



## SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES

### AREA ADULT & AREA JUNIOR COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The Area Adult League and Area Junior Competition Regulations for the 2023/2024 season are now available. Below is a summary of major changes to these Regulations, however we strongly advise teams to ensure they are familiar with the full Regulations.

#### AREA ADULT LEAGUE

- **Glossary definitions of:**
  - *Doubling up*
  - *Due Date*
  - *Matchweek*
- **3.2.9 Development Teams** - Clubs may request a team to be designated a development team, to be accepted at the discretion of the ALMC.
- **5.1.2 Moving Fixtures** - Clubs may agree to move a fixture to within 5 days (Sunday to Thursday) after or any time before the scheduled date. This is subject to the approval of ALMC.
- **5.2.3 Changing Fixtures** - ANY change to this information must be notified to the ALM or ALDS as directed and to the Team Admin of the opposing team, as soon as GMS is changed, but a minimum number of days prior to the match:
  - Grade 2-5 – 10 days prior
- **8 & Appendix 4 Player Eligibility – Fair Selection, Youth Experience Player, Special Exemption Pass** - The fair selection framework provides clubs with reasonable flexibility while maintaining guidelines to ensure fairness and prevent unfair advantages. Clubs should select players for their League teams based on a hierarchical order determined by availability. Players should not be selected at a lower level than their Regular Team to strengthen a lower-ranked team. Clarity and additional examples have been provided and we advise that the Regulation 8 and Appendix 4 is read in totality.
  - Grade 1 & Grade 2 – movement of a player down is now a maximum of 1 team
  - Grade 3, 4 & 5 – movement of a player down is now a maximum of 2 teams.
  - Youth Experience Player (YEP) – limited to one player in any MatchWeek.
  - Doubling Up – shown in the table in 8.4.4
  - Special Exemptions (SXP) – regulation 8.6

- **9.4.1 Uploading Team Sheets** - All players with shirt numbers and any team officials participating in a match must be uploaded onto the team sheet before the match. The ALMC/ALDS has discretion to apply flexibility for this at Grades 4 & 5.
- **9.4.2 Viewing** - Both captains & both umpires must be able to view both team sheets before the match starts.
- **11.1.3 Umpire Provision** The away club has contacted the home club to say it intends to appoint an umpire for the match. This must be done at least 5 days before the match. The home club is not allowed to decline. The away team is then responsible for appointing an umpire, unless and until both teams agree otherwise.
- **11.12 Umpire Reports** - All clubs MUST complete an Umpire's report for Area Appointed Umpires by 20:00 the Wednesday after the match.
- **12.2.3 Suspensions** The suspension is to be applied for all League games, on the date of the next match of the player's regular team (by appearances), unless advised otherwise by ALMC.
- **12.2.5 Yellow Cards** – Any yellow card(s) issued to the same player in that match shall be counted for the purpose of the regulations and should be recorded on GMS as two yellow cards only.
- **13.2.3.4 Postponing Matches** If teams are not able to agree a date, then the ALDS or ALMC will set a reasonable date. Which can only be postponed due to weather.
- **13.3.1.3 Postponing Matches** - In the event of the home team wishing to postpone a match the away team shall, at its own cost, have the right to inspect the ground prior to a decision regarding postponement being reached.
- **14 Failure to honour a fixture or forfeiture of a match** - A team that fails to play due to shortage of players is deemed to have failed to honour the fixture and penalties applied, subject to review by ALDS/ALMC. Failure to Honour a fixture includes not completing the fixture unless the umpires agree to abandon the game because of the problems with pitch, the weather, danger to players or a medical emergency and, a team cannot walk off the pitch. Extensive changes to penalties, see Appendix 5.
- **Appendix 5 Standard Penalties & Tariffs of fines** – If fines are not paid within 28 days they may be doubled. We advise that the Appendix 5 is read in totality due to a number of other minor changes.

## JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

- **2.1.4 & Appendix 1 U16 Tier 1 Championships** – The structure has changed to Tier 1 now being central entry and a nationally led league playing from September through to Supra League and knockout competitions for those who fail to progress to the Supra League. This replaces the Tier 1 Area / Supra League format and KO Championship that was run last year.
- **2.4.7 Match results limit** - in all competitions match results shall be limited to a goal difference of eight, and any score recorded as 8-0 to the winners. Once a match reaches 8-0 the game should be paused and come back out with a score of 0-0 to enable players to be rotated to support development, retain players interest in the game and ensure all junior players enjoy and learn from the game.
- **2.4.10 U14 & U16 Tier 1 failing to honour two of League fixtures** – any team that fails to honour two of its league fixtures will be automatically withdrawn from the Leagues and all previous results will be void and will forfeit its entry fee. In any other competition, any team that fails to honour at least half of their fixtures will be automatically withdrawn from the leagues and all previous results will be void and will forfeit its entry fee.
- **7.1 Rescheduled Matches** - If any match is rescheduled because of postponement or abandonment, the game is to be played on the next available slip date, as per the calendar, or within 14 days of the original fixture date. The new date of the game must be reported to and agreed by AJLCC.