fixture, ie, First Grade and Reserve Grade (deemed to be one game), played on the same day, including forfeits in case of teams winning on forfeit, actually controlled by St. George Football Association Inc or Football NSW.

NOTE: *The player I.D. CARD MUST BE SURRENDERED to the Association before the suspension is deemed to have been served. The suspension must be served in the grade they are registered in. For the purpose of defining suspensions, competition games shall be deemed to be any premiership competition fixture including forfeits in case of teams winning on forfeit, actually controlled by St. George Football Association Inc or Football NSW. Failure to comply and By-law Part 2 - 3.o. and Part 4A - 8. will apply.*

9. Match Cautions

Premiership Series

- (a) A player may be cautioned during the course of the competition for any offence as prescribed for in the Laws of the Game.
- (b) An official booking (or caution) is administered by the Referee recording a player's name, number and the offence committed on the Association's match sheet at the conclusion of the match.

There shall be no appeal against the receiving of a caution from the Referee.

- (c) The R.T.O. shall take note of the caution from the match sheet at the completion of the match.
- (d) After an individual player has received three (3) official cautions, the player shall serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension. There shall be no appeal against a mandatory one (1) match suspension after receiving three (3) official cautions. The

player must serve the mandatory one (1) match suspension in the next competition match.

NOTE: *Where a competition is played in a squad situation (i.e. 1st Grade and Reserve Grade) a player receiving his third official caution in Reserve Grade is permitted to fulfill his commitments to his club on the day. The player must then serve a one (1) match suspension in the next competition match and is unable to play in either grade on that day.*

- (e) Any player who accumulates a further three (3) official cautions, making a total of six (6) official cautions, shall be suspended for a mandatory further two (2) matches.
- (f) There shall be no appeal against the mandatory two (2) match suspension after the accumulating six (6) official cautions. The player must serve the mandatory two (2) match suspension in the next two (2) competition matches.

NOTE: *Where a competition is played in a squad situation (i.e. 1st Grade and Reserve Grade) a player receiving his sixth official caution in Reserve Grade is permitted to fulfill his commitments to his club on the day. The player must then serve a two (2) match suspension in the next competition match and is unable to play in either grade on that day.*

- (g) Any player who accumulates more than six (6) official cautions in any one season may, at the sole discretion of the Judiciary Committee, be called to appear before the Judiciary Committee for a disciplinary hearing and that player may be liable for further punishment.
- (h) Official cautions shall not carry over from season to season but suspensions will. The termination of an official season shall be at the conclusion of the last competition match of the season.
- (i) When a player is dismissed from the field upon being cautioned for a second yellow card offence, the yellow cards issued during that game shall NOT be taken into account for the purpose of the accumulation of cautions for the application of suspension in accordance with Part 4 - By-laws 9.d),e),f), & g).
- (j) Where any player plays whilst suspended under Part 4 - By-law 9., the player's Club will be fined in accordance with the fines schedule (refer Schedule A) and the game or games will be declared a Loss on Forfeit.

NOTE: *The player I.D. CARD MUST BE SURRENDERED to the Association before the suspension is deemed to have been served. The suspension must be served in the grade they are registered in. For the purpose of defining suspensions, competition games shall be deemed to be any premiership competition fixture including forfeits in case of teams winning on forfeit, actually controlled by St. George Football Association Inc or Football NSW. Failure to comply and By-law Part 2 – 3.0 and Part 4A - 8 will apply.*

Final Series

- (k) Any player receiving two (2) cautions in the final series shall automatically stand down the next competition match. If the player's team has completed its final series commitments the player shall stand down the first competition match in the following season.

SEE NOTE ABOVE 9.d)

10. Other Matters

Trial Matches

Any player (as defined in 2.1 of the Constitution) who is sent off or is the subject of an incident report in a trial game and is found guilty shall be dealt with according to Part 4 of these By-Laws.

Persistent Offenders

In the event that the same player is involved in three (3) or more like matters that are heard before the Judiciary Committee in any one (1) calendar year, the Judiciary Committee, may, at its sole discretion and in the event that each of the offences is proven, impose a more severe sentence for the third proven like offence and any subsequent proven offences on that player than that player would otherwise receive.

Use of Video Evidence

Video evidence will only be considered at the discretion of the Judiciary Committee.

Appeals Committee

- (a) Appeals must be in writing to the General Manager of the Association accompanied with a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) which will be refunded if the Appeal is upheld.
- (b) Appeals must be received within seven (7) days of the publication of the Judiciary decision.
- (c) Appeals by players, RTO's and/or officials sent off and / or cited that receive a penalty imposed by the Judiciary Committee under Part 4A are to be based on the following grounds only;
 - Failure to afford procedural fairness
 - Lack of jurisdiction
 - Insufficient evidence
 - Incorrect interpretation of By-laws
 - Severity of sentence (except minimum sentence)
- (d) Appeals correctly lodged must be heard within twenty-one (21) days.
- (e) The Board shall select three (3) members from the Management Committee Meeting, one (1) of whom shall be from the Executive Committee (excluding any person who sat on the original hearing and/or the President believes has a conflict of interest) to hear the appeal.
- (f) The Appellant will be permitted to have legal representation on the basis that the Association may also have legal representation and the cost of the Association's legal representative will be met by the appellant and will not be refundable.
- (g) Referees may be invited to attend the Judiciary meeting in an advisory capacity, they may also be in attendance at the Appeal Committee meetings.
- (h) Any Club that fails to provide a report requested by the Judiciary Committee by the due date will be subject to the provisions contained in Part 4A - By-law 8.

PART 4B – PROCEDURES REALTING TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE TRIBUNAL (GPT)

11. General Purpose Tribunal (GPT)

- (a) The GPT (as defined by clause 20.9 of the SGFA Constitution) shall meet from time to time and if and when required to hear and determine matters assigned to it under these By-Laws or referred to it by the Board.
- (b) The GPT may, at the discretion of the chair, meet more than one time in one week.

12. Jurisdiction

- (a) The GPT shall have the power to hear matters relating to incidents that occur:
 - (i) during football matches sanctioned by the SGFA;
 - (ii) any trial match sanctioned by the SGFA;
 - (iii) during any event that the predominate purpose is related to promoting an aim and objective of the SGFA;
 which involves either one or more of the following:
 1. Team Officials;
 2. Club Officials;
 3. RTOs;
 4. Spectators identified to be associated with a club;
 5. Spectators not identified to be associated with a club;
 6. Players (but not if the player is subject to an associated send-off report).
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, the GPT shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear matters relating to abandoned games (for any reason), incident reports submitted by referees relating to RTOs, Team Officials, Club Officials and/or spectators.
- (c) Determinations of the GPT are deemed to be decisions of the SGFA.
- (d) In the event that the Chairman of the GPT deems a matter than has been referred to it to be a matter outside the jurisdiction as defined by this clause, then the GPT shall refer the matter to the Judiciary Committee for determination, or if such action is not appropriate, to the Board.

13. Submission of Reports

Referees

- (a) In the event that an incident occurs relating to any of the persons referred to in sub-clause 12.a. above, the Referee is to submit a report to the SGFA General Manager by close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played. The SGFA Secretary shall then refer the report to the GPT for determination.

Clubs

- (b) If any member of the SGFA or affiliated club witnesses any event that, in their opinion, is in contravention of the SGFA Constitution and/or these By-Laws, then that member and/or affiliated club may submit a report to the SGFA General Manager by close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played. The SGFA Secretary shall then refer the report to the GPT for determination.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, no report received by the SGFA General Manager after close of business 5pm on the Monday after the weekend on which the game was played shall be considered by the General Purpose Tribunal.

14. Powers of the General Purpose Tribunal (GPT)

The GPT has the power to:

- (i) Receive and consider any report submitted to it in accordance with these By-Laws;
- (ii) Request that further reports and/or any other evidence be tendered to the GPT which is reasonably required for the determination of the matter and the GPT shall have the sole discretion with respect to the admissibility of evidence and the weight to be attached to each item of evidence;
- (iii) Determine whether the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official/Spectator subject of a report has prima facie a case to answer;
- (iv) Inform itself in any matter of fact in any manner it deems suitable provided that such a manner is not prejudicial to the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official/Spectator that is to appear before the GPT for any reason whatsoever;
- (v) Determine whether the player/RTO/Team Official/Club Official/Spectator has committed an offence;
- (vi) Determine and set punishments and/or sanctions that it considers appropriate, even if such punishment and/or sanction is not in accordance with these guideline.
- (vii) Stand down any player/ RTO/ Team Official/ Club Official where it considers a prima facie case to answer exists, until they appear.

15. Procedure at GPT Meetings

Meetings Generally

- (a) The chairman of the GPT shall, at the commencement of each season, determine the procedures (including issues relating to procedural fairness) at the meetings of the GPT, and such procedures shall be published to the Meeting of Delegates prior to the commencement of competition fixtures for that year.
- (b) A quorum for the GPT shall be at least three (3) members of the Committee. In the event that at least three (3) Committee members are not available, the Chairman may then call upon a member of the Association to make up the quorum.
- (c) Each person appearing before the GPT shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to present their case.

- (d) A player deemed to be a minor by law appearing before the Judiciary Committee MUST be accompanied by at least one (1) parent/guardian or have written consent from the parent/guardian for a Club Official or any other person to accompany them to the GPT hearing.
- (e) The Committee may, at its sole discretion, permit any other person to appear before it.

Players/Clubs/Officials Requested to Appear

- (f) All players, Club Officials requested to attend the GPT are to attend on the day specified in the GPT Minutes.
- (g) Failure to attend when requested will result in the player being suspended until they appear.
- (h) Failure of Club Officials to appear could result in the Club/Team being suspended from all competitions until they appear.
- (i) Failure to appear by any party when requested will result in that party forfeiting their right of appeal.
- (j) A fine as defined in the fine schedule for non-appearance at Association meetings is also to be imposed on the Club for any non-appearance.
- (k) Notwithstanding the above the relevant matter may be heard in accordance with Part 4B clause 14. a) of these By-laws.

Conflict of Interest

- (a) In the event that a member of the GPT has a conflict of interest in relation to a particular incident being decided by the GPT, then it is the responsibility of that member to declare the interest in the determination of that incident and shall remove themselves from deliberations relating to that incident.
- (b) The Chairman of the GPT may exercise discretion to either allow a GPT member to determine an incident or request that a GPT member remove themselves from deliberations.
- (c) A GPT member must comply with a request to remove themselves from deliberations if made in accordance with clause 5.13 in Part 4 of these By-Laws.

16. Penalties

General Penalties

- (a) The General Purpose Tribunal may impose sanctions as outlined in Schedule C.

Suspended Sentence

- (b) The GPT may, at its sole discretion, determine to set a suspended sentence in conjunction with any other penalty.
- (c) A suspended sentence given in accordance with sub-by-law 6.b. shall be expressed in a number of fixtures and shall be operative for that number of fixtures only. For example, a suspended sentence given to a player for a term of 5 matches shall operate for 5 matches and upon completion of the 5th match from the date the suspended sentence was given the suspension shall lapse and no further action is to be taken against that player.

- (d) In the event that a player appears before the GPT prior to the expiration of a suspended sentence, then that player shall be sentenced in relation to the offence for which the player is presently before the GPT as well as the offence for which the player was given the suspended sentence.
- (e) The GPT shall, at its sole discretion, determine that penalties shall commence either from the date of determination of the matter or from the date of the commission of the offence.

Fines & Bonds

- (f) The GPT may, at its sole discretion, impose a fine on any RTO/Team Official/Club Official that appears before the GPT. The fine imposed by the GPT must be in accordance with the Fine Schedule. In the event that an offence is not referred to in the Fine Schedule, the GPT may set any fine it considers reasonable having consideration to all the facts and circumstance of the matter.
- (g) The GPT may, at its sole discretion, impose a bond on any RTO/Team Official/Club Official that appears before the GPT. The value of the bond shall be determined by the GPT.

17. Failure to Appear at Judiciary Committee Meetings

- (a) Persons who, after being required to attend a GPT hearing, fail to appear at the relevant Committee Meeting or who fail to communicate with the Association shall remain under compulsory suspension until such time as they appear. A person may request in writing to have their case heard in their absence.
- (b) A person, who has failed to attend when requested, may be forwarded a letter requesting them to appear at a specific time and place. If the person refuses to attend the nominated hearing, or fails to respond, the case may be heard in their absence.

18. Other Matters

Persistent Offenders

- (a) In the event that the same player/ RTO/ Team Official/ Club Official/ Spectator is involved in three (3) or more like matters that are heard before the GPT in one (1) calendar year, the GPT may at its sole discretion and in the event that the offence is proven, impose a more severe sentence on that player/ RTO/ Team Official/ Club Official/ Spectator for the third proven like offence than that player/ RTO/ Team Official/ Club Official/ Spectator would otherwise receive.

Use of Video Evidence

- (b) Video evidence will only be considered at the discretion of the GPT.

Appeals Committee

- (c) Appeals must be in writing to the General Manager of the Association accompanied with a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) which will be refunded if the Appeal is upheld.
- (d) Appeals must be received within seven (7) days of the publication of the GPT decision.
- (e) Appeals by any player, RTO, Team Official, Club Official, Spectator against any penalty imposed by the GPT under Part 4B are to be based on the following grounds only;

- Failure to afford procedural fairness;
 - Lack of jurisdiction;
 - Insufficient evidence;
 - Incorrect interpretation of By-laws; or
 - Severity of sentence (except minimum sentence).
- (f) Appeals correctly lodged must be heard within twenty-one (21) days.
- (g) The Appellant will be permitted to have legal representation on the basis that the Association may also have legal representation and the cost of the Association's legal representative will be met by the appellant and will not be refundable.
- (h) Referees to be in attendance at the GPT meeting in an advisory capacity, they may also be in attendance at the Appeal Committee meetings.

Any Club that fails to provide a report requested by the GPT by the due date will be subject to the provisions contained in Part 4B - By-Law 16.

PART 5 – SPECIAL COMPETITIONS

1. Men's Premier League Rules

1.1. Nominations

Will be conducted for affiliated Clubs with entries being restricted to a maximum of ten (10) per division. Each squad is to comprise of First and Reserve grade teams. Should there be more than ten (10) nominations for entry into Premier league the Delegate's will make a decision on the entry of teams into the competition. Clubs not accepted in requested competitions shall be eligible to re-submit team registration sheets for grading in lower divisions.

1.2. Composition

Clubs wishing to be play in these competitions must have a minimum of twenty two (22) players to comprise the two (2) teams of First and Reserve grade.

Shall be run over eighteen (18) competition rounds known as the 'Premier League' with teams engaging each other at least twice. The first four (4) teams, in both grades, in each division, at the completion of the 'League' rounds will play off to determine the Premier, refer Part 2 – By-Laws 19. to 23. Aggregate points will not apply to semi finals, finals, grand finals, as teams will progress on performance only.

1.3. Promotion & Relegation of Squads

A system of one (1) down and one (1) up in the next season shall apply, based on the aggregate of points attained by the First grade team of the same Club from the 'League' rounds only. In the circumstances where a Club does not apply for entry into the competition in the following year, the next placed Club, on aggregate, will be accepted into the vacancy. Where less than two (2) divisions accept for this competition, it is understood that this system cannot be applied.

1.4. Champion Shield Winners

Where the competition involves a squad of first and reserve grade, points attained by both teams of the 1st Division Premier League squad of the same Club, at the time of completion of the scheduled 'League' rounds, given the highest total when added together will determine the winners of the Minor Premiers Shield. The Club concerned will be the recipient of the '**Champion Shield**' in name only - refer By-law Section 2 item 19. Where two or more squads finish on equal points, the Champion Club shall be determined by goal differences as per Association By-Laws.

1.5. Individual Awards

Known as the Grand Champion and Grand Finalist medals shall be issued on the basis of eighteen (18) per team to the teams participating in the Grand Final of each division. Issue of these awards shall be at the discretion of the recipient Clubs. There shall be no awards for League' winners.

1.6. Registration of Players

Players from within the respective Clubs will complement teams and all will be registered in accordance with By-law provisions. The maximum number of players in the case of a two team squad will be restricted to forty (40).

1.7. Movement of Players

Between First and Reserve grade teams of the same Club is permitted where applicable.

To be eligible for Reserve Grade Semi-final, final and grand finals, players must have played three (3) league matches in that grade. A Player is deemed to have played reserve grade on the day if he fulfils either of the following:

- (i) He takes the field during a reserve grade match.
- (ii) This does not include the two (2) nominated goalkeepers. Two nominated goalkeepers are to be nominated at the time of block registration and will be free to play either first or reserve grade within the same team and club.
- (iii) Where squads comprise First and Reserve Grade, and Clubs nominate more than one (1) squad for the competition there shall be no movement of players between squads and/or divisions except on re-grading which shall cease on 30th June. De-registration, re-registration and/or re-grading of players will be restricted to once only per person, per season.
- (iv) Reserve grade teams making the semi-finals are to provide the association with a list of players in their team so their eligibility to contest the semi-finals can be determined.
- (v) First grade fixtures will commence at 3.00pm and be of forty-five (45) minute halves with a five (5) minute interval. Reserve grade is to commence at 1.00pm, forty five (45) minute halves to be played with a five (5) minute interval and is to conclude no later than **2.50pm. When this constraint cannot be adhered to, the Reserve grade match duration is to be reduced accordingly.**

1.8. Grounds

Clubs will ensure that a suitable ground is made available for all matches and that it is adequately marked etc, in accordance with the Referees' Handbook.

1.9. Correct Numbering

Clubs will be fined \$5.00 for each occasion that a number identifies a player on the team sheet that differs from the one on their shirt/jersey.

1.10. Dual Registration

Dual registration is not permitted.

1.11. Wash-Outs

Where grounds are rendered unplayable and fixtures have to be postponed, Clubs will be required to double up Saturdays and Sundays to adhere to the competition schedule.

1.12. Other Provisions

For all circumstances not mentioned in these rules, reference should be made to the Constitution and/or By-laws.

1.13. Forfeited Matches

The competition shall be conducted by both Reserve and First grade matches. Should a Club be unable to field sufficient players to contest a Reserve grade fixture then that the club will forfeit both the reserve grade match as well as the 1st grade match. Should the 1st grade match be abandoned by the match officials then the both grades will have been deemed to be forfeited and no points shall be awarded.

Both grades:

Win by result:	3 points
Win by forfeit:	3 points and 3-0 result
Bye:	3 points
Draw:	1 point
Loss:	0 points
Loss by forfeit:	0 points and 0-3 result

2. Over 35 Men Competition

2.1. Registration of Players

A player is classed as eligible to register for Over 35 if they have turned 35 years of age on or prior to 30 June of that season.

2.2. Substitutions

5 players (including the goalkeeper) may be used for unlimited interchanging at any time during the game, in accordance with the Interchange Procedures as laid down.

2.3. Footwear

Only moulded soles or outdoor shoes with rubber or plastic studs are to be worn (i.e. no metallic screw-in studs).

2.4. Temporary Transfer Between teams

An Over 35 player is allowed to temporarily play up into a higher grade Over 35 men's team only in accordance with the By-laws.

2.5. Washed Out Rounds

Where grounds are rendered unplayable and fixtures have to be postponed, no games will be rescheduled on consecutive days or on the same playing weekend.

3. Over 45 Men Competition

3.1. Registration of Players

A player is classed as eligible to register for Over 45 if they have turned 45 years of age on or before 30 June of that season, with the following exceptions:

- For a period of 5 years commencing 2013 an Over 45 team will be allowed five (5) players who have turned 40 to be registered.
- In 2014, the age will increase to 41, in 2015 to 42, in 2016 to 43, in 2017 to 44; and
- from 2018 all players must have turned 45 to be registered in the Over 45 Competition.

3.2. Substitutions

5 players (including the goalkeeper) may be used for unlimited interchanging at any time during the game, in accordance with the Interchange Procedures as laid down.

3.3. Footwear

Only moulded soles or outdoor shoes with rubber or plastic studs are to be worn (i.e. no metallic screw-in studs).

3.4. Sliding Tackles

Sliding tackles are not permitted in Over 45 games. For an infringement of this rule, the referee will award an indirect free kick. For repeated infringements of this rule, a player may be cautioned by the referee.

3.5. Temporary Transfer Between teams

An Over 45 player is allowed to temporarily play up into a higher grade Over 45 men's team only in accordance with the By-laws.

3.6. Washed Out Rounds

Where grounds are rendered unplayable and fixtures have to be postponed, no games will be rescheduled on consecutive days or on the same playing weekend.

4. Over 30 Women Competition

4.1. Registration of Players

A player is classed as eligible to register for Over 30 if they have turned 30 years of age on or before 30 June of that season, with the following exceptions:

- For a period of 2 years commencing 2014 an Over 30 team will be allowed five (5) players who have turned 28 to be registered.
- In 2015, the age will increase to 29 and from 2016 all players must have turned 30 to be registered in the Over 30 Womens Competition.

4.2. Substitutions

5 players (including the goalkeeper) may be used for unlimited interchanging at any time during the game, in accordance with the Interchange Procedures as laid down.

4.3. Footwear

Only moulded soles or outdoor shoes with rubber or plastic studs are to be worn (i.e. no metallic screw-in studs).

4.4. Sliding Tackles

Sliding tackles are not permitted in Over 30 games. For an infringement of this rule, the referee will award an indirect free kick. For repeated infringements of this rule, a player may be cautioned by the referee.

4.5. Temporary Transfer Between teams

An Over 30 player is allowed to temporarily play up into a higher grade Over 30 senior women's team only in accordance with the By-laws.

4.6. Washed Out Rounds

Where grounds are rendered unplayable and fixtures have to be postponed, no games will be rescheduled on consecutive days or on the same playing weekend.

PART 6 – AWARDS & MISCELLANEOUS

1. Club Championships

- (a) A trophy shall be awarded annually to the champion club in the Association.
- (b) The Club championship shall be divided into two (2) divisions:-
 - (i) Division 1 – comprising clubs with ten (10) or more teams competing in the Association competitions; and
 - (ii) Division 2 – comprising clubs with no less than four (4) teams and no more than nine (9) teams competing in the Association competitions.
- (c) Only teams competing in the Association's competitions shall be taken into account in determining points for the Club Championship.
- (d) For the purpose of calculating points for the Club Championship, the final series shall not be included.
- (e) For the purpose of calculating championship points and to ensure equality, the points scored by each team in the various competitions shall be multiplied as follows:-
 - 10 games multiplied by 1.800
 - 11 games multiplied by 1.636
 - games multiplied by 1.500
 - games multiplied by 1.385
 - games multiplied by 1,286
 - games multiplied by 1.200
 - games multiplied by 1.125
 - games multiplied by 1.059
 - games multiplied by 1.000
 - games multiplied by 0.947
 - games multiplied by 0.900
 - games multiplied by 0.857
 - games multiplied by 0.818
- (f) The winner of the Club Championship in each division shall be determined by adding together competition points (as so adjusted) for each club and dividing that figure by the number of teams competing for that club. The club with the highest average shall be the Champion club in each division.
- (g) Where a club has two (2) teams playing in the same division, points scored by both teams shall be included as if they were playing in a separate division.
- (h) In the event that a club withdraws a team at any time after the first game of any grade or competition, that team shall be included in the total number of teams competing for the club for the purposes of determining averages for the Club Championship.

2. Stan Moses Memorial and A.S. Tanner B.E.M Shields

- (a) A perpetual shield called the “Stan Moses Memorial Shield” will be presented each year to the most outstanding “A” division team, which wins a minor premiership.
- (b) The Executive Committee shall determine the winner of the shield.
- (c) The criteria for selection of the winner of this shield shall be as follows:-
 - (i) If there is only one undefeated minor premier team, the shield shall be awarded to that team.
 - (ii) If there are more than one undefeated minor premier teams, the shield shall be awarded to the team with the least number of games drawn.
 - (iii) In the event that there are no undefeated minor premiers, the winner shall be the team with the least number of losses, then the least number of draws.
 - (iv) If teams are equal after the application of the above criteria, then goal differences for and against shall be used to determine the winner of the shield.
- (d) A perpetual shield called the “A.S. Tanner B.E.M. Shield” will be presented each year to the Premier League squad with the highest aggregate points.
- (e) In order to recognise and encourage fair play at a junior level, the SGFA Junior Competition Fair Play Award will be presented to a Club each year. The Executive Committee will determine the winner of the award as follows:
 - (i) Only Clubs with more than 5 junior competition teams (U11 to U18 inclusive) will be eligible to win the award.
 - (ii) The total of red and yellow cards issued to junior teams will be determined for each eligible Club, using the final Cautions & Send-offs Report produced by the SGFA at the end of the regular season. Each yellow card will constitute one point and each red card will constitute three points.
 - (iii) A Club’s aggregate number of points will then be divided by the Club’s number of junior competition teams to determine a Fair Play Coefficient.

The Club with the lowest Fair Play Coefficient will be awarded the SGFA Junior Competition Fair Play Award. If two or more Clubs have the same Fair Play Coefficient the award will be shared.

3. Rules for Miniroos Modified Games (Subject to annual review)

- (a) The rules for the Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 games will be as stated in the MiniRoos Guidelines as published by FFA.
 - (i) Under 6’s & 7’s will be permitted to play up into and including the U8’s.
 - (ii) The Under 8’s will be permitted to play up into the U9’s only when that team has less than 9 players.
 - (iii) The Under 9’s will be permitted to play up into U10’s only when that team has less than 9 players.
 - (iv) The Under 10’s will be permitted to play up into U11’s only when that team has less than 9 players.

- (v) That all Clubs will assess all players and teams registering to play MiniRoos at the beginning of the season and classify each team in one of the following groups:
- **Beginner**
 - **Intermediate**
 - **Advance**
- (vi) The Competition Secretary will use these classifications to group like teams together when preparing the schedule of games for the season for each MiniRoos age group.
- (vii) Once the Draw is published there will be no re-classification of any MiniRoos teams.
- (b) The Under 10 & Under 11's will play on modified fields with 9-a-side, with a maximum of 4 substitutes.
- (c) Goal sizes and field dimensions are to be generally in accordance with the FFA's Laws of MiniRoos Football.
- (d) An exception exist to re-classify U6 only non-competition teams after round 7 if winning by more than 6-0 will allow for the change to commence in round 9.

4. Miscellaneous

- (a) All Association cups and trophies, which are presented at the Grand Finals, photographs are to be taken and the cups and trophies are to be handed back to the Association on the day. The Association is to engrave the cups and trophies and bill clubs for same.
- (b) When affiliated clubs rent their own grounds the Association shall reimburse them to the extent of 75% of their ground rental fee for competition days only, provided that the maximum reimbursement to any club shall not exceed 100% of the rental paid by the Association for use of any one of the grounds at Scarborough Park grounds for competition days only for the season in question. Claims will be paid upon production of an official receipt.
- (c) All trial, exhibition, friendly, knock out and round robin matches organised by a club MUST be notified to the Secretary of the Association in writing seven (7) days prior to the event or the event will not be sanctioned.
- (d) In these rules, unless the contrary intention otherwise appears, words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa, and words importing the male gender shall include the female gender and vice versa.

Schedule A - By-Law and Constitution Breach Fine Schedule

The Association's affiliated Clubs have agreed a list of financial fines to be applied for specific breaches by a member Club of the Association Constitution rules and/ or By-Laws. The offending Club will be invoiced for any breach referring to the relevant clause applicable.

Note apart from the financial fines applicable there may also be other penalties that may apply eg. Suspensions, loss of points, relegation, etc

By-Law Clause	Details/ Reference	Fine Amount \$
Part 1 – clause 7.b.	Late payment of 1 st installment of registration fees	\$100.00*
Part 1 – clause 11.a. iii)	Match fees – fine for forfeit 36 hours or less	\$50.00
Part 1 – clause 11.a. iv)	Match fees – fine for forfeit in last 4 matches of season	\$200 per match
Part 1 – clause 11.a. vii)	Match fees – fine for withdraw from competition before season commences.	\$150.00
Part 1 – clause 11.a. viii)	Match fees – fine for withdraw from competition after season commences.	\$350.00
Part 1 – clause 11.b. iii)	Terms of Payment – failure to pay any installment by due date.	\$100.00 *
Part 2 – clause 1.d.	Withdrawal of a team after competition is established	\$350.00
Part 2 – clause 3.k.	Registration – replacement of lost ID card	\$25.00
Part 2 – clause 24.a.	Perpetual Trophies – failure to return trophies on time - failure to return trophies - lost	\$250.00 \$500.00
Part 2 – clause 29.	General Meeting & Meeting of Delegates – failure for at least one delegate to attend	\$100.00
Part 3 – clause 6.b.	Forfeited Matches – failing to play a scheduled match	\$100.00
Part 3 – clause 10.	Match Ball – team not providing a suitable ball at commencement of game.	\$20.00
Part 3 – clause 11.c)	Players' Equipment – for U11 and over - players numbers missing from Team Sheet	\$5.00 per match sheet
Part 3 – clause 13.f)	Team Sheets – teams failing to produce ID cards prior to commencement of a match causing game to be forfeited.	\$100.00
Part 3 – clause 13. i)	Failure to surrender ID Card of player sent off to referee at completion of game.	\$60.00
Part 3 – clause 14.	Players Temporarily Playing Up – failure to record age grade against players name	\$10.00 per match sheet
Part 3 – clause 17.b.ii.	Playing Ineligible Players – fielding a player deemed ineligible	\$100.00
Part 3 – clause 18.c.v.	Change of Players – altering a Team Sheet after Referee signs off	\$100.00
Part 3 – clause 22.	Team Sheets – failure to submit team sheet by the nominated time to Association	\$25.00
Part 3 – clause 22.	Team Sheets – unsatisfactorily completed team sheet	\$25.00 per team
Part 4A – clause 1. & Part B – clause 11.	Reports – failure of a Club to submit any reports requested by the Association, the Judiciary Committee, and/ or the GPT	\$50.00
Part 4 – clause 10.i)	Match Cautions – penalty to the Club for playing any player whilst suspended	\$200.00

Schedule B - Judiciary Committee Sanctions

Section A - Offences by players and/or RTOs and/or Team or Officials against other players or any other person

Code	Offence		Minimum	Maximum
A	R1	Serious Foul Play	2 Fixtures	12 Fixtures
	Expanded	a) Violent tackle from behind that endangers the safety of an opponent	3 Fixtures	10 Fixtures
	Expanded	a) i) Rugby Tackle ii) Violent Charging iii) Over the Ball Tackle	2 Fixtures 2 Fixtures 2 Fixtures	8 Fixtures 8 Fixtures 12 Fixtures
B	R2	Violent Conduct	2 Fixtures	2 Years
	Expanded	a) i) Head Butting ii) Punching/Fighting iii) Kicking	5 Fixtures 2 Fixtures 2 Fixtures	2 Years 8 Fixtures 12 Fixtures
	Expanded	b) i) Elbowing to the Head ii) Elbowing to the Body	4 Fixtures 2 Fixtures	16 Fixtures 10 Fixtures
C	R3	Spits at an Opponent or any other person	8 Fixtures	Life
D	R4	Sabotaging an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity (handball)	1 Fixture	1 Fixture
E	R5	Sabotaging an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity by an offence punishable by a direct free kick or penalty kick	1 Fixture	1 Fixture
F	R6	Uses Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language or Gestures	2 Fixtures	20 Fixtures
	Expanded	i) Making offensive, insulting or abusive gestures	4 Fixtures	20 Fixtures
	Expanded	ii) Indecent Actions	4 Fixtures	20 Fixtures
	Expanded	Making comments that are racially discriminatory or abusive	5 Fixtures	20 Fixtures
	Expanded	Threatening, intimidating, bullying or insulting any other person	4 Fixtures	20 Fixtures
G	R7	Second Caution	1 Fixture	1 Fixture

Note: Section "A" also applies for offences by players against players or any other person after having been sent from the field and included in an Incident Report.

Section B - Offences by Players and Team Officials against Officials

Code	Offence	Minimum	Maximum
A	Threatening or intimidating an official by word/action	4 Fixtures	Up to life
B	Striking an official with a ball or other objects	4 Fixtures	Up to life
C	Striking, kicking, elbowing, tripping an official	20 Fixtures	Up to life
D	Spitting	8 Fixtures	Up to life
E	Using/making offensive, insulting or abusive language/gestures	4 Fixtures	Up to life

Note: Section "B" applies also for "Offences by players and team officials against officials (as defined below) after having been sent from the field and dealt with by the Judiciary Committee.

The definition of Officials includes Referees, Assistant Referees, SGFA Committee Representatives, Ground Controllers and any person acting in an official capacity on behalf of an affiliated Club.

Schedule C - General Purpose Tribunal (GPT) Sanctions

Section B - Offences by Players, Team Officials and Spectators

Code	Offence	Minimum	Maximum
A	Threatening or intimidating by word/action	4 Fixtures	Up to life
B	Striking with a ball or other objects	4 Fixtures	Up to life
C	Striking, kicking, elbowing, tripping	4 Fixtures	Up to life
D	Spitting	8 Fixtures	Up to life
E	Using/making offensive, insulting or abusive language/gestures	4 Fixtures	Up to life

Note: Section "B" applies also for "Offences by players and team officials against officials (as defined below) after having been sent from the field and dealt with by the Judiciary Committee.

Section C

Code	Offence	Minimum	Maximum
A	Inciting the crowd	4 Fixtures	Up to life
B	Attacking or fighting with spectators	4 Fixtures	Up to life
C	Bringing the game into disrepute	10 Fixtures	Up to life
D	Deliberately misleading the Judiciary Committee	6 Fixtures	Up to life

Note: Players include named substitutes. Team officials comprise coaches, managers, trainers and any other person permitted inside the ropes or in any recognised Technical Area.

The definition of official includes Referees, Assistant Referees, St George Football Association Officials, Ground Controllers and any person acting in an official capacity on behalf of an affiliated club.

Schedule D - By-Laws Revision History

The amendments to the SGFA By-Laws 2011 tabled to the members to be included in the new format known as the SGFA By-Laws 2013 were approved at the SGFA AGM held on 3 December 2012.

Season	Amendments Approved By	Date Approved
2013 By-Laws	Meeting of Club Delegates	3 December 2012
2014 By-Laws	Meeting of Club Delegates	25 November 2013
2015 By-Laws	Meeting of Club Delegates	2 February 2015
2016 By-Laws	Meeting of Club Delegates	23 November 2015