

## 2025 SUMMARY OF CHANGES – COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS

<b>GENERAL MATTERS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMPETITIONS</b>		
<b>Rule of Competition</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Addition/ Amendment (in red)</b>
1.14	Club Membership and National Club Accreditation	1.14.1 In order to be eligible to compete in FV competitions in 2024 a Club must comply with the requirements set out by the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>FV's Club Membership Process;</b></li> <li>b. The FA 'Club Changer'- National Club Development Program criteria (if required);</li> </ul>
1.16	Government Health Orders and Protocols	1.14.2 All Clubs competing in FV Competitions are subject to and must adhere and comply with any mandated Government Health Orders and Protocols.
<b>FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<b>Rule of Competition</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Addition/ Amendment (in red)</b>
2.2	Player Eligibility	1.14.3 FV allows players to play in gendered competition of their choosing under the following guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. <b>Players who identify as female are permitted to participate in male competitions up until Under 16. The player must turn 16 or below during the 2025 calendar year and may play in their equivalent age group of male competitions without the prior approval of FV.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Players who identify as female are not permitted to participate in male competitions in Under 17 and above with the exception of the player falling into the below category:</li> <li>e. the player is currently registered to a regional club without any reasonable female pathway available to the player. To be clear, a regional club is classified as a Club that has received prior written approval from FV to participate in FV community competitions excluding Geelong based clubs.</li> </ul>
3.3	Match Records	<p>3.3.10. FV may issue a warning to the offending Club for minor inaccuracies on a Match Record.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Repeat offences of Match Record inaccuracies from a Club may result in a Misconduct change as per Rule 3.3.5.</li> </ul> <p>3.3.14. For all fixtures that use Match Record Books, once signed by all parties at the conclusion of the Competition Fixture, each Club must upload the relevant Match Record and Team List onto GameDay via the Pre-Game section for the applicable Competition Fixture.</p>
3.5	Player's Strip/Apparel	<p>3.5.1. Clothing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Predominantly black playing shirts will not be permitted unless approved by FV.</li> </ul>
3.9	Lighting Standards	<p>3.9.2. Fixtures mat not kick off after 3:15pm without approved lighting from FV.</p>

## FIXTURE DETAILS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment																				
4.2	Abandoned Competition Fixtures	<p>4.2.3. If a Competition Fixture is abandoned due to a matter set out in Rule 4.2.2., FV may determine one of the following outcomes of the Competition Fixture at its absolute discretion:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. If a Competition Fixture has been abandoned between 70% and 80% of the Normal Time and the goal difference between the two teams exceeds 3 or more goals, FV may determine that the result be maintained at the time of the abandonment. E.g., 3-0, 4-1, 5-2.</p>																				
4.6	Non-Participation in a Competition Fixture	<p>Forfeit Fines Structure Updated for Metropolitan Competitions</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Competition</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Forfeit Fine</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>State League Men's 1</td> <td>\$1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Men's 1 Reserves</td> <td>\$750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Women's 1</td> <td>\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Women's 1 Reserves</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Men's 2 – 3</td> <td>\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Men's 2 – 3 Reserves</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Men's 4 – 5</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Men's 4 – 5 Reserves</td> <td>\$150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State League Women's 2 – 3</td> <td>\$250</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Competition	Forfeit Fine	State League Men's 1	\$1000	State League Men's 1 Reserves	\$750	State League Women's 1	\$500	State League Women's 1 Reserves	\$250	State League Men's 2 – 3	\$500	State League Men's 2 – 3 Reserves	\$250	State League Men's 4 – 5	\$250	State League Men's 4 – 5 Reserves	\$150	State League Women's 2 – 3	\$250
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		State League Women's 4 – 5	\$150
		Community Premier League – Girls	\$250
		All other FV Metropolitan Junior & Senior Competitions	\$150
4.7	Change of Venue/Fixture Requests by Club	<p>4.7.2. Fixture Date/Time Change Requests</p> <p>a. FV will consider a fixture change request by a Club if the request is received no less than 7 days prior to the fixture with written consent provided to FV by Club Officials of both Clubs. Exemptions may be granted for Rounds 1-4 (and 5 for Leagues which have been subject to regrading).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) all fixture change requests must be submitted to FV Competitions with written opposition approval by 12pm, Friday the week prior to the Competition Fixture.</li> <li>(ii) fixture changes may be granted without opposition approval and or within the 7-day window if there is a fixture clash (i.e., too many games fixtured on one pitch at the same time) and or deemed facility limitations / ground issues (i.e., due to poor weather).</li> <li>(iii) any fixture change that takes place within 7 days of a Competition Fixture, may result in the forgoing of an appointed FV Match Official.</li> <li>(iv) All MiniRoos (U7 – U11) and U12 &amp; U13 Junior Competitions are exempt from Regulation 4.7.2.a &amp; 4.7.2.a.i.</li> </ul>	

## MATCH OFFICIALS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
5.1	Match Official Fees	<p>5.8.1. FV will invoice the Home Club once the confirmation of the fixture completion is received via Refbook.</p> <p>5.8.2. The Home Club will be invoiced in accordance with the FV Match Official Invoicing Process.</p>
5.3.4	Non-Attendance or Unavailability of Match Officials	<p>5.3.4. If an appointed Match Official is unable to fulfill their appointment after the fixture has commenced (i.e., due to an injury sustained) and there is not one available to act as a replacement, both Clubs shall agree on a person to act as the Match Official for the remainder of the Competition Fixture. If, after ten (10) minutes no agreement can be reached, the Home Club must appoint a person to act as the Match Official for the Competition Fixture. If the match is not completed due to the Away Team disputing the Match Official appointment, the Away Team may be deemed to have caused the abandonment of the Competition Fixture.</p>

## STATE LEAGUE MEN'S

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
10.1.13 – 10.1.16	General Information	<p>10.1.14. Any SLM1 Club that lists more than four (4) Visa players (3+1 AFC/OFC Visa Ruling) on their Senior team match day team sheet will be in breach of Regulation 10.1.13 and may be in breach of Rules regarding fielding an ineligible player(s).</p> <p>10.1.15. It is entirely the Clubs responsibility to ensure players are eligible in relation to the 3+1 AFC/OFC Visa ruling.</p>

		10.1.16. Clubs participating in State League Men's 1 are required to submit details of all Visa Players via the 2025 Visa Players JotForm in accordance with the 2025 FV Registration Regulations.
10.3	Promotion and Relegation	Regulations for the 2025 season added.
<b>STATE LEAGUE WOMEN'S</b>		
<b>Rule of Competition</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Change/Amendment</b>
15.1.12	General Information	<p>15.1.4 Where a Club which does not hold a Senior NPLW or <b>VPLW</b> Participation Licence, that Club may field Players up in age groups from its JGNPL teams (Under 13 – Under 17) into its <b>State League Women's</b> competition teams as follows:</p> <p>a. Unlimited Players from a Junior Girls NPL Roster can Play up per fixture at one time in the Club's <b>SLW1 senior or reserves and SLW 2-5</b> competitions teams. Players must be 14 years of age as at 1 January 2025 to be eligible to participate in the reserves or senior women's competitions.</p>
15.3	State League Women's 1	<p>15.3.3. By commencement of the 2025 Regular Seasons for the competitions listed in sub-paragraphs a – h below, all Clubs participating in State League Women's 1 must field and maintain not less than three (3) additional teams in FV competitions (other than their senior women and reserves Teams). Those Teams can be fielded in any of the following MiniRoos (Under 7s – U11s);</p> <p>a. Juniors (Under 12s – U18s);</p> <p>b. State League Women's</p> <p>c. Metropolitan Men/Women's Leagues;</p> <p>d. Metropolitan Men's/Women's Masters;</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Womens Football 7s</li> <li>f. FV affiliated regional competitions; or</li> <li>g. FV affiliated All Abilities Leagues</li> </ul>
15.5	Promotion and Relegation	Regulations for the 2025 season added.
15.7	Vacancies in State League Women's	<p>15.7.3. Vacancies created in accordance with Regulations 15.7.1 and 15.7.2 will be filled in the following order of priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The highest finishing Team which is to be, or has been, relegated in accordance with these Regulations from the Division in which the vacancy arises;</li> <li>b. If applicable, the highest finishing loser of the Play Off Finals matches referred to in Regulation 15.5 (if relevant);</li> <li>c. Any remaining Teams which are to be, or have been, relegated in accordance with these Regulations from the Division in which the vacancy arises in order of merit;</li> <li>d. The highest finishing Team (based on order of merit) which misses out on promotion in accordance with these Rules, from the Division below the Division in which the vacancy arises; and</li> <li>e. Remaining Teams which miss out on promotion in accordance with these Rules, from the Division below the Division in which the vacancy arises in order of merit.</li> <li>f. Remaining Teams within the competition structure which miss out on promotion in accordance with these Rules which have submitted a League Change Request via the Team Entry System, during the Team Entry Period.</li> <li>g. the Clubs who have submitted a New Team Entry during the Team Entry Period, with that request being for the Division where the vacancy arises, or the closest available division.</li> </ul>

## METROPOLITAN JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
20.1.14 & 20.1.17	General Information	<p>20.1.14. For under 12 – 18 Boys’ &amp; Girls’ Competitions, if a Club has two (2) Teams in the ‘A’ division of a particular age group then players are 'team-tied' following completion of the <b>sixth (6th)</b> round of the Regular Season. Clubs will be required to submit a Team list for both Teams from Round <b>7</b> onwards, listing each player, which will be tied to that particular Team for the remainder of the Regular Season. Any new player(s) that are named on a Match Record for either of these Teams from Round <b>7</b> onwards, will be tied to that Team for the remainder of the Regular Season. Once a player is tied to a particular Team, the player must not be named on the Match Record for the Club’s other ‘A’ division Team, otherwise they will be deemed ineligible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>a. Players playing up in age group will be exempt from Regulation 20.1.14 in accordance with Regulation 20.1.9.</b></p> <p>20.1.17. Where a Club holds a JBNPL Participation Licence and does not hold a Senior NPL or VPL Participation Licence, that Club may field Players up in age groups from its JBNPL Roster (Under 14 – Under 18) into its Community Teams as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A maximum of four (4) players from a JBNPL Roster can play up per fixture at one time in the Club’s <b>Men’s Metropolitan Under 21 Community Team</b>.</li> <li>b. Unlimited players from a JBNPL Roster can play up per fixture at one time for the Club’s <b>State League Men’s senior or reserves Community Teams</b>. Players must be of 15 years of age at 1 January 2025 to be eligible to participate in Reserves or Senior Men’s Community Teams.</li> </ul>
20.5	Community Premier League (CPL) – Girls	Regulations for the 2025 season added.



21.4	Results of Competition Fixtures	<p>21.4.3. All player lists must be submitted by the home/away Team prior to the commencement of the match or up to 90 minutes post-match as part of the Hybrid Match Record Process.</p> <p>Below Regulations added to ROC in accordance with the GDT:</p> <p>21.4.6. All red card cautions for U14-U18 Junior Competitions must be submitted by the Home Club via the 2025 FV Post Match Submission JotForm.</p> <p>21.4.7. For the purpose of 4.4.a. of the 2025 GDT, accumulation of Yellow Cards does not apply to all Junior (U12-U18) Community Competitions.</p>
21.1.1	Interchange	<p>21.1.1. Interchange Rule – Boys’ Under 12 to Under 21 competitions and Girls’ Under 12 to Under 19 competitions:</p> <p>a. For Under 12 – Under 13 a maximum of <b>fourteen (14)</b> players can be named on the Match Record. Clubs may make any number of interchanges during the course of the Competition Fixture, provided the Match Official has been consulted first and permits the substitution.</p>
22	Junior Finals Series	<p>Elimination Finals Format</p> <p>(i) If there are <b>three (3)</b> Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the Premiers of each League plus the highest placed <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> Team will be fixtured in a Semi Final/Grand Final format.</p> <p>(ii) If there are <b>five (5)</b>, six (6), seven (7), eight (8) or nine (9) Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the top four (4) Premiers will be fixtured in a Semi Final/Grand Final Format.</p>

## MEN'S & WOMEN'S METROPOLITAN & MASTERS COMPETITIONS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
23.2.2	Women's Metropolitan League	Regulations added for the 2025 season.
23.2.3	Men's Metropolitan Under 21 League	Regulations added for the 2025 season.
23.4	Women's Metropolitan Masters League	Regulations added for the 2025 season.
23.5	Vacancies in Men's & Women's Metropolitan League Competitions	<p>23.5.4. Vacancies created in accordance with Regulations 23.5.1 and 23.5.2 may be filled in the following order of priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the highest finishing Team which from the Division below across both Leagues (NW &amp; SE) in the previous season.</li> <li>b. remaining Teams within the competition structure which submit a League Change Request during the Team Entry Period.</li> <li>c. the Clubs who have submitted a New Team Entry during the Team Entry Period, with that request being for the Division where the vacancy arises, or the closest available division.</li> </ul>
23.6.3 & 23.6.13	Player Restrictions	<p>23.6.3. Once a Player has Played in five (5) Sate League Men's or State League Women's senior fixtures, that Player will be deemed ineligible to compete in any of their Clubs Men's Metropolitan League or Women's Metropolitan League Teams for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals). Players under the age of 18 as of 1 January 2025 are exempt from regulation 23.6.3.</p> <p>23.6.13. If a Club has two or more Teams in the Men's or Women's Metropolitan Masters competitions then players are 'team-tied' following completion of the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) round of the Regular Season to one of those Teams. Clubs will be required to</p>

		<p>submit a Team list for each Team for Round 7 onwards, listing each player, which will be tied to that particular Team for the remainder of the Regular Season, with the following exemption for team-tied players.</p> <p>a. Up to a maximum of three (3) players listed to a particular Team may play for the Clubs other Teams(s) in that Division on any given weekend.</p>
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<b>GEELONG REGION COMPETITIONS</b>		
<b>Rule of Competition</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Change/Amendment</b>
31.1.13	Player Restrictions	30.1.13. Once a Player has played in five (5) State League Women's Senior fixtures, that Player will be deemed ineligible to compete in any of his Club's Geelong Senior Women's Competition Teams for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals). Players under the age of 18 as of 1 January 2025 are exempt from regulation 30.1.13.
31.1.18	Player Eligibility	31.1.18. Once a Player has Played in five (5) Metropolitan Junior League Competition Fixtures, that Player will be deemed ineligible to compete in any of their Clubs Geelong Region Junior Competition Teams for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals). Players returning to play up in age group are exempt from regulation 31.1.18.

## LATROBE VALLEY REGION SENIOR COMPETITIONS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
33.4.1	Cup Competitions – Player Restrictions	<b>33.4.1.</b> For LV Men’s Senior League, Men’s Reserves League and Women’s League Competitions, each Player must have Played at least <b>nine (9) Club Competition Fixtures across all competitions during the current Regular Season to qualify to play a Cup Competition Fixture for that Club.</b> For avoidance of doubt, where a player has Played a Clubs FV Men’s Senior League Competition Fixture, Regulation 36.1.12 will apply.
33, 34, 35 & 36	Day of Play	Saturday added as an official Day of Play for Latrobe Valley Senior Competitions.
36	Latrobe Valley Men’s 3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	<b>36.1.16.</b> For the purpose of Regulation 37.1.14, on a weekend where the Clubs Reserves League Team are not scheduled to play in a Competition Fixture, that Team’s most recent Competition Fixture shall apply.

## SOUTH-WEST REGION SENIOR COMPETITIONS

Rule of Competition	Subject Matter	Change/Amendment
Schedule 7	South-West Region Competition Regulations	Updated Regulations for South-West Region Competitions