



QAFLW

Player Points System Policy



AFL Queensland

Ltd ACN 090 629 342

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1. DEFINITIONS

AFL means the Australian Football League ACN 004 155 211.

AFL Affiliate means any league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of matches which is affiliated to the AFL, including a State Football Body.

AFLQ means AFL Queensland Limited ACN 090 629 342.

AFLW Competition means the elite women's competition administered by the AFL.

Aligned Club Relationship means:

(a) the junior and senior entities recognized as the same Club; or

(b) a relationship between:

a. a Club which only participates in Junior Competitions; and

b. a Club which only participates in Senior Competitions;

modelled by a memorandum of understanding which has been registered and approved by AFLQ.

Category means the defined group that determines a player's base Player Points Allocation, pursuant to Appendix One, Step One.

Club means an Australian Football club that has entered into a Licence Agreement with AFLQ, any other AFL Affiliate or the AFL.

Community Competition means a Senior Competition excluding State League Women's Competitions and the AFLW.

Competing Club means any QAFLW Club other than the subject QAFLW Club.

Competition means any Australian Football competition conducted by AFLQ, any other AFL Affiliate or the AFL Competition.

Competition Manager means the person appointed to manage the day-to-day operations of the QAFLW Competition.

Competition Manager – QLD means the person appointed to oversee the Competition Manager and other competition managers within SEQ.

Finals means the final matches of the QAFLW Competition as determined by AFLQ on an annual basis.

Junior Competition means any Australian Football age-restricted competition conducted by AFLQ, any other AFL Affiliate or the AFL.

Notice of Appeal means the form noted as 'Doc no. B0303' pursuant to the *National Community Football Policy Handbook*.

NTFLW means the NTFL Women's Premier League administered by AFL Northern Territory.

Penalty Points means points added to a player's Player Points Allocation, pursuant to Appendix One, Step Two of this Policy.

Player Points Allocation means the points allocated to a QAFLW player in any given QAFLW Season in accordance with this policy.

Player Points Review Committee means the committee consisting of no less than three (3) and no greater than five (5) persons for the purpose of reviewing a Player Points Allocation as requested by a Club, as appointed annually by the Competitions Manager – QLD.

Player Points System Policy refers to this policy as reviewed & amended by AFLQ annually.

PlayHQ refers to the online competition management platform used by AFLQ and QAFLW Clubs with respect to the QAFLW Competition.

Point Deductions means points deducted from a player's Player Points Allocation, pursuant to Appendix One, Step Three of this Policy.

QAFLW means the State League Women's Competition administered by AFLQ, known as the 'Bond University QAFLW Competition'.

QAFLW Clubs means Clubs with a registered Senior Grade and Reserves Grade Team in the QAFLW.

QAFLW Season means the duration of the QAFLW each year.

Regional Queensland Competition means a Competition administered by AFLQ within the Darling Downs, Wide Bay, Capricornia, Mackay, Townsville, Cairns or Mt Isa region.

Reserves Grade means the Team that competes in a "Reserves Grade" where a Senior Grade also exists in the same Competition.

SANFLW means the State League Women's Competition administered by South Australia.

Season means a winter Community Football season usually between 1 March and 30 September of each year or such other dates as determined by AFLQ. Note: The NTFLW summer season competition is included for purpose of assessing a players PPA.

Senior Competition means any Australian Football "open-aged" competition conducted by AFLQ, any other AFL Affiliate or the AFL.

Senior Grade means the most senior team in an open-aged Competition.

SEQ means 'South East Queensland', which consists of the geographical area from the Northern Rivers, NSW to Gympie, Queensland.

State Football Body means each of the following AFL Affiliates:

- (a) AFL NSW/ACT;
- (b) AFL NT;
- (c) AFLQ;
- (d) AFL Tasmania;
- (e) AFL Victoria
- (f) SANFL; and
- (g) WAFC.

State League Women's Competitions consists of the QAFLW, SANFLW, VFLW and WAFLW.

Team List means the selected players to participate in a match.

Team Total Points means the sum of players' individual PPA's within a team.

Team Total Points Cap means the maximum number of Team Total Points allocated by AFLQ, for each QAFLW Team, for each QAFLW Match, within a QAFLW Season.

Transfer or Transferred refers to the formal transfer of a player under the National Player Transfer Regulations as per Section 3 of the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook.

VFLW means the State League Women's Competition administered by AFL Victoria.

WAFLW means the State League Women's Competition administered by Western Australia.

2. PURPOSE

AFLQ supports the accepted premise of Australian Football around the country, being that competitive balance is vital to the health & strength of its Competitions.

Balanced Competitions lead to increased interest and engagement from communities and hence, assists Clubs in their efforts to maintain a healthy & viable club environment. This provides supporters, volunteers and all other stakeholders to present on match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the match is uncertain – this being a great motivator.

The objectives of this Player Points System Policy (**PPSP**) are to:

- primarily support the balance/equalisation of the QAFLW;
- provide a measure to assist QAFLW Clubs in establishing a competitive playing list;
- maintain the integrity of the QAFLW within the SEQ football ecosystem;
- provide opportunity to attract & retain the best talent in Queensland; and
- reward club development programs & player loyalty.

The PPSP sets out:

- the framework for how the system works;
- the responsibilities of QAFLW Clubs & AFLQ with respect to its implementation;
- provides detail in relation to how players are categorised; and
- provides directions for how reviews & appeals take place.

The PPSP is adopted by AFLQ and applied to the QAFLW and will be reviewed on an annual basis following discussions, feedback and recommendations internally and from QAFLW Clubs. AFLQ will use its best endeavours to update and finalise the PPSP by 31 October each year, as it relates to the following QAFLW Season.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 AFLQ Responsibilities

AFLQ, via the Competition Manager, will:

- (a) Review, determine and communicate the Team Total Points (**TTP**) Cap for the QAFLW by the 30 September, preceding the QAFLW Season.
- (b) Consider all applications from QAFLW Clubs for an increased TTP Cap, in accordance with the required process & criteria (see Section 4.2).
- (c) Dependent on the circumstances, allocate additional points or apply deductions to the TTP Cap for any particular QAFLW Club based on their specific situation and in accordance with this policy.
- (d) Respond to any enquiries regarding the TTP from QAFLW Clubs.
- (e) Determine the Player Points Allocation (**PPA**) for every player on a QAFLW Club's submitted list, at least thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the QAFLW Season.
- (f) Determine the PPA for any other individual player when a club request is received, noting that the request must be made by no later than 9am on the Friday prior to the fixtured match that the PPA is required.
- (g) Respond to any enquiries regarding PPA's from QAFLW Clubs.
- (h) Receive and process any requests for reassessment of a PPA and escalate through the Player Points Review Committee (**PPRC**) as required (see Section 6).
- (i) Enter all PPA's into PlayHQ, which will remain valid for the QAFLW Season.
- (j) Plan to review the TTP's for every Team List submitted in advance of every match to ensure compliance, however, strict responsibility remains with each QAFLW Club to ensure the TTP Cap is not exceeded.
- (k) Review any PPA during the QAFLW Season and make any amendments based on circumstances or information that is provided to AFLQ.

3.2 QAFLW Club responsibilities

Each QAFLW Club will:

- (a) Acknowledge the TTP Cap to be applied for the upcoming QAFLW Season, as per Section 4 of this policy.
- (b) Submit to the Competition Manager, any request for an increase to its TTP Cap (see Section 4.2).
- (c) Submit to the Competition Manager, no later than thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the QAFLW Season, a Team List of up to forty-five (45) players that are expected to be selected in its Senior Grade team during the QAFLW Season.

- (d) Ensure that all players selected within a Senior Grade team:
 - i. have a PPA; and
 - ii. that the PPA has been entered into PlayHQ (if a player does not have a PPA noted within, the player cannot be selected on a Team List).
- (e) Each QAFLW Club must ensure that they do not exceed the TTP Cap for any match. The TTP must be calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate in the match and as provided within PlayHQ (as at the time of this policy being released, the maximum number of players is twenty-one (21)). A QAFLW Club cannot submit a Team List less than the maximum number of players. *(In exceptional circumstances and/or if a team does not have enough players to field a full team, the matter should be referred to the Competition Manager for review.)*

Note:

- *If a QAFLW Club is found to be in breach of any of the above responsibilities at any time, the Club will be subject to sanctions as outlined in accordance with Section 8 of this policy.*

4. TEAM TOTAL POINTS

4.1 Team Total Points Cap

- (a) A team's 'Team Total Points' (**TTP**) is determined by the sum of each team's individual players' PPA.
- (b) For the 2025 QAFLW Season, the TTP Cap is 50 points.
- (c) AFLQ intends to reduce the TTP Cap for the 2026 QAFLW Season. The updated TTP Cap will be determined following a review of the 2025 QAFLW Season.

Note:

- *The purpose of this staged approach is to support QAFLW Clubs and their current Team Lists, whilst reviewing their list management strategies in line with this newly implemented policy.*

4.2 Application to increase Team Total Points Cap

- (a) Up to ninety (90) days before the commencement of the QAFLW Season, a QAFLW Club may apply for the TTP Cap to be increased for their team.
- (b) Such application must be made in writing, via email, to the Competition Manager and must rely on at least one of the following grounds:
 - i. the QAFLW Club does not participate in a Junior Competition or have an Aligned Club Relationship and is not capable of participating in a Junior Competition or initiating an Aligned Club Relationship, due to factors outside of its control;
 - ii. the QAFLW Club's win/loss ratio across the previous two (2) QAFLW Seasons;
 - iii. the QAFLW Club has endured significant hardship through forces beyond its control, e.g. floods, is coming out of recess or is a recently merged or restructured entity;
 - iv. it is the first QAFLW Season in which the QAFLW Club is fielding a team;
 - v. the QAFLW Club is aligned with a University and is subject to players coming in and out over a three (3) to four (4) year period; and/or
 - vi. other circumstances or considerations.

Note:

- *An application on the basis of any of the above does not guarantee a QAFLW Club's TTP will be increased. Each application is considered on its own merits.*
- (c) The TTP Cap cannot be increased by more than five (5) points for that QAFLW Season.
- (d) If a QAFLW Club is successful in their application pursuant to section 4.2(a), the increased TTP Cap will only apply for the following QAFLW Season.
- (e) There is no ability for a QAFLW Club to apply for review of the TTP Cap assigned to any other QAFLW Club.
- (f) AFLQ may reduce the TTP Cap for a QAFLW Club at their reasonable discretion, provided the primary purpose in doing so is to maintain competitive balance within the QAFLW Competition.

5. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION

5.1 Process

To determine a player's PPA, and in turn, a Team's TTP, AFLQ must follow the process as outlined at Appendix One, subject to the rules outlined at Section 5.2.

5.2 Rules

When determining a player's PPA, AFLQ must apply the following rules:

- (a) When allocating a player to a Category, take into account the highest level of Competition played by that player in the previous three (3) Seasons. However, there will be cases where, in order to establish the player's arrival circumstances at the QAFLW Club, their history beyond three (3) Seasons may be taken into account.
- (b) Excluding Category One players, if a player meets the criteria for multiple Categories, the player will be allocated the Category with the highest points.
- (c) In the event a player does not fit into one of the Categories, the Competition Manager will determine the most reasonable Category for the player given relevant factors.
- (d) A playing coach or playing assistant coach will have their PPA assessed the same as any other player.
- (e) Any player playing on a season permit will have their PPA assessed on the same basis as a Transferred player.
- (f) No Penalty Points are to be applied, with respect to any player movement up to and including the 2024 QAFLW Season (however, relevant Point Deductions will apply). For clarity, player movement from the Transfer window opening (1 November 2024), will be subject to relevant Penalty Points.
- (g) Once a player's PPA is applied, it will not be changed during the QAFLW Season, unless amended by AFLQ pursuant to section 3.1(k). This includes if a player becomes eligible for a Point Deduction(s) or subject to a Penalty Point(s) during the QAFLW Season, the Point Deduction or Penalty Point will not be applied until the following QAFLW Season.
- (h) From 2026, if a player played in the QAFLW Competition in the previous QAFLW Season and has not changed QAFLW Clubs, their PPA will be maintained, with the exception of the application of the 'Season of Service' Points Deduction (see Appendix One, Step Three).

6. PLAYER POINTS REVIEW

6.1 Application to review PPA

- (a) Within seven (7) days of a QAFLW Club being formally advised of their players' PPAs, a QAFLW Club may apply for a player's PPA to be reassessed by the Player Points Review Committee (**PPRC**).
- (b) A QAFLW Club may only make an application pursuant to section 6.1(a) with respect to its registered players. No QAFLW Club can apply for the review of a Competing Club player's PPA.
- (c) The application outlined at section 6.1(a) must be made in writing, via email, to the Competition Manager and must rely on the grounds that the PPA is excessive, when considering the player's:
 - i. playing history and achievements;
 - ii. age, particularly if player is looking to play at a higher level;
 - iii. injury history;
 - iv. living circumstances (for example, they have been required to relocate and therefore change Clubs due to living, schooling or work requirements); and/or
 - v. other circumstances or considerations.

Note:

- *An application on the basis of any of the above considerations does not guarantee that a player's PPA will be reduced. Each application is considered on its own merits.*
- (d) Such application must be supported by:
 - i. detailed written submissions; and
 - ii. any relevant evidence.
- (e) The Competition Manager will endeavour to present that application to the PPRC within seven (7) days of receipt of the application.

6.2 Player Points Review Committee

- (a) By 15 November in each year, AFLQ will appoint a PPRC for the purpose of considering PPA review applications (see section 6.1(a)).
- (b) The PPRC will consist of no less than three (3) and no greater than five (5) persons persons, as determined by the Competitions Manager – QLD.
- (c) When the PPRC is presented with a PPA review application, they must make a determination by the earlier of:
 - i. ten (10) days from receipt of the application; or
 - ii. in advance of Team List selection.
- (d) The PPRC may contact any Club that the relevant player was formerly registered with, for the purpose of that Club:
 - i. providing any relevant information;
 - ii. giving context to the submissions provided; and/or
 - iii. verifying information that has been submitted in support of the application.

Note:

- *If a Club is contacted pursuant to section 6.2(d), only information, supported by evidence, may be considered by the PPRC.*
- (e) Any determination of the PPRC must be communicated to the relevant QAFLW Club in writing.

7. APPEALS TO TRIBUNAL

- (a) If a QAFLW Club disputes:
 - i. a player's PPA following review by the PPRC;
 - ii. the TTP Cap for their QAFLW Club, following review by the Competition Manager; or
 - iii. any penalty imposed for non-compliance with this policy;they may submit a Notice of Appeal, via email, to the Competitions Manager - QLD.
- (b) The process outlined at Section 26 of the *National Community Football Policy Handbook* will be adopted in hearing any such appeal (for clarity, for the purpose of this Player Points System Policy, sub-sections 26.1(a) is to be disregarded).

8. PENALTIES

(a) Should a QAFLW Club breach:

- i. any provision of this policy; or
- ii. make a false or incorrect declaration regarding PPA's or their Team's TTP's;

the QAFLW Club is likely to be sanctioned.

(b) Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- i. the reversal of a match result in which the breach/es occurred;
- ii. fines;
- iii. team relegation;
- iv. loss of premiership points – current & future;
- v. suspension from Finals – current & future;
- vi. player/official suspensions – if false information has been knowingly provided; and
- vii. Any other penalty as determined by AFLQ.

(c) In applying any sanctions, AFLQ will take into consideration whether the breach was:

- i. Intentional – where a QAFLW Club has clearly breached the policy with little or no regard (including ignorance) to its requirements.
- ii. Unintentional – where a QAFLW Club has breached this policy without intended malice or has acted on inaccurate but reasonable information.
- iii. Interpretive – where a QAFLW Club has applied the policy in a manner other than what the policy was intended for.

Appendix One

Step One – Determine player’s base allocation of points

A player’s base allocation of points is determined by establishing in which of the following categories they belong:

Category 1 (1pt)	<p>“Home Club Player” – A player that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has played 50 games within a Senior Competition at the Club. <small>*Matches played for the Brisbane Lions Academy and/or the Gold Coast Suns Academy in the Coates League (or equivalent) will count towards QAFLW Reserves Grade games – as long as these matches were played on the same weekend as a match for their primary registered Club, for the purposes of counting Seasons of service and total games tally.</small>• Has played 40 games within a Junior Competition at the Club or at a Club which has an Aligned Club Relationship with the Club. <small>*State Representative and/or sanctioned Academy games played whilst registered to a Junior Club can be counted as junior club games, if played on the same weekend as a junior club game. These games should be listed within a player’s profile in PlayHQ.</small>• Is aged 19 or under as at the beginning of the Competition year, is recruited from interstate and hasn’t played within Queensland previously.• Is recruited from a Regional Queensland Competition, having played their football solely in Regional Queensland (excluding representative matches).• Has not played 40 junior club games but has only played at the Club or a Club with which it has an Aligned Club Relationship.• Transfers directly from an SEQ junior club to a senior club where the previously aligned senior club is not in a competing competition.• Is on a season permit from a non-competing SEQ junior club.• Hasn’t played competition football for the previous two (2) Seasons.
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Category 2 (2pt)	“Community Reserves Player” – A player that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has played more Reserve Grade games than Senior Grade games in any Category 3 or Category 4 Competition across the previous three (3) Seasons. Does not satisfy any Category 1 clause and does not fall into any Category 3 clause or above.
Category 3 (3pt)	“Community Senior Player” – A player that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has played five (5) or more games in any Senior Grade Community Competition in any of the previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 4 (4pt)	“State League Player” – A player that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has played five (5) or more games in a Senior Grade within a State League Women’s Competition in any of the previous three (3) Seasons. <p><i>*Note: Except NTFW which falls under Category 3.</i></p>
Category 5 (5pt)	“AFLW Player” – A player that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has played five (5) or more games in the AFLW Competition across the previous two (2) Seasons.

Step Two – Consider if player is subject to any Penalty Points

A Penalty Point will apply for each of the following circumstances:

Competing Club Penalty

Category 4 players that Transfer to a Competing Club will have an additional one (1) penalty point added to their base PPA.

Note:

- *Category 2 and Category 3 players will not be subject to a Competing Club Penalty.*

Step Three – Consider if a player is entitled to any Point Deductions

A point (unless stated otherwise) will be deducted for each of the following circumstances:

Season of Service

Player is entering their third Season (or more) at a QAFLW Club, having played at least five (5) matches in each of the previous two (2) QAFLW Seasons.

Note:

- *This deduction can be applied in consecutive QAFLW Seasons, until the player reaches a PPA of one (1) point.*
- *If the player Transfers to an alternate AFLQ Club (regardless of which Competition they compete in), the 'Seasons of Service' deduction will restart.*

Promotion

A player that has played Australian Football solely in Queensland and is Transferring from a lower to higher level Competition.

University Club

A QAFLW Club that is associated with a University (i.e. Bond and UQ) can apply for a maximum deduction of two (2) points per player, provided:

- the player is studying full time at the tertiary-aligned institution (relevant evidence must be provided);
- the player Transferred to the relevant QAFLW Club from a Club not within SEQ; and
- their PPA remains at least two (2) points.

Note:

- *Once the player is no longer studying full-time, the deduction will be removed.*