



## Section 7. Small Sided Football Tournament.

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## **7.1 APPLICABILITY**

- (1) These rules apply, as appropriate, to all competitions and matches participated in by member Clubs of the Ballarat & District Soccer Association Inc ("the Association"). Under no circumstances can the application of Section 4 *Disciplinary Code* and Section 5 *Code of Conduct* be negated.

## **7.2 STRUCTURE OF THE TOURNAMENT**

- (1) The weekly non-competitive games shall be known as the *B&DSA Small Sided Football Tournament* (the Tournament) and will incorporate the all sub-junior teams in line with the FFA Small Sided Football (SSF) Handbook.
- (2) The Tournament shall comprise Member Clubs as determined by the B&DSA Board.
- (3) The Tournament group will consist of:
  - A) Five (5) Open Sub-junior Divisions – U11, U10, U9, U8 and U7.
  - B) One (1) Female Only Sub-junior Division – U11.
- (4) The fixtures for all divisions will be constructed as per the rules of Section 8 *Local Fixture*.
- (5) All games for Association Clubs in all divisions will be played Home and Away each weekend or at hub locations.
  - A) The procedure for alteration of a games venue may only be changed by either (1) BDSA OR (2) The Ballarat City Council Parks and Gardens staff. Either of the above is done after an inspection has been made at the venue and found to be unsatisfactory for play and if a change is to occur then the Coordinators must inform the affected member Clubs ASAP.
- (6) Clubs can enter teams into the Tournament at any time. The fixture for the Tournament will be created, reviewed and changed at four weekly intervals.

## **7.3 PLAYERS**

### **7.3.1 REGISTRATION**

- (1) To participate in the Tournament, each Player must hold a current registration with his/her Association Club.
- (2) The registration period is from 1 October to the 31 September for each season [National Registration Regulations Clause 4.6 (c)]
- (3) At all times it is the Club's responsibility to ensure that all players listed on the team sheet are registered and eligible to play.

### **7.3.2 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

- (1) A player is considered eligible to play, provided:
  - A) He/she has turned 5 before the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year.
  - B) He/she has been registered with the Association, and



- C) Is not under suspension by the Association or any other body.
- D) Meets the age criteria for that age group. Which is:
  - i) To be eligible for an age group a player must be born in the year that is equal to or later than the current year less the age group e.g. for U11: current year 2012 less 11 = 2001. Thus those born in 2001 or later can play in the U11's in 2012.
- (2) The Association strongly recommends that juniors play in their nominal age group. If a player is to play above their age group, the player's Club must ensure that that it is in the best interest of the player and that it is safe for the player to do so. Clubs can use Attachment 1 – Play Down or Up Request to manage Play Up requests.
- (3) A Club who seeks to play a player in a lower age group than their chronological age must obtain permission from the Association using Attachment 1 – Play Down or Up Request.
- (4) Notification is required for any players (male/ female) with a disability to participate in an Association League fixture.

### **7.3.3 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

- (1) Any player, who is not registered by the Association for the current season, is ineligible to participate in any Association Tournament.
- (2) Any registered player under suspension by the Association, any of its member Clubs or any other body will be deemed ineligible until that suspension is served. This includes fixed penalties for yellow and red cards along with penalties determined by the Association Tribunal (see Section 4 *Disciplinary Code*).

## **7.4 TEAMS**

### **7.4.1 NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

- (1) As per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.

### **7.4.2 PLAYING STRIP**

- (1) Each team must play in colours that are different from its opposition. The Association should be consulted on the uniform (colours and styles) prior to the uniform being purchased. This is to ensure that different Clubs do NOT purchase the same uniforms.
- (2) All players are required to wear shin guards at all times whilst on the field of play.
- (3) In the interest of player safety all jewellery should be removed before the start of the game.
- (4) All first named Clubs will be deemed the "Home" team and therefore will play in their selected colours.
- (5) In the event there is a clash of colours with the home team, it will be the responsibility of the visiting team to change into an alternative strip.



- (6) The goalkeeper shall wear colours which distinguish him / her from other players and from the referee. Tracksuit trousers may be worn under Club shorts.
- (7) No Club is permitted to display a national flag, slogan or emblem on any part of its playing uniform.
- (8) In the event of very inclement weather all players may wear other clothes under their playing uniform.

## **7.5 GROUND FACILITIES**

### **7.5.1 PITCH**

- (1) It is the responsibility of the HOST CLUB to provide a pitch at the correct time and date. Changes to match location or kick off time will be allowed for:
  - A) Council Bylaws or restrictions.
  - B) Ground closure due to vandalism.
  - C) Special circumstances as determined by the Association Zone Coordinators or Association Board.
- (2) The dimensions of a sub-junior field can easily fit onto an adult soccer field. However, sub-junior football can be played on any field or open area. Black lines or dotted white lines may be used to designate side lines, goal lines.
  - A) The ground shall have a reasonable level surface with grass. The grass shall be kept properly cut.
  - B) The field of play should be rectangular.
  - C) The Association sizes for SSF fields are as per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.
- (3) Markings
  - A) To simplify the markings there is to be a centre spot and a penalty area. There is no need for the corner area to be marked for SSF. Corners can be taken within 1 metre from the point where the goal line and sideline meet.
  - B) The penalty area as per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.  
**NOTE:** No person shall be allowed directly behind the goal area in any SSF.
- (4) Goals  
The internal width and height of the goals should be as per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.

### **7.5.2 MATCH TIME**

- (1) Any Club needing to change a kick off time must first reach an agreement with their opposition on the new time.



### **7.5.3 MATCH BALLS**

- (1) The "Home" Club shall provide Match Balls.
- (2) At all times the size of the match ball shall be as per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.

### **7.5.4 FIRST AID**

- (1) All Clubs should provide SSF coaches with a basic first aid kit.

### **7.6 TEAM SHEET**

- (1) Both teams must correctly complete (in legible handwriting) a copy of official Association SSF Team Sheet, Attachment 2 – SSF Team Sheet, in full.
- (2) All Home Clubs are responsible for submitting by e-mail the names of three players per team to the Association Publicity Officer by 8 pm Sunday night. The Association recommends that the player names be rotated through the team.

### **7.7 DURATION OF MATCHES**

- (1) All Tournament Matches will be played as follows: -
  - Under 7        2 x 15 minutes with 5 minute half-time interval.
  - Under 8        2 x 20 minutes with 5 minute half-time interval.
  - Under 9        2 x 20 minutes with 5 minute half-time interval.
  - Under 10       2 x 25 minutes with 5 minute half-time interval.
  - Under 11       2 x 25 minutes with 5 minute half-time interval.
- (2) There is no stoppage of play for interchange in SSF.

### **7.8 GAME LEADER / INSTRUCTING REFEREE**

- (1) At this level Official Referees are not necessary. Players generally in these age groups rarely attempt to deliberately break the law. If they do other players will all too readily draw attention to it.
- (2) Responsible adults organising games could well referee the matches if needed. The role of the referee in such games should be to encourage the participants and offer constructive advice where appropriate, and also give positive praise to players from both sides.
- (3) It is the responsibility of the two participating Clubs to provide a referee for the game. If an agreement cannot be reached, then each Club will referee half of the game with the "home" Club refereeing the first half.
- (4) See instructions in the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.

### **7.9 LAWS OF SSF**

- (1) As per the current FFA Laws of Small Sided Football.
  - A) These laws can be downloaded from <http://www.footballfedvic.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/2017-MiniRoos-Guidelines.pdf>
  - B) The Association will ensure that each coach receives a copy of the laws for their team's age group.



## VERSION MANAGEMENT

Version	Date	Reason for Change	Author	Approved
1.2A	2 May 2007	First draft for 2007 season	Peter J Reid	—
1.2B	7 May 2007	Board member review	Peter J Reid	—
1.2C	19 May 2007	Board meeting review	Peter J Reid	—
2	27 May 2007	Season approval	Peter J Reid	Board Meeting 8 May 2007
2A	29 Oct 2007	Post 2007 season review	Peter J Reid	—
2B	21 March 2008	Inclusion of Small Sided Games	Peter J Reid	—
3	3 April 2008	Adoption	Peter J Reid	General Meeting
3A	7 Feb 2008	Game locations – Section 7.2 Number of players – Section 7.4.1 Pitch sizes – Section 7.5.1 Match Balls – Section 7.5.3 Publicity – Section 7.6 Rules of play – Section 7.9	Peter J Reid	—
3B	4 March 2009	Change from Small Sided Games (SSG) to Small Sided Football (SSF) – Section 7.2	Peter J Reid	—
4	18 March 2009	Approved	Peter J Reid	General Meeting
4A	30 Jan 2010	FFA updates for 2010 – Sections 7.2, 7.4.1, 7.5.1, 7.7 and 7.9	Peter J Reid	—
5	8 April 2010	ID Cards - Section 7.3.1 For approval	Peter J Reid	General Meeting
5A	31 March 2011	Play Down/Up requests – Section 7.3.2 Goal size U7 – Section 7.5.1 <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b> SSF Team Sheets and publicity – Section 7.6 Laws of Game, effective 1 January 2011 – Section 7.9	Peter J Reid	—
6	7 April 2011	For approval	Peter J Reid	General Meeting
6A	12 Jan 2012	Removal of information covered in FFA Laws of Small Sided Football – Sections 7.4.1, 7.5.1, 7.5.3 and 7.8 Generalisation of references – Section 7.9 Team entries – Section 7.2	Peter J Reid	—
6B	17 Feb 2012	Junior age group eligibility – Section 7.3.2	Peter J Reid	—
7	15 Mar 2012	Adoption at General Meeting	Peter J Reid	General Meeting



## ATTACHMENT 1 – PLAY DOWN OR UP REQUEST

- (1) "Play Down/Up" requests can be submitted by a player's parent or guardian requesting that the player be allowed to "Play Down/Up" one competition level.
- (2) **Play Down** requests must be submitted:
  - A) To the players Club for their approval and then to,
  - B) B&DSA for their consideration.
- (3) **Play Up** requests must be submitted to the player's Club for their consideration
- (4) The following information must be provided with each request.
  - A) Request to Play Down or Play Up (circle applicable request)
  - B) Player's name \_\_\_\_\_
  - C) FFA registration number \_\_\_\_\_
  - D) Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
  - E) Height in cm \_\_\_\_\_ Weight in kg \_\_\_\_\_
  - F) Division by Age \_\_\_\_\_ Division Requested \_\_\_\_\_
  - G) Please provide detailed reasons below or attach separately:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(5) Signatures

**Parent**

**Coach**

Signature

Name printed

Date

(6) Club Approval by President/Registration Officer

Signature

Name printed

Date



## ATTACHMENT 2 – SSF TEAM SHEET

Team lists can be created on FFV online competition manager

<b>Home:</b>	<b>vs Away</b>
U11 U10 U9 U8 U7 Open	Female
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Venue:</b>

<b>Players of:</b>	<b>SC</b>
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Shirt #	Family or Surname	Given Name	Registration Number	Goals Scored

<b>Score</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	
	Half Time		
	Full Time		

<b>Notes:</b>