

CIRCULAR



Subject: Club President and Senior Coach Skype Meeting

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Audience: Club Committees, Board Members

Summary: A series of grade Club President and Senior Coach Skype meetings are proposed the week commencing 2 nd June 2020 to discuss season format and draft match conditions for 2020.	Action: Review draft season format. Register for Skype meeting – CLICK HERE.
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As clubs have commenced training, the League is now planning for the possible return to play.

The League's planning may come to nothing if the WA Government's COVID-19 restrictions do not permit the playing of contact sport. This decision is planned for early-June.

If permission is given to allow contact sport, there will be WA Football Commission Return to Play protocols and WA Government Health requirements that will also need to be adhered to by clubs. These are yet to be confirmed. We envisage these requirements will outline factors the League cannot control such as opening of club bars, hygiene requirements, changerooms and gatherings restrictions.

However, on the factors we can control, we would like to commence discussion with clubs on the season format and match conditions for a proposed shortened 2020 season. If these conditions can be confirmed, then clubs will be in a better position to make an informed decision for nominating teams.

Club President and Senior Coach Skype Meeting

A series of grade Club President and Senior Coach Skype meetings are scheduled to discuss the season format and draft match conditions. A summary of these draft conditions are detailed below.

We request you register for this meeting via the link below. Prior to the meeting you will be emailed a meeting request and an invitation to Join the Skype meeting. If you need assistance please contact Ashlea Renshaw, Operations Co-ordinator 0429 174 906 or email arenschaw@wafc.com.au.

[CLICK LINK TO REGISTER FOR SKYPE MEETING](#)

The registration also requests you provide feedback on your club's general financial position, playing numbers, possible teams and volunteers. This will assist the League is preparing for the season.

The registration also provides for questions you may wish answered during the Skype meeting.

Skype meeting schedule

Date	Time	Grade
Tuesday 2 nd June 2020	6:30pm	C4
Tuesday 2 nd June 2020	7:30pm	C3
Wednesday 3 rd June 2020	6:30pm	C2
Wednesday 3 rd June 2020	7:30pm	C1
Thursday 4 th June 2020	6:30pm	B
Thursday 4 th June 2020	7:30pm	A

If you are unable to participate at the scheduled time, please contact Ashlea Renshaw, Operations Co-ordinator 0429 174 906 or email arensshaw@wafc.com.au to make alternative arrangements.

Affiliation Fees

Subject to team nominations, club affiliation fees for 2020 are proposed to be \$500 per team.

In reducing affiliation fees, the League will:

- Be underwriting club's insurances - Public Liability Policy, Personal Accident Policy (Bronze), Asset Protection and Travel Policy.
- Be underwriting ground hire.
- Be underwriting Finals.
- Be underwriting umpire coaching provided by the WAFC.
- NOT be allocating new footballs for the season. However, new footballs can be purchased at the club's own expense.
- NOT be conducting the Medal Presentation Dinner at Crown. A scaled event will be planned to recognise award winners.

Timing of payment of affiliation fees is still to be determined.

Outstanding club invoices

To assist club cashflow, the League will not call on outstanding invoices for playing jumpers/shorts and support personnel apparel till 2021. At present, the League is carrying \$110,000 in unpaid club bills.

All other payments such as club affiliation fees, fines and new footballs will be subject to the League's normal trading terms.

Public Liability Policy

The AFL Public Liability Policy will continue to operate to provide cover to insured Leagues/Clubs during this period. That policy will provide cover to an insured League/Club found to have been negligent in, or otherwise legally liable for, causing injury to other persons/third parties. Injury includes sickness or disease and the policy may therefore cover a League/Club found to have been negligent in causing infection to a third party (e.g. players, officials etc). Cover under the policy is always subject to the terms, conditions and exclusions of the policy wording. One relevant condition is that Leagues/Clubs must take all reasonable precautions, and at their own expense, to prevent personal injury (in this case the spread of COVID-19). Failure to do so could result in the level of cover for a claim being reduced by the insurer.

Accordingly, all League/Clubs must take reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including but not limited to, following the advice and recommendations of Federal & State Governments and other statutory bodies, World Health Organisation and medical and other experts where appropriate.

Personal Accident Policy

The AFL Personal Accident Policy, which provides cover for footballing injuries sustained by participants and other officials, does not provide any cover for sickness or illness. Players who catch COVID-19 will be treated in the public health system. However, if official/sanctioned training and games were to continue, the standard insurance coverage for footballing injuries would still most likely apply, subject always to the terms, conditions and exclusions of the policy wording.

Season format

Subject to WA Government approval and team nominations, the League is planning to commence all grades mid-July and complete all Grand Finals by the 26th September 2020. This period provides for 9 qualifying rounds and 2 weeks for Finals. Premiership flags and medallions will be awarded.

It is envisaged there will be 4-5 weeks between confirming a return to play and round 1.

Due to the shortness of the season and urgency to release fixtures, the League will be unable to accept fixture requests.

Team nominations

We are planning for team nominations to close Friday 19th June 2020. A circular will be sent to clubs inviting team nominations. Due to timing constraints, please start considering now your team nominations.

Footballs and support personnel apparel

Support Personnel Apparel is currently unavailable, we will inform you when this is available. Clubs can pick up footballs from two locations, North & South. Please contact Ashlea or Geoff to arrange a time for pick up. **North: Ashlea Renshaw 0429 174 906 / South: Geoff Palmer 0413 614 880**

Summary - COVID-19 By-laws Supplementary By-laws

Several by-law amendments are being recommended to support a shortened season. The League's COVID-19 By-laws Supplementary By-laws replace existing respective by-laws for the 2020 season.

Area	Proposal
Covid-19 Type 2 Local Interchange Permit	This amendment will be applied across all football in WA. Noting the unknown viability of teams across community football, players from other competitions such as country and other Perth Football League clubs whose regular team is not nominated by his/her club to play in 2020, can play with a Perth Football League club using a Type 2 Local Interchange Permit. Once permitted, the player cannot return and play at their primary registered club for the 2020 season.
Finals	Top 4 teams in the grade. (1v4)(2v3). Winners into Grand Final. <u>Player's eligibility</u> Senior mens, colts – 4 qualifying matches required to play finals Senior womens - 3 qualifying matches required to play finals
Footballs	To reduce affiliation fees, new footballs will not be allocated to clubs. New footballs should still be used from Round 1 for League matches. New footballs can be purchased at the club's own expense.
Access to changerooms	TBC. However, changerooms may not to be opened if government hygiene requirements are problematic.
Panel umpire payments	To be discussed A-B-C1 clubs.
Runners	Only one runner allowed per team as to assist with social gathering restrictions.
Water carriers	Only two water carriers allowed per team as to assist with social gathering restrictions.
Relegation/Promotion	To be discussed with clubs.
Player Points System	PPS will apply in accordance with the current by-laws. However, due to a shortened season, to be granted a Season of Service for 2020 a player is only required to play 4 matches not 5 matches.
Match Playing Times	To assist with social gathering restrictions less playing and break times will be applied for senior mens and colts matches. This will provide for longer breaks between matches as players and spectators arrive and leave the ground.
Premierships and awards	All of the League's standing awards such as Fairest and Best, Grand Final BOG, Premiership Flags and Player Medallions, and Champion Club will be awarded.