



---

# **AFL Northern Territory Rules & Regulations**

---

**2024 Edition**

This edition is valid from 25 September 2023 and shall continue to be current until a new edition is released by AFL Northern Territory.

**Preamble**

AFL Northern Territory (AFLNT) is responsible for the conduct of all competitions within the Northern Territory.

These Rules & Regulations provide direction for the administration of all competitions within the Northern Territory and must be read in conjunction with the Laws of Australian Football and the National Community Football Policy Handbook.

**Table of Contents**

- AFL Northern Territory Rules & Regulations ..... 1
- 1 Operation of Rules & Regulations .....5
  - 1.1 Application .....5
  - 1.2 National Community Football Policy Handbook .....5
  - 1.3 Amendments to Previous Editions .....5
- 2 Definitions .....6
- 3 Football Operations.....8
  - 3.1 Laws of Australian Football ..... 8
  - 3.2 Match Management..... 8
  - 3.3 Match - Match Day Checklist (Insurance Requirements) ..... 8
  - 3.4 Match - Team Sheets ..... 9
  - 3.5 Match - Time Keepers ..... 10
  - 3.6 Competitions..... 10
  - 3.7 Competition - Regrading..... 10
  - 3.8 Competition - Footballs..... 10
  - 3.9 Competition - Playing Numbers..... 11
  - 3.10 Competition - Premiership Points ..... 12
  - 3.11 Competition - Match Ratio ..... 13
  - 3.12 Competition - Percentage..... 13
  - 3.13 Competition - Forfeitures ..... 13
  - 3.14 Competition - Consequence of Forfeiture ..... 13
  - 3.15 Competition - Consequence of Washed Out Matches ..... 14
  - 3.16 Competition - Finals..... 15
  - 3.17 Competition - Drawn Finals Matches ..... 15
  - 3.18 Scheduling..... 15
  - 3.19 Scheduling - Match Times and Duration ..... 15
  - 3.20 Scheduling – Run-on Times ..... 15
  - 3.21 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations..... 16
  - 3.22 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations for Grand Finals ..... 16
  - 3.23 Scheduling – Warm-Ups..... 16
  - 3.24 Scheduling - Matches not Commenced or Incomplete ..... 16
  - 3.25 Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers & Stewards ..... 17
  - 3.26 Support Staff - Personnel Entering the Playing Arena ..... 17
  - 3.27 Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials..... 17
  - 3.28 Support Staff..... 18
  - 3.29 Umpires - Escorts ..... 19
  - 3.30 Umpires - Umpire Reports / Auditory Offences ..... 19
  - 3.31 Umpires - Club Umpires ..... 19
  - 3.32 Umpires - Interchange Steward..... 20
  - 3.33 Rules - Under 12 & Under 14 Modified Rules ..... 20
  - 3.34 Rules - Send Off Rule..... 20
  - 3.35 Rules - Female Grades Modified Rule ..... 21
- 4 Club Requirements .....22
  - 4.1 Nominations - Teams ..... 22
  - 4.2 Nominations - Club Coaches ..... 22
  - 4.3 Nominations - Club Complaints Officer ..... 22
  - 4.4 Nominations - Club Tribunal Advocate ..... 23
  - 4.5 Accreditation - Club Officials ..... 23
  - 4.6 Accreditation - Club Coaches ..... 23

4.7	Player Registrations .....	23
4.8	Player & Club Cooperation .....	24
4.9	Player & Club Officials - Change of Details .....	25
4.10	Player & Club Relations.....	25
4.11	Club Attendance - Meetings and Training .....	25
4.12	Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos .....	25
5	Player Eligibility .....	26
	Refer to Part B (Eligibility & Registration) of the Policy Handbook .....	26
5.1	Playing a Match .....	26
5.2	Age and Gender Qualifications.....	26
5.3	Playing Up (Juniors) .....	28
5.4	Age Dispensation .....	28
5.5	Junior Core Lists.....	29
5.6	Player Eligibility - All Matches.....	30
5.7	Player Eligibility - Finals Matches.....	30
5.8	Unregistered, Overage or Ineligible Player .....	31
5.9	Player Eligibility Disputes .....	31
6	Transfers and Permits .....	31
	Refer to Part B (Eligibility & Registration) of the Policy Handbook .....	31
6.1	Transfers.....	31
6.2	Transfer Refusals .....	31
6.3	Permits - Intra Territory.....	31
6.3.1	No Player shall permit to a dry season competition from the NTFL after the 30th of June of that calendar year.....	31
6.4	Match Day Permits .....	31
6.5	Student Permits .....	32
7	Representative Teams & The Northern Territory Football Club .....	32
7.1	Representative Team Officials Selection .....	32
7.2	Representative Team Selection .....	32
7.3	Player Awards.....	33
8	National Policies and Guidelines .....	33
9	Disciplinary.....	33
	Refer to Part E (Disciplinary) of the Policy Handbook .....	33
9.1	Appeals.....	33
9.2	Complaints.....	34
9.3	Referral of Incident .....	34
9.4	Deferral of Tribunal Hearing .....	35
9.5	Notifiable Conduct .....	35
9.6	Reportable Offences and Policy Breaches.....	35
10	Special Provision .....	36
10.1	Other Matters.....	36
10.2	Media Attendance in Tribunal.....	36
10.3	Authority to Investigate .....	36
10.4	Venue Accreditation .....	37
10.5	AFLNT Complaints Officer.....	37
10.6	AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee.....	37
10.7	AFLNT Laws Committee .....	38
10.8	Show Cause Notices .....	39
10.9	Fines & Penalties.....	39
10.10	Black Arm Bands .....	39
10.11	Minutes Silence .....	39
10.12	Sponsorship Display Provision .....	40
10.13	Food Preparation.....	40
11	Appendices .....	40
	Appendix 1 AFLNT Finals Schedule.....	41
	Appendix 2 AFLNT Code of Conduct Breach Process.....	41
	Appendix 3 AFLNT Time Keepers Instructions .....	42
	Appendix 4 AFLNT Extreme Weather Policy.....	45
	Appendix 5 AFLNT Player & Support Staff Uniform Guide .....	46
	Appendix 6 Player declaration .....	53

Appendix 7	AFLNT Forms .....	53
Appendix 8	Auditory Offences Matrix .....	54
Appendix 8a	Melee Matrix .....	55
Appendix 9	Reporting Process Flow-Chart .....	56
Appendix 10	Club Complaints Process Flow-Chart.....	57
Appendix 11	Role of the Match Review Panel, Tribunal & Appeals Board .....	58
Appendix 12	Fines & Penalties Table.....	59

# 1 Operation of Rules & Regulations

## 1.1 Application

These Rules and Regulations specify the rules and regulations applicable for the conduct of the Competitions in the Northern Territory and for the administration of the playing, participating, coaching, and officiating of Australian Football within the Northern Territory.

## 1.2 National Community Football Policy Handbook

AFLNT adopts the National Community Football Policy Handbook, and these Rules & Regulations must be read in conjunction with the National Community Football Policy Handbook. To the extent there is any inconsistency between these Rules & Regulations and the National Community Football Policy Handbook, these Rules and Regulations will prevail. AFLNT retains discretion to determine otherwise in particular circumstances.

## 1.3 Amendments to Previous Editions

The introduction of the National Community Football Policy Handbook rendered many of the previous Rules and Regulations redundant or unnecessary. Accordingly, numerous amendments were made in the 2022/23 version and further extensive refinements have been made in this version. Substantive amendments have been made to the following rules for this 2024 edition:

- (a) Rule 2; Definitions
- (b) 3.9; Competition - Playing Numbers
- (c) 3.11; Competition - Match Ratio
- (d) 3.13; Competition - Forfeitures
- (e) 3.14; Competition - Consequences of Forfeitures
- (f) 3.15; Competition - Consequence of Washed Out Matches
- (g) 3.19; Scheduling - Match Times and Duration
- (h) 3.24; Scheduling - Matches not Commenced or Incomplete
- (i) 3.25; Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers & Stewards
- (j) 3.27; Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials
- (k) 3.28; Support Staff
- (l) 3.31; Umpires - Club Umpires
- (m) 3.33; Rules - Under 12 & Under 14 Modified Rules
- (n) 3.35; Rules - Female Grades Modified Rule
- (o) 4.5; Accreditation - Club Officials
- (p) 4.7; Player Registrations
- (q) 4.12; Club Colours, Uniforms & Logos
- (r) 5.1; Playing a Match
- (s) 5.6; Player Eligibility - All Matches
- (t) 6.4; Match Day Permits
- (u) 8.2; Guidelines
- (v) 9.1; Appeals
- (w) 9.2; Complaints
- (x) 9.3; Referral of Incident
- (y) 9.6; Reportable Offences and Policy Breaches (added)
- (z) Appendix 2; AFLNT Code of Conduct Breach Process
- (aa) Appendix 5; AFL Northern Territory Apparel Guidelines
- (bb) Appendix 8; Auditory Offences Matrix
- (cc) Appendix 8a; Melee Matrix (added)

## 2 Definitions

In these Rules & Regulations, unless a contrary meaning is required by the context, the following words have the meanings indicated:

<b>Administrator:</b>	Any person who holds any office in or performs any duty for that Club whether as President, Vice President, Chairman, Director, General Manager, Executive Director member of any committee, Club Development Manager, Coach, Team Manager, trainer, official runner, water carrier, steward, tribunal advocate, or otherwise.
<b>Affiliate League:</b>	A competition that is administered by AFLNT under licence.
<b>AFL:</b>	Australian Football League (ACN 004 122 211).
<b>AFLNT:</b>	AFL Northern Territory Ltd.
<b>Appeals Board:</b>	The Independent body appointed by AFLNT to hear matters brought before it in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.
<b>Approved Uniform:</b>	Uniform approval under these Rules & Regulations, including guernsey, logos, shorts & socks.
<b>Away Games:</b>	Matches conducted on Licence with the AFLNT.
<b>Board:</b>	AFLNT Board of Directors.
<b>Club:</b>	A football club which has entered a Licence Agreement with AFLNT.
<b>Club Official:</b>	An official of a Club.
<b>Competition:</b>	A football competition administered by the AFLNT under these Rules & Regulations, including Major and Minor Rounds, a pre-season competition, and any additional competition.
<b>Competition Lead:</b>	The persons appointed by AFLNT as the Competition Lead for each of the AFLNT Affiliate Leagues.
<b>Competitions Manager:</b>	The person appointed by AFLNT to the position of Competitions Manager, or their delegate.
<b>Divisions:</b>	The divisions within a grade, ranked according to level of ability.
<b>Forfeit:</b>	When a team is unable to take the field in a scheduled match for any reason or is otherwise deemed to have forfeited a match in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
<b>Grade:</b>	A grade in a competition is determined by the age and gender qualifications.

<b>Head of AFLNT:</b>	The Head of AFLNT appointed from time to time.
<b>Laws of Australian Football:</b>	Laws of Australian Football as administered and controlled by the AFL.
<b>Major Round:</b>	The finals series in each grade of Competition.
<b>Match Manager:</b>	The person nominated by a Club or the AFLNT to facilitate the matches played at a specific venue.
<b>Match Review Panel:</b>	The Match Review Panel (MRP) is an appointed panel that assesses all reports and referrals lodged in respect of potential Reportable Offences.
<b>Minor Round:</b>	The series of fixtured home and away matches in each Grade of Competition which determines qualification for participation in Major Rounds.
<b>Notifiable Conduct:</b>	Conduct which may constitute an offence for which the prescribed maximum penalty is a term of imprisonment.
<b>NTFL:</b>	The competition known as Northern Territory Football League, conducted by AFLNT.
<b>NT Footballers:</b>	Players who reside in the Northern Territory permanently or who have played in the Northern Territory for a period of 5 years or more but currently reside elsewhere.
<b>Official:</b>	Any member of a football body who holds an official capacity within an Affiliate League, Club or team participating in a Competition.
<b>Participation Grade:</b>	Any grade of football other than Premier League or Premier League Reserves.
<b>Player:</b>	For the purpose of these Rules & Regulations, any eligible person selected to play in a match is considered to be a player of that Grade. <i>For the avoidance of doubt, a player can be considered a player of more than one Grade at any one time.</i>
<b>Policy Handbook:</b>	National Community Football Policy Handbook (as amended from time to time) ( <a href="http://www.afl.com.au/clubhelp/policies/handbook">www.afl.com.au/clubhelp/policies/handbook</a> ) .
<b>Premier League:</b>	The Premier League competitions of the NTFL.
<b>Premiership Ladder:</b>	The ranking of teams during the Minor Round of a Competition by premiership points for the purpose of determining participation in the major round.
<b>Rules &amp; Regulations:</b>	AFL Northern Territory Rules & Regulations (as amended from time to time).

<b>Senior Grades:</b>	Senior Men's and Women's Competitions (including Premier League).
<b>Tier 1 League:</b>	All Senior Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 18 teams directly comprising clubs of the following: South Australian National Football League; Victorian Football League; West Australian Football League; and Tasmanian State League.
<b>Tier 2 League:</b>	All other teams directly comprising clubs within an Australian football competition, other than the AFL, Tier 1 or Unaffiliated Leagues.
<b>Tribunal:</b>	An independent body appointed by AFLNT to hear matters brought before it in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.

### 3 Football Operations

#### 3.1 Laws of Australian Football

Except to the extent inconsistent with these Rules & Regulations, all matches played in a Competition will be played in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football.

#### 3.2 Match Management

- 3.2.1 AFLNT, Affiliated Leagues and Clubs are bound by these Rules & Regulations.
- 3.2.2 AFLNT must nominate a Match Manager by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to hosting matches scheduled to be played at any venue managed by AFLNT.
- 3.2.3 Clubs must nominate an AFLNT accredited official to act as Match Manager by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to hosting matches scheduled to be played at that Club's venue.
- 3.2.4 Club nominated Match Managers must carry out the prescribed duties of a Match Manager and be visible on match day, identifiable by AFLNT approved apparel.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

#### 3.3 Match - Match Day Checklist (Insurance Requirements)

- 3.3.1 A Marsh Match Day Checklist must be completed by the first two teams to compete on any oval at any venue scheduled for Competition matches (including Affiliate League matches), prior to the commencement of that match.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

- 3.3.2 The Marsh Match Day Checklist may:

- (a) be completed by using the Marsh 'App', in which case the completed checklist must be sent to [nffooty@afmnt.com.au](mailto:nffooty@afmnt.com.au), or
- (b) be completed by using the Marsh 'book', in which case the completed checklist must be submitted with the match day paperwork for that venue.



### 3.4 Match - Team Sheets

3.4.1 Each team must submit a signed team sheet to the Match Manager, field umpire, timekeepers and opposition team manager prior to the commencement of that team's match.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

3.4.2 The timing requirements for submission are as follows:

(a) Premier League team sheets must be submitted at least sixty (60) minutes prior to the commencement of the match they are participating in. Premier League team sheets must be derived from the team list submitted in accordance with that Affiliated Club's Licence Agreement.

(b) All team sheets (other than Premier League) must be submitted fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of the match they are participating in.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

3.4.3 The team sheet must include:

(a) The name (as registered on PlayHQ) and playing number of each player participating in that match;

(b) The name (as registered on PlayHQ) of the coach, all assistant coaches, runners, sports trainers, team manager (also known as steward) and water carriers participating in that match; and

(c) The selected captains. Captains must be selected on team sheets via PlayHQ when completing the team sheet and a "(c)" following a player's name denotes a captain on the team sheet.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

3.4.4 The team manager may amend a team sheet prior to the commencement of a match if a player listed on the team sheet becomes injured or is medically unfit to play, provided:

(a) The player who is being replaced on a team sheet leaves the playing arena and is not permitted to sit on the interchange bench during that match;

(b) The team sheet cannot be amended after the sounding of the first warning siren for that match;

(c) The team manager must notify the Match Manager of any change(s) to the team sheet;

(d) Team sheets are not to be changed once submitted other than a change of player number in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football;

(e) If it is necessary to change a player's number during the course of a match, the team manager of that team must notify the Match Manager immediately; and

(f) All persons entitled to a copy of the team sheet must be notified immediately of any changes.

### **3.5 Match - Time Keepers**

3.5.1 Each Affiliated Club must appoint a timekeeper for all matches in which it has a team participating unless notified that AFLNT has appointed official timekeepers.

3.5.2 All timekeepers must abide by the timekeeper's instructions as listed in these Rules & Regulations and as otherwise prescribed by AFLNT.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.6 Competitions**

3.6.1 AFLNT shall arrange and conduct competitions in the following grades:

- (a) Senior Grade;
- (b) Under 18 Grade;
- (c) Under 16 Grade;
- (d) Under 14 Grade; and
- (e) Under 12 Grade.

3.6.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

3.6.3 AFLNT may arrange and conduct additional Competitions subject to these Rules & Regulations and to such other conditions as AFLNT determines from time to time.

(a) In the event that an additional Competition(s) is arranged, and conditions are not determined in advance by AFLNT, or do not adequately cover a range of unforeseen occurrences, the Competition(s) will be subject to the NTFL By-Laws irrespective of the location and administration of the Competition.

(b) Additional Competitions arranged by AFLNT must be entered on PlayHQ with team sheets and scores recorded on PlayHQ for each match played in that Competition.

### **3.7 Competition - Regrading**

3.7.1 The AFLNT Football Operations Department may regrade Competitions at any time up to round 6 of any given season where it is deemed necessary.

### **3.8 Competition - Footballs**

3.8.1 Only AFLNT approved footballs are to be used for Competition matches (including Club home games).

3.8.2 Red footballs will be used for day matches and yellow footballs will be used for night matches. The AFLNT Football Operations Department will determine the colour of footballs for twilight matches.

3.8.3 A minimum of two (2) footballs in good condition are to be available at the commencement of all Competition matches.

3.8.4 The following leather footballs are to be used in Competition matches:

- |                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Senior Men's grade:           | Size 5 Football |
| (b) Under 16 & 18 Male's Grade:   | Size 5 Football |
| (c) Senior Women's Grade:         | Size 4 Football |
| (d) Under 16 & 18 Female's Grade: | Size 4 Football |
| (e) Under 14 Male's Grade:        | Size 4 Football |
| (f) Under 14 Female's Grade:      | Size 3 Football |
| (g) Under 12 Grade*:              | Size 3 Football |

\*During adverse weather conditions Under 12 Grade may use synthetic footballs.

### 3.9 Competition - Playing Numbers

3.9.1 Teams competing in any Competition shall have no more than the following maximum number of Players per team - unless otherwise specified in the Competition By-Laws;

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (a) Senior Men:                 | 22 (18 on field + 4 interchange) |
| (b) Senior Women:               | 22 (16 on field + 6 interchange) |
| (c) Youth Males (U14 to U18):   | 22 (18 on field + 4 interchange) |
| (d) Youth Females (U14 to U18): | 22 (16 on field + 6 interchange) |
| (e) Junior (Under 12):          | 20 (15 on field + 5 interchange) |

3.9.2 If a team submits a team sheet that does not accurately represent the team that took the field during that match, the following will apply:

(a) The Club will incur the following fee (first offence):

- |                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| (i) Premier League:           | Refer NTFB Bylaws; |
| (ii) All other senior grades: | \$750;             |
| (iii) Under 18 grade:         | \$500;             |
| (iv) Under 14 to 16 grade:    | \$250;             |
| (v) Under 12 grade:           | \$100; and         |

(b) AFLNT may conduct an investigation into the breach, the findings of which may determine a further sanction for the Club including but not limited to, the team being deemed to have forfeited the match, or the deduction of premiership points.

*[Financial Penalties – Refer Appendix 12]*

3.9.3 If, at the commencement of a match, or at any time during a match, a team has more than the prescribed number of Players on the interchange bench, subject to 3.9.4, AFLNT may conduct an investigation into the breach, the findings of which may result in sanctions including, but not limited to:

(a) having four premiership points deducted and the team sheet removed from the system for the purpose of qualification, along with ineligibility for umpire votes and goal kicker tallies for that match.

*[Premiership Points Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

- 3.9.4 For the avoidance of doubt, any team that has more than the prescribed number of interchange Players but does not exceed the total maximum playing numbers for that grade will not be considered to have breached these Rules & Regulations.
- 3.9.5 If a junior or Participation Grade team is unable to field a full side, the umpire(s) may commence the match as scheduled if each team has a maximum of four (4) Players fewer than the prescribed on-field playing numbers for that grade, provided each team has equal playing numbers on the playing arena during the course of the match. If such a match commences the following will apply:
- (a) If a player is sent from the field under the send-off rule, the other team is not required to remove Players from the field of play to maintain equal playing numbers for the duration of that send off period.
  - (b) If a player is removed from the field due to injury, the other team is not required to remove Players from the field of play to maintain equal playing numbers for the period of time that the player is unable to participate due to that injury.
  - (c) If a junior match commences with one or both teams fielding less than the prescribed number of Players for that competition, the Match Manager has discretionary authority to:
    - i. Allow the match to commence with the minimum number of Players allowable for that Competition and having two (2) of those Players on the interchange to suit the weather conditions that the match is being played in; and
    - ii. Allow the match to be played on a reduced size field to suit the weather conditions when playing a match with a reduced number of Players.
- 3.9.6 If a match cannot commence because insufficient Players are available, the team that cannot field the required number of Players for that Competition will be deemed to have forfeited that match.  
*[Financial Penalty – As per 3.13.2 and Appendix 12]*
- 3.9.7 If during a match playing numbers for either team fall below the minimum allowable as per (3.9.5), for any reason, the provisions of clause 23.7 of the Laws of Australian Football shall apply.
- 3.9.8 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary playing numbers for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

### **3.10 Competition - Premiership Points**

Premiership points for all Minor Round matches will be awarded as follows:

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) Win     | Four Points |
| (b) Draw    | Two Points  |
| (c) Tie     | Two Points  |
| (d) Washout | Two Points  |
| (e) Loss    | Zero Points |
| (f) Bye     | Zero Points |

### **3.11 Competition - Match Ratio**

If the Minor Round does not provide each participating team with an equal number of Minor Round matches, positions on the premiership ladder will be determined using the following match ratio formula:

- (a) Number of premiership points divided by the number of games played.

### **3.12 Competition - Percentage**

3.12.1 Percentage for all Minor Round matches will be calculated by dividing the total points scored by a team during the Minor Round by the points scored against that team during the Minor Round and multiplying that result by 100.

3.12.2 Where two or more teams are equal on premiership points or match ratio, their respective premiership ladder positions will be determined by percentage.

### **3.13 Competition - Forfeitures**

3.13.1 A Club must notify the AFLNT Football Operations Department by no later than 26 hours before the scheduled match time if it is unable to field a team and wishes to forfeit that match.

3.13.2 Where a Club fails to notify the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per these Rules & Regulations, that Club will incur the following match fee:

- (a) Premier League: \$2000
- (b) All other senior grades: \$750
- (c) Under 18 grade: \$500
- (d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$250
- (e) Under 12 grade: \$100

3.13.3 Where a Club forfeits a senior match in a specific grade, any of that Club's teams playing in a lower division of that same grade, in the same round, will also be deemed to have forfeited their match.

3.13.4 For the avoidance of doubt, clause 3.13.3 does not apply to junior grades.

3.13.5 Where a club forfeits a finals match in any grade, that club will incur a match fee of \$2000.

*[Financial Penalties – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.14 Competition - Consequence of Forfeiture**

3.14.1 Where a team forfeits a match, the following shall apply:

- (a) The team receiving the forfeit is entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.
  - i. If a team sheet is submitted by a team receiving a forfeit, all Players listed on that team sheet will be deemed to have played in that match for the purpose of finals eligibility.
  - ii. Once a player is deemed to have played in a senior grade match under this provision, that player is deemed ineligible to play in another match in that same round of matches.

- (b) The team giving the forfeit is not entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match.
- (c) Where a team is deemed to have forfeited a match under player eligibility rules or playing number rules the following shall apply:
  - i. Where the player eligibility rules were breached the player(s) deemed to be ineligible to play in that match will be removed from the team sheet and will be deemed not to have played in that match.
  - ii. Where the playing number rules were breached the entire team will be removed from the team sheet and all Players will be deemed not to have played in that match.
- (d) The team receiving the forfeit shall receive four (4) premiership points and the team giving the forfeit shall receive zero (0) premiership points.
- (e) The percentage for the match being forfeited shall be calculated by assuming the winning team has scored sixty (60) points and the losing team has scored zero (0) points.

3.14.2 Where any team forfeits a total of three (3) Minor Round matches in any one season, that team's club will be required to show cause as to why the team should not be removed from the Competition in which it is participating. In the event of a team being removed from the Competition, the following will apply:

- (a) Minor Round matches deemed to be forfeited matches due to player eligibility rules or exceeding the playing number rules will not be considered when calculating forfeited matches under this rule.
- (b) All matches that a team removed from a Competition at any time during the season pursuant to this Rule is scheduled to participate in shall be reflected as a forfeit for the remaining rounds of the season.
- (c) The team receiving the forfeit is entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.
- (d) If a team sheet is submitted by a team receiving a forfeit, all Players listed on that team sheet will be deemed to have played in that match for the purpose of finals eligibility.
- (e) Where a bye already exists within the Senior and/or Under 18s fixture and a team is then removed from the Competition, the matches will not be re-fixtured for the purpose of premiership points, however teams are encouraged to participate in a scratch match.

### **3.15 Competition - Consequence of Washed Out Matches**

3.15.1 Where a match is deemed to be washed out, the following shall apply:

- (a) Each team will receive two (2) premiership points; and
- (b) Each team involved in the washed-out match is entitled to submit a team sheet for the match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.
- (c) E-Points may still be awarded, where applicable.

### **3.16 Competition - Finals**

3.16.1 At the conclusion of the Minor Round in any Competition, the finals matches will be scheduled using the Finals Schedule as listed in Appendix 1 of these Rules & Regulations.

3.16.2 The finals format for all Competitions are to be confirmed prior to round 8 of each season.

### **3.17 Competition - Drawn Finals Matches**

3.17.1 In any finals match where the scores are tied at the end of full time, the following rules apply:

At the conclusion of full time there will be a five (5) minute interval during which time the coaching staff may address the Players. At the conclusion of the five (5) minute interval, the teams will change ends and play until a score is registered at which time the game will end and the team with the highest score will be declared the winner.

3.17.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary drawn finals match rules for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

### **3.18 Scheduling**

3.18.1 AFLNT will determine the schedule and fixture for all matches and reserve the right to reschedule matches as required.

### **3.19 Scheduling - Match Times and Duration**

3.19.1 Refer Appendix 3 of these Rules and Regulations for Match Timings.

3.19.2 The AFLNT appointed Match Manager has discretionary authority to adjust match times (other than Premier League matches) to ensure Premier League matches and other matches of interest commence on or near their scheduled time.

3.19.3 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary match times and durations for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

### **3.20 Scheduling – Run-on Times**

3.20.1 The AFLNT Football Operations Department may allocate specific run-on times where it deems necessary.

(a) Allocated run-on times are subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

(b) Where a team is unable to run on at the allocated run-on time due to the previous match not being cleared in time, the impacted teams are to enter the playing area at the earliest possible opportunity.

3.20.2 Teams that are participating in matches that are not allocated specific run-on times are to enter the playing arena not less than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time for that match.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.21 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations**

- 3.21.1 Change rooms will be allocated to teams for AFLNT administered competitions by the AFLNT Football Operations Department when necessary.
- 3.21.2 Change rooms are to be vacated by teams by half time of the following match.
- 3.21.3 Change rooms are to be left in a clean and tidy state when vacated by the team they have been allocated to.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*
- 3.21.4 When allocated a change room by AFLNT, Clubs are allowed access to that change room at half time of the match immediately preceding the match they are scheduled to participate in.
- (a) This rule will not be applicable to Gardens Ovals until such time as additional change rooms are available.
- 3.21.5 AFLNT takes no responsibility for the security of Club or individually owned property.

### **3.22 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations for Grand Finals**

- 3.22.1 The first team to qualify for the Men's and Women's Premier League Grand Finals will be offered the opportunity to choose which change room they would prefer for their respective grand finals.

### **3.23 Scheduling – Warm-Ups**

- 3.23.1 Clubs are permitted to warm up on an oval they are scheduled to play on, prior to their allocated run-on time.
- 3.23.2 Clubs are not to interfere with current games and huddles, or create any time delays due to their warm-up, or the Financial Penalty will apply.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*
- 3.23.3 NTFNL may disallow warm-ups on major event days, inclusive of Grand Finals prior to teams allocated run on time. Warm-up areas will be allocated to clubs when available.

### **3.24 Scheduling - Matches not Commenced or Incomplete**

- 3.24.1 If a match cannot be commenced at the scheduled start time or having already commenced is unable to be completed within the time scheduled for that match for reasons other than a forfeit, the following provisions shall apply:
- (a) If a match cannot be commenced within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled start time, that match will be deemed a wash-out.
- (b) If a match has commenced but is stopped for any reason before the half time interval and is unable to recommence within thirty (30) minutes, that match will be deemed a wash-out.
- i. Premier League finals matches, wherever possible, will be rescheduled for the next available opportunity immediately following the washed-out match.



- ii. AFLNT reserves the right to reschedule washed out finals matches for all other grades and divisions where practical.
  - iii. Where it is not practical to reschedule a finals match or circumstances do not allow a rescheduled match to proceed, the higher ranked team will be declared the winner.
- (c) If a match has commenced but is stopped for any reason during or after the half time interval and is unable to recommence within a period of thirty (30) minutes, that match will be deemed to have been completed and the scores at the time the match was stopped will be deemed to be the final scores for that match.
- i. In the event of the scores being level at this stage in a finals match, the higher ranked team will be declared the winner.

3.24.2 If circumstances permit, any match that is to be rescheduled may be rescheduled to a new time at the same venue on the same day.

3.24.3 AFLNT reserves the right to reschedule matches at times other than those prescribed within these Rules & Regulations where unusual or extreme circumstances apply.

### **3.25 Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers & Stewards**

3.25.1 Coaching staff, team managers and stewards must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.

3.25.2 Junior coaches must wear the AFLNT approved apparel.

3.25.3 Senior coaches, including assistant coaches, must wear their club polo shirt.

3.25.4 Team managers and stewards must wear the AFLNT approved apparel.  
*[Financial Penalties – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.26 Support Staff - Personnel Entering the Playing Arena**

3.26.1 All support staff other than runners, trainers (including First Aid Officers and Doctors) and water carriers must remain in the coach's box (or within the perimeter lines surrounding the coach's box) or within the area prescribed by the controlling body, for the duration of the match they are participating in.

3.26.2 Unauthorised persons may be ordered from the field of play by an umpire or AFLNT official.

3.26.3 Any individual that breaches this Rule and can be considered a member of a Club as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy will be deemed the responsibility of that Club and as such, that Club will be deemed to be in breach of this Rule.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.27 Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials**

3.27.1 A Player registered with a Club may act as a team official for their own Club or for another Club with written permission from their Club.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### 3.28 Support Staff

- 3.28.1 On field support staff must be at least 15 years of age when participating in a Premier League or Premier League Reserves match.
- 3.28.2 On field support staff must be at least 12 years of age when participating in matches other than Premier League & Premier League Reserves matches.
- 3.28.3 Support staff must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.
- 3.28.4 Teams may appoint up to five (5) water carriers that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.
- (a) Water carriers are not to enter the field of play for any purpose other than providing water to players and umpires.
  - (b) Water carriers are not to carry more than two (2) squirt bottles or chin sipper bottles.
  - (c) Water carriers may not carry water bottles larger than squirt bottles or chin sipper bottles.
  - (d) Water carriers must wear the AFLNT approved 'Water Carrier' apparel.
  - (e) Teams may appoint up to two (2) qualified sports trainers (including First Aid Officers and Physiotherapists) that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.
  - (f) Sports trainers may double as water carriers where a team has less than the maximum allowable water carriers, otherwise, sports trainers are not to enter the field of play for any purpose other than attending to injured players or umpires.
  - (g) Sports trainers must wear the AFLNT approved 'Trainer' apparel.
- 3.28.5 Teams may appoint up to two (2) team runners that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.
- (a) If a team chooses to appoint two runners for a match, only one (1) runner is allowed to enter the field of play at any time.
  - (b) If a team chooses to appoint two runners for a match, the runners are to use the interchange gate when entering and leaving the field of play.
  - (c) Team runners must not enter the field of play for any purpose other than to deliver a message from the coach to a player and must leave the field of play once that message has been delivered.
  - (d) Team runners are not to carry a radio or any other communication equipment whilst on the field of play.
  - (e) Team runners must wear the AFLNT approved 'Runner' apparel.
    - i. Premier League team runners must wear matching shorts.

3.28.6 On field support staff are not to communicate with an umpire, opposition player or official other than to provide medical assistance and provided that a team runner may communicate with an umpire in accordance with rule 5.5 of the Laws of Australian Football.

*[Financial Penalties – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.29 Umpires - Escorts**

3.29.1 Clubs must provide an AFLNT accredited official to act as umpire escort for every match that Club is participating in other than Under 12 Matches.

(a) The escort is required to escort the umpires from the door of the umpire's changeroom onto the ground at the beginning of the match and the beginning of the third quarter.

(b) The escort is required to escort the umpires from the ground to the door of the umpire's changeroom at the end of the second quarter and at the end of the match.

(c) The escort's responsibility is to ensure members and supporters of their own Club do not approach the umpires or attempt to engage the umpires in conversation.

(d) Umpires will not enter the field of play to start the match until the umpire escorts are present.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.30 Umpires - Umpire Reports / Auditory Offences**

3.30.1 At the conclusion of each match, the team manager or another accredited official from each club is required to check with the umpires to confirm whether there have been any reports on Players and/or Officials.

3.30.2 Where written acceptance of an early guilty plea or intent to challenge the charge is not received by AFLNT by 9pm on the day that the Notice of Charge is issued (unless otherwise agreed to by the Tribunal secretary), the player and/or official will be deemed to have accepted the base penalty.

3.30.3 The Tribunal will be conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in Part E (Disciplinary) of the Policy Handbook.

3.30.4 In addition to grading classifiable offences in accordance with Part E (Disciplinary) of the Policy Handbook, in the case of Auditory Offences (as that term is defined in Appendix 8), the umpire must grade the offence in accordance with the matrix set out in Appendix 8.

### **3.31 Umpires - Club Umpires**

3.31.1 Where notified by the AFLNT Football Operations Department, Clubs must supply one Club field and/or boundary and/or goal umpire to umpire matches.

3.31.2 Other than in the case of unforeseen circumstances, Clubs will be notified prior to any scheduled match if that Club is required to provide umpires for a match.

3.31.3 Where a Club cannot supply a field umpire, the match may go ahead with one volunteer field umpire supplied by the other club as per the Laws of Australian Football.

3.31.4 Where neither Club can supply a field umpire the match is not to be played and will be deemed a draw.

3.31.5 Club field umpires must be accredited by completing the Basic Umpires Course.

3.31.6 Club umpires must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.

3.31.7 Club umpires must wear the AFLNT approved club umpire's shirt.

- (a) Club umpires may wear club umpire shirts or bibs as previously supplied by AFLNT.

*[Financial Penalties – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **3.32 Umpires - Interchange Steward**

3.32.1 AFLNT may appoint an Interchange Steward for any match that it deems fit.

### **3.33 Rules - Under 12 & Under 14 Modified Rules**

3.33.1 In acknowledgement of the Under 12 and Under 14 Competitions being skill development grades the following special rules shall apply:

- (a) The ball must be thrown up at all ruck contests.
- (b) The umpire must identify one player from each opposing side to contest the ruck and only those nominated can contest the throw-up.
- (c) Players are allowed to bounce the ball twice before they must dispose to another player.
- (d) Handballing to themselves or taking a third bounce must be penalised as "holding the ball".
- (e) Players may not deliberately kick the ball off the ground at any time.
- (f) An accidental kick off the ground will not be penalised and a "play on" call will result.
- (g) Where the 50 metre rule applies under offences within the Laws of Australian Football, a distance of 25 metres may be substituted.
- (h) No player shall be deliberately slung, dumped or thrown to the ground in any tackle. A free kick shall be awarded against the player who contravenes this rule.

3.33.2 Recording of best players and goal kickers in Under 12 Competitions administered by AFLNT is not permitted.

### **3.34 Rules - Send Off Rule**

3.34.1 AFLNT adopts the 'Order Off Law' as outlined in Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football.

- (a) Any player ordered off the field under Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football during a Premier League Match can be replaced immediately by another player listed on that team's team sheet.

3.34.2 In addition to that outlined in Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football:

- (a) A Player sent off for a red card offence:
  - i. Cannot return to the field of play for the remainder of the match;
  - ii. Cannot be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
  - iii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the timekeepers;
  - iv. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a red card; and
  - v. The timekeepers are to acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching red card for the umpire to see.
  
- (b) A Player sent off for a yellow card offence:
  - i. Cannot return to the field of play or be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
  - ii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the Timekeepers;
  - iii. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a yellow card; and
  - iv. The timekeepers will acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching yellow card for the umpire to see.
  
- (c) A player sent off for a second yellow card offence in the same match is automatically deemed to have received a red card and:
  - i. Cannot return to the field of play for the remainder of the match;
  - ii. Cannot be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
  - iii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the timekeepers;
  - iv. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a yellow card and then a red card; and
  - v. The timekeeper will acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching yellow card and then a red card.
  
- (d) Any player who receives three (3) yellow cards in any one season shall automatically be suspended for one (1) match.
  
- (e) Any player who receives more than three (3) yellow cards in any one season shall automatically be suspended for one (1) match with each additional yellow card.
  
- (f) Any player suspended after receiving three (3) or more yellow cards in the same season shall be ineligible to win any League Best and Fairest award.

### **3.35 Rules - Female Grades Modified Rule**

At centre bounces (or ball-ups), each team must have five forwards and five defenders inside their respective 50m arcs with one forward and one defender inside their goal square. Three midfielders plus the ruck will be in the middle of the ground, with a winger somewhere on the long side of the centre square (technically a rectangle).

## **4 Club Requirements**

### **4.1 Nominations - Teams**

- 4.1.1 Clubs are required to nominate all teams they intend to enter into AFLNT administered competitions each season.
- 4.1.2 Team nominations are to be submitted in writing, to the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per deadlines specified in the Competition By-Laws.
  - (a) Clubs may nominate a maximum of one (1) team to compete in each Competition (one team per division).
- 4.1.3 Clubs may be asked to provide supporting evidence to confirm their capacity to field a team in a Competition.
- 4.1.4 A withdrawal of a team in a Competition will be dealt with in accordance with that club's licence agreement.

### **4.2 Nominations - Club Coaches**

- 4.2.1 Clubs are required to nominate all coaches (including assistant coaches) for all teams entered into any Competition each season.
- 4.2.2 Coach nominations are to be submitted to the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per deadlines specified in the Competition By-Laws.
- 4.2.3 Clubs may be asked to provide supporting evidence to confirm their coaches are correctly accredited.

### **4.3 Nominations - Club Complaints Officer**

- 4.3.1 Clubs shall appoint one or more Complaints Officer who will be responsible for the following:
  - (a) The Club Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for ensuring that any breach of any guidelines, (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and policies) that have been adopted by AFLNT, are responded to in an equitable and prompt manner.
  - (b) The Club Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for liaising between AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) in the case of an Inter-Club or Intra-Club Complaint, in an attempt to achieve informal resolution of the complaint.
  - (c) The Club Complaints Officer and the AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) shall liaise directly over incidents which in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer or AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) are contrary to any guidelines that have been adopted by AFLNT.
- 4.3.2 Club Complaints Officers must be registered using the AFLNT approved on-line database known as PlayHQ.
- 4.3.3 Club Complaints Officers may also act as Club Tribunal Advocates.

#### **4.4 Nominations - Club Tribunal Advocate**

- 4.4.1 Clubs are required to nominate a minimum of one Club Tribunal Advocate to represent Players and Officials who are brought before an AFLNT tribunal or any other AFLNT organised committee or panel for any reason including as a witness.
- 4.4.2 Club Tribunal Advocates must be registered using the AFLNT approved on-line database known as PlayHQ.
- 4.4.3 Club Tribunal Advocates may also act as Club Complaints Officers.

#### **4.5 Accreditation - Club Officials**

- 4.5.1 No person may participate in an official capacity for a Club until accredited by AFLNT.
- 4.5.2 Prior to receiving AFLNT accreditation, Club officials must be registered using the AFLNT approved online registration database known as PlayHQ.
- 4.5.3 Clubs are required to apply for accreditation of all Club officials using the form prescribed in these Rules & Regulations, accompanied by:
  - (a) A copy of a current working with children (ochre) card.
- 4.5.4 Clubs may attach all listed documentation on the official's PlayHQ profile with the consent of that official.
- 4.5.5 Any team that submits a team sheet which includes a person that is in breach of these Rules & Regulations will be deemed to have forfeited that match.  
*[Forfeiture Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

#### **4.6 Accreditation - Club Coaches**

- 4.6.1 Coaches and assistant coaches who are not accredited at the commencement of a season are not permitted to coach a team in a Competition.
  - (a) Coaches and assistant coaches will not be accredited if they do not hold a current working with children (ochre) card.
  - (b) Accredited coaches must maintain their accreditation by attending AFLNT approved coaching courses or seminars, or supply AFLNT with records of accreditation upgrades obtained through other means.
  - (c) Lapse of accreditation will deem the coach an unaccredited official and will be dealt with in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

#### **4.7 Player Registrations**

- 4.7.1 Player registration is the sole responsibility of the Club.
- 4.7.2 A player may only be registered to one Club at any one time.
- 4.7.3 A person wishing to be registered as a player in a Competition must complete the PlayHQ online registration process.

- 4.7.4 Any player who transfers to a Competition must be registered with the destination Club prior to participating in a match for that Club.
- 4.7.5 Any player who registers to play in a Competition must provide their Club with proof of age in the form of:
- (a) Passport,
  - (b) Birth Certificate,
  - (c) Current and Valid Driver's Licence,
  - (d) Current and Valid Student Photo ID, or
  - (e) Community Health Care Declaration.

Where a dispute is raised over the validity of proof of age documentation, the above list should be considered the priority order in which these documents will be accepted by AFLNT.

- 4.7.6 A person is deemed to be a registered player once the online registration process is complete. The registration process is not deemed to be complete until the final approval is granted by the player in question where required.
- (a) Where there is a system issue preventing the completion of the online registration, the Competition Lead at their discretion, may deem a player to be registered upon provision of a screenshot or similar proof that the online registration cannot be completed.
- 4.7.7 Clubs are responsible for ensuring the player registration process is followed in its entirety.
- 4.7.8 Clubs are required to provide copies of all listed documentation within 24 hours of receiving a request from the AFLNT Football Operations Department.
- 4.7.9 Clubs may attach all listed documentation on the players PlayHQ profile with the consent of that player.
- 4.7.10 Any dispute regarding the player registration process will only be addressed once a complaint has been lodged in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.
- 4.7.11 The AFLNT Permit Committee will be responsible for any complaints received regarding the player registration process.

## **4.8 Player & Club Cooperation**

- 4.8.1 Players and officials must abide by the directions of the Tribunal or Tribunal secretary.
- 4.8.2 For the purpose of these Rules & Regulations, the Tribunal may include any committee, panel, board or investigator(s) appointed by AFLNT.
- 4.8.3 Where a player or official has not appeared before the Tribunal as directed, that player or official may be deemed by the chairman of that tribunal as being ineligible to participate in any Competition or match and may be suspended, with that suspension placed on PlayHQ until such time as he/she has appeared before that tribunal.



#### **4.9 Player & Club Officials - Change of Details**

4.9.1 Players and officials must ensure currency of their details is maintained in the PlayHQ system.

#### **4.10 Player & Club Relations**

4.10.1 Each Club shall have and make available to all Club members a copy of that Club's constitution and any rules regulations, codes of conduct, policies and guidelines adopted by the Club, the league that Club is affiliated to, and AFLNT.

#### **4.11 Club Attendance - Meetings and Training**

4.11.1 AFLNT will schedule volunteer education sessions and meetings from time to time.

4.11.2 Clubs must ensure that they are represented at any such education session or meeting.

#### **4.12 Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos**

4.12.1 Each Club must submit for AFLNT approval, the proposed design (including colours and logos) of their playing uniforms at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.

(a) Each Club that has an approved uniform that is considered to clash with the playing uniform of another Club must provide an alternate or clash uniform at the request of the AFLNT Football Operations Department.

4.12.2 Each Club must submit for AFLNT approval, their proposed design (including colours) of any 'special event' or 'recognition round' playing uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.

4.12.3 *Deleted*

4.12.4 All Premier League Men's and Women's teams must provide a clash uniform (guernsey and shorts for men, guernsey only for women) for each season. It is preferable that one of the guernseys has an emphasis on a lighter colour and the other has an emphasis on a darker colour within that Club's normal playing colours, and the same with the shorts (men only).

(a) AFLNT reserves the right to direct Clubs with teams in Grades or Divisions other than Men's and Women's Premier League to provide a clash uniform.

4.12.5 Each Club requested to provide a clash uniform must submit for AFLNT approval, the proposed design (including colours and logos) of their clash uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.

4.12.6 AFLNT reserves the right to determine that a Club may be required to wear approved, alternatively coloured shorts under circumstances other than those prescribed in these Rules & Regulations.

4.12.7 AFLNT will determine when a Club is required to wear their clash uniform and which combination of Guernsey and Shorts will be worn.

4.12.8 No Player shall wear gloves during the course of a match unless approved by the AFLNT Football Operations Department.

(a) Approval for gloves will only be granted on the receipt of medical advice.

4.12.9 Any player wishing to wear a hat or cap during the course of a match must advise the umpires prior to the match and offer the hat(s) or cap(s) for inspection. Hats and caps worn by players must be soft materialled "sports" hats or caps containing no sharp objects or edges.

4.12.10 No Player shall wear any apparel attached to their boots during the course of a match unless approved by the Competition Lead.

(a) Approval for apparel attached to boots will only be granted on the receipt of medical advice.

4.12.11 Undershorts may be worn by a player provided that the material does not display any sponsor advertising. Undershorts must be Neutral or playing shorts colour and must not clash with the opposition uniform.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

## **5 Player Eligibility**

**Refer to Part B (Eligibility & Registration) of the Policy Handbook**

### **5.1 Playing a Match**

5.1.1 In determining how many matches a Player has played for a Club, a Player who is:

- (a) on the team list and who is on the ground (including the interchange bench), in playing uniform, during the course of the match; or
- (b) on the team list in a match where the opposition forfeits or is deemed to have forfeited; or
- (c) named on the team sheet of a match declared to be a wash out;

is deemed to have played that match.

### **5.2 Age and Gender Qualifications**

5.2.1 Each participating Player in Senior Men's Grade must be:

- (a) at least 15 years of age at the time of playing; and
- (b) male,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.2 Each participating Player in Senior Women's Grade must be:

- (a) at least 16 years of age at the time of playing; and
- (b) female,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.3 Each participating Player in Under 18 Grade must be:

- (a) at least 15 years of age at the time of playing;
- (b) less than 18 years of age on 30 June in the year the Competition commences;
- (c) male (to participate in Under 18 Males); and
- (d) female (to participate in Under 18 Females),

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.4 Each participating Player in Under 16 Grade must:

- (a) have turned 14 years of age by 30th June in the year the competition commences;
- (b) be less than 16 years of age on 1st July in the year the competition commences;
- (c) be male to participate in Under 16 Males; and
- (d) be female to participate in Under 16 Females,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.5 Each participating Player in Under 14 Grade must:

- (a) have turned 12 years of age by 30th June in the year the competition commences;
- (b) be less than 14 years of age on 1st July in the year the competition commences;
- (c) be male to participate in Under 14 Males; and
- (d) be female to participate in Under 14 Females,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.6 Each participating Player in Under 12 Grade must:

- (a) have turned 10 years of age by 30th June in the year the competition commences;
- (b) be less than 12 years of age on 1st July in the year the competition commences;
- (c) be male to participate in Under 12 Males; and
- (d) be female to participate in Under 12 Females,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.7 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary age and gender qualifications subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **5.3 Playing Up (Juniors)**

- 5.3.1 Players are permitted to play up, as long as they are not displacing a Registered Age Group player in the higher age group or depleting numbers in their age group to the extent that the team can no longer participate.
- 5.3.2 A Player is only permitted to play up one age group, i.e. an U12s Player can only play up in to U14s.
- 5.3.3 Any Player wishing to play up an age group will be required to complete a 'Playing Up Consent' form (Appendix 7) which must be sent to the Competition Lead prior to the player playing their first match for the age group.
- 5.3.4 The responsibility for the decision to play players above their registered age group rests with the players' club. The decision is to be made after discussions between the club, coaches, player involved, his/her parent/s or guardian/s and is to be made solely based on what is best for that player.
- 5.3.5 The Competition Lead may review and overturn any decision to play players above their registered age if they deem it necessary.

*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

### **5.4 Age Dispensation**

- 5.4.1 Players may be provided dispensation to play in a Competition below their applicable age group in accordance with the Policy Handbook.
- 5.4.2 Applications for dispensation must be submitted to the Competition Lead on an 'Age Dispensation Application' form (Appendix 7) and accompanied by relevant documentary evidence.
- 5.4.3 The Competition Lead will assess an age dispensation application as they see fit in full consideration of the circumstances presented, and in accordance with the Policy Handbook.
- 5.4.4 In addition to the effects of an approved application under Section 5 of the Policy Handbook, the following conditions will apply:
  - (a) A player with an approved age dispensation application will be eligible to play finals, provided they meet the Competition's finals eligibility rules.
  - (b) A player with an approved age dispensation application will be eligible to win any Competition Award.

## 5.5 Junior Core Lists

- 5.5.1 For the avoidance of doubt, this section 0 will only apply to the following junior grades:
- (a) Under 12;
  - (b) Under 14 and 16 Males; and
  - (c) Under 14 and Under 16 Females
- 5.5.2 Clubs fielding multiple teams across different divisions in the same age group must provide a list of Core Players to the Competition Lead for each higher division team(s) (**Core List**) prior to the first round following the regrading process, identifying the following number of Core Players:
- (a) Under 14, 16 Males & Females = 12 Core Players
  - (b) Under 12 = 6 Core Players
- 5.5.3 Clubs must classify the best and most skilled players within each higher division team(s) as 'Core Players' for that team.
- 5.5.4 Representative players must be added to the Core List for the corresponding representative age group for the highest division team. This includes any player who is a member of the NT Talent Squads.
- 5.5.5 The Competition Lead reserves the right, following consultation with a Club, to direct a player (or players) to be included/excluded in the Core List.
- 5.5.6 Deliberate attempts to exclude players from a Core List to gain advantage will incur penalties at the discretion of the Competition Lead.
- 5.5.7 Where a Club wishes to make any change to a Core List other than under section 5.5.8, a written submission must be made to the Competition Lead seeking their approval to such change, which may be granted by the Competition Lead at their absolute discretion.
- 5.5.8 A Core Player must be a current registered player. Where a Core Player transfers or is de-registered the Club must update their Core List and submit it to the Competition Lead immediately following the player's transfer or de-registration.
- 5.5.9 If a Core Player suffers a long-term injury (greater than 6 weeks) the Club may make application in writing to the Competition Lead for the player to resume in a lower division team during the Minor Round only. The application must contain a medical report describing the injury as well as a medical clearance to resume playing. If the application is approved the player may play in the lower division as follows:
- (a) 6 to 10-week injury, maximum 1 match in lower division (or such other period approved by the Competition Lead at their absolute discretion);
  - (b) greater than 10-week injury, maximum 2 matches in lower division (or such other period approved by the Competition Lead at their absolute discretion).
- 5.5.10 A Core Player must not play in a lower division in the same age group without the approval of the Competition Lead in accordance with this section 0.

## 5.6 Player Eligibility - All Matches

- 5.6.1 Player eligibility is the sole responsibility of the Club.
- 5.6.2 A Player is eligible to play in a match for the club with which they are registered subject to the age and gender qualifications and providing that player has met all requirements to transfer.
- 5.6.3 A Player who has played in a match for a Club is ineligible to play in another match in that same round of matches with the following exceptions:
- (a) A Player who is required to play a match in a higher Division or Grade after having commenced a match in a lower Division or Grade can only participate in the higher Division or Grade if that Player is removed from the lower Division or Grade match prior to half time;
    - i. A Player who is required to be removed from a team to play in a higher Division or Grade match can only do so with the approval of the AFLNT approved Match Manager; and
    - ii. If a Player is removed from a team to play in a higher Division or Grade match, the Player will be removed from the team sheet from the lower Division or Grade by the Competition Lead and only the higher Division or Grade match will count towards finals eligibility.
  - (b) A player must not play in more than 2 games in one round of matches.
  - (c) A player must not play in more than 6 quarters (over 2 games) in one day.
  - (d) In senior grades, a player cannot play in a lower division if they have previously played in a higher division team in the same round.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*
- 5.6.4 Where a Club has a bye in any Grade, a Player who has played three (3) matches in the impacted Grade is eligible to play a match in a lower division of that same Grade provided that Player has played a minimum of three (3) matches in that same lower division.
- 5.6.5 A player who has played in a match for a club is ineligible to play in any match for a team that is 2 divisions lower within that club.  
**Guidance Note:** *As an example, where a club has no Division 1 side, movement of players between MPL Reserves and Division 2 is allowable, because this is only one division lower “within that club”.*  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*
- 5.6.6 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary player eligibility rules subject to that Competition’s By-Laws.

## 5.7 Player Eligibility - Finals Matches

- 5.7.1 A Player is eligible to play in a finals match for a team provided that Player has played a minimum of three (3) Minor Round matches for that same team.
- 5.7.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary player eligibility rules subject to that Competition’s By-Laws.

## **5.8 Unregistered, Overage or Ineligible Player**

5.8.1 A Club which permits an unregistered, overage or ineligible Player to participate in a match will be deemed to have forfeited that match.

## **5.9 Player Eligibility Disputes**

5.9.1 Disputes regarding Player eligibility are not to be addressed by Match Managers on match day.

5.9.2 Any dispute regarding Player eligibility will only be addressed once a complaint has been lodged in accordance with these Rules & Regulations with the following exception:

(a) Player eligibility complaints may be made without the accompaniment of a fee.

5.9.3 The AFLNT Permit Committee will be responsible for determining the outcome of any complaints received regarding player eligibility.

## **6 Transfers and Permits**

### **Refer to Part B (Eligibility & Registration) of the Policy Handbook**

### **6.1 Transfers**

6.1.1 A Player that is registered with another Club (or has played for another Club immediately prior to registering with the destination Club) must complete a transfer application to the destination Club in accordance with Part B of the Policy Handbook before registering and/or playing with the destination Club.

(a) Incorrect details (such as incorrect spelling or date of birth), in a Player's PlayHQ profile, whether it be with the original Club or the destination Club, do not absolve that Player and/or the destination Club of their responsibility to complete a transfer application for that Player.

(b) Any Player that is registered incorrectly due to an error in registration details and participates in a match for the destination Club will be considered an ineligible Player.

### **6.2 Transfer Refusals**

6.2.1 Transfer refusals must be in accordance with Part B of the Policy Handbook.

6.2.2 Player registration fees, reasonable cost of travel and accommodation required to fulfil playing commitments will not be considered as valid reasons to refuse a transfer.

### **6.3 Permits - Intra Territory**

6.3.1 No Player shall permit to a dry season competition from the NTFL after the 30th of June of that calendar year.

### **6.4 Match Day Permits**

6.4.1 Match Day Permits are available for all Junior and Participation Grade matches.

- 6.4.2 The Match Day Permit must be initiated by the destination Club by logging onto PlayHQ and submitting a Match Day Permit Application when moving a Player from Club to Club.
- 6.4.3 The Match Day Permit must be completed within 24 hours of the match being completed.
- 6.4.4 Any Club found to have breached this clause 6 will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and will be dealt with in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.
- 6.4.5 Match Day Permits are only available for the movement of Players between Clubs that are affiliated to the same Competition.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*

## **6.5 Student Permits**

- 6.5.1 Where a Player normally resides in the Northern Territory and is temporarily residing away from the Northern Territory for the purpose of education such as boarding school or university, that Player may be permitted to play in Northern Territory competitions for the duration of the school/university holidays, provided:
  - (a) That Player is registered with the Club;
  - (b) That Player is playing under an approved Season Permit; and
  - (c) That Player does not commence playing for the Club before the school holidays commence or after the school holidays end.  
*[Financial Penalty – Refer Appendix 12]*
- 6.5.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary transfer and permit requirements subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

## **7 Representative Teams & The Northern Territory Football Club**

### **7.1 Representative Team Officials Selection**

- 7.1.1 AFLNT may appoint from time to time:
  - (a) A Representative Coach.
  - (b) A Representative Team Selection Committee.
  - (c) A Representative Team Manager.

### **7.2 Representative Team Selection**

- 7.2.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in any contract or agreement to the contrary all Players not under suspension are obliged to make themselves available for selection in teams representing AFLNT.
- 7.2.2 If a Player is selected in a team representing AFLNT, AFLNT will assume the responsibility and liability in accordance with AFLNT's insurance policies.



7.2.3 Any Player who fails to make himself available for selection in any representative team or to comply with any reasonable directions regarding training or any other activity associated with the preparation of the team except for reason of injury, illness or such other reason as may be accepted by AFLNT, will be liable to the following penalty;

(a) Two match suspension per offence.

### **7.3 Player Awards**

7.3.1 Representative team awards such as best player awards will be determined by a panel appointed by AFLNT.

## **8 National Policies and Guidelines**

### **8.1 AFL Member Protection Policy**

8.1.1 For the avoidance of doubt, AFLNT has adopted and implemented the Policy Handbook.

### **8.2 Guidelines**

8.2.1 AFLNT may from time to time adopt and implement regulations, codes of conduct, policies and guidelines for use in interpreting these Rules & Regulations or any other matter to do with the operation of a Competition or for any other purpose as it deems necessary.

## **9 Disciplinary**

### **Refer to Part E (Disciplinary) of the Policy Handbook**

### **9.1 Appeals**

9.1.1 Unless otherwise stated, a Club may appeal a decision made under these Rules & Regulations or any other rules, regulations or guidelines recognised within these Rules & Regulations by lodging a notice of appeal in writing with the AFLNT Football Operations Department by no later than 5:00pm on the first business day following the relevant decision.

9.1.2 Lodgement of a notice of appeal will be subject to a \$2,500 (inclusive of GST) lodgement fee. The \$2500 fee will be dealt with in the following manner:

(a) The sum of \$500 (inclusive of GST) towards the costs of the appeal, which sum shall not be refundable in any circumstances; and

(b) The further sum of \$2000 (inclusive of GST), which shall be dealt with:

i. Where the appeal is upheld, the payment liable/made under this section shall be deducted/refunded.

ii. Where the appeal is dismissed, the payment liable/made under this section shall not be reduced or refunded, unless the matter involves a monetary sanction, and the Appeals Board determines that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to refund the whole or part of such payment.

- (c) If no appeal has been received within the specified timelines above, it will be deemed that the decision has been accepted and no further avenue for appeal will be available.
- 9.1.3 No decision made by the Tribunal can be appealed if the intended appellant did not appear before the tribunal as directed without the leave of that tribunal.
- (a) For the purpose of this Rule, the Tribunal may include any committee, panel, board or investigators appointed by AFLNT for the purpose of match or disciplinary hearings or investigations.
- 9.1.4 AFLNT may appeal a decision made under these Rules & Regulations or any other rules, regulations or guidelines recognised within these Rules & Regulations, by sending a copy of a Notice of Appeal to a person, club or representative thereof who was an interested party in the matter subject of the appeal, by no later than 5.00pm on the first business day following the relevant decision. To be clear this includes, but is not limited to, decisions of a Match Review Panel or Tribunal.

## **9.2 Complaints**

- 9.2.1 A Club may make a complaint by lodging a formal or informal complaint in writing with an AFLNT Complaints Officer to AFLNT by no later than 5:00pm on the second business day following the relevant incident and the following will apply:
- (a) AFLNT Competition Leads are deemed to be AFLNT Complaints Officers; and
  - (b) Upon receipt of a formal or informal complaint, the AFLNT Complaints Officer must record the complaint using the AFLNT Record of Complaint Template.
- 9.2.2 For the avoidance of doubt this clause 9.2 does not apply to a 'vilification' related complaint.
- 9.2.3 Lodgement of a complaint will be subject to a \$250 fee (inclusive of GST). The fee of \$250 may be waived/refunded if AFLNT determine in its absolute discretion, that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to waive/refund the whole or part of such payment.

## **9.3 Referral of Incident**

- 9.3.1 The officiating Umpires, Umpires' Observers, Umpire Manager, relevant Competition Lead, Competitions Manager, Manager of Community Football & Club Development, Head of AFLNT, or, the Club Complaints Officer or Club President may refer an on-field incident by lodging a referral of incident in writing to the AFLNT Football Operations Department using the incident referral form (Appendix 7) by no later than 12:00pm on the first business day following the incident for Saturday games (or earlier) and by no later than 3.00pm on the first business day following the incident for Sunday games.
- 9.3.2 Any referral by a Club under clause 9.3.1 will be subject to a \$250 lodgement fee.
- 9.3.3 The \$250 fee will be waived/returned by AFLNT if a charge is laid as a result of the referral of incident.

## **9.4 Deferral of Tribunal Hearing**

- 9.4.1 A Player or Official may request for a deferral of tribunal hearing in writing with the AFLNT Football Operations Department together with payment of \$500 (inclusive of GST) to AFLNT (or sufficient evidence of such payment) by no later than 12:00pm on the first business day following the relevant incident.
- 9.4.2 The \$500 lodged with the request for a deferral will be dealt with in the following manner:
- (a) The sum of \$500 (inclusive of GST) may be refunded if AFLNT determines in its absolute discretion, that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to refund the whole or part of such payment.
- 9.4.3 In the case of a tribunal hearing having been deferred, any Player or Official against whom a charge has been laid and then deferred is not eligible to play or officiate in a Competition until such time as the tribunal has adjudicated over the charge.
- 9.4.4 AFLNT have no discretionary authority to allow a Player or Official to participate in any AFLNT managed competition until such time as the tribunal has adjudicated over the charge.

## **9.5 Notifiable Conduct**

- 9.5.1 A Player or Official must immediately notify their Club Chief Executive Officer or other senior administrator if they are interviewed as a suspect, charged, arrested or given an infringement notice by police in respect of any Notifiable Conduct.
- 9.5.2 A Club must immediately notify the relevant Competition Lead and forthwith provide to the relevant Competition Lead all relevant information known to the Club if:
- (a) the Club is aware of any matter referred to in section 9.5.1; or
  - (b) the Club has received a complaint in respect of alleged Notifiable Conduct on the part of a relevant Player or Official, unless the Club has reliable information that the complaint is not credible.
- 9.5.3 Any person or Club that does not fully and strictly comply with the provisions of this section shall be dealt with in such manner as the AFLNT or relevant Competition Lead in their absolute discretion think fit.

## **9.6 Reportable Offences and Policy Breaches**

- 9.6.1 AFLNT have adopted the provisions and sanctions provided in the Policy Handbook for Reportable Offences and Policy Breaches, including sanctions for classifiable and low-level offences.
- 9.6.2 Notwithstanding 9.6.1, Reportable Offences set out in the Laws of Australian Football at 22.2(g), (h) and (v) are classified as Auditory Offences and mandatory sanctions for those offences are provided at Appendix 8 of these Rules and Regulations.

- 9.6.3 In addition to the individual reportable offences of “engaging in a melee” and “instigating a melee”, club sanctions in the form of financial penalties may be applied where a melee is adjudged to have occurred in a match. Such penalties will be determined separately for each club involved, in accordance with the matrix provided at Appendix 8a of these Rules and Regulations.

## **10 Special Provision**

### **10.1 Other Matters**

- 10.1.1 Any matter of any kind whatsoever not dealt with or provided for in these Rules & Regulations may be dealt with in such a manner as AFLNT deems fit.
- 10.1.2 AFLNT appointed Match Managers have the authority to report any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence.

### **10.2 Media Attendance in Tribunal**

- 10.2.1 Media outlets will be permitted to have one staff member (per media outlet) attend AFLNT senior grade tribunal hearings, providing the AFLNT Media Department have been advised of the name of the media outlet and their representative intended to attend the hearing by 10:00am on the day of the hearing.
- (a) Media personnel will not be permitted to enter the tribunal hearing once proceedings have commenced.
  - (b) Media personnel may be asked to leave the tribunal hearing at any time, at the discretion of the tribunal chair.
- 10.2.2 A Club may request that media be denied access to a tribunal hearing, provided that such a request is submitted to the AFL in writing by no later than 10:00am on the day after notification of the charge or matter and contains compelling reasons for the media to be denied access.
- (a) Only in compelling and exceptional circumstances, as determined by the AFL in its absolute discretion, will media be refused access to the tribunal.
- 10.2.3 Media personal that are granted access to a tribunal hearing (other than AFL and AFLNT Media Personnel) will not be permitted to take recording equipment of any kind, into the tribunal hearing under any circumstances.
- (a) Mobile phones will be permitted but are not to be used to record and must be set on silent during the hearing.
- 10.2.4 A breach of these rules may result in the media outlet and/or the individual responsible for the breach being denied access to future tribunal hearings.

### **10.3 Authority to Investigate**

- 10.3.1 Without limiting any other rule, the AFL or AFLNT may investigate any breach or possible breach of these Rules & Regulations or Competition By-Laws and may delegate such authority to investigate to the AFL’s Integrity Department.
- 10.3.2 Without limiting the AFLNT’s or the AFL’s authority to investigate, AFLNT has the discretionary authority to suspend (by way of temporary deregistration) any Player, coach or Official for an act of vilification or discrimination until

such time as an investigation into the matter has been finalised, or that Player, coach or Official has attended a tribunal hearing, or any other request made by AFLNT of that Player, coach or Official in regard to the matter has been completed to the satisfaction of AFLNT.

10.3.3 For the avoidance of doubt, all persons (including any Club, Club Official, Player, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, medical officer, employee, independent contractor or volunteer of a Club or any other person within the purview of these Rules & Regulations) must cooperate with any investigation conducted by the AFL, AFLNT or a delegate of AFL or AFLNT.

#### **10.4 Venue Accreditation**

10.4.1 For the management of security, official accreditation will be required for access to defined areas within AFLNT managed venues.

10.4.2 Defined areas will include, but will not be limited to:

- (a) Changerooms,
- (b) Umpires rooms,
- (c) Medical rooms, and
- (d) TIO stadium tunnel.

10.4.3 Access will be provided where necessary in accordance with each Club's licence agreement.

#### **10.5 AFLNT Complaints Officer**

10.5.1 AFLNT shall appoint one or more Complaints Officers who will be responsible for the following:

- (a) The AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for ensuring that any breach of any guidelines, (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and policies) that have been adopted by AFLNT, are responded to in an equitable and prompt manner.
- (b) The Club Complaints Officer and the AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) shall liaise directly over incidents which in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer or AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) are contrary to any guidelines that have been adopted by AFLNT.

#### **10.6 AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee**

10.6.1 An Audit & Permit Committee comprising a minimum of three (3) members shall be appointed by the Head of AFLNT or his/her nominee and shall hold office until replaced.

10.6.2 The Head of AFLNT or his/her nominee may revoke Audit & Permit Committee appointments at any time.

10.6.3 The AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee shall be responsible for matters relating to AFLNT affiliate club and league compliance issues, including but not limited to:

- (a) Registrations;
- (b) Transfers;
- (c) Permits;
- (d) Fly-ins;
- (e) Player Points; and
- (f) Player Eligibility

10.6.4 The AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee shall hold the following powers and responsibilities:

- (a) Mediate Club and AFLNT Affiliate League disputes as they arise and provide final judgement where required.
- (b) Consider and determine inter league (AFLNT Affiliated Leagues only) transfer applications lodged by underage players.
- (c) Consult with AFLNT on any proposed amendments to guidelines (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and policies) relating to compliance issues.
- (d) Make recommendations to the AFLNT Community Football Department for amendments to these Rules & Regulations and any Competition By-Laws and policies relating to compliance issues.

10.6.5 Clubs may be asked to provide the AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee with documentation which may include but will not be limited to a Club's financial records, audited financial report and evidence to support the valid registration and/or transfer of Players.

## **10.7 AFLNT Laws Committee**

10.7.1 A Laws Committee comprising a minimum of five (5) members shall be appointed by the AFLNT Football Operations Manager or his or her nominee and shall hold office until replaced.

10.7.2 The AFLNT Football Operations Manager or his or her nominee may revoke Laws Committee appointments at any time.

10.7.3 The AFLNT Laws Committee shall be responsible for disputes, appeals and recommendations relating to these Rules & Regulations other than:

- (a) Registrations,
- (b) Transfers,
- (c) Permits, and
- (d) Player Eligibility

10.7.4 The AFLNT Laws Committee shall hold the following powers and responsibilities:

- (a) Consult with AFLNT Football Operations Department for amendments to these Rules & Regulations.
- (b) Make such recommendations, consistent with AFL Rules, Regulations and Guidelines and AFLNT strategic objectives, to the AFLNT Football Operations Department for amendments to these Rules & Regulations other than:

- i. Registrations,
- ii. Transfers,
- iii. Permits, and
- iv. Player Eligibility.

## **10.8 Show Cause Notices**

10.8.1 AFLNT may issue a Show Cause Notice to a Club or Club member where AFLNT believes there may be a requirement to take further action over any incident and/or matter of concern that AFLNT deems necessary.

- (a) The AFLNT Football Operations Department must issue Clubs and/or Club members with a Show Cause Notice within five (5) business days of the incident or matter of concern.
- (b) Clubs and/or Club members must respond in writing within five (5) business days of receiving a Show Cause Notice.
- (c) The AFLNT Football Operations Department must notify Clubs and/or Club members of the intended course of action within five (5) business days of receiving a written response from the Club and/or Club member.
  - i. If a Club and/or Club member does not respond within five (5) business days, AFLNT reserves the right to pursue the matter in any manner it deems necessary without time constraints.

## **10.9 Fines & Penalties**

10.9.1 Any Club found to be in breach of these Rules & Regulations or any Affiliate League By-Laws, unless otherwise stated, will be liable to a penalty as specified in Appendix 12 of these Rules & Regulations or otherwise as determined by the Tribunal.

10.9.2 AFLNT reserves the right to refer breaches of these Rules & Regulations or any Competition by-laws, to the Tribunal.

## **10.10 Black Arm Bands**

10.10.1 Clubs may arrange for the Players of a team(s) to wear black arm bands as a mark of respect for the passing of Persons associated with their Club.

10.10.2 Where a Club intends to wear black arm bands, the AFLNT Football Operations Department must be advised by 5pm on the Friday prior to the match they are participating in.

*Note: The process of advising the AFLNT Football Operations Department is not to receive approval, however this does provide operational staff with the opportunity to pay the appropriate respect.*

## **10.11 Minutes Silence**

10.11.1 A mark of respect in the form of a minute's silence prior to the commencement of any given match may be approved on the passing of the following:

- (a) AFLNT Life Members,
- (b) Nichols Medallists, or
- (c) Other distinguished persons.

10.11.2 A minute's silence must be approved by the AFLNT Executive Committee.

10.11.3 A minute's silence will only be undertaken prior to the matches approved by the AFLNT Executive Committee.

## **10.12 Sponsorship Display Provision**

10.12.1 All Club and Umpire Association banners must be approved by AFLNT before being displayed at any AFLNT sanctioned match or event.

10.12.2 No spikes or pegs are to be used to anchor banners to the ground.

10.12.3 Banners must be removed (in their entirety) from the playing arena at any time that matches are in progress.

10.12.4 Banners are not to be displayed at any time that matches are in progress, whether on the playing arena or otherwise.

## **10.13 Food Preparation**

10.13.1 The cooking and/or preparation of food at an AFLNT match or event must be pre-approved by the manager of that venue.

# **11 Appendices**

1. AFLNT Finals Schedule
2. AFLNT Code of Conduct
3. AFLNT Time Keepers Instructions
4. AFLNT Extreme Weather Policy
5. AFLNT Player and Support Staff Uniform Guide
6. AFLNT Standard Player Contract
7. AFLNT Forms
8. Auditory Offences
- 8a. Melee Matrix
9. Reporting Process Flow-Chart
10. Club Complaints Process Flow-Chart
11. Role of the Match Review Panel, Tribunal & Appeals Board
12. Fines & Penalties Summary



---

## Appendix 1 AFLNT Finals Schedule

---

### AFLNT Final Four (3 Weeks)

<b>Week 1</b>	Semi Final 1	3	v	4
	Semi Final 2	1	v	2
<b>Week 2</b>	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi Final 2	v	Winner Semi Final 1
<b>Week 3</b>	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 2	v	Winner Prelim Final

---

### AFLNT Final Five (3 Weeks)

<b>Week 1</b>	Semi Final 1	4	v	5
	Semi Final 2	2	v	3
<b>Week 2</b>	Prelim Final 1	1	v	Loser Semi Final 2
	Prelim Final 2	Winner Semi Final 1	v	Winner Semi Final 2
<b>Week 3</b>	Grand Final	Winner Prelim Final 1	v	Winner Prelim Final 2

---

### AFLNT Final Five (4 Weeks)

<b>Week 1</b>	Qualifying Final	2	v	3
	Elimination Final	4	v	5
<b>Week 2</b>	Semi Final 1	Loser Qual Final	v	Winner Elim Final
	Semi Final 2	1	v	Winner Qual Final
<b>Week 3</b>	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi Final 2	v	Winner Semi Final 1
<b>Week 4</b>	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 2	v	Winner Prelim Final

---

### AFLNT Final Six (3 Weeks)

<b>Week 1</b>	Elimination Final 1	4	v	5
	Elimination Final 2	3	v	6
	Qualifying Final	1	v	2
<b>Week 2</b>	Semi Final 1	Winner Qual Final	v	Winner Elim Final 1
	Semi Final 2	Loser Qual Final	v	Winner Elim Final 2
<b>Week 3</b>	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 1	v	Winner Semi Final 2

---

Other than Premier League all other Grades and Divisions are to be identified for a finals format at the commencement of the season once team participation numbers have been finalised.

AFLNT reserves the right to change the finals format in any grade or division under exceptional circumstances.

---

## Appendix 2 AFLNT Code of Conduct Breach Process

---

Code of Conduct and Policy Breaches will be dealt with in accordance with the National Community Football Policy Handbook, 23.4 and 23.5.

---

**Appendix 3 AFLNT Time Keepers Instructions**

---

**1. Time Cards**

- 1.1 Timekeepers are required to record the start and end times of each quarter.
- 1.2 Timekeepers are to complete and sign the time cards at the completion of each game.

**2. Score Cards**

- 2.1 Timekeepers are required to record the time that red and yellow cards are issued on the PlayHQ Team Sheet.
- 2.2 The times for any red or yellow cards issued during any AFLNT Matches are to be recorded in the appropriate field on the Team Sheet.

**3. Time Clock**

- 3.1 The time clock(s) is to remain in a neutral position and remain visible to both timekeepers at all times.

**4. Siren**

- 4.1 The siren is to remain in a neutral position and remain visible to both timekeepers at all times and is to be sounded as follows:
- 4.2 Start of first Quarter
  - a) As umpires enter the arena 1 blast
  - b) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
  - c) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
  - d) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
  - e) Quarter time interval 1 blast
- 4.3 Start of second quarter
  - a) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
  - b) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
  - c) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
  - d) Half time interval 1 blast
- 4.4 Start of third quarter
  - a) As umpires enter the arena 1 blast
  - b) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
  - c) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
  - d) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
  - e) Three quarter time interval 1 blast
- 4.5 Start of fourth quarter
  - a) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
  - b) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
  - c) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
  - d) End of match 1 blast
- 4.6 Where a match is stopped for Extreme Weather 5 blasts

## **5 Teams returning to the field**

- 5.1 If the siren has been utilized to indicate the scheduled starting time and only one team is in position ready to commence, the umpires will:
- a) Blow the whistle and instruct the offending team that they have 30 seconds to get into position. Specifically, the person given this instruction should be the coach, team captain or a club official.
  - b) After a further 30 seconds, the umpire will signal to the timekeepers to blow the siren, and the umpires will then signal the commencement of play and immediately bounce the ball regardless of whether the teams are in position.

## **6 Match Timings:**

- 6.1 Under 10s (mixed)**
- a) 10 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 3 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 3 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.2 Under 12s (mixed)**
- a) 12 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 4 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 4 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.3 Under 14 to 16 Males, Under 16 & 18 Females**
- a) 15 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 4 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 8 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 4 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.4 Under 18s Males**
- a) 18 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 10 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 5 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.5 Senior Women (other than Premier League)**
- a) 15 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 10 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 5 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.6 Senior Men (other than Premier League)**
- a) 20 minute quarters with no time on
  - b) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 15 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 5 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break
- 6.7 Women's Premier League**
- a) 15 minute quarters WITH time on
  - b) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
  - c) 15 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
  - d) 5 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break

## **6.8 Men's Premier League**

- e) 20 minute quarters WITH time on
- f) 5 minute  $\frac{1}{4}$  time break
- g) 20 minute  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break
- h) 5 minute  $\frac{3}{4}$  time break

## **7 Lightning**

- 7.1 In the case of lightning strikes, the time keeper is to sound five (5) blasts of the siren to signal that the match is being suspended in accordance with the Policy Handbook.

## **8 Stretcher**

- 8.1 In the case of a stretcher entering the playing arena, the field umpire will stop play at the first appropriate opportunity after he has been advised that the stretcher is on the playing ground.

- a) Premier League:
  - i. As directed by the Field Umpires
- b) All other grades
  - i. Timekeepers are to allow a maximum of five (5) consecutive minutes only before re-starting the clock.
  - ii. If the quarter is completed whilst the player is still being treated, the siren must be sounded and the normal quarter breaks take place
  - iii. The siren must be sounded for the start and finish of each quarter and quarter break up until the end of the match, irrespective of whether the game itself can be recommenced.

## **9 Time On – Premier League Only**

- a) Time keepers are to add 'time on' after goals, major injuries or major delays as directed by the field umpire(s).
- b) Where the field umpire(s) fails to direct time to recommence, the time keepers are to recommence time when play recommences.

## **10 Score Confirmation**

- 10.1 Timekeepers are to remain in their position until the scores have been finalised.
- 10.2 Scores are not considered 'final' until the goal umpires confirm the scores.
- 10.3 At the end of each quarter, goal umpires will confirm the scores by 'waving off' the scores as being true and correct.
- 10.4 At the end of each match, goal umpires will confirm the scores by 'waving off' the scores as being true and correct.

---

**Appendix 4 AFLNT Extreme Weather Policy**

---

Refer to Section 18 of the Policy Handbook.

AFLNT also provides the following range of options that can be implemented in the case of extreme weather:

**Heat**

1. Increased number of Interchange Players,
2. Increased number of Water Carriers,
3. Match Day Permits are available for prescribed competitions allowing for equal playing numbers and interchange players on match days,
4. Club Interchange Agreements are available for prescribed competitions allowing for equal playing numbers and interchange players for the duration of a season,
5. Minimum playing numbers are prescribed for all competitions to ensure players are not placed under undue heat stress.
6. Match Managers are provided with discretionary power to allow games to be played with fewer players ensuring interchange players are available for rotation.
7. Match Managers are provided with discretionary power to allow games to be played on a reduced size field ensuring players are not placed under additional stress when playing with fewer players.

Teams scheduled to play at TIO Stadium are also provided with the opportunity to utilize air-conditioned player boxes during intervals of matches played in extreme heat.

**Cyclone**

1. When a cyclone watch is declared, matches may continue at the discretion of AFLNT.
2. When a cyclone warning is declared, all matches for the duration of that warning must be abandoned immediately, including any match that is in progress at the time of the declaration.
3. If a match is abandoned under Section 18 of the Policy the provisions of these Rules & Regulations shall apply.

## **AFL Northern Territory Apparel Guidelines**

The following guidelines outline the process for all Clubs and AFLNT Apparel Licensees to follow when ordering apparel for AFLNT and AFLNT affiliated leagues, clubs and members.

AFL Programs, Representative Games and affiliate leagues including, but not limited to: AFL Schools, Thunder Juniors, and other Junior programs; Barkly and BAFL; Central Australia and CAFL; Gove; Gapuwiyak; Galiwinku; Groote Eylandt; Hermannsburg; Katherine and BRFL; Lajamanu; Maningrida; Ngukurr; NTFL; Wadeye/Daly River; Yirrkala.

Please see key updates below for **2023/24** below:

- *Updated guidelines around Playing numbers on front and rear of Guernsey's*
- *Updated process for ordering on-field apparel*

### **AFLNT Approved Apparel Licensees**

Apparel items, both on-field and off-field, with AFLNT, affiliate leagues and any AFLNT team logos (as per the list below) must be ordered through one of our six AFLNT licensees.

Apparel items for on-field support staff, ie: water carriers, runners, sports trainers & umpire escorts must be ordered through the approved online login system via CFS Gear which has been updated for the upcoming 2023/24 Season.

**AFLNT Apparel Licensees** will provide a 10% rebate (*excluding GST*) on net sales of all on-field products using AFL Northern Territory, program, or affiliate logos to the AFL Northern Territory. This 10% rebate will be passed on back to clubs. This rebate will be actioned between 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 & 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

### **Approved Licensees:**

#### **CFS Gear (Cricket and Football Shop NT)**

Contact: Graeme Flesfadar - Owner  
Phone: 08 8947 4454 / 0414 507 024  
Email: [graeme@cfsgear.com.au](mailto:graeme@cfsgear.com.au)  
sales@cfsgear.com.au

Manager  
Phone: 08 8947 4454 / 0457584062  
Email: [manager@cricketfootball.com.au](mailto:manager@cricketfootball.com.au)  
[www.cfsgear.com.au](http://www.cfsgear.com.au)

Address: Unit 1/422, Stuart Highway, Winnellie NT 0820

#### **Intensity Sports Pty Ltd trading as Intensity NT (formally Sports Agencies)**

Contact: Jarred Ilett – Managing Director  
Phone: 08 8984 4614 / 0421 902 158  
Email: [jarred@intensitynt.com](mailto:jarred@intensitynt.com)  
Address: 2/410 Stuart Highway, Winnellie, NT, 0810

### **Belgravia Sports (formally JS Sports)**

Contact: Joe Siciliano – Operations Manager

Phone: 08 8281 7155 / 0402 327 454

Email: [jsiciliano@belgrviasports.com.au](mailto:jsiciliano@belgrviasports.com.au)

[www.belgrviasportsapparel.com.au](http://www.belgrviasportsapparel.com.au)

Address: 98 Rundle Road, Salisbury South, South Australia, 5106

### **Sports Centre Pty Ltd**

Contact: Toni Shannon – Sales Manager NT

Phone: 0412 907 974

Email: [toni@sportscentre.com.au](mailto:toni@sportscentre.com.au)

Adam Knight – General Manger

Phone: 08 7132 0061

Email: [aknight@sportscentre.com.au](mailto:aknight@sportscentre.com.au)

Address: 749 Port Road Woodville, SA, 5011 [www.sportscentre.com.au](http://www.sportscentre.com.au)

### **ISC Sports**

Contact: Joel Kay – SA / NT Account Manager – ISC Teamwear

Phone: 0429 873 118

Email: [jkay@iscsport.com](mailto:jkay@iscsport.com)

[www.iscsport.com](http://www.iscsport.com)

### **ICON Sports Northern Territory Pty Ltd**

Contact: Jesse Dinnie – Owner / Director

Phone: 0427 799 442

Email: [nt@icon-sports.com.au](mailto:nt@icon-sports.com.au)

<https://www.icon-sports.com.au>

Address: 104/5 McCourt Rd Yarrowonga NT 0830

### **Samples and Artwork Proofs:**

AFLNT must sign-off on all final artwork and design samples prior to production for all new items that include any of the logos as specified above. Final artwork must include size specifications of all logos/ emblems on the garment (as per the below guidelines) and be placed on a white background.

If the AFLNT or any program or affiliated logo is reproduced incorrectly without proper approval and/or at a lower standard than outlined in the AFLNT Guidelines the supplier will reproduce the items in question at their cost.

AFLNT reserves the right to make any final decisions based on the information available at the time.

### **Approval Process**

For apparel approvals, please forward all requests to both [NTCommercial@afl.com.au](mailto:NTCommercial@afl.com.au) and [AFLNT.football@afl.com.au](mailto:AFLNT.football@afl.com.au). This process is managed in collaboration with Commercial Operations and Football Operations – please note, changes/ approval will be communicated within 2 - 5 business days.

*\*For full details please refer to the information attached which is extracted from the by-laws*

## **On-Field Uniform (Player) as per visual on pages 6, 7 & 8.**

*Note that there are reasonably significant changes in guernsey design requirements set out below. AFLNT recognises that clubs will not necessarily replace playing strips in all grades ahead of the upcoming season(s). For that reason, the following grace periods will apply:*

- *For NTFL Premier League teams, existing playing strips may be used for the 2023/24 season. Thereafter, playing strips must comply with the below requirements.*
- *For all other leagues, grades and divisions, existing playing strips may continue to be used until September 2026. Thereafter, playing strips must comply with the below requirements.*
- *Any new production of playing strips ahead of the 2023/24 NTFL season and beyond must comply with the below requirements.*

### **1. Front of Player Guernsey**

1.1 Playing number, placement right chest pocket area of the uniform.

1.1.1 Each digit must be 8cms in height.

1.1.2 Each digit is recommended to be 4.75cms in total width, except the number "1" digit, which is recommended to be 1.25cms in width.

1.1.3 If playing numbers appear on a light background on the guernsey, playing numbers must be printed '**Black**' or **dark** and playing numbers that appear on a dark background on the guernsey must be printed '**White**' or **light**. No background to a number can be a mixture of dark and light – if necessary a solid block of colour as a background to the number will interrupt the normal pattern of the guernsey.

1.2 Competition Logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT, placement upper right chest area of the uniform, immediately underneath the AFLNT logo & above the playing number.

In the event of no competition lockup, the AFLNT logo will be the sole logo in this area, positioned immediately above the playing number.

1.3 AFLNT Logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT, placement upper right chest area of the uniform immediately above the Competition logo.

1.4 A sponsor logo can be placed on the left chest pocket area of the uniform directly opposite the player number and/or competition logo.

1.4.1 Must not exceed 91 sq cm

1.4.2 Recommended height 6.5cm

1.4.3 Recommended width 14cm

1.5 A club logo or a second sponsor logo can be placed on the left chest pocket area of the uniform, 2cm above the sponsors logo.

1.5.1 Must not exceed 60 sq cm

1.5.2 Recommended height 7.5cm

1.5.3 Recommended width 8cm



1.6 Manufacturer's Logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT, placement centre at the bottom of the neckline of the uniform.

1.6.1 Must not exceed 24 sq cm

1.6.2 Recommended height 4 cm

1.6.3 Recommended width 6 cm

1.7 A sponsor logo can be placed in the centre, on the front of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred on the front of the guernsey with a minimum of 10cm clear space from the front number on right chest.

1.7.1 Must not exceed 170 sq cm

1.7.2 Recommended height 10cm

1.7.3 Recommended width 17cm

## 2. Rear of Player Guernsey

2.1 A sponsor logo can be placed on the back of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred underneath the player number with a minimum of 1cm clear space between the number and the logo;

2.1.1 Must not exceed 240 sq cm

2.1.2 Recommended height 8cm

2.1.3 Recommended width 30cm

2.2 Club logo/text pertaining directly to the club, its origins or history can be placed on the back of the uniform. The logo/text must be positioned and centred above the player number with a minimum of 2cm clear space between the number and the club logo/text;

2.2.1 Width must not exceed 6cm

2.2.2 Height must not exceed 4cm

2.3 Manufacturer Logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT, placement centre at the top middle of the uniform under the neckline.

2.3.1 Must not exceed 24 sq cm

2.3.2 Recommended height 4cm

2.3.3 Recommended width 6cm

2.4 Playing numbers size and design as approved by AFLNT.

2.4.1 Each digit must be 26cms in height for senior grades and at least 23cms in height for junior grades.

2.4.2 Each digit is recommended to be 15cms in total width, except the number "1" digit, which is recommended to be 4.25cms in width.

2.4.3 If playing numbers appear on a light background on the guernsey, playing numbers must be printed '**Black**' or **dark** and playing numbers that appear on a dark background on the guernsey must be printed '**White**' or **light**. No background to a number can be a mixture of dark and light – if necessary a solid block of colour as a background to the number will interrupt the normal pattern of the guernsey.

### **3. Front of Player Shorts**

- 3.1 AFLNT logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT, placement right hand side (hip region) of the shorts – measuring 6.5cm x 6.5cm
- 3.2 A club logo may be placed on the left-hand side (hip region) of the shorts;
  - 3.2.1 Must not exceed 60 sq cm
  - 3.2.2 Recommended height 7.5cm
  - 3.2.3 Recommended width 8cm

Please note, for Women's playing shorts that do not have a side panel, logos may be 'stacked' above each other on the front of the shorts (refer. diagram).

- 3.3 A Sponsors Logo may be worn on the front of each leg of the shorts;
  - 3.3.1 Must not exceed 60 sq cm
  - 3.3.2 Recommended height 6cm
  - 3.3.3 Recommended width 10cm

### **4. Back of Player Shorts**

- 4.1 A manufacturer's logo can be placed on the back of the shorts.
  - 4.1.1 Must not exceed 16 sq cm
  - 4.1.2 Recommended height 4 cm
  - 4.1.3 Recommended width 4 cm

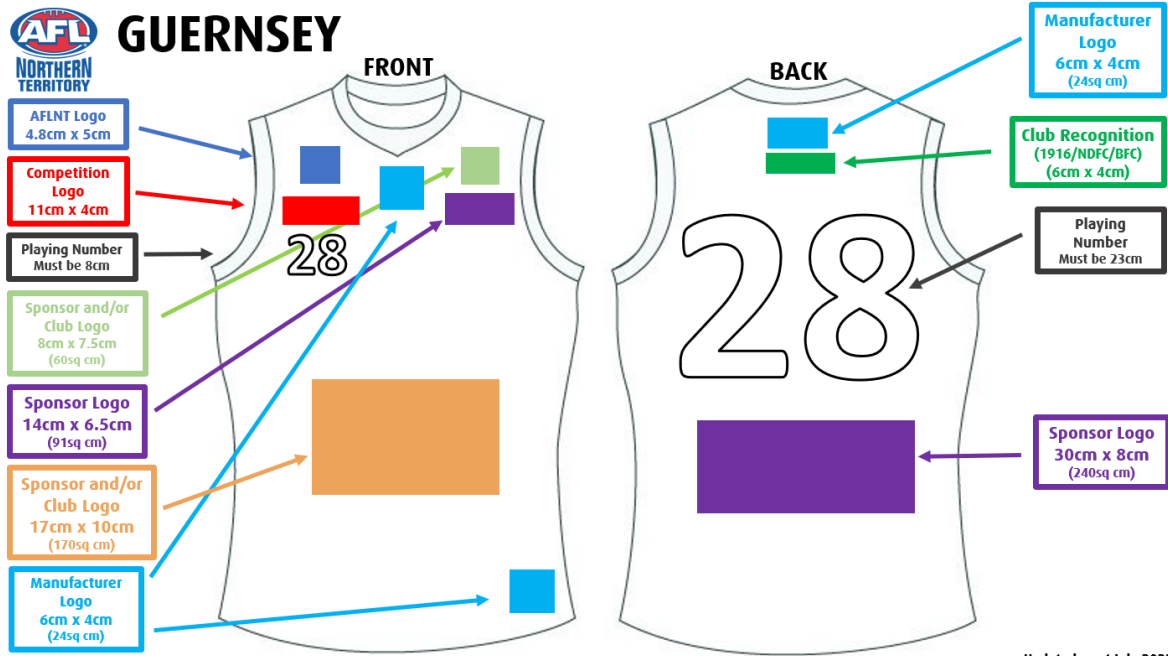
### **5. All other Support Uniforms**

- 5.1 NTFL Premier League Men's & Women's runners and support staff uniforms (t-shirts, shorts and/or bibs) will be partially provided by AFLNT via the online portal & chosen supplier This process is outlined in the 2023-24 Apparel Guidelines.
- 5.2 All other divisions and leagues need to follow the guidelines for
  - 1. Front of Player Guernsey, for the front of the runner's shirts and;
  - 2. Front of Player Shorts for the runner's shorts.

The following guidelines apply for the rear of the runner's shirts:

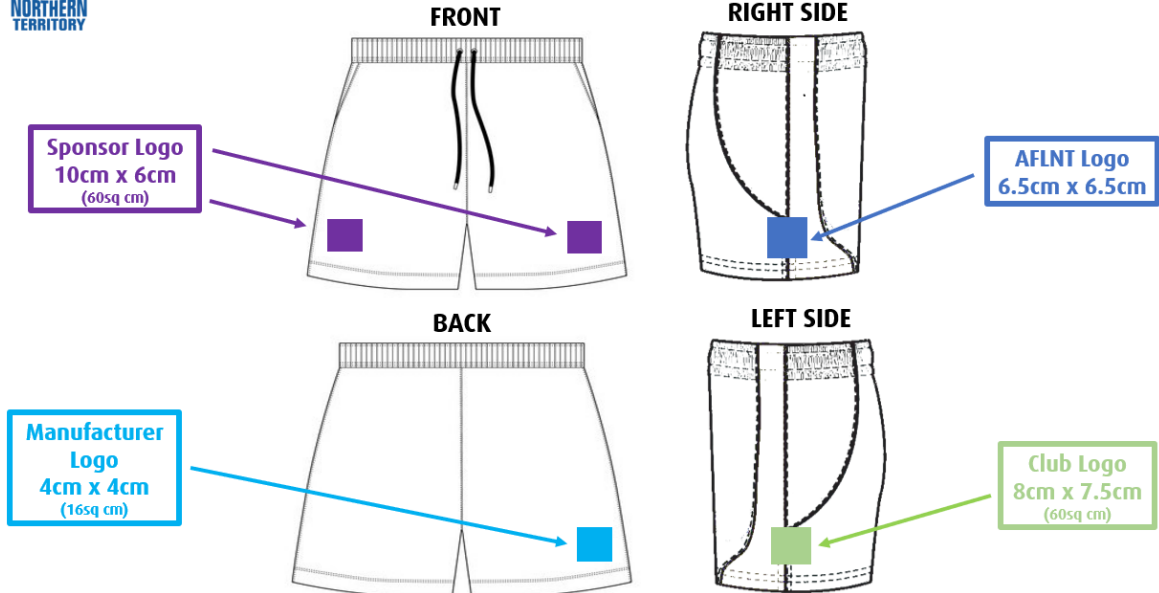
- 5.2.1 The word 'Runner' must be emblazoned across the back of the runner's shirt in Black Calibri 40-point Font.
- 6. A logo or other badge cannot be placed on a playing uniform unless the design and location of that logo or badge has been approved by AFLNT.

Visual of logo





# MENS SHORTS

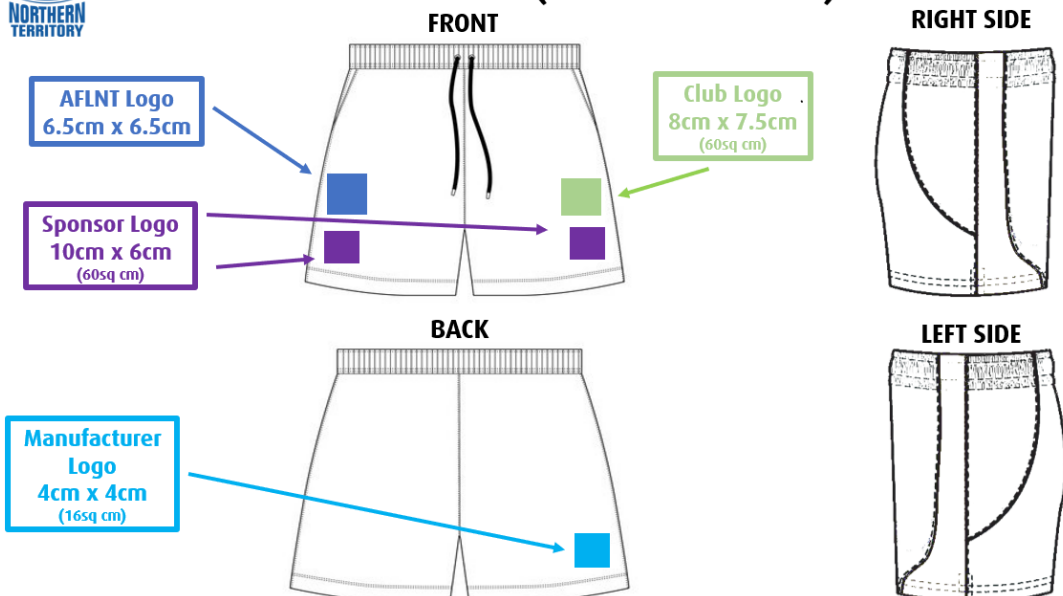


NOTE: Where there is no existing Competition Logo, the logo to be used will be at the discretion of AFLNT.

Updated as at July 2023.



# WOMENS SHORTS (with side seam)



NOTE: Where there is no existing Competition Logo, the logo to be used will be at the discretion of AFLNT.

Updated as at July 2023.

---

**Appendix 6      Player declaration**

---

Refer to Part B (Eligibility & Registration) of the Policy Handbook.

---

**Appendix 7      AFLNT Forms**

---

The AFLNT Forms are binding to all AFLNT affiliated leagues, clubs and members as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy and can be found at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/ntfloperationshub/home>

The AFLNT Forms are to be used in accordance with these Rules & Regulations and the appropriate National Rules, Regulations and Guidelines.

<b>FORM NUMBER</b>	<b>FORM TITLE</b>
AFLNT-01	Age Dispensation Application Form
AFLNT-02	Incident Referral Form
AFLNT-03	Match Manager Incident Report Form
AFLNT-04	Playing Up Consent Form
AFLNT-05	Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form
AFLNT-06	Standard Player Contract

---

**Appendix 8      Auditory Offences Matrix**


---

This matrix will be used to set out the appropriate sanctions and courses of action in respect to reportable offences at 22.2.2 (g), (h) and (v) of the Laws of Australian Football

Conduct	Directed At	Loudness	Base Sanction	Early Plea
Threatening	Umpire	Any	Tribunal (minimum 5 matches)	N/A
	Another Person	Loud	Tribunal (Minimum 4 matches)	N/A
		Medium or Low	3 matches	2 matches
Abusive / Obscene	Umpire	Loud	4 matches	3 matches
		Medium or Low	3 matches	2 matches
	Another Person	Loud	3 matches	2 matches
		Medium	2 matches	1 match
		Low	1 match	Reprimand
Insulting	Umpire	Loud	3 matches	2 matches
		Medium or Low	2 matches	1 match
	Another Person	Loud	2 matches	1 match
		Medium	1 match	Reprimand
		Low	Reprimand	Reprimand
<b>Threat/Obscene: If player unrepentant add 1 match to Base Sanction and Early Plea</b>				

**Auditory Definitions:**

**Threatening:** displaying an intention to cause bodily harm or causing someone to feel vulnerable or at risk.

**Obscene/Abusive:** extremely offensive, foul or disgusting.

**Insulting:** disrespectful or scornfully abusive.

**Loud:** Could be heard more than 50 metres away.

**Medium:** Could be heard 10 to 50 metres away.

**Low:** Could be heard less than 10 metres away.

**Appendix 8a Melee Matrix**

The Melee matrix (calculator) attaches a \$5 penalty per allocated point. Early guilty plea discounts may apply.

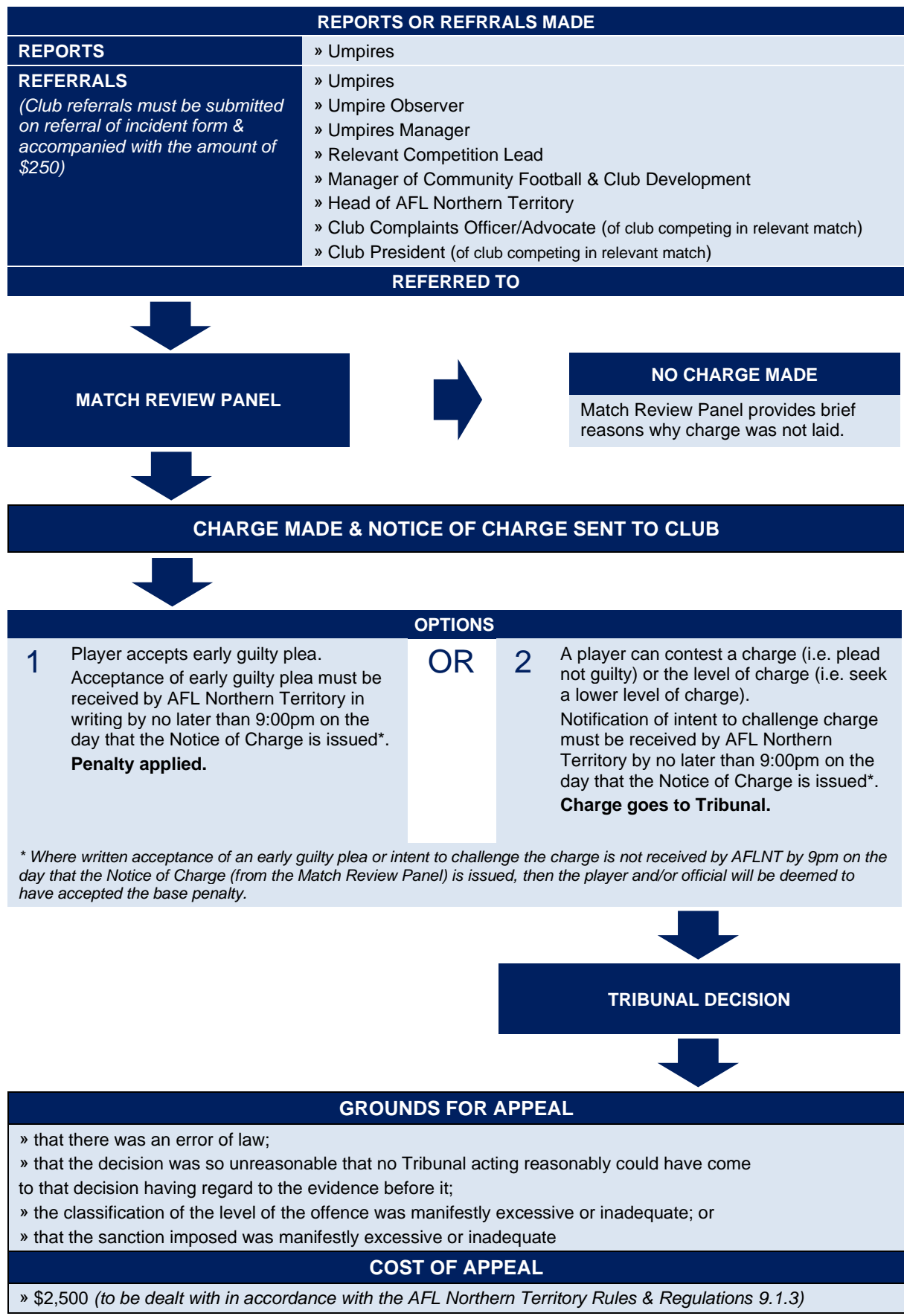
# MELEE MATRIX

Round V

Offending Club:

Melee Details	Activation Points	Allocated Points
<b>Players actively involved from ONE team</b>		
6 or less	5	
7 - 9 players	15	
10 - 12 players	40	
13 or more players	60	
<b>Duration of Melee</b>		
0 - 30 seconds	5	
30 - 60 seconds	15	
60 - 120 seconds	30	
>120 seconds	60	
<b>Level of Aggression in Melee</b>		
Low (minor wresting, push and shove)	10	
Medium (wrestling, jumper punches, headlocks)	30	
High (striking and/or reports)	50	
<b>Umpires Intervention in Melee</b>		
Not involved	0	
1 ump asking players to break it up	5	
2 ump asking players to break it up	10	
3 umps or more asking players to break it up	15	
<b>Officials involved</b>		
No officials involved	0	
2 or less manhandling own players	10	
3 or more manhandling own players	20	
2 or less manhandling opposition players	40	
3 or more manhandling opposition players	60	
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Dollar Value</b>		<b>\$ -</b>

**Appendix 9 Reporting Process Flow-Chart**





## Appendix 10 Club Complaints Process Flow-Chart

### Formal or Informal Complaint made to Club Complaints Officer by club member or Official

#### Informal

- Process for clubs to work through small off field matters
- Club Complaint Officer Led
- League Complaints Officer to be informed throughout process
- League can elevate to the formal complaints process at any time.
- If complaint has not been resolved within 72 hours, incidents will be referred to league Disciplinary committee.
- Once referred to the disciplinary committee \$250.00 invoiced to the accused club

#### Process to be followed



#### Formal

- Must be lodged by 5PM of the second business day following the incident with evidence of \$250.00 payment.
- Managed by league complaints officer via the AFLNT Record of Complaint Template.
- At the conclusion of this process the complaint will either be dismissed, or a Show Cause issued to the alleged perpetrator via their club complaints officer.
- Alleged person's club have 5 business day to respond.
- Alleged persons can request that the case is heard by disciplinary committee if they wish to dispute the accusation.

#### Major complaints

- Managed by relevant AFL Policy and Procedure. Examples such as
- Vilification Report an Integrity Issue Process
  - Child Protection Safeguarding Children and Young People

### GROUNDS FOR APPEAL

- that there was an error of law;
- that the decision was so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it;
- the classification of the level of the offence was manifestly excessive or inadequate; or
- that the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive or inadequate

### COST OF APPEAL

- \$2,500 (to be dealt with in accordance with the AFL Northern Territory Rules & Regulations 9.1.3)

---

**Appendix 11      Role of the Match Review Panel, Tribunal & Appeals Board**

---

The Match Review Panel, Tribunal Panel & Appeals Board are all independent of AFL Northern Territory.

**Role of the Match Review Panel**

- » Review reports or referrals lodged by Umpires and other designated officials
- » Analyse available video in relation to reports or referrals lodged
- » Make charges when satisfied that a Reportable Offence has occurred
- » Determine the appropriate classification of Classifiable Offences
- » Refer relevant offences to the Tribunal where applicable
- » Advise Players of any charges and the corresponding sanction for that charge (which a Player may accept or contest at the Tribunal)
- » Provide reasons in respect of any reports or referrals which do not progress to a charge.

**Role of the Tribunal**

- » The Tribunal convenes to hear contested Reportable Offences, Direct Tribunal Offences and those Classifiable Offences which are sufficiently serious to be referred to the Tribunal.
- » The Tribunal shall consist of:
  - a. A Chairperson; and
  - b. A panel of persons who in the opinion of the Controlling Body possess a sufficient knowledge of Australian Football (Tribunal Panel)
- » The Tribunal Chairperson manages Tribunal process.
- » The Tribunal may determine any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit in accordance with the Policy Handbook, Rules & Regulations and By-laws.

**Role of the Appeal Board**

- » The Appeal Board convenes to hear appeals of matters from the Tribunal.
- » The Appeal Board shall consist of:
  - a. a Chairperson (Chairperson of the Appeal Board); and
  - b. at the discretion of the Controlling Body, a panel of not more than six (6) persons who in the opinion of the Controlling Body possess a sufficient knowledge of Australian Football (Appeal Board Panel).
- » The Appeal Chairperson manages the process of the appeal.
- » The Appeal Board determines whether the ground(s) of appeal is successful.
- » Members of the Appeal Board for a hearing cannot be the same members that sat on the matter at the Tribunal.

---

**Appendix 12 Fines & Penalties Table**


---

The following is a summary of the fines & penalties applied under these rules and regulations.

Any Club found to be in breach of these Rules & Regulations or any AFLNT affiliated competition by-laws, unless otherwise stated, will be liable to a penalty as specified by the relevant law breached.

<b>Law/Breach (Rules &amp; Regulations)</b>	<b>Base Penalty</b>	<b>Third Offence &amp; Thereafter</b>
<b>3.2 Match Management</b>		
<i>Failure by Match Manager to carry out prescribe duties as per 3.2.4</i>	\$50	\$100
<b>3.3 Match – Match Day Checklist (Insurance Requirements)</b>		
<i>Failure to complete the Marsh Match Day Checklist as per 3.3.1</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.4 Match - Team Sheets</b>		
<i>Failure to submit team sheet as per 3.4</i>	\$150	\$300
<i>Late submission of team sheet as per 3.4.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to include all required elements of the team sheet as per 3.4.3</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.5 Match - Time Keepers</b>		
<i>Failure to provide a time keeper for a match as per 3.5.1; Failure to abide by time keeper's instructions as per 3.5.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.9 Competition - Playing Numbers</b>		
<i>Submission of a team sheet that does not accurately represent the team that took the field during that match as per 3.9.2</i>	(a) Premier League: As per NTFB Bylaws	
	(b) All other senior grades: \$750	(b) All other senior grades: \$1500
	(c) Under 18 grade: \$500	(c) Under 18 grade: \$1000
	(d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$250	(d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$500
	(e) Under 12 grade: \$100	(e) Under 12 grade: \$200
	An investigation may also occur	
<i>Team exceeds number of prescribed number of Players on the interchange bench as per 3.9.3, with consideration of 3.9.4</i>	An investigation may occur	
<i>Insufficient number of players to commence match as per 3.9.6</i>	Forfeiture (as per 3.13.2)	
<b>3.13 Competition - Forfeitures</b>		
<i>Failure to notify AFLNT of forfeiture before deadline as per 3.13.1</i>	a) Premier League: \$2000	
	b) All other senior grades: \$750	
	c) Under 18 grade: \$500	
	d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$250	
	e) Under 12 grade: \$100	
<i>Forfeiture of a finals match as per 3.13.5</i>	\$2000	
<b>3.14 Competition - Consequence of Forfeiture</b>		
<i>Team forfeits a total of three (3) Minor Round matches in any season as per 3.14.2</i>	Show cause as to why the team should not be removed from the competition (as per 3.14.2)	
<b>3.20 Scheduling - Run on Times</b>		
<i>Failure to meet scheduled run on time (Premier League)</i>	\$100	\$200
<b>3.21 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations</b>		
<i>Change rooms not left in a clean and tidy state as per 3.21.3</i>	\$100	\$200

<b>3.23 Scheduling – Warm Ups</b>		
<i>Interfere with game or create delay due to warm up as per 3.23.2</i>	\$50	\$100
<b>3.25 Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers &amp; Stewards</b>		
<i>Any officials not wearing enclosed footwear as per 3.25.1</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Junior coaches not wearing AFLNT approved apparel as per 3.25.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Senior coach not wearing club polo shirt as per 3.25.3</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Team manager and/or stewards not wearing AFLNT approved apparel as per 3.25.4</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.26 Support Staff - Personnel Entering the Playing Arena</b>		
<i>Unauthorized entry to the playing arena by a support staff or individual considered a member of a club as per 3.26.1 &amp; 3.26.3</i>	\$50	\$100
<b>3.27 Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials</b>		
<i>Player acting as a team official for another club (other than their registered club), without written permission from their club as per 3.27.1</i>	\$50	\$100
<b>3.28 Support Staff</b>		
<i>On field support staff don't meet minimum age requirement under 3.28.1 &amp; 3.28.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Support staff not wearing enclosed footwear as per 3.28.3</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to comply to any of the rules set out around water carriers as per 3.28.4</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to comply to any of the rules set out around runners as per 3.28.5</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>On field support staff inappropriately communicating with umpire, opposition player or official as per 3.25.6</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.29 Umpires – Escorts</b>		
<i>Failure to provide an umpire escort, or failure by the umpire escort to carry out their prescribed duties as per 3.29</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>3.31 Umpires - Club Umpires</b>		
<i>Failure to provide an accredited club umpire when required as per 3.31</i>	\$100	\$200
<i>Inappropriately attired club umpire as per 3.31.6 or 3.31.7</i>	\$25	\$50
<b>4.5 Accreditation – Club Officials</b>		
<i>Any team that submits a team sheet which includes a person that is in breach of 4.5 Accreditation - Club Officials</i>	Forfeiture	
<b>4.6 Accreditation – Club Coaches</b>		
<i>Coach or assistant coach does not comply with accreditation requirements</i>	\$50	\$100
<i>Incorrect coach listed on team sheet</i>	\$50	\$100
<b>4.12 Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos</b>		
<i>Failure to provide uniform designs for approval</i>	Dealt with in accordance with licence agreement	
<i>Incorrect uniform or apparel worn by a team or player</i>	\$100	\$200
<b>5.2 Age and Gender Qualifications</b>		
<i>Club found to have played an underage player in a particular age group</i>	\$500	\$1,000
<i>Club found to have played an overage player in a particular age group</i>	Refer 5.8	
<b>5.3 Player Up (Juniors)</b>		
<i>Junior Player playing up and displacing a Registered Age Group player as per 5.3.1 or Player playing up more than one age group contrary to 5.3.2</i>	\$500	\$500
<i>Player playing up without submission of a 'Playing Up Consent' form and/or league approval contrary to 5.3.3 and 5.3.5</i>	\$500	\$500

<b>5.5 Junior Core Lists</b>		
<i>Deliberate attempt to exclude players from a Core List to gain advantage contrary to 5.5.6</i>	\$500	\$500
<i>Core Player playing in a lower division in the same age group without approval contrary to 5.5.10</i>	\$100	\$200
<b>5.6 Player Eligibility - All Matches</b>		
<i>Player has played more than the maximum allowable matches in any given round</i>	\$250	\$250
<i>Club has been found in breach of 5.6.5, having played a player in a match two divisions lower</i>	\$250	\$250
<b>5.8 Unregistered, Overage or Ineligible Player</b>		
<i>A Club which permits an unregistered, overage or ineligible Player to participate in a match will be deemed to have forfeited that match.</i>	Forfeiture	
<b>6.4 Match Day Permits</b>		
<i>Failure to submit a match day permit in compliance with the Rules &amp; Regulations</i>	\$100	\$200
<b>6.5 Student Permits</b>		
<i>Player in breach of the student permit requirements</i>	\$500	\$1,000
<b>7.2 Representative Team Selection</b>		
<i>Player fails to make self available for selection</i>	2 match suspension	