



Subject: By-Law Amendments

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Audience: Club Committees

<p>Summary: The Board recently approved amendments to the PFL By-laws. A summary of those amendments are below.</p> <p>The latest By-laws can be found at www.perthfootball.com.au</p>	<p>Action: For Information</p>
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BY-LAW A2.5 DUAL REGISTRATION AND PERMITS

A Seasonal Permit which has been lodged and approved for the respective season may only be amended after 30th June in the given year:

- a) where written consent to the amendment has been provided to the League by the players current Perth Football League club; and
- b) with the approval of the Football Operations Manager, in their discretion.

A2.5.1 Perth Football League and WAFL (Seasonal Permit)

- d) A dual registered player is not permitted to play for a WAFL club and their Perth Football League club on the same weekend. If this does occur, the player will be deemed an ineligible player in accordance with these by-laws in the match they played and the match will not count towards finals eligibility.
- i) A player who has their Seasonal Permit to play with a Perth Football League club cancelled by their WAFL club, and is subsequently permitted to a WACFL club, will not be eligible to lodge a further permit to play in the Perth Football League for remainder of the current season.

BY-LAW A2.6 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

A2.6.2 A club which includes in its team an ineligible player:

- e) The Coach of the offending team shall be suspended for two matches for a first occasion breach of this by-law. Any deliberate breaches and/or subsequent breaches will be referred to the Competition Integrity Officer or Disciplinary Committee.

BY-LAW A2.12 PRE-MATCH PROVISIONS

A2.12.2 *Timekeepers and siren/bell*

The home team for each fixtured match shall have a suitable and audible siren/bell. Both teams shall provide a timekeeper who shall meet to commence and end each quarter, record the times of any yellow and red cards issued by umpires, and where a stretcher has been used. Failure to do so will incur a fine as prescribed in Schedule A1.

BY-LAW A2.13 PLAYING UNIFORM

A2.13.3 *Playing shorts*

- a) Mens, Colts and Integrated Competitions: The home team shall wear black or coloured uniform shorts.
- b) Mens, Colts and Integrated Competitions: The away team shall wear white shorts. A club wishing to wear coloured shorts as the away team shall seek permission from the Chief Executive Officer prior to its use.
- c) Womens Competition: Each of the home team and the away team may wear black, white or coloured uniform shorts, provided that all players in the team are wearing the same coloured uniform shorts.
- d) All playing shorts shall comply with League specifications, branding, licensing and advertising specifications. Failure to do shall incur a fine as prescribed in Schedule A1.

BY-LAW A2.14 COACHES

A2.14.8 *Coach demerit points*

- a) All coaches are accountable in maintaining the Spirit of the Game through effective player management. Where a player commits an offence detrimental to football or a reportable offence, the senior coach of the offending player's team shall receive a demerit point in accordance with the following;
 - i. 1 point for every 1 yellow card issued in a season.
 - ii. 3 points for each melee involving their team.
 - iii. 5 points for each reportable offence of which a player in their team is found guilty.

- b) Where a senior coach accumulates 20 demerit points or more within the current season they shall be suspended for two matches.

BY-LAW A2.19 TIMEKEEPERS

- A2.19.2 The timekeepers must record the times of any yellow or red cards which are issued to a player from either side, and where a stretcher has been used.
- A2.19.3 Where timekeepers disagree as to the length or variation of the time of any quarter, or the length of time elapsed before a player who has received a yellow card may be permitted to return to the playing surface, such dispute shall be reported to the field umpire at the next match break.

BY-LAW A2.21 CONCUSSION PROTOCOLS

- A2.21.1 Clubs, Club Officials and Players are required to comply with the Concussion Protocols and related policies, as communicated by the League from time to time.
- A2.21.2 A player suspected of having suffered a head injury/concussion or is knocked unconscious shall:
 - a) Be assessed by the team's trainer using the Pocket Concussion Recognition Tool 6 (CRT6), preferably within 10 minutes of the incident. Use of the Pocket CRT6 requires NO medical training.
 - b) Have the matter recorded at the conclusion of the match via the online form by the respective team's trainer. Failure to do so will incur a fine as prescribed in Schedule A1.
- A2.21.3 Any player who FAILS a concussion test is not permitted to return to the playing surface.
- A2.21.4 A player whose name is submitted to the League as having FAILED a concussion test is NOT permitted to return to CONTACT TRAINING until:
 - a) The player has been symptom free for at least 14 days after the day on which concussion was suffered; AND
 - b) They have been reviewed by a qualified medical practitioner, and a medical certification clearing the player to resume contact training has been provided to the Club.

If a player has symptoms that do not resolve or are exacerbated by physical activity, then they should be referred back to a qualified medical practitioner.

- A2.21.5 A player whose name is submitted to the League as having FAILED a concussion test is NOT permitted to return to PLAY until at least 21 days after the incident.

Before the player may be permitted to return to PLAY, the Club is required to provide confirmation to the League that:

- a) The player has gone through a graduated return to play process, as set out in the Concussion Protocols;
- b) The player has been reviewed by a qualified medical practitioner no sooner than 14 days after the concussion incident and cleared to return to contact training;
- c) A copy of the medical certification referred to in A2.21.5(b) above has been provided to the League; and
- d) The player has remained symptom free for at least 14 consecutive days prior to the match that they intend to return and play.

To ensure that a player's restricted record can be amended in PlayHQ, a clearance is required to be provided to the League by no later than 12pm Friday preceding that match.

BY-LAW A2.25 MEDIA COMMENT AND USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- A2.25.1 Any player or official who makes public comment to the media (including to the media or by the means contemplated in By-law A2.25.2) which the Chief Executive Officer in their absolute discretion considers is contrary to the interest of the League (Inappropriate Public Comment) may receive such penalty as the Chief Executive Officer in their absolute discretion sees fit which may include suspension, sanctions and fines provided under these by-laws for any other conduct.
- A2.25.2 Any player or official who is found to have engaged in, or is suspected of engaging in the unacceptable use of Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube or any other social networking site, including blogs, in connection with the League in any way, may be dealt with by the Chief Executive Officer as they deem fit, notwithstanding the behaviour did not occur on the playing field.
- A2.25.3 Without limiting the operation of this by-law, Inappropriate Public Comment or unacceptable use may involve the player or official:
- c) Engaging in any other behaviour which the Chief Executive Officer determines in their absolute discretion to have breached this by-law.

A2.27.3 Accumulated yellow cards

- a) Where a player or Club Official has been issued three yellow cards during the year, they shall be automatically suspended from playing for two playing dates.
- b) If the player or Club Official is issued a further two yellow cards after serving this suspension in (a) above, they shall be suspended for a further two playing dates.
- c) If the player or Club Official is issued a further yellow card after serving the second suspension in (b) above, they shall be suspended for a further four playing dates.

A2.29.4 Prescribed Penalty offer by Field Umpires

- c) Where a prescribed penalty was offered and not accepted by the player or Club Official, the report shall be referred to the Tribunal. For the report to be heard by the Tribunal, the player will be required to pay to the League a \$200 bond, which will be refunded if the report is dismissed.

A2.29.5 WAFC Perth Community Football Tribunal ("Tribunal")

- a) The Tribunal:
 - i. shall hear all reports referred to it by the Football Operations Manager or the Match Review Panel.
 - ii. shall conduct hearings in accordance with its guidelines.
 - iii. may issue a caution or impose penalties as it sees fit and/or fines as permitted.
- b) Appeal of Tribunal decisions
 - i. Only the Football Operations Manager or the penalised player are permitted to appeal a decision made by the Tribunal.
 - ii. Where a penalised player seeks to appeal the Tribunal's decision, the player will be required to pay to the League a \$500 bond, which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
 - iii. The appeal shall be heard in accordance with the Tribunal's guidelines.

A2.29.6 Notice of Investigation

- a) Only League Officials, Umpiring Officials and Club Presidents are permitted to lodge a Notice of Investigation on any player, Club Official or club who is alleged to have committed or engaged in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence where a player has been seriously injured or breaches League rules, by-laws or policies.
- b) The Notice of Investigation shall be lodged on the prescribed form which must be received by the Football Operations Manager in writing no later than 9am Monday following the incident or such further time as the Football Operations Manager in their absolute discretion may allow.
- c) A Notice of Investigation lodged by a club shall be accompanied by a \$200 bond which will be refunded if the matter is upheld.

- d) The Football Operations Manager shall review the Notice of Investigation and may refer the matter to the Match Review Panel and/or the Competition Integrity Officer for investigation, at their absolute discretion.

A2.29.7 Match Review Panel

- a) The Chief Executive Officer shall appoint a Match Review Panel.
- b) The Match Review Panel shall consist of a Chairperson and at least two other members.
- c) Any person appointed to the Match Review Panel must possess sufficient knowledge of the Laws of Australian Football and the League, as determined by the Chief Executive League from time to time.
- d) The purpose of the Match Review Panel is to complete the Match Day Review process, which includes to review video evidence relating to any matter which is the subject of a Notice of Investigation (“Incident Footage”), or any other incident or alleged incident that may be referred to the Match Review Panel by the Chief Executive Officer, in their absolute discretion.

The Match Review Panel may:

- i. review any other evidence which is available and/or associated with the Incident Footage, including but not necessarily limited to other digital images (whether video or photo).
 - ii. hear all witnesses to the matter as the Match Review Panel in its absolute discretion deems to be relevant, and give such weight to the evidence it hears as it determines in its absolute discretion.
 - iii. inform itself of any matter it sees fit.
 - iv. use such information to issue a charge and recommend a penalty (if necessary) which is consistent with previous decisions regarding similar Reportable Offences, howsoever made.
- e) At its absolute discretion the Match Review Panel may:
 - i. offer a prescribed penalty to the player, players and/or Club Official – being suspension from playing for a period from one week to four weeks, as determined by the Match Review Panel; and/or
 - ii. offer a prescribed penalty to the Club – being such other penalties as are provided for under these By-Laws; or
 - iii. refer the matter directly to the Tribunal, or to the Competition Integrity Officer for further investigation.
 - f) Where a prescribed penalty was offered and accepted under (f)(i) or (f)(ii) above, the Match Review Panel shall record the penalty via PlayHQ.
 - g) Where a prescribed penalty was offered under (f)(i) above but not accepted by a player/Club Official, the matter shall be referred to the Tribunal. The player/Club Official will be required to pay to the League a \$200 bond for the matter to be heard by the Tribunal, which will be refunded if the matter is dismissed.
 - h) Where a prescribed penalty was offered under (f)(ii) above but not accepted by the Club, the matter shall be referred to the Competition Integrity Officer or Disciplinary Committee.

BY-LAW B2.2 TEAM GRADING, RELEGATION AND PROMOTION

- d) Should the need arise for an additional team to be promoted to any grade, the next highest ranked team from the final series will take the vacant position.

BY-LAW B2.5 SCHEDULED START AND PLAYING TIMES

B2.5.2 Playing times and breaks are:

A-B-C1-C2	Four quarters of 25 minutes with no time on, except as permitted at By-law B2.5.6. Quarter-time break 5 minutes, half time break 15 minutes, three quarter time break 5 minutes.
C3-C4-C5 AR-BR-C1R-C2R-C3R-C4R-C5R E1-E2-E3-E4 Colts	Four quarters of 20 minutes with no time on, except as permitted at By-law B2.5.6. Quarter-time break 5 minutes, half time break 15 minutes, three quarter time break 5 minutes.