

## CLUB CIRCULAR – 2021\_05

**Subject: Rogers Cup Players Returning to Community Football**

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021

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**Audience:** **Community Club Coaches – Female sides**  
**Club Presidents, Team Managers & Registrars**

<p><b>Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rogers Cup regular season has completed and approximately 200 players will return to Community football over next 3 weekends.</li><li>• Junior Community Coaches must be aware of Rules and Regulations specific to Rogers Cup participants.</li></ul>	<p><b>Club Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>Coaches should work with Managers and Registrars to work out how many games each returning player can participate in.</u></b></li><li>• <b><u>Discuss inclusion of Rogers Cup players with parent group and players to manage expectations of all participants.</u></b></li></ul>
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### **WAFC 2021 Junior Football policies, Rules and Regulations.**

With the conclusion of the Rogers Cup, 4 teams will return players to Community Football initially with the remaining 4 clubs releasing players as their season concludes through finals.

It is imperative that Junior Community Coaches manage the return of these players carefully over the remaining games and discuss the impact it will have on existing players.

Returning players will have limited games available to play and special attention should be applied towards qualification for finals and the rules governing qualification:

**5b.vi:** If a player has played a combined total of 12 or more Rogers Cup & WAFLW Reserves games, they are ineligible to play Junior Community Football finals.

**5b.v:** A player who has played any WAFLW Reserves, or Rogers Cup, must play 7 Junior Community games to qualify for finals.

**5b.iv:** A player who has played any WAFLW Reserves, or Rogers Cup can only play a maximum of 18 games in 2021.

**5b.ix:** If a player has played League WAFLW football, they cannot return to Junior Community Football for the regular season or finals.

**For all other rules – please download the relevant Competition Rules from KIA Club Hub [here](#)**

*Please note – these rules were not developed to protect “workload” of female participants. They are in line with the male WAFL Colts qualification rules for finals and have been developed to ensure Community Competition Participants are provided as many development opportunities as possible.*

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## CLUB CIRCULAR – 2021\_05 (cont.)

### How to check games played and manage the remainder of the season:

All Coaches should work with Club Registrars or Managers to check games played in each affected players' TG profile.

Once the games played value is calculated, coaches should include the players remaining games across the rest of the season.

By spreading out the available games, the pre-existing players are less likely to feel they have lost their spot to a Rogers Cup player and will continue to develop their match day skills in a variety of positions around the ground.

***Example 1:** Player A has played 14 Rogers Cup games and cannot qualify for finals. She should be encouraged to train with the team and help her team mates to improve their training and match preparation by sharing what she has learned in WAFLW. Her remaining 4 games could be spread out playing one game every 2 weeks after a 2-week rest from Rogers Cup season. When playing Rogers Cup, the player predominantly played in the forward line so could play in the backline to help develop another set of skills that will benefit the player in 2022 season.*

***Example 2:** In the same team, Player B has played 10 games in Rogers Cup. Adopting the same principles above, the player would play on alternative weeks to Player A and minimise the number of times the 2 players play the same games. This would reduce the impact on existing team members. She can play 8 games in the rest of the season but must play 7 games to qualify for finals. Coaches should discuss with the player now, and manager expectations of parents and player. Will the player play 8 games in regular season vs 7 regular season and one final? If the 2<sup>nd</sup> option, which final and what impact will that have on other players? Will it result in another player missing out?*

***Example 3:** Player C, D and E are in another team/club, have played 14 Rogers Cup games and are significantly more skilled than current team members. If these 3 players were included in next 4 games and played in the midfield for 100%, the current players are being pushed out of key positions, the flow on effect is likely to impact 6+ players' game time (ensuring they all meet 50% game time) and will remove players from positions they are currently developing in. The short-term effect may be to win 1-4 games, but the team will be significantly impacted and there may be questions to answer from parent group or players who don't understand what the rules are or are in place for.*

These players are critical to Community Clubs' future teams and coaches must keep in mind that Rogers Cup players are only able to return to Community Football in 2021 due to the offset seasons. Should future WAFLW seasons be aligned with WAFL dates, these players will potentially not be available.

The management of players returning from Rogers Cup to Community Football and the impact it has on existing players will form part of the review at season end when the criteria for finals eligibility is reviewed.

The WAFC encourages teams to try their best while still considering Rule 1.1 of the Rules and Regulations to foster the Spirit of Junior Football and **Not focus on winning at all costs**. The impact on development of players must be minimised by the return of players from the Talent Pathway.

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