



# ELLINBANK & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## BY-LAWS

Revised April 2024

7 Todman Street, Drouin 3818

<b>Sect. No.</b>	<b>Details of amendment to section</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>
1.1	Add note expecting clubs to have teams. No price reduction for not providing team	Reword and review
1.4	All teams must be registered with the League prior to the 1 <sup>st</sup> February each year. A minimum of ten (10) registered players within a particular age group will constitute a team.	REMOVE
1.6	The registration fee to join the League shall be 1/11th of the Total Balance of all League Accounts or a figure determined by the Board of Management.	Change portion of total of entire Account Balance
3.1	Clubs are entitled to one vote at Special General Meetings.	Reword to clarify
4.1	The Board shall have the power to award annually (no) more than two (2) Life Memberships ....	Correction NO more than
5* ALL	FINES Updated to represent PENALTY UNIT rather than nominated value. 2024 TO BE \$25. PENALTY UNIT TO BE SET AT AGM.	Noted \$ allocation to PENALTY UNITS
5.3	MRP Fines added to Notice of Charge finding. Fines imposed by the MRP are to be paid to the League in full prior to the player being eligible for selection.	Update to MRP allocation of fine and remittance time frame
5.7	A club with a player found to be wearing a different number to that indicated on the official team sheet shall be fined a maximum of 4 Penalty Units for each indiscretion. (Progressive increase of Fines during Finals?)	Change to a maximum of
5.11	Where a violation of any rule has been made by a club and for which penalties are not provided, the Board shall have the power to impose a penalty unit value as the Board so determines.	Clarification
5.13	...sent via email to the Follower Editor by the Day and Time advised by the Board before the commencement of the season	Update
6.2	Add (b) Match Review Panel	Addition to list
7.5	Addition of Boundary Umpire requirements	Update

7.6	To be passed to the Board for decision	Revised outcome
7.8	They must escort the umpires to and from the ground and pass on any directions from umpire during the game.	Clarification of Role
7.9	Seniors allowed up to two (2) runners	Update
7.10	Appointed club trainers must wear the official EDFNL trainers attire. Trainers may deliver water to players. Water Carriers must be dressed in All White with no advertising (small team Logo or Identification is allowable). Any club with incorrectly attired trainers or water carriers will be fined (refer Section 5).	Clarification
9.2	White shorts must be worn by visiting clubs in all grades. Unless otherwise directed by Board	Clarification
9.5	REPLACE ...following approval from the board  The Board has the right to order the immediate removal of any logo deemed inappropriate or offensive. All costs involved will be borne by the club involved.	Revised
10.2	To be eligible to play in the Under 18's a player must be under 18 on January 1 <sup>st</sup> of the year in question.	Correction
10.3	To be eligible to play in the Under 16's a player must be under 16 on January 1 <sup>st</sup> of the year in question.	Correction
12.1	The Board at the Annual General Meeting, or subsequent meeting, shall appoint a Match Review Panel of no less than 3 Members of which 1 shall be designated the position of Co-Ordinator.	Additional
12.11	...a fine of 20 Penalty Units	\$ to PU
14.3	Note also Section 19.5  Seniors           Start: 2.15pm	Indicate 19.5 Change Snrs time
14.8	No change	INFORCE

14.10	...enter the fairest and best players in their opinion in the form provided online.	Update process
14.13	Game halted and unable to recommence	Ruling Clarification
15.1	...individual rounds of matches...	Clarification
15.3	...met the finals eligibility Rule 15.1 (remove 15.2 & 15.3)	Revised
16.9	Any incorrect player jumper numbers in the Follower in the finals series will attract a Penalty Unit fine per player as determined by the Board	PU to Vary
17.1	Time Frame	Updated
17.4***	Under 18: Eighteen (18) on the field Plus six (6) interchange. Total List to be capped at 26 players  Under 16: Eighteen (18) on the field Plus six (6) interchange. Total List to be capped at 26 players	SUGGESTION FOR CONSIDERATION
18.2	A player who is found guilty of any offence by the EDFNL independent Tribunal (regardless of the penalty) shall be ineligible to win the Best & Fairest award in any grade during the subject season.	Rewording
18.3	A player who is reported and accepts or is delivered a guilty plea (including Early Plea resulting a reprimand or fine regardless of the number of Penalty Units allocated) shall not be eligible to win the Leagues Best & Fairest awards in any grade.	FINE added
18.4	Players who carry over disqualification (from any League or Competition) of 4 or more games, due to a reportable offence from previous years, shall not be eligible to win the Best & Fairest in that competing season.	NEW
20.3	(d) Once an overage player has played more than three (3) first (Senior) grade games he is ineligible to play U18.5.	REMOVE No longer relevant

21.1	...automatically disqualified...	Change wording
21.2	...automatically disqualified... Note: Disqualification...	Change wording
22.4	An independent review panel shall be appointed by the Board to hear cases where a player or club is dissatisfied with the points assessed to a player and wishes to appeal for reconsideration of the points allocated.	REMOVE Not valid
24.1	If an Umpire or Qualified Trainer is of opinion or advised that a Player needs attention but unsure as to the extent of the issue the Umpire shall send them from the ground for assessment by trainer without enforcing AFL Law 7.3.2 (e)	REVISED
20.3	Lead has been reworded and 20.3 (a) age limit extended.	REVISED
APPENDIX A	2024 Player Point Allocation	Update

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## **1. Membership**

- 1.1 An EDFNL affiliated club is expected to field Seniors, Reserves, Under 18 and Under 16 sides.
  - (i) No club fielding less than the expected four (4) grades will be entitled to a reduction in fees payable to the league
- 1.2 A club failing to enter a team under Section 1.1 as a result of genuinely being unable to field the required registered numbers for the subject team must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board that every effort has been made to field the subject team.
- 1.3 The Board shall have the discretion to fine or deduct points from a team registered with the offending club if a club forfeits any grade of football. The Board shall inform the offending club of its decision within three (3) days of the forfeit of any game. When imposed the deducted points shall be awarded to the opposing club in that grade.
- 1.4 Clubs must pay their AFL Victoria affiliation fees by the due date or be ineligible for premiership points in all grades until financial.
- 1.5 The registration fee to join the League shall be 1/11th of the Total Balance of all League Accounts or a figure determined by the Board of Management.

## **2. Annual Fees**

- 2.1 The Board shall determine the annual club membership fees at the Annual General Meeting and clubs shall make payment in accordance with a presented payment schedule. The Board shall also determine annually the gate admittance fees for both the home and away and finals fixtures.
- 2.2 Clubs must pay League invoices within the thirty (30) day period from invoice date, refer to 5.2 for penalties that apply for overdue invoices.

## **3. Voting**

- 3.1 As per Constitution the Club as a whole is entitled to one vote at Special General Meetings.
- 3.2 Except where specified in the Constitution, all normal decisions shall be determined by a simple majority. The vote shall be determined by a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by two (2) or more clubs.

## **4. Life Members**

- 4.1 The Board shall have the power to award annually no more than two (2) Life Memberships for persons who, in the Board's opinion, have rendered outstanding service to the League and game if any of these are awarded under 4.2.
- 4.2 Players will be considered for Life Membership when they have achieved playing 300 senior games and have also demonstrated a commitment to the League and/or club such as participation in representative games, club coaching or committee involvement, other contributions to the League or club.
- 4.3 Administrators and others will be considered for Life Membership if they have demonstrated extensive service to the League and/or outstanding service in the area of administration of the EDFNL.

## **5. Fines**

- 5.1 Clubs not represented at a Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting will be fined  
10 Penalty Units.
- 5.2 A fine of 4 Penalty Units applies for non-compliance of payment times of monies due to the League.
- 5.3 Fines imposed by the MRP are to be paid to the League in full prior to the player being eligible for selection.
- 5.4 A fine of 10 Penalty Units per offence may be imposed on a team who forfeits a game under Section 1.3.
- 5.5 Other fines may also be applied by the Board for match day indiscretions such as official team sheet indiscretions, late starting times, incorrect or poor ground markings, incorrect goal post padding, etc. The Board may impose a maximum fine of 4 Penalty Units for each indiscretion.
- 5.6 Clubs with incorrectly attired players, goal umpires, red coat officials, runners, trainers or water carriers shall be fined 2 Penalty Units for each indiscretion.
- 5.7 A club with a player found to be wearing a different number to that indicated on the official team sheet shall be fined a maximum of 4 Penalty Units for each indiscretion.
- 5.8 A club found guilty of playing an ineligible or unregistered player shall be fined 10



Penalty Units for each game in which the player participated and loss of points if the team in which the unregistered player played has won.

- 5.9 The following penalties will be imposed for a proven deliberate breach of the Player Points system:
- (a) In the event of a win for the breaching side, loss of premiership points, nil score points for, plus a 40 Penalty Unit fine;
  - (b) In the event of a loss for the breaching side, nil score points for, plus a 40 Penalty Unit fine.
- 5.10 Fines imposed by the Board must be paid within thirty (30) days of notification.
- 5.11 Where a violation of any rule has been made by a club and for which penalties are not provided, the Board shall have the power to impose a penalty unit value as the Board so determines.
- 5.12 In the event the Board of Management apply a good behaviour bond to a club, the length in terms of months/years will be nominated when notifying the particular club of the details.
- 5.13 Each club will be allocated a page in the weekly "Follower" for notes. These notes as well as any alterations to player names/numbers must be sent via email to the Follower Editor by the Day and Time advised by the Board before the commencement of the season. If not a 4 Penalty Unit fine will be imposed through the Board

## **6. Sub-Committees of the League**

- 6.1 The appointed Sub-Committees will make recommendations for consideration by the Board.
- 6.2 The Board shall appoint annually:
- (a) Football Sub-Committee
  - (b) Match Review Panel
  - (c) Independent Tribunal Panel
  - (d) Investigations Officer
  - (e) Trainers Association
- 6.3 In addition, the Board shall have the power to appoint and constitute other Sub-Committees from time to time for such purposes and with such responsibilities as the Board shall determine.

## **7. Umpires & Match Day Officials**

- 7.1 Field umpires for all matches shall be obtained from a registered panel, except where it has been agreed with the GUA that designated club umpires are to be used.
- 7.2 Registered panel field, goal and boundary umpires, together with designated club field umpires, will have the power to report players.
- 7.3 Club appointed goal and boundary umpires shall not have the power to report players except where a player disputes the appointed umpire's decision or unduly interferes with, or uses abusive, threatening or insulting language or behaviour towards the umpire during the progress of a game.
- 7.4 All registered panel umpires and designated club field umpires must have the appropriate umpire's accreditation.
- 7.5 Each club must provide umpires where a GUA Umpire has not been appointed.
  - (a) Club goal umpires must be attired in a white coat and have a minimum of two (2) white flags at least 60 centimetres square
  - (b) Club boundary umpire must be attired in white shirt and shorts with no advertising (small team Logo or Identification is allowable) and carry an audible whistle

Any club having goal umpires incorrectly attired will be fined (refer Section 5).

- 7.6 Goal umpires must compare each other's cards at the end of each quarter. If the scores do not agree the goal umpires must consult with the time keepers in an endeavour to reach agreement. If no agreement can be reached they must report at once to the field umpires who will report the matter if it cannot be resolved before recommencement of play.
- 7.7 Each club must provide a time keeper for all games. The time keepers shall record the time that each competing team appears on the ground and the starting and end times of each quarter. They shall also record the scores as a check if required by the goal umpires.
- 7.8 Each club must appoint a "Red Coat" official for all games whose duty it will be to record any players reported or sent off the field. They must escort the umpires to and from the ground and pass on any directions from umpire during the game. Red Coat officials must wear a "red coat" approved by the Board. Failure to fulfill this role will result in a fine (refer Section 5)
- 7.9 Appointed Club Runners for all grades must be registered players/officials of the Club and wear the official EDFNL runner's attire.
  - (i) Reserves, Thirds (U18) and Fourths (U16) will be allowed one (1) runners each
  - (ii) Seniors teams may have up to two (2) runners each

- only one (1) runner, at a time shall be on the playing field
- if using two (2) runners, the runner must enter and exit the playing field through the interchange
- in the event both runners are found on the playing field, the umpire shall remove one (1) runner from the ground for the remainder of the match (RED card)

Any club with an incorrectly attired runner will be fined (refer Section 5).

7.10 Appointed Club Trainers must wear the official EDFNL trainers attire.

- Trainers may deliver water to players.

Appointed Water Carriers must be dressed in All White with no advertising (small team Logo or Identification is allowable).

Any club with incorrectly attired trainers or water carriers will be fined (refer Section 5).

7.11 All club coaching staff, team managers, runners, trainers, water carriers and bench personnel must be registered with AFL Vic.

7.12 If there is a shortfall of umpires for any round the Board of Management will direct the GUA to allocate umpires to the financial clubs as a priority.

7.13 Clubs must have a trainer with Emergency Response Course or Level One Trainer qualifications with current Level 2 First Aid and current CPR.

## **8. Disqualified Players**

8.1 No disqualified player will be eligible to play with a club in the EDFNL during the term of the disqualification.

## **9. Player Uniforms**

9.1 Each club must wear a registered club uniform as approved by the Board.

9.2 White shorts must be worn by visiting clubs in all grades. Unless otherwise directed by Board

9.3 A fine will be imposed on any club with a player incorrectly attired (see Section 5).

9.4 Players must play in the numbers allocated to them on the official team sheet. A fine will be imposed on a club where it is found that a player played in a different number to that indicated on the official team sheet (refer Section 5).

- 9.5 Sponsors logos may be included on club jumpers and shorts, but must be restricted to the following location and sizes:
- (a) Front of jumper – a maximum of two (2) logos no more than 10cm x 5cm in size.
  - (b) Back of jumper – one (1) logo no more than 30cm x 10cm in size.
  - (c) Shorts – a maximum of two (2) logos no more than 7.5 x 7.5cm in size.

The Board has the right to order the immediate removal of any logo deemed inappropriate or offensive to the League values. All costs involved will be borne by the club involved.

## **10. Registration**

- 10.1 To be eligible to play with a club a player must be registered by lodging a completed AFL Vic registration or renewal form each year prior to playing his/her first game with the club.
- 10.2 To be eligible to play in the Under 18's a player must be under 18 on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in question.
- 10.3 To be eligible to play in the Under 16's a player must be under 16 on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in question.

## **11. Grounds**

- 11.1 Each club must provide a ground and adequate change room facilities approved by the Board.
- 11.2 All clubs must provide an appropriate score board with figures not less than 30 centimetres in size, located a minimum of 1.5 metres above the natural ground level.
- 11.3 Interchange lines must be marked on the ground between the two (2) coach's boxes. The interchange lines must be marked with a distance of 15 metres between the lines. Any player leaving the ground other than through the marked interchange lines cannot take any further part in the game. The "red coat" officials must report any interchange infringements.
- 11.4 Any club with an incorrectly marked ground will be fined (refer Section 5).
- 11.5 The Board as the "Ground Inspection Committee" shall have the power to relocate or reschedule any game due to adverse conditions.

## **12. Match Review Panel (MRP) and Tribunal**

- 12.1 The Board at the Annual General Meeting, or subsequent meeting, shall appoint a Match Review Panel of no less than 3 Members of which 1 shall be designated the position of Co-Ordinator.
- 12.2 The Board at the Annual General Meeting, or subsequent meeting, shall appoint an independent Tribunal of not more than fifteen (15) members. Any three (3) of the appointed members will form a quorum for a sitting tribunal.
- 12.3 Any player or club appearing before a tribunal shall have the right to be represented by one club advocate, who shall have the right to present the case and question witnesses.
- 12.4 The tribunal shall meet at a time and place it deems most suitable and the expenses of the appointed members and any meeting costs shall be borne by the League. Expenses of the affected players/clubs shall be borne by those parties.
- 12.5 The tribunal shall have full power to deal with and impose penalties in all cases brought before the tribunal.
- 12.6 Any player/club (accused or witness) who fails to appear at a meeting of the tribunal after being notified, without showing just cause, shall be dealt with by the tribunal. The player/club may be subject to a penalty as determined by the tribunal.
- 12.7 Umpires and an umpire's advocate are required to be present at all tribunal meetings where a report has been made by an umpire.
- 12.8 The procedure for tribunal meetings shall be as set out in the Rules provided by AFL Vic.
- 12.9 Any junior player sent from the ground on two (2) occasions within any six (6) game period shall have the option of appearing before the EDFNL independent Tribunal, or taking an automatic one-match suspension in the next home and away game or finals match in which the player's team is participating. If a player offends a third time within any following six (6) game period the automatic suspension increases to two (2) matches (or tribunal hearing). If the player offends for a fourth time within a following six (6) match period the automatic suspension increases to four (4) matches (or tribunal hearing).
- 12.10 The decisions of the independent Tribunal shall be final and binding. No appeal shall be allowed except where provided for in the Rules of AFL Vic.

12.11 In the event of a League investigation, the League Secretary will notify the time, date and location when offending/offended players, witnesses, etc. will be interviewed by the Investigation Officer. Consequently after these interviews the person nominated by the Investigation Officer must attend the convened tribunal hearing. Failure to comply with any of the above will result in a fine of 20 Penalty Units

### **13. Disputes and Mediation**

13.1 All disputes submitted to the Board (under Clause 12 of the EDFNL Constitution), which are initiated by a club/player must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a bond of \$500. Protests/disputes in respect to home and away matches must be submitted to the Board within five (5) days from the date of the match. In respect to finals matches, submission must be within 48 hours of the match.

13.2 The required \$500 bond shall be liable to be forfeited if the protest/dispute is demonstrated to be frivolous.

13.3 The Board may refer the matter to the independent Tribunal if considered appropriate.

13.4 The Board or the complainant may request that the matter be dealt with by an approved independent Investigator appointed by the Board. The costs of the Investigator shall be borne by the complainant if the case is dismissed, or shall be shared by both the complainant and offending parties if the case is upheld.

### **14. Home & Away Games**

14.1 The competition shall play for a premiership and shall consist of a series of home and away matches as determined by the Board. In all matches four (4) points shall be awarded for a win and two (2) points for a draw. All clubs shall adhere to the programme of matches as drawn up by the Board and any club failing to complete an engagement on the day fixed shall be dealt with by the Board as determined.

14.2 In the event of clubs tying in points at the end of the home and away fixture, the relative positions shall be determined by the proportion of points kicked for and against during the home and away fixture.

14.3 The following starting times, length of quarters and designated break times shall apply for the indicated grades during the home and away fixture. Note also 19.5

- Seniors Start: 2.15pm Quarters: 4 x 20 mins plus time on Breaks: 5 mins, 15 mins, 5 mins

- Reserves Start: 12.15pm  
Quarters: 4 x 20 mins, no time on Breaks: 5 mins, 8 mins, 5 mins MUST FINISH 2:00pm
- Under 18: Start: 10.25am  
Quarters: 4 x 20 mins, no time on Breaks: 5 mins, 8 mins, 5 mins MUST FINISH 12:05pm
- Under 16: Start: 8.45am  
Quarters: 4 x 18 mins, no time on Breaks: 4 mins, 8 mins, 4 mins MUST FINISH 10:15 am

Note: Club/s must have the approval of the Board to vary the above start times, ie. night games, specific purpose games, etc. A minimum of two (2) weeks' notice must be given to the Board for all game time change proposals. The participating clubs in these games may be requested by the Board to provide additional risk management requirements

- 14.4 Clubs shall be fined under Section 5 of these By-Laws for late starting times unless an appropriate reason is given.
- 14.5 In the event of a club failing to keep its engagement in any grade, the offending club shall forfeit the match and also pay the umpires fees if applicable, unless written notification stating the reason is provided to the Board before 12 noon on the Tuesday immediately preceding the engagement.
- 14.6 Any club found guilty of playing a player who is not eligible under the rules of this League shall lose all matches in which the offending player participated and shall also be subject to a fine (refer Section 5). The points so lost shall be credited to the opposing team.
- 14.7 At the completion of each match, the home team must obtain the "all clear" from the umpires and shall collect all official paperwork including the umpires match day report sheet, time keeper's cards, goal umpires score cards, official team sheets, umpires vote cards, overage permit player forms, etc. and deliver or post them to the League Secretary prior to 12 noon of the Sunday following the match.
- 14.8 Home clubs must present two (2) balls, with the current sponsor's logo if applicable, to the officiating umpires prior to the commencement of the game. For the Seniors the balls must be unused new balls, whilst in all other grades the balls can either be new or good condition used balls.
- 14.9 "Time on" will only be implemented at the direction of the field umpire for ball ups and when ball leaves the playing arena (boundary throw ins and scoring points). This applies to home & away and finals matches in Senior Grade only.

- 14.10 The field umpire(s) of each match shall, immediately following the conclusion of the match, enter the fairest and best players in their opinion in the form provided online. At the completion of the home and away matches, these votes are to be counted and the player receiving the greatest number of votes to be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, joint winners are recognised. Any player who has incurred disqualification during the season shall be ineligible to receive the award.
- 14.11 If a team cannot field 14 players it shall forfeit the match.
- 14.12 If during the course of a match a club is reduced to less than 12 players then the match must stop. In this event, the league will determine the result.
- 14.13 In the event the game is halted beyond the control of a club,
- (a) prior to half time, and the match cannot recommence within 30 minutes, the match shall be declared a draw. Each team is to receive two (2) Premiership Points and the scores at that time will be used to determine percentage
  - (b) after half time, and the match cannot recommence within 30 minutes, the match shall be declared and the team leading at that time shall be declared the winner and receive 4 Premiership Points and the scores at that time will be used to determine percentage

## **15. Finals Eligibility**

- 15.1 A player must play a minimum of four (4) individual rounds of matches with a club to be eligible to play with that club in the finals.
- 15.2 A player must have played a minimum of four (4) Reserve grade games and not more than half the number of home and away games, plus one (1), in the Seniors to be eligible to play in the Reserve grade finals, unless the club has its Seniors and Reserves participating in the finals on the same weekend, whereby open selection will apply.
- 15.3 Where a club is participating in the Senior and Reserve grade finals on the same weekend and open selection applies, a player can only play one (1) game on the subject weekend. Juniors can play multiple games at junior level. In the event of a junior playing senior football, he will only be eligible to play either Seniors or Reserves if he has met the finals eligibility Rule 15.1



- 15.4 A junior player need not play four (4) Reserve grade games to be eligible to play in the Reserve grade finals, however the player becomes ineligible to play Reserve grade finals once he has played half the number of Senior grade home and away games, plus one (1).
- 15.5 If a player plays in the Reserves and Seniors on the same day during the home and away fixture, the Reserve grade game will not count as a qualifying game for Reserve grade finals.
- 15.6 For the purpose of Section 15, a player shall be deemed to have played if he is named on the official team sheet for a game and has played on the ground or sat on the bench in full club playing uniform for that game.
- 15.7 VFL listed players must play two (2) matches with the 1st 18 of the participating club during the current season.
- 15.8 TAC Cup players must play a minimum of two (2) matches with the 3rd 18 of the participating club during the current season. (An overage TAC Cup player is ineligible for 3rd 18 finals matches.)
- Note: For the purposes of Finals Qualification, a TAC Cup game is considered equal to a 1st 18 and 2nd 18 competition game with an AFL Victoria Country team.
- 15.9 Unfinancial clubs will not be able to play finals in any grades.
- 15.10 A player must have played no more than half the number of home and away games, plus one (1), in the VFL Seniors to be eligible to play in EDFNL Senior finals.
- 15.11 A player to have played one Senior VFL game during the season is not eligible for EDFNL Reserves finals.
- 15.12 A VFL Reserves player can play EDFNL Reserves providing he has played two (2) club games.

## **16. Finals Matches**

- 16.1 At the conclusion of the home and away fixture, the five (5) leading clubs shall play off for the premiership.
- 16.2 The finals draw and dates for each final shall be determined by the Board as part of the annual draw preparation.
- 16.3 All finals matches shall be played on grounds as decided by the Board.

- 16.4 The location and times of play for each final shall be determined by the Board a minimum of three (3) weeks prior to the commencement of the finals series.
- 16.5 The Board may change any finals arrangements due to unforeseen circumstances such as conflicts in finals draws, unplayable ground conditions, etc.
- 16.6 In the event of a draw in any grade during the finals series, including the Grand Final, the competing teams will play five (5) minutes of extra time to each end of the ground, and if necessary play repeated five (5) minutes of extra time to each end, until a result is achieved.
- 16.7 The premierships teams shall receive a premiership flag, a premiership cup and the mounted Grand Final football, all at the expense of the League.
- 16.8 Clubs not financial will not be able to host finals.
- 16.9 Any incorrect player jumper numbers in the Follower in the finals series will attract a Penalty Unit fine per player as determined by the Board

## **17. Team Lists**

- 17.1 The Secretary or team manager of each competing team shall furnish a signed official list on which is clearly indicated the correct names and jumper numbers of the team's players participating in the match. Such list, when signed by the Secretary or team manager, must be placed in the umpires rooms prior to the commencement of the first quarter of the subject match. Any player recorded on the signed official team list shall be deemed as having played in the match provided he was present and ready to take the field if required.
- 17.2 Players are to be listed in alphabetical order. A team with players having the same Christian and Surnames must also include the players AFL Vic's registration number.
- 17.3 The Board may impose a fine on a club for an official team sheet indiscretion (refer Section 5).
- 17.4 The maximum number of players in each grade shall be:
- Seniors: Eighteen (18) on the field, plus three (3) interchange.
  - Reserves: Eighteen (18) on the field, plus four (4) interchange.
  - Under 18: Eighteen (18) on the field, plus six (6) interchange.
- Total List to be capped at 26 players (subject to special circumstance amendment)
- Under 16: Eighteen (18) on the field, plus six (6) interchange.
- Total List to be capped at 26 players (subject to special circumstance amendment)

## **18. League Best & Fairest**

- 18.1 When more than one (1) player receives an equal winning total of umpires votes, all players shall be awarded Best & Fairest medals.
- 18.2 A player who is found guilty of any offence by the EDFNL independent Tribunal (regardless of the penalty) shall be ineligible to win the Best & Fairest award in any grade during the subject season.
- 18.3 A player who is reported and accepts or is delivered a guilty plea (including Early Plea resulting a reprimand or fine regardless of the number of Penalty Units allocated) shall not be eligible to win the League Best & Fairest awards in any grade.
- 18.4 Players who carry over disqualification (from any League or Competition) of 4 or more games, due to a reportable offence from previous years, shall not be eligible to win the Best & Fairest in that competing season.

## **19. Junior Specific By-Laws**

- 19.1 Leather footballs are to be used in the Under 16 and Under 18 age groups.
- 19.2 Teams with less than ten (10) players will have deemed to have forfeited the match.
- 19.3 Teams must play with equal numbers, with no less than 10 and no more than 18 on the ground.
- 19.4 Where a team has difficulty fielding numbers, both coaches and team managers must agree to equate the player numbers before the game commences. Opposition teams with sufficient numbers shall provide players to teams with struggling numbers (with a minimum of ten (10) players), to equate player numbers and allow an official game to proceed.
- 19.5 The league executive can re-fixture any Junior game or change a start time from time to time. Reasons may include the poor state of a ground, the match may need to be played at a time and venue suitable to both sides and in the best interest of the match proceeding and to safely allow both teams sufficient time to travel to the ground to meet the start time.

## 20. Special Circumstances Permits

- 20.1 No player is permitted to play in any age group below their age level unless a special circumstances permit has been granted to the subject player by the Board.
- 20.2 A special circumstances permit may be granted to a player who has a proven debilitating physical, gender or mental condition. An application under this category must be accompanied by a copy of the player's birth certificate, the parents' written consent, an appropriate medical certificate outlining the debilitating condition and written support from the subject club.
- 20.3 In extenuating circumstances, the Board may approve a special circumstances permit to a club for a player in a particular team. The Board shall be guided by, but not limited to, a player who meets the following criteria:
- (a) The player must be no older than twelve (12) months over the age group age limit.
  - (b) The club must be able to demonstrate that the player has less than average ability.
  - (c) The player will be assessed and reviewed on a weekly basis during the season.
  - (d) If additional players are registered by a team following the granting of a permit under this clause, one or more special circumstances permits may be revoked, commencing with the last permit issued.

**NOTE:** Following review of a special circumstances permit application made under this Sub- Section and any other available player history information, the Board may require further assessment of the player by requiring the player to play a minimum of two (2) games in the player's correct age group (including the Reserves if the special circumstances permit application is to play in the U18s), prior to approving or denying the application.

- 20.4 Special circumstances permit players must be indicated with a "P" beside their name on the official team sheet and will not be eligible to be awarded EDFNL Best & Fairest votes.
- 20.5 A special circumstances permit granted under Section 20.2 & 20.3 may be revoked by the Board at any time.

Refer to APPENDIX "B"

## **21. Interleague**

21.1 Any player selected in a squad to play an Interleague game and does not make themselves available shall be automatically suspended for two (2) home and away matches unless he produces a doctor's certificate or receives permission from coach and selectors to withdraw and such permission to be sought at least 24 hours prior to the match.

The coach and selectors will be the sole judge on whether permission shall be given. A player who produces a doctor's certificate will be ineligible to play in his club's next home and away match unless given permission by coach and selectors.

21.2 Any player selected in a training squad for an Interleague team and does not make themselves available for each training session unless he produces a doctor's certificate and receives permission from coach and selectors to withdraw from the squad, shall be automatically suspended for one (1) home and away match for each training session he makes themselves unavailable. The coach and selectors will be the sole judge on whether permission shall be given.

Note: Disqualification under these rules will not affect eligibility for League Best & Fairest medal.

## **22. Player Points System**

22.1 Refer to attached Appendix "A" for the rules and regulations regarding the EDFNL Player Points System and maximum points allocated to individual clubs.

22.2 In addition to the loss of points, penalties will be applied at the discretion of the Board (see Section 5), for deliberately breaching the points system (exceeding the allowable number of points).

22.3 Any player providing false or misleading player history information shall be liable to penalties including, but not limited to, deregistration, suspension or fine. Any club official found to be complicit in the submission of false or misleading player history information may be liable to disqualification or fine. The loss of competition points may also be imposed. All penalties shall be determined by the Board or the EDFNL independent Tribunal.

## **23. Salary Cap**

23.1 All clubs must ensure that Senior player payments do not exceed the salary cap allocated to EDFNL and must abide by the AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability Guidelines for Player Payment Rules.

## **24. Health & Safety.**

- 24.1 If an Umpire or Qualified Trainer is of the opinion or advised that a Player needs attention but unsure as to the extent of the issue the Umpire shall send them from the ground for assessment by trainer without enforcing AFL Law 7.3.2 (e)

## **25. Matters Not Provided For**

- 25.1 These By-Laws are to be read in conjunction with the AFL Vic Rules & Regulations.
- 25.2 Any matter not provided for in these By-Laws shall be determined by the EDFNL Board or the EDFNL independent Tribunal, whichever the case may be, at a properly constituted meeting of that particular body. Its interpretation/decision shall be binding.

# APPENDIX "A"

The AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability (CCSP) Advisory Group, established in 2015, has received our local input and recommendations to assist in managing the CCSP framework across Victoria. At the CCSP Advisory Groups most recent meeting, confirmation of the AFL Gippsland Player Points Allocations and Salary Cap was completed.

**Team cap is now based on the club's finishing position the previous year.**

Premiers	38 points
Runners Up	39 points
Third Place	40 points
Fourth Place	41 points
Fifth Place	42 points
7 or more wins (no final)	44 points
4 to 6 wins	45 points
Zero to 3 wins	46 points

## The PPS and APP Caps approved for 2024

**Premiers – BULN BULN – 38**

**Runners Up – NEERIM SOUTH – 39**

**ELLINBANK – 40**

**TRAFALGAR – 41**

**POOWONG – 42**

**LANG LANG (9) – 44**

**NYORA (6) – 45**

**YARRAGON (5) – 45**

**CATANI (4) – 45**

**NILMA DARNUM (0) – 46**

# APPENDIX “B”

## Junior Permit Rules

Permit request will be addressed on a case by case basis

- All permit players must be approved by the League BOM before a player takes the field.
- A cap of six (6) permit players per week per team applies except due to EXCEPTIONAL Circumstances
  - And if so, MUST be Approved by the EDFNL Board of Management prior
- **Permits will only be issued to fill a team to the total of twenty (21) listed players**
  - Due to the nature of the Special Circumstances Permit this player will not be counted in this total
- An overage player approved to play can only play for their registered club
- Permit players can only play with one team in the same grade on the weekend.
- There is no limit to the amount of permit players that can be used over the season.
- A permit player will have his permit withdrawn if he plays a reserves or senior game.
- All Permit players must be indicated with a “P” beside their name on the official team sheet.
- Permit players CANNOT be awarded best and fairest votes in any grade
- Internal Permit players are only able to represent the team they are registered to for finals.
- The eligibility of permit players to play in the EDFNL finals is subject to the conditions in the EDFNL by-laws and the current area agreements with other Leagues.