FOOTBALL
ST GEORGE

BY-LAWS

St George Football Association trading as Football St George ("Association")

#WEARESTGEORGE

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1 APPLICATION AND COMMENCEMENT

(a) The Directors have the power to make these By-Laws pursuant to the St George Football Association Incorporated trading as Football St George ("FSG") Constitution.

(b) These By-Laws have effect on and from 18 January 2023 and supersede and replace the By-Laws adopted on 3 December 2012 (as amended on 25 November 2013, 2 February 2015, 23 November 2015, 21 November 2016, 20 November 2017, 19 November 2018, 18 November 2019, and 31 March 2022). As contemplated by the Constitution, these By-Laws remain subject to any alterations, additions or deletions that may be made from time to time by the Directors.

(c) These By-Laws remain subject to the terms of the Constitution and to the extent of any inconsistency between the Constitution and these By-Laws, the Constitution shall prevail.

2 DEFINITIONS

(a) Definitions used in these By-Laws are set out in Schedule 1 of these By-Laws.

3 STANDING COMMITTEES

(a) The provisions under Schedule 2 of these By-Laws shall apply to Standing Committees.

4 JURISDICTION

(a) These By-Laws apply to all Members, Member Clubs, and Participants of FSG.

5 GROUNDS

(a) FSG shall have control of fields as nominated by affiliated Clubs whilst FSG games are in progress.

(b) In the event that a Club holds a direct lease or a direct permit over grounds, the club must advise, in writing, the specific hours that FSG have unfettered access to the fields for the purposes of operating their standard competitions. As a minimum, these hours must include from 5:00 pm to 9:30 pm on Fridays; 8:00 am to 9:30 pm on Saturdays and 8:00 am to 9:30 pm on Sundays as well as any public holidays required for makeup games and any other time as required for the replay of washed-out games.

(c) In the event that a Club holds a direct lease or permit over grounds, the Club may not seek use of other FSG fields for training, in order to run events other than FSG matches.

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 FSG objectives as defined under the Constitution.

(b) The fee may be forfeited to FSG by a Club which fails to comply with any directive of FSG.

(c) A Good Faith Fee if not forfeited shall be refunded to the Club on receipt of a written request following the club upholding the FSG directives.

7 OBLIGATIONS ON MEMBER CLUBS

7.1 CLUBS

(a) In order to participate in any Competition under the jurisdiction of FSG, a Club must maintain its status as a Registered Entity.

(b) Where a Club fails to maintain its status as a Registered Entity, FSG may, in its absolute discretion, determine that Club as ineligible to participate in any Competition as it sees fit.

(c) In order to determine whether a Club is in compliance with this paragraph, FSG may require the Club to provide any documentation FSG considers to be relevant.

7.2 CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

(a) This clause 7.2 applies to all Members Clubs.

(b) A Member Club must not amend its constitution without the consent of FSG. Any amendment to its constitution in breach of this clause will be invalid.

(c) Where there is any inconsistency between the constitution, rules, or regulations of a Member Club and the FSG Rules and Regulations, then to the extent of such inconsistency, the FSG Rules and Regulations shall apply.

(d) A Member must provide in its constitution or relevant rules or regulations:

(i) procedures to facilitate the expeditious and fair resolution of complaints and grievances within its jurisdiction;

(ii) provisions such that:

1. upon registration with a Member Club, its membership agrees to comply and be bound by the constitution, by-laws, rules, and regulations of that Member Club, the FSG Rules and Regulations, FNSW Rules and Regulations, and FA Rules and Regulations;

2. to the extent of any inconsistency between the constitution, by-laws, rules, and regulations of that Member Club, then to the extent of any such inconsistency, the FSG Rules and Regulations shall prevail; and

3. its members agree not to commence or pursue any proceedings in a court of law and shall submit to the grievance or disciplinary processes of the Member Club, FSG, FNSW, and FA have been exhausted.

8 WINDING UP

(a) On the winding up of any Member, any surplus assets of the Member shall be transferred to a like body having objects similar to those set out in its constitution or alternatively such surplus may be disposed of in such other manner as the members of the Member consider fit subject to the consent of FSG.

9 COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND TRIBUNALS

(a) The FSG Board may establish such committees, commissions, and tribunals as they may from time to time determine and designate to each of them their respective functions and powers.

10 COMPETITIONS

10.1 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

(a) The FSG Executive shall make Competition Regulations as it deems necessary in respect of all Competitions administered by FSG.

10.2 ADMISSION AND SUSPENSION

(a) The FSG Executive shall conduct Competitions as the FSG Board may from time to time determine and such Competitions shall be conducted in accordance with Competition regulations made by the Executive pursuant to paragraph 10.1 of these By-Laws.

(b) The FSG Board may, in their absolute discretion, determine to admit, suspend, promote, relegate, expel, or accept the withdrawal of any Club from a Competition. Such a decision by the FSG Board is final and not subject to an appeal.

10.3 ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

(a) Eligibility for admission to a Competition shall be determined by the FSG Executive who shall set the admission criteria.

(b) Applications shall be conducted in accordance with the Competition Regulations, or any other rules, regulations, policies, or directives issued by the FSG Executive.

10.4 FINANCIAL RECORDS

(a) All Members Clubs shall keep accounting records to record the fact and nature of all payments and receipts in a manner as to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position including assets and liabilities.

(b) Each Member Club is to make available at the request of the FSG Executive financial statements in the manner requested by the FSG Executive.

(c) Any material errors or omissions in the accounting records or financial statements of Member Clubs must be reported to FSG where financial statements have already been lodged.

SCHEDULE 1 – DEFINITIONS

Chair / Chairperson	means a chairperson of a Standing Committee appointed under these Regulations.
Club	means any club registered with FSG or admitted to participate in an FSG Competition. A reference to a Club in these Regulations includes a Team where that Team is not part of a Club but is accepted by FSG to register to competitions conducted by FSG (i.e., Summer Football and the St George Cup)
Competition	means any or all of the football matches, competitions, Premierships, Championships, Cups, Tournaments, and events owned or conducted by FSG.
Eligible Nominator	Means and FSG Member Club
Football Australia ("FA")	means Football Australia Limited, the governing body for football in Australia.
FIFA	means Federation Internationale de Football Association, its successor or assignee.
Football NSW ("FNSW")	means Football NSW Limited which is the governing body for football (including futsal) in the State.
Football St George ("FSG")	means St George Football Association Incorporated which is the governing body for football (including futsal) in the St George Region, its Board, and Executive.
FSG Board	means the directors FSG appointed or elected from time to time in accordance with the FSG Constitution.
FSG Executive	means the Chief Executive Officer of FSG.
Football St George By-Laws	means the by-laws of Football St George.
Football St George Constitution	means the constitution of Football St George.
Football St George Rules and Regulations	mean any rules, regulations, by-laws, policies, procedures, directives, codes of conduct and guidelines developed, promulgated, and implemented by FSG.
Match	means a single meeting of two teams to play football in a Competition.
Member	has the meaning attributed to it in the FSG Constitution.
Participant	means a Player, Official, Spectator, an individual otherwise registered with FSG to participate in football in the Region or an individual issued with media accreditation by FSG.
Referees Body	means a body made up of Match Officials who provide services to FSG.
Registered Entity	means a body corporate registered under the Corporations ACT 2001 (CTH) or an incorporated association registered under the Associations Incorporation ACT 2009 (NSW).

Regulations	means these By-Laws.
Standing Committee	means a Standing Committee established under Schedule 2 of these Regulations
Standing Committee Code of Conduct	means the Code of Conduct of Standing Committee Members approved by the Board from time to time
Standing Committee Members	means the Nominated Members and the Appointed Members of a Standing Committee

SCHEDULE 2 – STANDING COMMITTEES

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Schedule 2 is to:

(a) confirm the ongoing operation of the following Standing Committees established pursuant to the Constitution; and

(b) prescribe the functions, membership, and method of operation of those Standing Committees pursuant to the Constitution:

i. the competition grading Standing Committee, to be known as the "Grading Committee";

ii. the board advisory Standing Committee, to be known as the "Board Advisory Committee"; and

iii. the female football Standing Committee, to be known as the "Female Football Committee".

2 MEMBERSHIP OF STANDING COMMITTEES

2.1 ELIGIBILITY

(a) A person is eligible to be a Standing Committee Member if:

i. they are 18 years of age or over;

ii. they undertake to be bound by the Standing Committee Code of Conduct;

iii. they reside in the State; and

iv. in the case of Nominated Members only, they are nominated and approved pursuant to these Regulations.

2.2 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(a) The FSG Board may at its discretion, appoint members on terms determined by the Board

2.3 NOMINATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(a) The FSG Board may from time to time and as may be necessary for the purposes of these By-Laws call for nominations of people to volunteer as a Standing Committee member.

(b) In order for a nomination for membership on a Standing Committee to be valid, it must:

i. be in writing in the form prescribed by FSG from time to time and include an undertaking by the nominee to be bound by the Standing Committee Code of Conduct and must be signed by one Eligible Nominator.

ii. specify the Standing Committee in respect of which the nominee is being nominated; and

iii. be lodged at FSG registered office by the time and date specified by FSG.

iv. an Eligible Nominator may only nominate one nominee for membership of each Standing Committee.

3 TERM OF OFFICE, CASUAL VACANCIES, VACATION OF OFFICE AND REMOVAL

3.1 TERM OF OFFICE

(a) Subject to paragraphs 3.1 (b) to 3.1 (e) each Standing Committee Member will serve a term of up to two years and will be eligible to be nominated or appointed to serve three further terms of two years.

(b) a Standing Committee Member may not serve more than four consecutive terms on any Standing Committee. If a Standing Committee Member has served four consecutive terms, they must not be nominated for or appointed to any Standing Committee again until the expiration of a period of two years.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 3 (a) and 3 (b) above, it is acknowledged that the Standing Committee Members in office as at the date of adoption of these By-Laws shall remain eligible to be nominated or appointed to serve up to four further terms of up to two years upon the expiry of their current terms of office.

(d) No more than one Club representative may serve as Standing Committee Member on any given Standing Committee at a time.

(e) A Standing Committee Member cannot serve on more than one Standing Committee at a time.

3.2 NOMINATED MEMBER CASUAL VACANCY

(a) Subject to paragraph 3.2 (b) and 3.2 (c), a casual vacancy arising in respect of a Nominated Member will be filled by the FSG Board.

(b) An FSG Director or employee of FSG cannot fill a casual vacancy.

(c) A person appointed under this paragraph 3.2 to fill a casual vacancy will hold office until the end of the term of the person in whose place they were appointed.

3.3 VACATION OF OFFICE BY A NOMINATED MEMBER

(a) A Nominated Member vacates that office if they:

i. become of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under a law relating to mental health;

ii. resign office by notice in writing to the FSG Executive;

iii. have their nomination as a Nominated Member revoked or rescinded by an Eligible Nominator who nominated them;

iv. are suspended or removed from a Standing Committee in accordance with paragraph 3.4 below (including as a result of a breach of the Standing Committee Code of Conduct); or

v. are not personally present at two consecutive meetings without leave of absence from the Chair of the Nominated Member's Standing Committee.

3.4 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF A STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBER

(a) The FSG Board may suspend or remove a Nominated Member from a Standing Committee if:

i they receive a written recommendation to that effect from that Nominated Member's Standing Committee, together with the matters taken into account in making that recommendation; or

ii the FSG Board forms the view that the Nominated Member has breached the Standing Committee Code of Conduct,

provided that the following steps are taken in relation to that suspension or removal:

i. FSG must give the Nominated Member a copy of the written notification provided to FSG by the Standing Committee as soon as practicable after it is received by FSG, or a written notification that details the FSG Board's reasons for forming the view that the Nominated Member has breached the Standing Committee Code of Conduct;

ii. the Nominated Member must be given at least 14 days' notice of the FSG Board meeting at which the suspension or removal of the Nominated Member is to be considered; and.

iii. at the FSG Board meeting at which the suspension or removal of the Nominated Member is to be considered, the Nominated Member is given the opportunity to put their case to the FSG Board by speaking at the meeting.

(b) Any decision made by the FSG Board under this paragraph 3.4 is final and not subject to any review or appeal.

(c) The FSG Board may suspend or remove an Appointed Member from a Standing Committee at any time in its absolute discretion.

4 PROCEEDINGS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

4.1 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

(a) A Standing Committee must meet at least three times in a calendar year.

4.2 CONVENING MEETINGS

(a) The Chair of a Standing Committee must receive prior written consent from the FSG Executive to convene meetings of that Standing Committee.

4.3 NOTICE OF MEETING

(a) The FSG Executive or their nominated Officer will notify each member of that Standing Committee of the date, time, venue, and agenda of each meeting of that Standing Committee no less than seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. A meeting of a Standing Committee is invalid if the meeting is not convened and/or notice of the meeting is not provided in accordance with this paragraph 4, unless all Standing Committee Members agree in writing that a meeting of that Standing Committee may be called on less than seven days' notice.

4.4 QUORUM OF MEETINGS

(a) The quorum for meetings of Standing Committees shall be 50% of Standing Committee Members (rounded up to the nearest whole number).

4.5 CHAIR

(a) The FSG Board will appoint a Chair form the members of the respective Standing Committees.

4.6 TERM OF OFFICE FOR CHAIR

(a) Each Chair of a Standing Committee may serve a term of up to two years and is eligible to be appointed to serve one further term of up to two years.

4.7 ABSENCE OF CHAIR AT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

(a) The Chair is entitled to preside at meetings of a Standing Committee.

(b) If the Chair is not present and able and willing to act within 15 minutes after the time appointed for a meeting or has indicated their intention not to be present and able and willing to act, a Standing Committee Member chosen by a majority of the members of that Standing Committee present at the meeting will preside at the meeting.

4.8 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

(a) The FSG Board will from time to time nominate one or more Executive Officers for a Standing Committee who will be entitled to attend each meeting of a Standing Committee. An Executive Officer will not be counted when determining the number of Standing Committee Members, nor will be eligible to vote on matters.

4.9 REPORTS

(a) A Standing Committee will ensure that an accurate written report of each meeting is provided to FSG within seven days of each Standing Committee meeting.

4.10 MEETINGS BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS

(a) The contemporaneous linking together by telephone or other electronic means of a number of the Standing Committee Members sufficient to constitute a quorum constitutes a meeting of that Standing Committee and all the provisions in these By-Laws relating to a meeting of that Standing Committee apply, so far as they can and with such changes as are necessary, to a meeting of that Standing Committee by telephone or other electronic means.

(b) A Standing Committee Member participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is taken to be present in person at the meeting.

(c) A meeting by telephone or other electronic means is to be taken to be held at the place determined by the Chair of that meeting provided that at least one of the Standing Committee Members involved was at that place for the duration of the meeting.

4.11 DECISIONS

(a) A question arising at a meeting of a Standing Committee is to be decided by a majority of votes of Standing Committee Members present and entitled to vote.

4.12 CIRCULATING RESOLUTION

(a) If all Standing Committee Members assent to a document containing a statement to the effect that an act, matter or thing has been done or resolution has been passed, then the act, matter, thing, or resolution is to be taken as having been done at or passed by a meeting of Standing Committee Members.

5 DISPUTES

(a) The FSG Board will determine all disputes arising in relation to this Schedule 2, including without limitation, disputes arising out or in relation to the establishment, membership, or operation of a Standing Committee. A decision made by the FSG Board in relation to a dispute is final and not subject to any review or appeal.

6 GRADING COMMITTEE

6.1 FUNCTIONS

(a) The Grading Committee shall review the grading of teams after receipt of team nominations and provide advice in writing to the FSG Executive regarding proposed gradings.

(b) The Grading Committee shall consider re-grading of teams in MiniRoos, Junior, and Senior Competitions and provide written advice to the FSG Executive regarding any proposed re-grading of teams.

6.2 MEMBERSHIP

(a) The FSG Board must ensure that, at the time of appointing committee members, the gender composition of the committee is considered, to ensure that the gender composition of the committee satisfies the 40/40/20 Principle.

(b) There will be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) members appointed to the Grading Committee by the FSG Board.

7 BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7.1 FUNCTIONS

(a) The Board Advisory Committee is to advise the FSG Board on strategic matters as requested by the FSG Board.

(b) The FSG Board may at its discretion refer any matter relating to but not limited to, risk, governance, conventions, processes, and mechanisms by which decisions about risks are taken and implemented, or matters raised by a Member(s) including matters relating to any dispute.

(c) The Board Advisory Committee may give any advice as requested of it, and may make recommendations to the FSG Board on any of the following matters:

i. legal or confidential board matters that may affect a risk to the association and or any club;

ii. any matters relating to behavior and safety matters.

(d) The Board will use its best endeavours to review the recommendations at the next scheduled meeting of the Directors after the recommendation is received.

7.2 MEMBERSHIP

(a) The FSG Board must ensure that, at the time of appointing committee members, the gender composition of the committee is taken into account, to ensure that the gender composition of the committee satisfies the 40/40/20 Principle.

(b) There will be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) members appointed to the Board Advisory Committee by the FSG Board.

8 FEMALE FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

8.1 FUNCTIONS

(a) The Female Football Standing Committee is to advise the Board on strategic matters relating to Female Football.

(b) The Board may at its discretion refer any matter relating to Female Football to the Female Football Standing Committee for advice.

(c) The Female Football Standing Committee may give any advice requested of it, and may (whether or not requested to do so) make recommendations to the Board on:

i. methods to improve accessibility so more females can participate as players, coaches, referees, administrators, volunteers and/or committee members at all levels of football;

ii. methods to improve talent identification, growth, retention, and development of female players;

iii. measures to promote, develop, and improve women's Competitions in the Region;

iv. strategies to assist Clubs and the Association to raise standards of female football facilities, implement effective female-friendly programs, including behaviour initiatives, and to encourage and provide more opportunities for women to become involved in key decision-making roles; and

v. any other matter relating to the conduct of Female Football in the Region.

(d) The FSG Board will use its best endeavours to review the recommendations at the next scheduled meeting of the Directors after the recommendation is received.

8.2 MEMBERSHIP

(a) The FSG Board must ensure that, at the time of appointing committee members, the gender composition of the committee is taken into account, to ensure that the gender composition of the committee satisfies the 40/40/20 Principle.

(b) There will be a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of eight (8) members appointed to the Female Football Committee by the FSG Board.

9 GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

9.1 FUNCTIONS

(a) The Government Relations Advisory Committee shall provide advice and recommendations to the FSG Board regarding government relations strategies, advocacy efforts, and engagement with local, state, and federal government stakeholders.

(b) The Government Relations Advisory Committee shall assist in identifying and pursuing funding opportunities, infrastructure projects, and policy initiatives beneficial to Football St George and its member clubs.

(c) The Government Relations Advisory Committee shall monitor government decisions and policies that impact football and provide strategic guidance on appropriate responses.

9.2 MEMBERSHIP

(a) The committee should be composed of individuals with expertise in government relations, advocacy,

infrastructure planning, or policy analysis.

(b) Members should have strong networks within government or experience in engaging with public sector stakeholders.

(c) At least one committee member should have experience in grant writing or securing funding for sports organisations.

(d) The FSG Board must ensure that, at the time of appointing committee members, the gender composition of the committee is considered, to ensure that the gender composition of the committee satisfies the 40/40/20 Principle.

(e) There will be a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of eight (8) members appointed to the Government Relations Advisory Committee by the FSG Board.

10 FOOTBALL4ALL STANDING COMMITTEE

10.1 FUNCTIONS

(a) The Football4All Standing Committee shall provide advice and recommendations to the Football St George Technical Director, Executive and Board regarding the development, management, and promotion of the Football4All program to ensure inclusivity in football for individuals of all abilities.

(b) The Football4All Standing Committee shall support and make recommendations in relation to the recruitment, training, and retention of volunteers, coaches, and program managers to enhance the program's quality and sustainability.

(c) The Football4All Standing Committee shall assist in the organisation of events, initiatives, and strategic partnerships with clubs, community organisations, and stakeholders to promote football participation for all abilities.

(d) The Football4All Standing Committee shall monitor policies, funding opportunities, and best practices related to inclusive football and provide strategic guidance on appropriate actions and program enhancements.

10.2 MEMBERSHIP

(a) The committee should be composed of individuals with expertise or experience in inclusive sports, disability services, community engagement, program management, or football development.

(b) Members should have strong networks within inclusive sports organisations, community groups, or local government to support the program's initiatives.

(c) At least one committee member should have experience in event planning, volunteer coordination, or program administration related to inclusive sports.

(d) The FSG Board must ensure that, at the time of appointing committee members, the gender composition of the committee is considered to align with the 40/40/20 Principle.

(e) There will be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) members appointed to the Football4All Standing Committee by the FSG Board.

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