1. Background

Introduction

This document aims to outline the registration, eligibility, and management of players moving between AFL Sydney and the Victorian Football League (Women's) ("**VFLW"**).

AFL Sydney and the VFLW agree to review the operation of this document at the end of each season.

Definitions

a) **"VFLW Club"** means the VFLW Club the player may be contracted to or intends to play a VFLW competition match for.

b) **"AFL Sydney Clubs"** means any of the following clubs:

1. East Coast Eagles Australian Football Club
2. Manly-Warringah Australian Football Club
3. North Shore Australian Football Club
4. Parramatta Goannas Australian Football Club
5. Pennant Hills Australian Football Club
6. St George Australian Football Club
7. Sydney University Australian National Football Club
8. University of Technology Sydney Australian Football Club
9. University of New South Wales / Eastern Suburbs Australian Football Club

c) **"VFLW Players"** means players participating from AFL Sydney into the VFLW on permit.

2. AFL Sydney Clubs and Registration Requirements

2.1 To participate in AFL Sydney, VFLW players must register with an AFL Sydney Club.

2.2 Prior to each VFLW match played, the players VFLW Club shall submit a Permit via the Competition Management Platform (PlayHQ). The dates should be relevant to the VFLW season dates or requested match dates.

2.3 All VFLW Players who participate in AFL Sydney will be assessed in line with the AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division PPS policy.

2.4 The AFL Sydney Competition Management Committee will have the final say in any dispute between VFLW Player and AFL Sydney Clubs.

3. Relegation of Player (other than injury or discipline)

3.1 Any VFLW Player not selected to play in the VFLW, for reasons other than injury, illness, or suspension (as advised by the VFLW Club to AFL Sydney), who has an aligned AFL Sydney Club, is to play in the highest Senior Grade for their aligned AFL Sydney Club, subject to 5.2.

a. For clarity, this includes only Women's Premier Division (not any other AFL Sydney competition grade)

3.2 Any variation to 5.1 (above) must be agreed in writing with the VFLW club and submitted to the league for approval no later than 4pm Friday proceeding the AFL Sydney match.

4. Eligibility (AFL Sydney Home and Away Season)

4.1 If in a particular round a VFLW team (or teams) is scheduled for a bye, or has their fixture cancelled or postponed for any reason, up to a maximum of four (4) VFLW players who participated in the VFLW in the previous round will be eligible to participate in AFL Sydney for their aligned club. For clarity should multiple VFLW teams have a Bye in the same round the four (4) player limit outlined in 6.1 is to include players from both VFLW Club (does not increase to eight (8) players for example).

a. Players who have only played one (1) VFLW match in the previous three (3) VFLW rounds in which their VFLW team has played are exempt from this clause and can exceed the limit outlined in 6.1.

4.2 Any VFLW player who is selected and plays VFLW is not eligible to play AFL Sydney on the same weekend. For clarity 'same weekend' refers to matches played on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

a. Should a VFLW match or AFL Sydney match occur mid-week (Monday-Thursday), the local release of any VFLW player will be at the discretion of the VFLW Club in line with 6.1.

4.3 Communication and Consultation must transpire between the VFLW Clubs and their aligned AFL Sydney Clubs to duly consider and negotiate the field positioning, workload, and development of players prior to their selection by AFL Sydney clubs.

4.4 A VFLW Player, who is ruled unfit by a VFLW Club's medical officer to play in a round of VFLW matches, will be ineligible for selection and must not be listed on the Official Team Sheet of any AFL Sydney Club in any match played in the concurrent round of AFL Sydney matches.

5. Eligibility (AFL Sydney Finals).

5.1 When the VFLW Club is not participating in VFLW home and away matches or VFLW finals, any VFLW Player must have met the following eligibility criteria to participate in an AFL Sydney final match;

a. Have played a minimum of six (6) home and away matches in the current season for his AFL Sydney Club to be eligible to participate in an AFL Sydney Finals matches, except as outlined in section 7.1.
b. Have not played eight (8) or more VFLW matches during the current AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division home and away season.
    i. For clarity, Only VFLW matches played on a week where a round of the AFL Sydney Premier Division Home and Away season is being played will count towards ineligibility.

6. Injury

6.1 If a VFLW Player is injured whilst playing a match (or training) with an AFL Sydney Club, the AFL Sydney Club will manage the injury, and deal with any administrative issues for the player.

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7. Suspension of Players

7.1 An AFL Sydney Club cannot suspend a contracted player of a VFLW Club without the approval of the VFLW Club.

7.2 Any VFLW Player who is suspended for one (1) match or more in the VFLW competition will be ineligible to win the AFL Sydney Best & Fairest Award in the season in which they committed the offence.

7.3 Unless exceptional circumstances apply, a VFLW Player shall serve their suspension in the competition in which it was incurred. The AFL NSW/ACT Community Football Manager shall determine whether exceptional circumstances apply.

- AGREED UPON BY -



Victorian Football League (Women's)
State Leagues Operations Manager –
Sam Sheehan



AFL Sydney
Community Football Manager: Greater Sydney & Northern NSW –
Bronte Mannering

End Agreement