



MASTER

REGULATIONS

MARCH 2026



SANFL Master Regulations

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INTRODUCTION

These SANFL Master Regulations (**Regulations**) contain Regulations on the operation and administration of all SANFL competitions, and are therefore applicable to both the Men's and Women's competitions. These Regulations therefore apply to all individuals and entities involved in any SANFL competitions, including but not limited to:

- Clubs and Club Officials;
- Players;
- coaches and assistant coaches;
- trainers, runners, and medical officers;
- employees, agents, independent contractors and volunteers of a Club; and
- any other person within the purview of these Regulations.

These Regulations are intended to be used in conjunction with the SANFL Women's Competition Regulations (**Women's Regulations**) and the SANFL Men's Competition Regulations (**Men's Regulations**) and collectively form the **SANFL Competition Regulations**. The SANFL Competition Regulations should also be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game, as both are amended from time to time.

The SANFL Competition Regulations have been drafted to reflect the following guiding principles:

- To promote, develop, and ensure the effective management of the SANFL competition and recognise the SANFL as the pre-eminent Australian football league in South Australia;
- To recognise that the SANFL Competition sits within a national framework and is commensurate with other state leagues;
- To create an exciting and even competition which is appealing to the public;
- To ensure the SANFL Senior Leagues are broadcast quality competitions;
- To provide a high-quality competition from which Players may be drafted to the AFL or AFLW competitions;
- To administer natural justice in arbitration and Tribunal hearings;
- To strive for consistency of coaching standards and the development of Players in the Junior Competition;
- To encourage good sportsmanship;
- To adopt good governance and integrity within the SANFL competitions;

- To ensure player welfare is paramount;
- To ensure transparency and fairness in transfer regulations; and
- To provide a fair and inclusive Match-day environment for all involved.

The SANFL Competition Regulations:

- contain policies in the Schedules which form part of these Regulations, the Men's Regulations or the Women's Regulations (as applicable);
- have been drafted with input from the SANFL Competitions' Clubs;
- may be amended by SANFL after duly consulting with the SANFL Competitions' Clubs; and
- may be amended by SANFL at any time for the purpose of updating policy and procedures.

The SANFL competitions play under the Laws of the Game as determined by the Australian Football League (**AFL**). The Laws of the Game are updated annually and published by the AFL. The SANFL may deviate from the Laws to provide for regulations which better suit the SANFL Competitions.

All Players confirm their agreement to comply with the SANFL Competition Regulations by signing the Competition Registration Form. (A copy of the applicable form is provided in the Women's Regulations and Men's Regulations.) Players must also complete and adhere to the terms of their annual player registration on PlayHQ and the Playing Contract with their SANFL Club.

The SANFL will act in the best interests of the competition, without undue formality and without being bound by the Regulations if they consider it is not in the best interest of the competition.

The SANFL Competition Regulations will be a 'living' document. It will see additions and changes as the Seasons pass, when new policies and procedures are introduced, or existing ones are amended. Consequently, no Player, Club or other person acquires any accrued or vested rights under the SANFL Competition Regulations, or any legitimate expectation, in relation to future Seasons.

A copy of these Regulations will be provided on the SANFL Website www.sanfl.com.au.

PART ONE: INTERPRETATION

This Part of these Regulations is drafted to provide clarification on how specific terms are defined under these Regulations, and more generally, how these Regulations should be interpreted.

1. Definitions

<i>Additional Agreement</i>	<i>Services</i>	means a written agreement between a Player and Club for marketing activities approved by SANFL (including photography sessions, appearances, corporate partner engagements/promotions, other engagements outside of the normal expectations on all Players within a Club, and travel and engagements in Club's promotional zone);
<i>Advice of Variation of Contract</i>		means the form at Schedule 10 that details a variation made to a Player's contract;
<i>AFAD Code</i>		means the Australian Football Anti-Doping Code referred to in Regulation 139;
<i>AFC</i>		means Adelaide Football Club Limited (ACN 008 101 568);
<i>Affiliated League</i>		means any football league which has become affiliated with the SANFL;
<i>Affiliated Club</i>		means any Club which is a member of, or which is affiliated with, an Affiliated League;
<i>AFL</i>		means Australian Football League (ACN 004 155 211);
<i>AFLW</i>		means the Australian Football League Women's competition;
<i>AFL Guidelines</i>	<i>Concussion</i>	means AFL's guidelines for 'The Management of Sport-Related Concussion in Australian Football' as adopted by the SANFL Commission;
<i>AFL Listed/AFLW Listed</i>		means a Player listed on an AFL Player List or AFLW Player List;
<i>AFL/AFLW Player List</i>		means a list of Players eligible for selection in an AFL or AFLW Match or on any AFL list (including for the avoidance of doubt a long term injury list, inactive list or other list) pursuant to AFL rules or regulations;
<i>Anti-Doping Violation</i>	<i>Rule</i>	has the meaning prescribed in the AFAD Code;

- Appeal Board** means the appeal board established to hear appeals from decisions of the Tribunal and Permit Tribunal under Part Five of these Regulations;
- Appeal Board Panel** means the panel of persons referred to in Regulation 110 from which an Appeal Board may be constituted;
- Associate of a/that Club** means and includes:
- (a) an officer of the Club within the meaning of section 9AD of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth);
 - (b) a sponsor or member of the Club;
 - (c) a body corporate which is related to the Club within the meaning of section 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), and any director, secretary or other officer of a related body corporate;
 - (d) a partner of the Club or a partnership in which the Club is a member;
 - (e) a trustee of a trust estate where the Club, or another person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition, benefits or is capable (whether by the exercise of a power of appointment or otherwise) of benefiting under the trust, either directly or through any interposed companies' partnerships or trusts;
 - (f) a corporation:
 - (i) in which the Club, or a person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition, has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in shares in the corporation, or an entitlement thereto, where the nominal value of those shares is not less than 10% of the nominal value of all issued shares of the corporation falling within the same class;
 - (ii) where the corporation is, or its directors are, accustomed, or under an obligation, whether formal or informal, to act in accordance with the directions, instructions or wishes of the Club or of another

person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition; or

(iii) the Club is, or persons who are associates of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition are, in a position to cast, or control the casting of, more than 50% of the maximum number of votes that might be cast at a general meeting of the corporation.

(g) a sponsor of another SANFL Club or a Player;

(h) any person who is or was acting, or who proposes to act, on behalf of or in concert with the Club;

Associate of a/that Player means any person or entity that associates with a Player and includes:

(a) any relative of the Player;

(b) the spouse or partner of the Player or any of their relatives;
or

(c) any person or organisation that is an Associate of a Club which the Player is associated with;

Base Payment means a Football Payment that is made to a Player as a fixed or upfront payment for playing football;

Bet means a wager of money or any other form of financial speculation;

Boundaries Commission means the commission appointed under Regulation 142;

Careless means an act or omission that lacks due caution or foresight, resulting in unintended consequences. See Schedule 4 for Grading and Classification;

Club means an Australian rules football club which is registered to play in a SANFL competition;

Chief Executive Officer means the Chief Executive Officer of the SANFL unless otherwise specified;

Classifiable Offence has the meaning prescribed in Schedule 4;

Club Official	means any person who holds any office in or performs any duty for a Club, including but not limited to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an officer of the Club within the meaning of section 9AD of the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> (Cth); (b) the Chief Executive Officer of the Club; (c) a member of any committee of the Club; (d) a medical officer or Legal Practitioner retained by the Club; (e) a coach, Trainer, Runner, or steward of the Club; and (f) any other person which the SANFL may require registration under Regulation 38;
Contracted Player	means a Player who has executed an Approved Contract as exhibited in Schedule 7 of these Regulations;
Director	means a person appointed to represent a Club at meetings of the SANFL and approved by the SANFL under Regulation 38, and includes an alternate Director approved by the SANFL under Regulation 38 when that alternate Director is acting in the capacity of a Director;
Early Guilty Plea	means a plea of guilty entered by the Reported Person to the relevant Reportable Offences outlined in the Notice of Charge;
Eligible Player	Relocating means a Player who relocates to another Club whose Home Ground is more than sixty (60) kilometres from their previous Usual Place of Residence, prior to such relocation;
Executive Manager or EGM	General Football means the SANFL employee or officer who is responsible for the management, control and implementation of SANFL's Australian rules football competitions, and includes any person to whom the Executive General Manager Football (or EGM) has delegated their powers or duties under these Master Regulations;
Financial Assistance	means monies, amounts of which are determined by the Football Commission from time to time, paid by the SANFL to Clubs from the SANFL's operating surplus for the purpose of rendering financial assistance;

<i>Financial Year</i>	means the period commencing on 1 November in one calendar year and ending on 31 October in the next calendar year;
<i>Football Commission</i>	means the SA Football Commission;
<i>Football Operations</i>	means the promotion, encouragement, development and management of football, the fielding of a Team(s) in competitions conducted by the SANFL in which such Team(s) play football, and all matters incidental or ancillary thereto;
<i>General Investigation Committee</i>	means a General Investigation Committee appointed under Regulation 80 of these Regulations;
<i>Home Ground</i>	means the oval or ground nominated by a Club and approved by the Football Commission as its Home Ground under Regulation 39;
<i>Home Team</i>	means the Team of a Club playing a Match at its Home Ground or the Team first named in the program of Matches which refers to that Match;
<i>IDP</i>	means the SANFL Illicit Drugs Policy referred to in Regulation 140;
<i>Import Player</i>	means a Player who played with another Club in any of the State Leagues or Coates League in the immediately previous Season or current Season and transfers to a club in South Australia (excluding any Returning Players). Such Players retain their Import Player status for two (2) Seasons post such transfer inclusive of the first Season (whether full or part Season) registered to a club in South Australia, irrespective of which club the Player is currently registered with;
<i>Intentional</i>	means a deliberate act performed with the knowledge and purpose of achieving a particular outcome. See Schedule 4 for Grading and Classification;
<i>Interstate Competition</i>	means any football competition conducted, arranged or organised by persons other than the SANFL located outside South Australia;
<i>Interstate Competition Rules</i>	means the rules and regulations which apply to an Interstate Competition as determined by the Organising Body;
<i>Ladder</i>	means a table by which the Teams in a competition are ranked in a Minor Round;

Laws of the Game or Laws	means the laws of Australian rules football as determined and amended by the AFL from time to time;
League Umpire's Observer	means a coach of SANFL's umpires;
Legal Practitioner	means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a person duly admitted and enrolled as a legal practitioner in the Supreme Court of South Australia; or (b) a person appointed as a judge of the federal jurisdiction of Australia;
Major Round	means the rounds of Matches referred to in Regulation 7;
Master Regulations	means these SANFL Master Regulations, as amended by SANFL from time to time;
Match	means the contest of Australian rules football played between two Teams;
Match Day Officer	means the person appointed by the Competition Specialist – State League as a Match Day Officer under Regulation 11;
Medical Practitioner	means a legally qualified medical practitioner experienced in Sport Medicine and matters relating to drugs in sport;
Minor Round	means the rounds of Matches programmed under Regulation 6;
National Player and Official Deregistration Policy	means the AFL policy with respect to Player and Official deregistration as contained in Part B of the National Policy Handbook;
National Handbook Policy	means the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook, as amended by AFL from time to time;
Neutral Ground	means the grounds on which a Match of football is played which is not the Home Ground of either of the Teams participating in that Match;
Notice of Charge	means the notice issued to a Reported Person in accordance with Regulation 64;
Organising Body	means any entity which controls, conducts, organises or manages an Interstate Competition;

<i>Other Competitions</i>	SANFL	means all other SANFL Competitions, excluding the Senior Leagues;
<i>PAFC</i>		means Port Adelaide Football Club Limited (ACN 068 839 547);
<i>Permit Commissioner</i>		means the permit commissioner appointed under Regulation 101 and includes any proxy commissioner appointed under Regulation 101;
<i>Permit Tribunal</i>		means the Permit Tribunal for a matter under Regulation 99 comprising of the Permit Commissioner appointed under Regulation 101;
<i>Play HQ</i>		means the database system used to manage the SANFLW Competition including registrations, transfers, fixtures and team sheets;
<i>Player</i>		means a person who plays Australian rules football;
<i>Player Contract</i>		means a contract which relates to the playing of football in the form of a Standard Player Contract exhibited in Schedule 7 of these Regulations;
<i>Players Advocate</i>		means a person who has been chosen to represent a Player for Tribunal hearings;
<i>Playing Arena</i>		means the whole of the area inside the boundary fence at any ground on which a Match of football is played and includes the Players race (if any) leading to that ground;
<i>Playing Surface</i>		means the field of play inside the boundary line, goal line and behind line, excluding other areas between such lines and the perimeter fence.
<i>Premiership Points</i>		means the points awarded to each Team at the conclusion of a Minor Round Match;
<i>Pre-Season Trial Match</i>		means a Match before the Season between Teams of two Clubs that is sanctioned by SANFL;
<i>Promotional Activities</i>		means any method to generate interest or curiosity in Australian rules football, the SANFL, or a Club;
<i>Promotional Zone</i>		means a promotional zone allotted to a Club under Regulation 40;

<i>Policy Breach</i>	means a breach of these Regulations, the SANFL Constitution, the Laws of the Game, any decision or direction of the Football Commission or any other applicable SANFL Regulations or regulations, that is not a Reportable Offence;
<i>Registered Player</i>	means any person who is registered to play Australian rules football with a Club;
<i>Registration Fee</i>	means the fee set by the Football Commission from time to time under these Regulations which must be paid to enable a person to become a Registered Player of a Club;
<i>Relocation Allowance</i>	means the monetary allowance of a Club in the maximum amount set by SANFL for the relevant SANFL Competition, which the Club has full discretion to distribute amongst its Eligible Relocating Players and excludes Relocation Expenses;
<i>Relocation Expenses</i>	means the following expenses incurred by an Eligible Relocating Player, as approved by and paid for by the Club that they are relocating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) one-way airfare for a Player from their usual place of residence or from the location of their last Club; (b) transport of a Player's motor vehicle from their usual place of residence or the location of their last Club; (c) temporary motor vehicle hire for a Player to transport household goods to their new place of residence; (d) storage and removalist costs related to a Player's relocation to their new place of residence; and (e) any other expenses as approved in writing by SANFL;
<i>Remuneration</i>	means the prescribed definition in Regulation 50 of these Regulations;
<i>Reportable Offences</i>	has the meaning in Schedule 4;
<i>Reported Person</i>	means a person who has been reported for a Reportable Offence pursuant to a Notice of Charge under these Regulations;
<i>Reserves</i>	means the SANFL Competition beneath the SANFL Men's League;
<i>Returning Player</i>	means a Player who has previously been registered with the Club;

Regulation		means a Regulation or sub-Regulation under these Regulations;
Regulations		means these SANFL Master Regulations;
Runner		means the person(s) appointed to deliver messages to the players during a Match;
Salary Cap		means the maximum amount or value of all Football Payments determined by the SANFL that may be given to or applied in any Football Year for the benefit of Players with each Club and the Associates of such Players;
Salary Cap Investigation Committee		means the body and Investigator appointed under Section B, Part Five of these Regulations;
SANFL		means the South Australian National Football League Inc (ABN 59 518 757 737), as an entity;
SANFL Competitions		means all SANFL Men's Competitions and SANFL Women's Competitions;
SANFL Counsel		means the person appointed to represent the SANFL at hearings before the Tribunal, Permit Tribunal and / or Appeal Board pursuant to these Regulations;
SANFL Historical Salary Cap Regime		means SANFL's historical salary cap regime that applied on and before 31 October 2006, and found at Schedule 11;
SANFL Competitions	Men's	means all competitions conducted by the SANFL for male Players, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the SANFL Men's League competition; (b) the Reserves competition; (c) the Under 18 competition, in which each Player must, except as set out below, be under the age of 18 years on 31 December in the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which the competition is conducted. A Club may include up to three Players who are under the age of 19 years on 31 December in the calendar year before the year in which the competition is conducted pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Men's Regulations, provided that each Player has been granted an exemption through the SANFL 19-year old Permit

Application process as determined by the SANFL Talent Department;

(d) the Under 16 competition, in which each Player participating in an Under 16 Team must be under the age of 16 years on 31 December before the year in which the competition is played; and

(e) the Under 14 competition, in which each Player participating in an Under 14 Team must be under the age of 14 years on 31 December before the year in which the competition is played;

SANFL Regulations means all rules and regulations promulgated by the SANFL from time to time including these Regulations, Women's Regulations and Men's Regulations;

SANFL Women's Competitions means all competitions conducted by the SANFL for female Players, including:

(a) the SANFL Women's League; and

(b) the SANFL Women's U18s;

SANFL Women's U18s means the SANFL Women's league for Under 18 female players, currently known as SANFLW U18s League, in which each Player must be on the Club's Youth List, except a Club may include up to four Players who attain the age of 19 years during the calendar year in which the competition is conducted provided that:

(a) such Player is a 1-20 Listed Player or on the Club's Supplementary List; and

(b) no more than four such Players can be included in the Team Sheet for a Match;

SANFL Men's League means the SANFL state league competition for senior men's players;

SANFL Women's League means the SANFL state league competition for senior women's players;

Season means any SANFL competition season;

Section means a section of Schedule 4 of these Regulations;

Senior Leagues	means SANFL Men’s League and SANFL Women’s League;
Sporting Competition	means any football code including, but not limited to, soccer, rugby, or rugby league;
State League	means the SANFL, Victorian Football League (VFL), Western Australian Football League (WAFL) as the case requires (and State Leagues in plural means all three);
State Representative Team	means a Team of Players selected to represent South Australia;
State Team Manager	means the person appointed under Regulation 144;
State Team Selection Committee	means the committee appointed under Regulation 144;
Team	the group of Players competing against another group of Players in a Match of Australian rules football;
Team Sheet	means the team sheet required to be delivered under Regulation 10;
Timekeeper	means the person(s) appointed to keep time of a Match;
Tribunal	means a Tribunal referred to in Regulation 81, which may consist of one or multiple Tribunal Members;
Tribunal Member	means a member of the Tribunal appointed under Regulation 81;
Trainer	means the person(s) appointed to attend to injured players and provide liquid refreshment to players during a Match;
Transfer Fee	means the fee that may be either negotiated between two Clubs or set by the Permit Tribunal for the transfer of a Player between two Clubs;
Transfer Fee Guide	means the document in Schedule 2 of the Men’s Regulations and Schedule 3 of the Women’s Regulations, which provides guidance for the calculation of a Transfer Fee;
Usual Place of Residence	of means where the Player resides for the majority of their time;
VFL	means the Victorian Football League;
Visiting Team	means the Team of a Club participating in a Match which is not the Home Team;

WAFL	means the West Australian Football League;
Youth List	means the youth list of a Club on which Players are numbered consecutively up to a number the Football Commission may determine from time to time;
Zone	means the geographic area allocated to a SANFL Club as provided for in Schedule 5 of these Regulations.

2. Interpretation

- (a) When interpreting these Regulations:
- (i) each Regulation shall be read and construed independently of other provisions within these Regulations;
 - (ii) parts of a Regulation may be valid if other parts or provisions of these Regulations have been removed or deemed invalid;
 - (iii) any words following the terms 'including', 'include', 'in particular', 'such as', 'for example', or any similar expression will be construed as illustrative and will not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms;
 - (iv) references to provisions of other rules and regulations will be deemed to include references to any successor provisions as may be issued after the date these Regulations are issued;
 - (v) unless the context requires otherwise, references to one gender are to be deemed neutral; and
 - (vi) references to person shall include physical persons or legal entities.
- (b) These Regulations apply to all SANFL Competitions unless otherwise specified. These Regulations adopt as terms of these Regulations, and are to be read in conjunction with, the following rules and regulations:
- (i) SANFL Women's Competition Regulations (**Women's Regulations**) for SANFL Women's Competitions;
 - (ii) SANFL Men's Competition Regulations (**Men's Regulations**) for SANFL Men's Competitions;
 - (iii) The *National Community Football Policy Handbook* (**National Policy Handbook**).
- (c) To the extent there is any inconsistency between these Regulations and:
- (i) the Women's Regulations or Men's Regulations, these Regulations shall prevail;

- (ii) the National Policy Handbook, these Regulations shall prevail; and
 - (iii) the Laws of the Game, these Regulations shall prevail.
- (d) In any matter where these Regulations fall silent:
- (i) the Women's Regulations or Men's Regulations (as applicable) shall apply; and if still silent
 - (ii) the National Policy Handbook shall apply; and if still silent
 - (iii) other policies or By-Laws of SANFL shall apply; then if still silent
 - (iv) the issue should be referred to the EGM.
- (e) Part One of these Regulations applies to these Regulations, the Men's Regulations and the Women's Regulations, unless such Regulations specify otherwise.

PART TWO: MATCHES

A COMPETITION, POINTS AND PERCENTAGE

Section A, Part Two outlines the grades and age qualifications for SANFL competitions. It also details the points and percentage Regulations applicable to those Competitions.

3. Competitions

The Football Commission must arrange and conduct competitions for the SANFL Men's Competitions and the SANFL Women's Competitions.

4. Premiership Points

For Minor Round Matches played in any of the competitions referred to in Regulation 3, the number of Premiership Points awarded for each Minor Round Match shall be as follows:

- (a) for a win, two (2) Premiership Points;
- (b) for a draw, one (1) Premiership Point; and
- (c) for a loss, zero (0) Premiership Points.

5. Ladder

Each Team will be ranked on a Ladder based upon their results in the Minor Round, as follows:

- (a) each Team will be ranked by the number of Premiership Points they have earned throughout the Minor Round. The higher the number of Premiership Points a Team has accumulated, the higher the Team will be ranked on the Ladder; and
- (b) each Team which has accumulated the same number of Premiership Points will be ranked based upon their percentage, which is calculated as follows:
 - (i) the total number of points a Team has scored (**Points For**);
 - (ii) divided by the Points For plus the total number of points scored against the Team (**Points Against**);
 - (iii) multiplied by 100.

For example, if a Team has a Points For of 1,491 and a Points Against of 948, their percentage will be $1,491 / (1,491 + 948) \times 100 = 61.13\%$.

The higher a Team's percentage, the higher a Team will be ranked on the Ladder relative to other Teams which have accumulated the same number of Premiership Points.

B MINOR AND MAJOR ROUNDS

Section B of Part Two sets out the Regulations for conducting SANFL Minor Round and Major Round Matches.

6. Minor Round

The competition for Premiership Points in a Season is the Minor Round, which is conducted as follows:

- (a) For SANFL Senior Leagues, each Team of each Club must be named as the Home Team in ten of the Minor Round Matches:
 - (i) except PAFC, which shall be named as the Home Team in nine of its Minor Round Matches and the Visiting Team in nine of its Minor Round Matches; and
 - (ii) except AFC, which shall be listed as the Visiting Team in each of its Minor Round Matches except for one of the Minor Round Matches played against PAFC.
- (b) For the SANFL Women's League and SANFL Women's U18s Teams of Clubs, such number of Minor Round Matches will be played, at such times and in such format as the Football Commission may determine from time to time.
- (c) For the Reserves and Under 18 Teams of Clubs, each Team of each Club must be provided with an equal number of Minor Round Matches, of which no fewer than seven must be scheduled to be played at the Home Ground of each Club.
- (d) For Under 16 Teams of Clubs, such number of Minor Round Matches will be played, at such times and in such format as the Football Commission may determine from time to time.

7. Major Round

- (a) At the conclusion of the Minor Round, the Teams which occupy the top five positions on the Premiership Table in each of the SANFL Senior Leagues and Reserves competitions will play off for the Premiership in Major Round Matches as follows:
 - (i) an Elimination Final (**Match 1**) between the Teams which placed fourth and fifth on the Ladder;
 - (ii) a Qualifying Final (**Match 2**) between the Teams which placed second and third on the Ladder;
 - (iii) two Semi Finals:

- (A) a Match (**Match 3**) between the losing Team of Match 2 and the winning Team of Match 1;
- (B) a Match (**Match 4**) between the Team which placed first on the Ladder and the winning Team of Match 2;
- (iv) a Preliminary Final (**Match 5**) between the losing Team of Match 4 and the winning Team of Match 3; and
- (v) a Grand Final between the winning Teams of Match 4 and Match 5.
- (b) Major Round Matches may be played in the Under 18 grade, Under 16 grade and SANFL Women's Competitions at such times and in such format as the Football Commission may determine from time to time.

8. Major Round Draws

If in any Major Round Match the scores are tied at full-time, the following Regulations will apply:

- (a) at full-time, the goal umpires will confirm whether a tie has occurred and if so, the Teams shall be allowed a five-minute break during which coaches may consult with their players;
- (b) where the goal umpires have different scores at full-time, the score will be taken from the timekeepers for the Match;
- (c) the Teams will then change ends from the previous quarter and play for a period of three minutes, plus time on if applicable;
- (d) at the conclusion of the first three-minute half, the Teams will again change ends and play will resume immediately once the players are set, for a further period of three minutes, plus time on if applicable;
- (e) if the scores are still tied at the end of two three-minute periods in a SANFL Senior League Major Round Match, the process of playing two three-minute halves (in accordance with regulations 8(b) and 8(c) above) will be repeated until there is a winner of the Match as determined at the end of the relevant three-minute half;
- (f) if the scores are still tied at the end of the two three-minute periods in any Reserves, Development League, Under 18s or Under 16s, the siren will not sound until the next score;
- (g) Teams will be allowed 10 interchange rotations to be used for a maximum total of two three-minute halves. This excludes any changes made during the five-minute break under Regulation 8(b).

C MATCH CONDITIONS

The Football Commission will determine the conditions applicable to any Match which is played in a competition conducted, arranged or approved by the Football Commission. Until otherwise decided by the Football Commission, the conditions relating to the playing of such Matches will be as set out in this Section C, Part Two.

9. Club Uniforms

Each Player playing for a SANFL Club shall wear a Club uniform as approved by the Football Commission from time to time, which is included in Schedule 2 of these Regulations.

10. Team Sheets

- (a) In any Match, a Club Official of each participating Team must sign and deliver a Team Sheet to the field umpires, a Club Official of the opposing Team, a Champion Data representative and the Match Day Officer (if any) appointed to that Match. The Team Sheet must be delivered at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time of commencement of the Match.
- (b) The Team Sheet to be delivered under Regulation 10(a) must:
 - (i) state the names and numbers of all Players who are to play in that Match and indicate which of those Players are to be on the interchange at the start of the Match.
 - (ii) contain the names of the Club Officials of that Team for that Match, including:
 - (A) the senior coach;
 - (B) the assistant coach(es);
 - (C) selectors;
 - (D) Runners and Trainers;
 - (E) medical officers;
 - (F) the team manager; and
 - (G) all stewards.
- (c) A Club may amend a Team Sheet prior to the commencement of a Match if a Player listed on a Team Sheet becomes injured or is medically unfit to play. The following conditions and procedures will apply to any amendment of a Team Sheet:
 - (i) where a Player is to be replaced on a Team Sheet by another Player, such amendment must be made through the Match Day Officer officiating in that Match;

- (ii) the persons (except the field umpires) listed in Regulation 10(a) must be notified of the amendment before the commencement of the Match by the Team manager whose Team Sheet has been amended;
 - (iii) a field umpire officiating in that Match must be notified of the amendment before the commencement of the Match by the captain of the Team whose Team Sheet has been amended;
 - (iv) an injured or medically unfit Player who has been replaced on a Team Sheet must immediately leave the Playing Surface and is not permitted to sit on the interchange bench during that Match; and
 - (v) where a Player is unable to play due to injury or being medically unfit, their Club's medical officer must supply a medical certificate and lodge it with the SANFL by no later than 10.00am on the first working day after the Match.
- (d) A Team Sheet cannot be amended after the first warning siren (the two-minute warning) is sounded prior to the commencement of a Match.

11. Match Day Officer

(a) Overarching Responsibilities

The SANFL may appoint a Match Day Officer to ensure compliance with these Regulations on the day of a Match. The Match Day Officer will primarily be responsible for managing Match conditions and carrying out the duties prescribed in the Match Day Officer Handout, including:

- (i) interchange requirements;
- (ii) preparing Match Day Paperwork;
- (iii) ensuring compliance with Team Sheet requirements;
- (iv) initial point of contact for Clubs, Club Officials and other officials; and
- (v) deal with ad-hoc issues.

(b) Responsibilities Prior to a Match

Prior to the commencement of a Match, the Match Day Officer shall be responsible for:

- (i) gathering Team Sheets from a Club Official;
- (ii) sighting the identities and number of Players who are starting on the interchange bench; and

(iii) in the event that the incorrect number of Players are sighted on the interchange bench, notifying the Team managers from each Club.

(c) **Responsibilities During a Match**

During a Match, the Match Day Officer shall be responsible for:

(i) constantly monitoring the interchange bench to ensure that there is always the correct number of Players on the Playing Surface;

(ii) knowing where all Players of each Team are at all times;

(iii) recording any Player absences from the Playing Arena, as reported by the Club Official;

(iv) in the event of a Team having too many Players on the Playing Surface, notifying the team managers from each Club;

(v) at the beginning of each quarter of a Match:

(A) writing down the time that Teams run out onto the Playing Surface:

I. prior to a Match commencing; and

II. after the half-time break.

(B) sighting the Players from each Team that are starting on the interchange bench; and

(C) in the event that the incorrect number of players are sighted on the interchange bench, notifying the team managers from each Club.

(d) **Responsibilities After a Match**

After the conclusion of a Match, the Match Day Officer must complete a post-match report and return to the SANFL detailing any issues encountered and/or feedback from the day.

12. Match Times and Duration

(a) The time of commencement of any Match will be at such time as may be determined by the Football Commission from time to time.

(b) The duration of any Match in which a Team of a Club participates will be as outlined in the SANFL Men's Regulations and SANFL Women's Competition Regulations as applicable.

- (c) Each Team participating in a Match must enter the Playing Arena no fewer than 5 minutes prior to the scheduled time of commencement of that Match or at a specified time determined by the SANFL.
- (d) Where more than one Match is scheduled on the same ground on any day, the earlier Match must finish at least 10 minutes before the time scheduled for the commencement of the later Match, even if the earlier Match has not been played for its full duration.
- (e) Modifications to Match conditions will apply when the estimated temperature or forecast temperature of a day of a Match made at 2.00pm on the previous day, is 32 degrees Celsius or above (**Heat Policy**).
 - (i) If the Heat Policy is to be invoked, the SANFL will advise the heads of football of the affected Teams' Clubs and umpires of each affected Match as soon as possible.
 - (ii) Where the Heat Policy is invoked:
 - (A) all Players will be encouraged to use sunscreen;
 - (B) all Players will be encouraged to keep fluid intake at a high level; and
 - (C) all Clubs will be encouraged to provide extra water carriers, fans, additional shade, air conditioning and emergency medical facilities.
 - (iii) The SANFL may make the following modifications to Match conditions in all SANFL Competitions:
 - (A) increase the length of intervals to enable Teams to leave the field at each break;
 - (B) reduce length of quarters;
 - (C) increase the interchange rotation cap;
 - (D) consider postponing or rescheduling the particular Match.

13. Incomplete Matches – Events Beyond Control of Clubs

- (a) If for reasons beyond the control of a Club a Match cannot commence or cannot recommence, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) **Match not Commenced**
 - (A) If a Match cannot be commenced within 30 minutes of the scheduled time for commencement, the EGM shall endeavour to reschedule the Match so that a result can be obtained.

(B) If the Match cannot be rescheduled, that Match will be deemed to be drawn and each Team will be awarded one Premiership Point.

(ii) **Prior to Half Time**

(A) If a Match has commenced but is not able to proceed at any time before the half-time interval scheduled for the Match, the Teams will depart the Playing Surface for a period of up to 30 minutes.

(B) If that Match is unable to be recommenced within that 30-minute period, the EGM shall endeavour to reschedule the Match so that a result can be obtained.

(C) If that Match cannot be rescheduled, it will be deemed to be drawn. Each Team shall be awarded one Premiership point and the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be used in the calculation of percentage.

(iii) **Beyond Half Time**

(A) If the half-time interval has been reached and the Match is unable to proceed, the Teams will depart the Playing Surface for a period of up to 30 minutes.

(B) If the Match is unable to be recommenced within that 30-minute period, the scores of the Clubs when the Match was interrupted will be the final scores of the Match and will be used in the calculation of percentage. The Team with the higher score shall be declared the winner and be awarded the two Premiership Points.

(b) **Reason to be Provided to the EGM**

A Match will only be deemed to be unable to proceed if the EGM is advised of the reason and the EGM rules that the Match is not able to proceed.

(c) **Club Failure to Recommence Play**

Where a Club is directed to recommence play by the EGM and where that Club fails to recommence play, that Club will be deemed to have forfeited the Match and the Premiership Points will be awarded to the opposing Club. Percentage will be determined on the basis of the scores of the two Clubs at the time the Match is forfeited.

(d) **Executive General Manager Football May Delegate**

The EGM may delegate any authority or responsibility they have under this Regulation 13.

(e) **Football Commission Retains Discretion**

Regardless of anything contained in Regulation 13(a), the Football Commission may in its absolute discretion:

- (i) determine the outcome of any Match which is not completed within the scheduled time; and
- (ii) direct that all or part of a Match be completed or replayed.

14. Fines for Late Starts

If a Match:

- (a) does not commence at the time scheduled for its commencement; or
- (b) does not commence at the time scheduled for its recommencement after any quarter time, half-time or three-quarter time break;

due to a Team of a Club not being ready to commence play, the Team(s) causing the delay will be liable to a fine of an amount the Football Commission may determine.

15. Warning Siren

A Club hosting a Match at its Home Ground must provide a warning siren to each participating Team's dressing room, which is to be sounded by the Timekeeper as follows:

Start of relevant quarter	Number of occasions
Two minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Twice
One minute prior to scheduled starting time	Once
Scheduled starting time	Once
End of quarter	Once

16. Timekeepers

- (a) A Club must appoint a Timekeeper for each Match in which a Team of that Club participates except under Regulation 16(b).
- (b) In Minor Round Matches in any grade below SANFL Senior Leagues:
 - (i) competing Clubs may agree to the Home Team providing a single person to perform the role of Timekeeper for a Match, subject to Regulation 16(b)(ii) below;
 - (ii) if the Away Team chooses to provide a Timekeeper for any of these Matches, they must be allowed to do so.
- (c) In Major Round Matches in any grade, the SANFL may at its discretion appoint neutral Timekeepers to officiate.

- (d) A Timekeeper must abide by all procedures and directions determined and notified by the Football Commission from time to time.

17. The Runner

- (a) The Runner of a Team must:
 - (i) be approved by the Football Commission;
 - (ii) whilst carrying out the duties of a Runner, be attired in a Runner's Uniform which:
 - (A) consists of a tracksuit, t-shirt and shorts in neutral colours as determined by the Football Commission and obtained from an approved supplier;
 - (B) has the official Club logo of the Runner's Club followed by the word "Runner" on the t-shirt and / or the tracksuit top; and
 - (C) may have the logo of the relevant Club and the sponsor's logo on the t-shirt at the discretion of that Club.
- (b) The Runner of a Team must not:
 - (i) enter the Playing Surface for any purpose other than, and then only for such time as is reasonably necessary, to attend to an injured Player, or to carry a message from a coach of a Team to a Player of that Team;
 - (ii) approach or attempt to approach an umpire during the course of a Match or during a scheduled break in play, unless it is for the purpose of discussing a matter relating to an injured Player or making a request under Clause 5.5.1 of the Laws of the Game;
 - (iii) approach or attempt to approach any Player or Club Official of an opposition Team during the course of play in a Match, or during a scheduled break;
 - (iv) remain on the Playing Surface any longer than is necessary for the purpose of carrying out their duties as a Runner;
 - (v) carry any radio or other equipment for the receiving or transmission of messages whilst inside the boundary line of the Playing Surface;
 - (vi) leave the Playing Arena or come within ten metres of any exit from the Playing Arena at the half-time interval, or at the end of any Match, until all umpires and Players participating in that Match have left the Playing Arena.
- (c) For the purposes Regulation 17(b)(iv), if a field umpire officiating a Match is of the opinion that:

- (i) a Runner is spending an excessive amount of time on the Playing Surface, they may be ordered from the Playing Surface by that field umpire; and
- (ii) a Runner is continuing to spend an excessive amount of time on the Playing Surface after an order under Regulation 17(c)(i), they may be reported by that field umpire.

18. Trainers

- (a) Each Club must ensure the attendance of Trainers at all Matches in which a Team of a Club participates. Trainers must:
 - (i) have qualified in a course of instruction approved by the SANFL, or be approved by the SANFL;
 - (ii) be dressed in a white shirt or jacket and black, white or Club coloured uniform trousers or shorts and have both numerical and Club identification on shirt or T-shirt worn which is approved by the SANFL; and
 - (iii) not enter the Playing Surface for any purpose other than attending to an injured Player or providing liquid refreshment to a Player, nor remain on the Playing Surface for such period longer than is reasonably necessary for that purpose.
- (b) A Club will not be permitted to have more than ten Trainers in the Playing Arena whilst a Match is in progress or during any scheduled break in play.

19. Match Footballs

(a) Footballs to be approved by the SANFL

All footballs used in any Match must be selected from manufacturers and brands approved by the SANFL.

(b) Supply of Footballs

A Club which has a Team participating in a Match must supply a football or footballs for use in such Match in accordance with the following provisions:

- (i) The Home Team in a SANFL Senior League Match must provide four footballs prior to the commencement of the Match. Of the three footballs not in use during the Match, one football must be kept behind each goal and one football must be kept on the interchange.
- (ii) The Home Team in a SANFL Women's League Match must provide three footballs prior to the commencement of the Match. Of the footballs not in use during the Match, one football must be kept behind each goal.

(iii) The Home Team in a Men's Reserves grade, SANFL Women's Development League, Under 18 or Under 16 Match must provide two footballs prior to the commencement of the Match. The football not in use during the Match must be kept on the interchange.

(c) **Replacement Footballs**

If during the course of a Match a football is lost, or not returned promptly after a score or after being indicated out of bounds, the Home Team must immediately supply a replacement football upon request by a field umpire.

(d) **Matches Played at Neutral Grounds**

At any Minor Round Match played at a Neutral Ground, the Club named first on the official SANFL Match programme must accept the responsibilities of the Home Team for the purpose of this Regulation 19.

(e) **Colour of Footballs**

In any Match which is scheduled to be played:

- (i) at a time when artificial lighting will not normally be required, the football to be used must be red in colour;
- (ii) at a time when artificial lighting will be required for either the whole or part of such Match, the football to be used must be yellow in colour.

20. Medical Equipment and Services

Each Club that has a Team participating in a Match must provide medical equipment and services which satisfy the minimum standards determined by the Football Commission from time to time.

21. On-Field Active Bleeding

- (a) The management of Players who are bleeding or have blood on any part of themselves or their playing uniform will be governed by the Laws of the Game.
- (b) A Player who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire given in accordance with the active bleeding provisions in the Laws of the Game is a Reportable Offence and must be reported by the umpire.

22. Protective Equipment

The National Policy Handbook will apply in addition to provisions regarding protective equipment in any SANFL rules or regulations.

23. Interchange Rotation Cap

The interchange rotation cap is the total number of interchange rotations a Club may make during the course of a Match.

- (a) Subject to any Regulation or Schedule in the Men's Regulations to the contrary, for the SANFL Men's Competitions, the interchange rotation cap is 75, which is exclusive of changes at quarter time, half-time and three-quarter time. For the avoidance of doubt, any interchanges of Players in compliance with Regulation 21 (On-Field Active Bleeding) or the AFL Concussion Guidelines are not to be counted for the purposes of this clause.
- (b) For the SANFL Women's Competitions, subject to the SANFL Women's Competition Regulations, there is no cap on the number of interchange rotations.

24. Concussions

- (a) The management of head injuries and suspected concussions in SANFL Competitions is governed by the AFL Concussion Guidelines.
- (b) A Club Official who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire or an SANFL Official which is given in accordance with the AFL Concussion Guidelines is a Reportable Offence and must be reported by the umpire. If the Club is found guilty of breaching the AFL Concussion Guidelines, the Club is also deemed to have breached these Master Regulations and be subject to Regulation 64.
- (c) If a Player leaves the Playing Surface during a Match as a result of a head impact assessment and is replaced by another Player on their Team and which is determined to be an interchange at the time, the impacted Team will be credited an interchange rotation.

25. Counting of Players and Procedure for Interchange

- (a) A Club must not field more than the permitted number of players on the field at any time of a Match.
- (b) Teams competing in a Match are allowed a maximum of:
 - (i) 18 Players on field and 4 Players on its interchange bench for a SANFL Men's Competition Match; and
 - (ii) 16 Players on field and 5 Players on its interchange bench for a SANFL Women's Competition Match.
- (c) This Regulation operates in conjunction with the Clauses 5 and 7 of the Laws of the Game.

- (i) However, Clause 5.5.3(d) of the Laws of the Game does not apply, meaning that where a Team has more than the permitted number of Players on the Playing Surface that Team shall not lose all of the points that it has scored in the quarter up to the time of the count.
- (d) Where a request under Clause 5.5.1 of the Laws of the Game has been made and it is determined that a Team has more than the permitted number of Players on the Playing Surface, the Football Commission may, within 24 hours of the Match seek a written submission from the Club. If such submission has been sought, the Football Commission may then determine the matter within 48 hours of receipt of the submission, or the deadline to provide such written submission (whichever comes first). The Football Commission may impose a fine, reverse the Match result or impose such other sanction as it deems appropriate in its absolute discretion, and is not limited by any penalty or sanction set out within these Regulations.
- (e) If the Football Commission reasonably believes that a breach of Regulation 25(b) was:
 - (i) inadvertent; and
 - (ii) did not have any impact on the outcome of the Match;then the Football Commission may make a determination not to issue a fine, reversal of Match result or any other sanction.

26. Personnel Entering Playing Arena

A Club shall only permit a person named on the Team Sheet of that Club to enter the Playing Arena whilst a Team of that Club is playing in a Match.

27. Personnel Entering the Playing Surface

- (a) Except as set out in Regulations 27(b) and 27(d), only Players of a Team participating in a Match, a Runner, medical officers and the Trainers of that Club may enter the Playing Surface whilst a Match is in progress.
- (b) The coach, team manager, Football Manager or any other Match Official named on the Team Sheet of a Team participating in that Match:
 - (i) may be in the Playing Arena between the boundary fence and Playing Surface during the course of play; and
 - (ii) may enter the Playing Surface to discharge their various functions during the intervals between the quarters of a Match.

- (c) The Coach of a Team must not speak to an umpire whilst on the Playing Surface during any interval between quarters of a Match.
- (d) The drink steward, a property steward and an additional selector may enter the Playing Surface in order to discharge their various functions only during the intervals between the quarters of a Match.

28. Breaches of these Part Two Regulations

- (a) A Match Day Officer appointed has the power to report a breach of the Laws of the Game.
- (b) Any other report or complaint concerning the breach of any provision contained in this Part Two shall be made in accordance with Part Five of these Regulations;
- (c) Any person or Club that commits a breach of any provision contained in Part Two of these Regulations shall:
 - (i) in the case of a breach of the Laws of the Game, be liable to a fine of not more than \$500.00 for the first offence and not more than \$1,000.00 for any subsequent offence in the same Season; and
 - (ii) in the case of a breach of any other provision contained in this Part Two, be liable to any penalty which may be imposed under Part Five of these Regulations.

29. Breaches of Laws of the Game

In relation to reporting, referral and Match review procedures related to breaches of the Laws of the Game, Schedule 4 applies.

30. Laws of the Game

- (a) Where these Regulations relate to a specific Rule or regulation in the Laws of the Game, these Regulations will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. Where these Regulations fall silent, the Laws of the Game will apply.
- (b) **Last Disposal Out of Bounds**
 - (i) A free kick shall be awarded to a Player who kicks or handballs the ball over the boundary line without the ball being touched by another Player.
 - (ii) For the purposes of defining a kick under Regulation 30(b)(i), a kick shall be an intentional action and not accidental:

- (iii) When the ball comes off the foot or lower leg of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as a kick by the umpire. This will result in a boundary throw-in.
- (iv) Where a player who does not have possession and stops the ball being touched by a Player of the opposing Team by:
 - (A) shepherding the ball across the boundary line; and
 - (B) the ball could have otherwise been touched by the player being blocked, then the umpire will not award a free kick but will instead order a boundary throw-in.

D PUBLICATION OF TEAMS

This Section D, Part Two sets out the Regulations for the publication of teams and the consequences of non-adherence to these Regulations.

31. Publication of Teams

(a) General Time Requirements

Each Club must provide to the SANFL its Teams in all SANFL Competitions in the form and by the deadline as prescribed by the SANFL for publication before the upcoming round of Matches.

(b) ANZAC Day & Other Public Holiday Time Requirements

A Club playing on:

- (i) ANZAC Day must make its SANFL Senior Leagues Teams and Men's Reserve grade Teams available for publication in the daily newspapers, which are published on the day before the Match;
- (ii) A public holiday which falls on a Monday must make its SANFL Senior Leagues Teams and Men's Reserve grade Teams available for publication in the daily newspapers, which are published on the Saturday before the Match.

(c) Clubs Satisfy Requirements Even When Team Not Published

Upon a Club satisfying its responsibilities under Regulations 31(a) and 31(b), it will be deemed to have complied with Regulations 31(a) and 31(b) regardless of whether there has been actual publication of the Teams in the newspapers.

(d) Player Requirements for Team Publication

The Team of a Club published in accordance with Regulations 31(a) and 31(b) must comprise 18 Players in position and up to 7 interchange Players where:

- (i) the only Players who are permitted to play in the Team of a Club are those Players whose names are published under Regulations 31(a) or 31(b);
- (ii) the only Players who may be omitted from the Team of a Club are those Players included among the 7 interchange players in the Team published in accordance with Regulations 31(a) and 31(b);

except in extenuating circumstances where, for example, a Player is certified by a medical practitioner as unfit to play due to injury or illness after publication.

(e) For Teams in Women's SANFL Competition Matches, Regulation 31(d) applies except that there shall be 16 Players in position and up to 8 interchange Players.

(f) **Player's Name Not Published**

A Club that plays a Player in its Team whose name is not published in accordance with Regulations 31(a) or 31(b) must notify the SANFL in writing by 12.00pm on the first business day after the Match in which that Player played. Such notice must give complete details as to why a change was made to the Team published in the newspaper, including the extenuating circumstances claimed.

(g) **Fines for Breaches**

A Club which is in breach of Regulations 31(a), 31(b) or 31(f) will be liable to a fine of \$500.00.

(h) A Club which is in breach of Regulation 31(d) will be in breach of Schedule 1 of these Regulations and may be dealt with in accordance with Part Five of these Regulations.

E ARRANGEMENT OF MATCHES, FORFEITURE AND REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES

This Section E, Part Two sets out other matters relating to the SANFL Match program including the Regulations for forfeits, other competitions and Matches. It also includes the conditions relating to a Player's rights and obligations for selection in representative Matches.

32. SANFL Senior Leagues, Reserves, Under 18s and Under 16s

The Football Commission must arrange programs of Matches for each of the SANFL Senior Leagues, Reserves, Under 18, Under 16 and SANFL Women's Development League grades on such conditions as it determines from time to time.

33. Other Competitions

The Football Commission may arrange and conduct programs of Matches other than Minor Round and Major Round Matches. Such Matches will be subject to these Regulations and to such other conditions as the Football Commission determines from time to time.

34. Pre-Season Trial Matches

(a) Clubs may arrange and permit Pre-Season Trial Matches with other Clubs with the approval of the Football Commission.

(b) Clubs with Teams participating in Pre-Season Trial Matches must comply with the Team Sheet requirements under Regulation 10.

- (c) For the purposes of these Regulations, a Player named on a Team Sheet lodged in compliance with Regulation 10, who is not a Registered Player of the Club on whose Team Sheet they have been named, will be deemed to be a Registered Player of that Club.

35. Permission from Football Commission for Matches

- (a) A Club must not arrange for or permit a Team of that Club to play in any Match not approved by the Football Commission unless they receive permission from the Football Commission.
- (b) A Club is not required to seek permission under Regulation 35(a) if it is a Match between two Teams of that Club.

36. Forfeit

A Club must not permit or cause any Team of that Club to forfeit any Match arranged by the SANFL without first obtaining permission of the Football Commission.

37. Player Selection in Representative Matches

- (a) Notwithstanding anything contained in any contract or agreement, Players from all SANFL Competitions (except for AFL and AFLW listed Players) have the right and obligation to be available for selection in Teams representing the SANFL.
- (b) If a Player is selected in a Team to represent the SANFL, the SANFL does not assume the responsibility and liability for such Player from the Player's Club, other than with respect to covering any applicable out of pocket injury expenses.
- (c) A Player selected to represent the SANFL outside the State of South Australia will not travel without the approval of the State Team Selection Committee unless they do so with the official team party organised by the SANFL.
- (d) Before being permitted to play in a Team representing SANFL, Players selected to represent the Team must comply with any terms mandated by the Football Commission regarding the conduct of such Team.
- (e) A Player who is unavailable for selection in a Team representing the SANFL for non-medical reasons cannot be selected in a Team for their Club without the approval of the Football Commission.
- (f) A Player who:
 - (i) fails a fitness test under the supervision of a state team Medical Practitioner; and
 - (ii) as a consequence, is not selected in a Team representing the SANFL;

shall be eligible for selection in a Team of their Club.

PART THREE: CLUBS & SALARY CAP

A CLUB MATTERS

This Section A, Part Three details the matters relevant to SANFL Clubs. These include Regulations pertaining to the maintenance of a Club constitution, the registration of Club Officials, Promotional Zones, Club colours, uniforms and logos, licensed products and Home

38. Registration of Players and Officials

(a) Registration and Eligibility

- (i) A Club must not permit any person to play as a Player, or to act as a Club Official, unless that person is registered in accordance with this Regulation 38.
- (ii) A person may apply online to be registered as a Player or Club Official for a Club. Such application must:
 - (A) be made prior to or at the time a person is engaged to play in a Match or to act as a Club Official;
 - (B) be in the form prescribed by the SANFL; and
 - (C) provide all the information specified in such form.
- (iii) It is a requirement for the granting of registration under Regulation 38(a)(ii) that an applicant:
 - (A) is of good reputation and character;
 - (B) is a fit and proper person to perform the duties specified in the application, as determined by the SANFL at their discretion; and
 - (C) makes such declarations, provides such consents, and agrees to such conditions as are set out in the form prescribed by the SANFL under Regulation 38(a)(ii).
- (iv) A Player or Club Official must not cease or fail to meet the requirements of their registration at any time.
- (v) A Player or Club Official and the relevant Club must at all times ensure that any particulars provided in an application under Regulation 38(a)(ii) are kept current and accurate by immediately informing the SANFL of any changes to such particulars.

- (vi) The SANFL has the power, at its sole discretion, to inquire into, investigate, and deal with, any matter in connection with an application made under Regulation 38(a)(ii) or a breach of Regulations 38(a)(iv) and 38(a)(v).
- (vii) The SANFL may in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:
 - (A) refuse an application for registration (including eligibility) under this Regulation 38; or
 - (B) grant a registration (including eligibility) under this Regulation 38 on such terms and conditions as it deems fit.
- (viii) The SANFL may at any time suspend, vary, or revoke a registration under this Regulation 38.
- (ix) For the avoidance of doubt, registration under this Regulation 38 is mandatory in addition to any other player registration requirements imposed by the SANFL.

(b) Parent Child Regulation

- (i) When a person is not yet registered as a Player with any Club in the SANFL Competitions, the rules that apply to their registration are amended as a result of their parent's historic participation in SANFL competitions only as follows:
 - (A) A child of a person who was both a registered Player of a Club and played at least one (1) Match in the Senior League Team of that Club, is eligible to be registered as a Player with that Club and included on that Club's playing list, wherever they reside.
 - (B) A Club will not be required to pay any Registration Fee in respect of:
 - (I) A person who is the child of a Life Member of the Club with whom they seek registration as a Player; or
 - (II) A child of a person who was a registered Player of the Club with which such child now seeks registration as a Player and who has played at least one (1) Match in the Senior League Team of that Club.
- (ii) When a Player registered at one Club is transferring to another Club, the rules that apply to that transfer are amended as a result of their parent's historic participation in SANFL competitions only as follows:
 - (A) The Transfer Fee applicable for the transfer of a Player on the Youth List is \$1,250.

- (B) The Transfer Fee applicable for the transfer of a Player on the Senior List shall be 50% of the otherwise applicable Transfer Fee provided they are 19 years of age or younger at January 1 of the calendar year that the transfer is taking place.

(c) **Powers of Investigation**

- (i) Without limiting any other regulation, the SANFL may investigate any breach or possible breach of these Regulations and may delegate such powers of investigation to the AFL's Integrity Department.
- (ii) For the avoidance of doubt, all persons to which these Regulations apply must cooperate with any investigation conducted by the SANFL or its delegate.

(d) **Application of National Player and Official Deregistration Policy**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Regulations, the National Player and Official Deregistration Policy will apply to all Players and Club Officials. To the extent of any inconsistency between these Regulations and the National Player and Official Deregistration Policy, the provisions of the National Player and Official Deregistration Policy will prevail.

39. Home Ground

Each Club must have as its Home Ground a ground nominated by that Club and approved by the Football Commission.

40. Promotional Zones

- (a) Each Club will be allotted a metropolitan Promotional Zone and a country Promotional Zone, the boundaries of which will be determined by the Boundaries Commission from time to time under Regulation 143.
- (b) Each Club will be responsible for activities relating to the promotion of football within the Promotional Zones allotted to it under Regulation 40(a) as the Football Commission shall determine from time to time.
 - (i) A Club may conduct Promotional Activities at its Home Ground and its administration buildings.
 - (ii) There is a maximum penalty of \$2,000 for a breach of this Regulation.

41. Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos

- (a) Each Club must register its colours and the design of its playing uniform and logo with the SANFL.

- (i) The colours and design of a Club's playing uniform and logo must be approved by the SANFL before registration.
 - (ii) Clubs will be given priority of registration of colours on a first-come-first-serve basis.
 - (iii) Clubs that are registered to adopt such colours shall have the exclusive right to wear such colours.
- (b) Each Club must register with the SANFL two sets of shorts colours designated by that Club as a first selection and alternative selection.
 - (c) A Club must not alter the colours or design of its playing uniform, shorts or its logo without the prior written approval of the SANFL, which it may provide at its absolute discretion.
 - (d) Approval to the alteration of the Club's colours, the design of a Club's playing uniform or shorts, or the logo of a Club must be obtained prior to 30 November in the year before the commencement of the Season in which the Club desires to use such altered colours, design or logo. This Regulation 41(d) does not apply where a Club wishes to adopt or wear such altered colours, design or logo on a one-off basis only.
 - (e) Each Club is responsible for ensuring that each Player representing that Club in Matches arranged or approved by the SANFL is correctly attired in the registered Club uniform.

42. Selling and Other Uses of Licensed Products

- (a) Neither a Club nor any agent of a Club may stock, sell or attempt to sell or use any product without approval by the SANFL as an officially licensed product.
- (b) A Club or agent of a Club which:
 - (i) stocks or sells; or
 - (ii) attempts to sell, use, or authorise the sale or use of any product that is not approved by the SANFL as an officially licensed product; and
 - (iii) is not exempted under Regulation 42(d) when a product of similar nature has been licensed for production, distribution and sale by the SANFL

will be liable to a fine of up to \$1,000.
- (c) A Club found guilty of a breach of Regulation 42(a) will be liable to a fine of up to \$500 for every week thereafter during which it or its agent continues to be guilty of such breach.

- (d) A Club or any agent of that Club that wishes to stock, sell or use any product that is not an officially licensed product when a product of similar nature has been licensed for production, distribution and sale by the SANFL must first obtain the approval of the Football Commission.
- (e) An application for approval under Regulation 42(d) must be in writing and include such details as the Football Commission may require from time to time.
- (f) The decision of the Football Commission in relation to any application made under Regulation 42(d) will be final and binding on all parties.
- (g) Any complaint or charge alleging a breach of this Regulation 42 may be made only by:
 - (i) a SANFL Club; or
 - (ii) the EGM.

B CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

This Section B, Part Three outlines the Regulations pertaining to the commitment of the Clubs to competitions conducted by the SANFL and not acting in competition with the SANFL. This includes their time and attention, obligations, and what happens if a Club breaches these Regulations.

43. Time and Attention

Each Club will devote its time and attention toward the conduct of its Football Operations.

44. Clubs and Club Officials to Avoid Conflicts of Interest

Clubs, Club Officials and other Associates of a Club must not, without the prior written consent of the Football Commission:

- (a) carry on any other business similar to Football Operations;
- (b) be concerned or interested whether directly or indirectly in any firm, corporation or entity conducting a business similar to Football Operations;
- (c) conduct, or participate in, a Sporting Competition other than a SANFL competition; or
- (d) be directly or indirectly concerned or interested in an entity conducting, or participating in, a Sporting Competition other than a SANFL competition.

45. Breach of Conflict-of-Interest Regulations

- (a) Without limiting Regulation 44, for the purposes of this Section B, Part Three, a Club or Club Official will be deemed to have breached Regulation 44 if they:
 - (i) are involved as a director or are concerned in, or take part in, the management of a corporation or business involved in the fielding of a team in any Sporting Competition other than a SANFL competition;
 - (ii) promote, endorse or market any intellectual property, including any trademark, logo, trade name, nickname or other insignia, of a team in a Sporting Competition other than a Team which plays Australian rules football;
 - (iii) have any direct or indirect financial interest in a corporation or business involved in the fielding of a team in any Sporting Competition other than a SANFL competition; or
 - (iv) have the power or capacity to significantly influence:
 - (A) the composition of the board of directors or other controlling body; or

(B) the appointment or removal of a person as a director or executive officer; of any other corporation or business involved in the fielding of a team in any Sporting Competition other than a SANFL competition.

(b) Notwithstanding Regulation 45(a), a Club, Club Official or Associate of a Club may have a direct or indirect financial interest in a corporation or business which is involved in the provision of goods, services, or facilities of a kind normally provided by a Club or an Associate of the Club, in the ordinary course of business.

46. Breach of this Section by a Club

(a) If the Football Commission determines that a Club has committed a breach of this Section B, Part Three, the Club shall be liable to a fine of \$50,000 and to any further sanctions and disciplinary procedures provided for in Regulation 46(c) or in Part Five.

(b) In determining whether any sanction is to be imposed on a Club under Regulation 46(a), the Football Commission must provide the Club with:

- (i) an opportunity to show cause as to why such fine should not be imposed; and
- (ii) an opportunity to submit any material and submissions to the Football Commission which the Club wishes to be taken into account in determining the amount of, and manner of, payment of any monetary sanction.

(c) Where a sanction has been imposed under Regulation 46(a) and the breach continues after a period of seven days from the date of imposition of the sanction, the Club may:

- (i) be liable to a further fine of up to twice the amount of the fine previously imposed against it under Regulation 46(a);
- (ii) be liable to one or more of the penalties and sanctions referred to in Regulation 61(e), as determined by the Football Commission;
- (iii) be ineligible to receive any Financial Assistance from the SANFL for such period as the Football Commission shall in its absolute discretion determine.

(d) In determining any period of ineligibility under Regulation 46(c)(iii), the Football Commission must provide the relevant Club with:

- (i) an opportunity to show cause as to why such fine should not be imposed; and
- (ii) an opportunity to submit any material and submissions to the Football Commission which the Club wishes to be taken into account in determining any such period of ineligibility.

47. Breach of this Section by a Club Official

- (a) If the Football Commission determines that a Club Official has committed a breach of this Section B, Part Three, the Club Official shall be liable to a fine of up to \$20,000.00 and to any further sanctions and procedures provided for in Regulation 47(c) or in Part Five of these Regulations.
- (b) In determining whether any sanction is to be imposed on a Club Official under this Regulation 47, the Football Commission must provide the Club Official with:
 - (i) an opportunity to show cause as to why such fine should not be imposed; and
 - (ii) an opportunity to submit any material and submissions to the Football Commission which the Club Official wishes to be taken into account in determining the amount of, and manner of, payment of any monetary sanction.
- (c) Where a sanction has been imposed under Regulation 47(a) and the breach continues after a period of seven days from the date of imposition of the sanction, the Club Official may:
 - (i) be liable to a further fine of up to twice the amount of the fine previously imposed against them under Regulation 47(a);
 - (ii) be liable to one or more of the penalties and sanctions referred to in Regulation 61(e) of these Regulations, as determined by the Football Commission; and
 - (iii) be ineligible to receive any Financial Assistance from the SANFL for such period as the Football Commission shall in its absolute discretion determine.
- (d) In determining any period of ineligibility under Regulation 47(c)(iii), the Football Commission must provide the relevant Club Official with:
 - (i) an opportunity to show cause why such fine should not be imposed; and
 - (ii) an opportunity to submit any material and submissions to the Football Commission which the Club Official wishes to be taken into account in determining any such period of ineligibility.
- (e) Any fine imposed upon a Club Official under Regulations 47(a) or 47(c) will be payable by the Club Official and/or the Club with which they are so registered both jointly and severally.

C SALARY CAP

This Section C, Part Three outlines how the Salary Cap is determined, the responsibility of Clubs to not exceed the Salary Cap, and the kinds of payments which the Salary Cap limits. To the extent that any Regulation in this Section C, Part Three is inconsistent with any other rule or regulation, the Regulation in this Section C, Part Three shall prevail.

48. Football Commission to determine Salary Cap

The Football Commission will determine the Salary Cap that a Club may pay or provide by way of Football Payments in any Season or Financial Year.

49. Football Payments not to Exceed Salary Cap

(a) Subject to any specifications in the Women's Regulations or the Men's Regulations, the value of all or any part of any Remuneration paid to a Player by a Club in any Financial Year which relates in any way to the Player's:

- (i) past, present or future services with a Club as a Player; or
- (ii) any agreement, arrangement or understanding for the Player to join or to refrain from joining a Club;

will be deemed to be a Football Payment.

(b) Remuneration will not be a Football Payment if it is proven to the satisfaction of the Salary Cap Auditor that the Remuneration paid to the Player is not a Football Payment.

(c) A Club must not in any Financial Year pay or cause any Remuneration to be paid to a Player if the total value of all Football Payments paid or to be paid by the Club would exceed the Club's Salary Cap for that Financial Year.

(d) A Player is not entitled to be registered to, or will be deregistered from, a Club if it is found that at the time of lodgement of the Application for Registration for such Player, the Club's total value of all Football Payments made or to be made (including to the Player seeking registration) exceeds its Salary Cap for that Financial Year.

50. Meaning of 'Remuneration'

(a) Remuneration includes but is not limited to any:

- (i) allowance;
- (ii) bonus;
- (iii) benefit given or promised;
- (iv) incentive;

- (v) loan (other than a loan made on commercial terms at arm's length);
 - (vi) match bonus or incentive;
 - (vii) money;
 - (viii) payment of insurance or other premium;
 - (ix) salary or wages;
 - (x) property or right of any description; or
 - (xi) other advantage or benefit in any form whatsoever;
- paid to a Player by a Club.

51. Meaning of Football Payment Paid 'to a Player'

The expression paid 'to a Player' means a Football Payment that is paid, provided or given, directly or indirectly by a Club:

- (a) to a Player;
- (b) for the benefit of a Player;
- (c) to, or for the benefit of, an Associate of a Player;
- (d) to, or for the benefit of, a creditor of a Player;
- (e) to, or for the benefit of, an agent of a Player;
- (f) at the direction of a Player; or
- (g) in any other circumstance where it is reasonably declared by the Salary Cap Auditor to be a Football Payment paid to a Player.

52. Meaning of Football Payment Paid 'by a Club'

The expression 'by a Club' means Football Payment that is paid, provided or given, directly or indirectly, to a Player:

- (a) by a Club;
- (b) on behalf of a Club;
- (c) by, or on behalf of, an Associate of a Club;
- (d) by, or on behalf of, a Club sponsor;
- (e) by, or on behalf of, any other person or entity associated or affiliated, directly or indirectly, with a Club, an associated entity or Club sponsor; or

- (f) in any circumstance where it is reasonably declared by the Salary Cap Auditor to be a Football Payment paid by a Club.

53. Deemed Football Payments

This Regulation 53 outlines examples of Remuneration that is deemed a Football Payment or deemed not to be a Football Payment (as the case may be). All particular amounts of limits referenced may be found in the Schedules of the relevant SANFL Competition's Regulations.

(a) Payments made to a Player

Remuneration paid by a Club to a Player for the playing of football:

- (i) for that Club's SANFL Senior League Team in any Minor Round Match Payment;
- (ii) for that Club's SANFL Senior League Team in any Major Round Match to the extent that any Match payment exceeds the average Minor Round Match payment of the same Season;
- (iii) for that Club's Reserves Team to the extent that the total amount paid to Players for Reserves Team Matches exceeds the limit set by the SANFL in the Financial Year, provided that the minimum amount set by the SANFL is paid to each Player per Minor Round Match; and
- (iv) if a Club does not pay the minimum amount set by the SANFL to each Player per Minor Round Match, all amounts paid to Players who play for the Reserves Team of that Club in that Season;

will be deemed Football Payments.

(b) Supplementary Wages

Wages and salaries paid to supplement the income of a Player earned from employment negotiated under, or which is ancillary to, a contract of service between a Player and a Club other than wages paid to a Player for a bona fide employment with the Club will be deemed Football Payments.

(c) Market Value of Employment and Services Actually Rendered

If a Player is paid an amount for services by a Club under any contract that is, in the reasonable opinion of the Salary Cap Auditor:

- (i) in excess of the market value of such service; or
- (ii) provides any service inconsistent with the Player's employment contract;

the Salary Cap Auditor has the discretion to deem some or all of such payments Football Payments.

(d) **Board, Rent Subsidies and Education Expenses**

Remuneration paid to a Player, except to a Player on the Youth List, for accommodation expenses, education expenses, living away from home allowance, rental, rental subsidy or rental discount will be deemed a Football Payment.

(e) **Motor Vehicle and Travelling Expenses**

(i) Motor vehicle and travelling payments will not be deemed Football Payments if:

(A) the total amount of the payments in aggregate per Season does not exceed the limit set by the SANFL; and

(B) such payments are only made to Players whose usual place of residence is outside a thirty (30) kilometres radius from their Club's Home Ground.

(ii) Any payment in excess of the limit under Regulation 53(e)(i)(A) will be considered a Base Payment.

(f) **Inducements and Relocation Expenses**

Any inducement paid to a Player to enter into a Player Contract with a Club will be deemed a Football Payment, excluding Relocation Expenses or a Relocation Allowance, provided such Player is an Eligible Relocating Player.

(g) **Lump Sum Payments on Termination of Contract**

A single amount paid to a Player upon termination of their Player Contract with a Club will be deemed a Football Payment.

(h) **Loans**

The full amount of any loan other than a loan excepted under Regulation 50(a)(v) will be deemed a Football Payment. An amount equal to any repayment of the loan will be deducted from the Salary Cap in the year or years in which such repayments are made.

(i) **Best and Fairest Payments**

Any Remuneration accompanying a Club award:

(i) given to a Player in the SANFL Senior League Team of a Club; or

(ii) given to a Player in the Reserves Team of a Club which exceeds the limit set by the SANFL;

will be deemed a Football Payment.

(j) **Major Round Best and Fairest Incentive**

Remuneration in excess of the amount agreed under a Player's Player Contract paid to such Player as a Best and Fairest incentive during the Major Round will be deemed a Football Payment.

(k) **After Match Club Awards**

Remuneration in excess of the Football Payment limit set by the SANFL for the relevant SANFL Competition paid by a Club as After Match Club Awards will be deemed a Football Payment.

(l) **Payments made to Player of a Winning Team in Grand Final**

Remuneration in excess of \$1,000 paid to a Player who was the member of a winning team in a Senior League Grand Final will be deemed a Football Payment.

(m) **Playing Coaches Fee**

Remuneration paid to any Players who are also a coach of the same Club in excess of the limit set by the SANFL for the relevant SANFL Competition will be deemed a Football Payment.

(n) **Fringe Benefits Tax**

All fringe benefit tax payable by a Club in respect of any other Football Payment will be deemed a Football Payment.

(o) **Superannuation**

Contributions paid by a Club to a superannuation fund or scheme on behalf or for the benefit of a Player whether required by law or otherwise will be deemed a Football Payment.

(p) **Milestone Payments**

(i) Players in the SANFL Men's League may be entitled to receive payments from the SANFL if eligible pursuant to the SANFL Milestone Payments Program such payments which are to be made at the end of the relevant Season by the SANFL and will not be deemed to be a Football Payment:

MILESTONE*	PAYMENT
50 Games	\$2,500

100 Games	\$5,000
150 Games	\$10,000
200 Games	\$10,000
250 Games	\$15,000

**SANFL Men's League Games only.*

(ii) **Minor Round:**

Remuneration paid to a Senior League Player by a Club for such Player achieving any milestones agreed with the Club during the Minor Round will be deemed a Football Payment.

(iii) **Major Round:**

Remuneration paid to a Senior League Player in excess of the amount agreed with their Club for such Player achieving any milestones agreed with their Club in respect of Major Round Matches will be deemed a Football Payment.

(q) **Payments for Attendance at Club Functions**

Remuneration paid to a Player by a Club for the attendance of such Player at any function conducted by or for the benefit of that Club at which another Player or Players of that Club are required to attend without receiving any payment will be deemed a Football Payment.

(r) **Payments made under Contracts varied during Season**

If a variation or termination of a Player Contract occurs after the last business day prior to round 1 of a Season which results in a reduction of the amount paid to a Player, notwithstanding any reduction in the amount paid, the whole amount in the Player Contract will be deemed a Football Payment.

(s) **Additional Services Agreements**

Subject to Regulation 53(q), any payments to Player(s) under an Additional Services Agreement(s) above the prescribed threshold in the Men's Regulations or Women's Regulations (as applicable) with respect to the relevant Season will be deemed a Football Payment.

D SALARY CAP – FORWARD PAYMENTS, DETAILS TO BE LODGED, AMBIGUITIES

This Section D, Part Three sets out the Regulations surrounding restrictions on forward payments of Football Payments, the information required to be submitted to the SANFL, and clarifying Football Payment ambiguities, all of which ensure compliance with the Salary Cap.

54. Restrictions on Forward Payment of Contracts

- (a) A Club must only pay Football Payments under a Player Contract for services performed in the same Season in which that Football Payment is made.
- (b) Player Contracts can be amended to make any additional payment after the date of lodgement of the Player Contract with the SANFL if:
 - (i) the Salary Cap for the relevant Financial Year will not be breached;
 - (ii) the Player Contract in relation to that Financial Year is amended accordingly to reflect the additional payment;
 - (iii) such additional payment is recorded in the Schedule of Payments in item 2 of the Player Contract; and
 - (iv) the amended Player Contract is lodged with the SANFL.
- (c) Any payment under Regulation 54(a) must be included as a Football Payment in the Financial Year in which it is paid.
 - (i) Notwithstanding Regulation 54(c), a Club may elect to include a Football Payment by way of equal instalments in each year of a Player Contract.
 - (ii) If an election is made under Regulation 54(c)(i), the instalment amounts will be brought to account as Football Payments in each year of the agreed term of the Player Contract regardless of whether the Player completes the Player Contract.

55. Details of Player Contracts and Football Payments to be Lodged

- (a) A Club must complete and lodge with the Salary Cap Auditor and the EGM or such other person as the EGM shall nominate:
 - (i) a correct and signed copy of every contract that the Club has entered into with a Player or Associate of a Player;
 - (ii) a correct and signed copy of any variation or amendment of any contract by completing an Advice of Variation of Contract form;

(iii) a Salary Cap spreadsheet (as set out at Schedule 9) which sets out full details of all Football Payments which have been or which are to be paid to a Player by a Club during the current Financial Year;

by either 31 March or 7 calendar days prior to the first Match played in Round 1 of the Minor Round Season, whichever comes first.

- (b) A Club must complete and lodge with the Salary Cap Auditor and EGM (or delegate) a Salary Cap spreadsheet by 31 October in each calendar year which sets out full details of all Football Payments which have been, or will be made as a forward payment of contract, to a Player during the Financial Year ending on the previous 31 October.
- (c) The Football Commission may specify in Schedule 8 dates instead of or in addition to the dates listed in this Regulation 55.
- (d) For each SA-based AFL Club participating in the SANFL Competition they must lodge with the Salary Cap Auditor and the EGM (or delegate) a pre-season Salary Cap spreadsheet which complies with the following requirements:
- (i) The pre-season Salary Cap spreadsheet must be forecast on the assumption that twelve (12) AFL-listed Players will participate in the Club's SANFL team in each Match during the Minor Round Season.
 - (ii) The total player payments forecast must therefore be based on ten (10) Players drawn from the Club's Open Age List, Talent Development List and Community List for each of the eighteen (18) Minor Round Matches.
 - (iii) For forecasting purposes, the total player payments shall be calculated using the ten (10) highest-paid Players across the abovementioned lists, being the sum of each Player's base payment and match payment multiplied by eighteen (18) Matches.
 - (iv) The total player payments (TPP) forecast shall not exceed one hundred and thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000) in aggregate.
 - (v) Of the total TPP:
 - (A) a maximum of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) may be allocated to Players on the Open Age List; and
 - (B) a maximum of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) may be allocated collectively to Players on the Talent Development List and Community List.

56. Statutory Declaration – Football Payment

- (a) The Salary Cap spreadsheet required to be lodged under Regulation 55(b) must be accompanied by a Statutory Declaration made by the Chair, General Manager/Chief Executive Officer and the Director of the Club responsible for the finances of the Club, and approved and authorised by resolution of the Club's Board of Directors.
- (b) Each of:
 - (i) the Club;
 - (ii) the Chief Executive Officer of the Club;
 - (iii) the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Club; and
 - (iv) the Director of the Club who is responsible for its finances;must ensure that the contents of any statutory declaration provided in Regulation 56(a) are true and correct to the best of their knowledge.
- (c) It will be sufficient proof of a contravention of Regulation 56(a) if it is established that the statutory declaration in question was false in a material particular unless it is proven:
 - (i) the maker of the statutory declaration made all due and proper enquiries; and
 - (ii) the information included in the statutory declaration which was false was so included through no want of care or diligence on their part.
- (d) A failure to lodge the completed Salary Cap spreadsheet and statutory declaration by their respective deadlines will incur a fine of \$2,000, or such other amount as the Football Commission may determine, for each month or part of a month after such date until lodgement.

57. Request for Ruling

A Club may at any time submit to the Salary Cap Auditor a request that the Salary Cap Auditor issue a ruling as to whether Remuneration paid or to be paid constitutes a Football Payment. Except for the presence of any manifest error in the Salary Cap Auditor's ruling, such ruling shall be final and binding on the Club.

E CLUB CONSTITUTIONS

This Section E, Part Three sets out the Regulations surrounding Club constitutions, including a Club's obligation to alter its constitution at the request of the SANFL.

58. Club Constitution

- (a) Each Club must adopt a constitution, which must be approved by the Football Commission and contain provisions for:
 - (i) the holding of its Annual General Meeting no later than 15 February in each year;
 - (ii) the appointment of a Director and Alternate Directors of that Club to the SANFL.
- (b) Each Club must ensure that the SANFL has a complete and current copy of its constitution at all times. Each Club must forward to the SANFL a copy of any amendment or alteration to its constitution within 14 days of any amendment or alteration being passed.
- (c) The Football Commission may by written notice request that a Club make an amendment to its constitution. A Club must put to its members such amendment requested by the SANFL within 42 days of the receipt of the written notice.

PART FOUR: REGISTRATION OF UMPIRES

This Part Four sets out the Regulations for umpire registration and appointment in SANFL competitions.

59. Registration and Appointment of Umpires

- (a) A person seeking appointment as a field, boundary or goal umpire of the SANFL must first be registered with the SANFL as such. The application for registration will be in such form as the Football Commission determines from time to time.
- (b) An application for registration referred to in Regulation 59(a) must be made in each Season a person seeks appointment as a field, boundary or goal umpire.
- (c) The field, boundary and goal umpires to officiate in any such Match arranged, conducted or approved by the Football Commission will be appointed by a person or persons authorised from time to time by the Football Commission to make such appointments.
- (d) A field umpire may be appointed to officiate in any Match played under the control of an Affiliated League by the person or persons who have been authorised from time to time to make such appointments.
- (e) The Football Commission may at any time in its absolute discretion without assigning any reason:
 - (i) revoke the registration of; or
 - (ii) annul the appointment of any field, boundary or goal umpire.
- (f) A person who has been registered as a field, boundary or goal umpire with the SANFL in a Season must not play for any Team of any Club during the same Season.

PART FIVE: CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

A DISCIPLINARY AND DISPUTES PROCEDURES

This Section A, Part Five sets out the disciplinary obligations on Clubs, Players and Club Officials, and the procedures and powers in relation to Reportable Offences and Policy Breaches.

60. Disciplinary

- (a) Each Club, Player and Club Official must:
 - (i) Observe and comply with:
 - (A) these Regulations, the SANFL Constitution, the Laws of the Game, the SANFL Regulations, the SANFL Community Football Constitution and these Regulations in so far as they apply to such person or Club; and
 - (B) any decision or direction of or direction made by the Football Commission and/or the Committee; and
 - (C) any agreement to which the SANFL, SANFL Community Football or Club is a party to the extent that he is legally capable of so doing.
 - (ii) Not engage in conduct:
 - (A) which is unbecoming, detrimental or prejudicial to the welfare, image, spirit or best interests of the SANFL, the AFL, a Club or the sport of Australian rules football into disrepute, or brings them into disrepute; or
 - (B) which would cause the SANFL or a Club to be in breach of any agreement to which any one of them is a party.
 - (C) which would or has the potential to cause the SANFL to be in breach of any agreement to which they are a party; or
 - (D) make, cause to be made, or be party to, any false or misleading statement to any Tribunal, Permit Tribunal, Appeal Board, commission or committee appointed or established under these Regulations.

61. Sanctions and Penalties

If any person or organisation is found guilty of a Policy Breach, any one or more of the following sanctions and penalties may be imposed by the SANFL in addition to any other penalty imposed under these Regulations:

- (a) censure;

- (b) a suspension or disqualification from playing or exercising any official function with the SANFL or Club, or from attending any football Match;
- (c) the withdrawal of, or suspension or disqualification from, exercising any right or privilege which a person or organisation may have or be entitled to by virtue of any office, position or class of membership they hold in or of the SANFL or Club; or
- (d) under or by virtue of SANFL's Constitution, or these Regulations;
 - (i) a fine:
 - (A) not exceeding \$50,000 or such other amount as the Football Commission may determine in its absolute discretion, in the case of a breach of any SANFL Salary Cap Regulations set out in the Men's Regulations; or
 - (B) not exceeding \$10,000 or such other amount as the Football Commission may determine in its absolute discretion, in all other cases.
- (e) in the case of a Club:
 - (A) the reversal of the result of a Match including a Major Round Match; and/or
 - (B) the suspension or disqualification of the Team(s) of that Club; and/or
 - (C) the loss of both retrospective and prospective Premiership Points.

62. Club-Imposed Penalties

The penalties which a Club may impose on a Player for a breach of the rules of that Club or these Regulations are:

- (a) a fine not exceeding \$500; and/or
- (b) a suspension or disqualification in accordance with the constitution, rules, regulations and policies of the SANFL; and/or
- (c) a suspension of payment of all or any monies which from time to time will be payable to the Player by the Club.

63. Reportable Offences

Any Reportable Offences committed by Players or Officials will be dealt with in accordance with Schedule 4.

64. Policy Breaches

Unless otherwise specified, any Policy Breaches committed by Players or Officials will be dealt with under the following process:

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer or EGM will issue a show cause notice to the relevant individual or Club who has allegedly committed the Policy Breach (**Respondent**), which includes:
 - (i) details of the alleged Policy Breach(es);
 - (ii) particulars of the conduct amounting to the alleged Policy Breach(es); and
 - (iii) the proposed penalties and sanctions for such Policy Breaches;
- (b) the Respondent may provide a written response to the show cause notice issued under Regulation 64(a) within two (2) Business Days, or other deadline as stipulated, in relation to the alleged Policy Breach and/ or applicable sanction (**Response**);
- (c) The Chief Executive Officer or EGM will consider the Response, if any, and will determine whether a Notice of Charge will be issued to the Respondent in accordance with Regulation 64(c). If it is determined that no further action be taken, the Chief Executive Officer or EGM will inform the relevant parties accordingly in writing as soon as reasonably practicable;
- (d) If it is determined that the Respondent has committed a Policy Breach, the Chief Executive Officer or EGM will issue a Notice of Charge to the Respondent which must include the following information:
 - (i) the Policy Breach(es) that the Chief Executive Officer or EGM has determined has been committed by the Respondent; and
 - (ii) the penalty or sanction for the identified Policy Breach(es), if applicable,(together, the **Determination**).
- (e) A copy of the Notice of Charge must be provided to be delivered to the Respondent as soon as practicable and in writing, including via email.
- (f) **Acceptance of Determination or Appeal**
 - (i) Where a Respondent has been issued a Notice of Charge, they may, within two (2) business days from the date of the Notice of Charge, or other deadline as stipulated by the Chief Executive Officer or EGM:
 - (A) accept the Determination, which is effective immediately from the date of the Notice of Charge; or
 - (B) appeal the Determination made by the Chief Executive Officer or EGM in accordance with Regulation 108.
- (g) Whenever a fine has been imposed on a Club, Player, Club Official or agent of a Club as the Proposed Penalty:
 - (i) that Club is responsible for the payment of such fine;

- (ii) the fine must be paid to the SANFL within seven (7) days of the SANFL giving notice to the Club of the imposition of such fine; and
- (iii) if not previously paid, such fine may be deducted by the Football Commission from any moneys which it may have determined or may subsequently determine to pay as Financial Assistance to such Club.

65. Playing Suspended or Disqualified Players

A Club which knowingly plays a suspended or disqualified Player in any football Match shall, in addition to any other penalty which may be imposed under these Regulations, be liable to a fine of \$4,000 for each occasion on which the Player plays, except where the suspended or disqualified Player has been given permission to play under this Regulation.

B SALARY CAP AUDITOR, INVESTIGATION COMMITTEES AND INVESTIGATOR

This Section B, Part Five sets out procedures and powers of the Salary Cap Auditor, Investigation Committees and Salary Cap Investigator.

66. Salary Cap Auditor

- (a) The Salary Cap Auditor may exercise any power delegated to them by the Football Commission, and may in the exercise of such power investigate any matter concerning compliance with these Regulations or relevant SANFL Competition Regulations relating to Salary Cap.
- (b) The Salary Cap Auditor must not be a Club Official or director of the SANFL.

67. Salary Cap Investigation Committees and Investigator

- (a) The Football Commission must appoint a Salary Cap Investigation Committee comprising of at least three persons, none of whom can be an officer, member (other than Life Member) or employee of the SANFL or of a Club with the exception of the SANFL Integrity Officer.
- (b) The Football Commission may also appoint a person (**Investigator**) to investigate any of the matters which may be referred to the Salary Cap Investigation Committee for investigation under Regulation 67(c). Any appointment of Investigator may be in addition to or in substitution of the Salary Cap Investigation Committee appointed under Regulation 67(a).
- (c) The Salary Cap Investigation Committee is empowered:
 - (i) to investigate:

- (A) such matters as may be referred to it by the Football Commission;
- (B) such matters which it may of its own volition decide to investigate;

concerning the compliance of Clubs, Associates of Clubs, Club Officials, Players and Associates of Players with the Salary Cap.
- (ii) to exercise such other powers as may be conferred on it by the Football Commission from time to time.
- (d) Any reference to “Salary Cap Investigation Committee” in these Regulations means and includes a reference to an Investigator appointed under Regulation 67(b).

68. Clubs to Assist Salary Cap Auditor and Salary Cap Investigation Committee

(a) Full and Free Access to Books, Records and Documents

A Club must procure and arrange for the Salary Cap Auditor and/or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee to have access to all documents which the Salary Cap Auditor and/or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee believe to be relevant to their enquiries.

(b) Copies of Documents

Upon being requested, a Club must provide:

- (i) true copies of documents directly or indirectly in their possession or under their control; and
- (ii) any other information;

which the Salary Cap Auditor or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee believes may be relevant to their enquiries.

(c) Attendance Before Salary Cap Investigation Committee

- (i) A Club must ensure that any Associate of that Club requested by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee to attend any hearing or meeting of the Salary Cap Investigation Committee:
 - (A) fully cooperates with the Salary Cap Investigation Committee;
 - (B) fully and truthfully answers any questions asked by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee; and
 - (C) provides any document in their or its possession as requested by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee.

- (ii) If an Associate of a Club fails to attend any hearing or meeting of the Salary Cap Investigation Committee when requested or otherwise fails to comply with Regulations 68(c)(i), the Club and Associate of that Club who does not so attend or comply will be in breach of this Regulation 68(c).

69. Players to Assist Salary Cap Auditor and Salary Cap Investigation Committee

(a) Declaration of Remuneration by a Player and Access to Players' Records

A Player must provide and ensure that any relevant person provides:

- (i) when requested by the Salary Cap Auditor and/or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee, a statutory declaration setting out complete details of the Remuneration paid or to be paid to that Player by their Club; and
- (ii) access to documents of that Player and/or relevant person which the Salary Cap Auditor and/or Salary Cap Investigation Committee believe may be relevant to their enquiries.

(b) Companies, Trusts, Accounts, and Agents

Without limiting the operation of this Regulation 69, a Player must provide and ensure that any relevant person provides to the Salary Cap Auditor and/or Salary Cap Investigation Committee immediately upon request:

- (i) full and complete details of companies where that Player or relevant person:
 - (A) is entitled to benefits which normally accrue to a shareholder; and/or
 - (B) may control or direct any votes either at a general meeting or a meeting of the board of directors at such companies.
- (ii) full and complete details of any trusts in which that Player or relevant person:
 - (A) holds a power of appointment;
 - (B) are a trustee or beneficiary; and/or
 - (C) holds any units or are legally or beneficially interested in any person or entity which holds any units in any unit trust.
- (iii) full and complete details of any partnerships or joint ventures in which that Player or relevant person has a legal or beneficial interest;
- (iv) satisfactory evidence of all income earned or otherwise received by or on behalf of that Player or relevant person for any period up to three years;

- (v) full and complete details of any account with any financial institution held by or conducted on behalf of that Player or relevant person including copies of all statements in relation thereto;
- (vi) full and free access (with the right to make copies) to documents of any adviser of that Player or relevant person.

(c) Player to Provide Copies of Documents

Upon request, a Player must immediately provide, or ensure that any relevant person provides, the Salary Cap Auditor and/or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee with copies of any documents referred to in Regulations 69(a) and 69(b) or any other documents the Salary Cap Auditor and/or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee believes may be relevant to their enquiries.

(d) Player to Ensure Attendance of Persons

- (i) A Player must attend and immediately procure and ensure that any relevant persons or entities requested by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee attends any hearing or meeting before the Salary Cap Investigation Committee when requested by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee. At the hearing or meeting those persons or entities must:
 - (A) fully cooperate with the Salary Cap Investigation Committee;
 - (B) fully and truthfully answer any questions asked by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee;
 - (C) provide any document in their possession or control as requested by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee.
- (ii) A Player will be in breach of this Regulation 69(d) in circumstances where any Associate of that Player, or any persons or entities referred to in Regulation 69(b), fail to attend before the Salary Cap Investigation Committee or otherwise fail to fully co-operate with the Salary Cap Investigation Committee.

(e) A Player Cannot Play if in Breach

In addition to any other sanction imposed, a Player who fails to comply with all of the obligations imposed on them under this Regulation may be de-registered as a Player by the Football Commission, and will not be permitted to play in any Team playing in a Match, whether conducted by the SANFL or any Affiliated League, while de-registered.

70. Information May be Requested Regarding Remuneration

- (a) Each of the Salary Cap Auditor and the Salary Cap Investigation Committee may, by request in writing, require a Club to explain in writing within 10 business days, or such period as the Salary Cap Auditor or Salary Cap Investigation Committee may allow, the nature of any Remuneration paid by it to a Player.
- (b) If:
 - (i) a Club fails to provide a written explanation under Regulation 70(a), then the whole of that Remuneration will be deemed to be a Football Payment; or
 - (ii) the Club provides a written explanation and the Salary Cap Auditor or the Salary Cap Investigation Committee is in their reasonable opinion satisfied that such Remuneration or some part of it is a Football Payment, then the whole or such part of the Remuneration will be deemed to be a Football Payment.

71. Salary Cap Auditor to Report to Football Commission

- (a) The Salary Cap Auditor will report directly to the Football Commission.
- (b) The Salary Cap Auditor must not at any time divulge any information obtained in the course of their enquiries other than to the Salary Cap Investigation Committee and the Football Commission except:
 - (i) where they may be compelled to do so by law;
 - (ii) by order of a Court or Tribunal of competent jurisdiction; or
 - (iii) for the purposes of obtaining legal, accounting or other professional advice in respect of such information.

72. Salary Cap Investigation Committee to Report to Football Commission

- (a) The Salary Cap Investigation Committee will report directly to the Football Commission.
- (b) The Salary Cap Investigation Committee must not at any time divulge any information obtained in the course of their enquiries other than to the Salary Cap Auditor or the Football Commission except:
 - (i) where they may be compelled to do so by law;
 - (ii) by order of a Court or Tribunal of competent jurisdiction; or
 - (iii) for the purposes of obtaining legal, accounting or other professional advice in respect of such information.

73. No Breach of Statute

Each of the powers, requirements and obligations set out in Part Five of these Regulations are to be construed so as to not contravene or compel contravention of any law. Nothing in these Regulations shall, or be deemed to, directly or indirectly:

- (a) require a person to quote, or produce any document with, their tax file number or another person's tax file number to anyone; or
- (b) require any act, matter or thing which constitutes an offence under the Taxation Administration Act 1953 and any amendment thereto and/or the Privacy Act 1988.

74. Salary Cap Compliance Paramount

- (a) Regulations relating to Football Payments and the Salary Cap are of paramount importance to the attainment of the objects of the SANFL, and no Club nor any Club Official shall willingly, negligently or recklessly engage in any conduct which might have the effect of avoiding the obligation of a Club to comply with the letter, spirit and intention of these Regulations.
- (b) A Club Official or any agent of a Club who contravenes this Regulation 74 will be deemed to have acted contrary to the best interests of football and the SANFL and may, in addition to any other penalty, be dealt with by the Football Commission at its absolute discretion.

75. Salary Cap Investigation Committee May Lay Charge

If the Salary Cap Investigation Committee forms the opinion that any person or Club breached, or may have breached, any of the provisions of this Part Five, the Salary Cap Investigation Committee may lay a charge against the person and/or the Club.

- (a) A charge alleging a breach of Section B, Part Five may be laid by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee, by the Chief Executive Officer, or the EGM.
- (b) A charge alleging a breach of the Constitution, these Regulations, the Men's Regulations, the Women's Regulations, or the Laws of the Game, other than a charge laid by an umpire on the day of a Match, may be laid by a member of the Football Commission, Chief Executive Officer or the EGM.

C SALARY CAP COMMISSIONER TO HEAR CHARGE

This Section C, Part Five sets out procedures and powers of the Salary Cap Commissioner, and sanctions and penalties which may be imposed for Salary Cap breaches.

76. Salary Cap Commissioner

- (a) The Football Commission must appoint a person to hear and determine any charge laid under Regulation 75 (**Salary Cap Commissioner**).
- (b) A person must not be appointed to be the Salary Cap Commissioner unless that person is a person who has served, is serving or has qualified for appointment as:
 - (i) a Judge of the District Court or the Supreme Court of South Australia;
 - (ii) a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia; or
 - (iii) a Magistrate in South Australia.

77. Procedures, Penalties and Sanctions Relating to Hearing

The following procedures must be adopted and applied in relation to the hearing and determination of a charge made against a Club or a person.

(a) Notice of a Charge and Hearing

- (i) Where a charge is laid alleging a breach, the Salary Cap Investigation Committee must give notice to the Chief Executive Officer and to each person or Club charged.
- (ii) Upon receipt of notice under Regulation 77(a), the Chief Executive Officer must then fix a time, date and place of the hearing of the charge by the Salary Cap Commissioner and inform each person and/or Club charged of those particulars. No fewer than seven days' written notice of the time, date and place of the hearing must be given.

(b) Statement of Grounds

- (i) A notice of a charge under Regulation 77(a)(i) must be accompanied by a statement of the grounds for the laying of the charge. A copy of the report of the Salary Cap Investigation Committee on the matters subject of the charge will be a sufficient statement of grounds for the laying of the charge.
- (ii) The grounds for the laying of the charge will constitute sufficient reasons for the Salary Cap Commissioner to declare the charge sustained unless the person or Club charged discharges the burden of proof referred to in Regulation 77(j).

(c) Football Commission May Vary Time and Place of Hearing

The Football Commission may vary the time, date or place specified under Regulation 77(a) and the Chief Executive Officer must give to each Club or person charged at least seven days' written notice of any such variation.

(d) Hearing by Salary Cap Commissioner

At the time, date and place referred to in the Notice of Charge or as varied under Regulation 77(c), the Salary Cap Commissioner must conduct a hearing into the matters subject to the charge.

(e) **Hearing to be Informal**

The hearing of the charge by the Salary Cap Commissioner must be conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as the proper consideration of the matters before it permits or requires.

(f) **Rules of Evidence Do Not Apply**

The Salary Cap Commissioner is not bound by the rules of evidence and may inform itself of any matter relating to the charge in such manner as it thinks appropriate.

(g) **Procedures at Hearing**

Subject to Regulation 77(h) the procedure to be adopted by the Salary Cap Commissioner at any hearing of a charge will be such as the Football Commission itself determines.

(h) **Natural Justice**

At the hearing of any charge conducted by the Salary Cap Commissioner, the Salary Cap Commissioner must:

- (i) give every person or Club charged an opportunity to be heard;
- (ii) allow the person or Club charged to be represented by any person including a Legal Practitioner; and
- (iii) hear and determine the charge before it in a fair and unbiased manner.

(i) **Report to be Prima Facie Evidence**

A report made by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee will be prima facie evidence of the matters contained in that report provided that a copy of the report has been provided to the person or Club charged prior to the commencement of the hearing.

(j) **Onus of Proof**

A person or Club charged under this Regulation 77 has the onus of establishing on the balance of probabilities that any matters contained in the report made by the Salary Cap

Investigation Committee and/or any other evidence presented in support of a charge is untrue or incorrect and that they did not engage in the conduct alleged in the charge.

(k) **Actions of Club Personnel**

(i) Any conduct engaged in:

(A) by a Player, Club Official, Director or agent of a Club; or

(B) by any other person at the direction or with the knowledge, consent, agreement or authorisation (whether express or implied) of anyone under Regulation 77(k)(i)(A);

shall be deemed to have also been engaged in by the Club unless the Salary Cap Commissioner is satisfied that the conduct was not engaged in on behalf of, or for the benefit of, the Club and was not expressly or impliedly authorised by the Club.

(ii) For the purposes of this Regulation 77(k)(i), “knowledge” includes reckless indifference as to whether the conduct in question was occurring.

(l) **No False or Misleading Information**

A Club, Player or other person to whom this Regulation 77 applies must not provide or give any false or misleading information to the Salary Cap Commissioner at any hearing.

(m) **Decision**

At the conclusion of its hearing the Salary Cap Commissioner may:

(i) declare the charge to be sustained:

(A) and propose any penalty or sanction provided for within the SANFL Regulations; and

(B) include reasons in any declaration under Regulation 77(m)(i) for the consideration of the Football Commission;

(ii) declare the charge dismissed; or

(iii) adjourn the hearing to a fixed date or indefinitely.

(n) **Football Commission to determine Penalty or Sanction**

(i) If the Salary Cap Commissioner declares a charge to be sustained, then the Football Commission:

(A) shall consider any penalty or sanction proposed by the Salary Cap Commissioner; and

- (B) notwithstanding the proposed penalty or sanction and subject to Regulation 77(n)(ii), may impose any penalty or sanction provided for within the SANFL Regulations as it deems appropriate in the circumstances including but not limited to fine, loss of competition points and/ or ban from participating in finals.
- (ii) Prior to imposing any penalty or sanction on any person or Club, the Football Commission must:
 - (A) give every person or Club an opportunity to be heard;
 - (B) allow the person or Club to be represented by any person including a legal practitioner; and
 - (C) determine any penalty or sanction to be imposed in a fair and unbiased manner.
- (o) **Football Commission May Grant Relief**

If the Football Commission is satisfied that a Club, Player or other person who is in breach of the Salary Cap Regulations has acted honestly and reasonably and ought to fairly be excused either wholly or partly from any liability, sanction or penalty imposed, the Football Commission may do so on any terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
- (p) **Player May be Excused for Co-operation**

The Football Commission may excuse a Player from liability under any SANFL Regulations and in particular from any liability for a breach of Regulation 69 in consideration of a Player's co-operation and assistance in establishing a breach of any SANFL Regulations by any Club Official, agent or Associate of a Club with which the Player is or was previously registered.
- (q) **Football Commission not Obligated to give Reasons**

The Football Commission is not obliged to give reasons for any decision which it makes in relation to a charge heard.
- (r) **Decisions of Salary Cap Commissioner and Football Commission are final and binding**
 - (i) Subject to Regulation 77(r)(ii) the decisions of the Salary Cap Commissioner and the Football Commission in relation to any charge referred to it will be final and binding on the Club and all other persons who are bound by and subject to SANFL Regulations.

- (ii) After the Football Commission has delivered its decision, it cannot re-hear the matter, nor can it rescind or alter that decision unless evidence relating to the subject matter of the charge becomes available which was either not known or which could not reasonably have been obtained at the time of the hearing of the charge.

78. Sanctions for Conduct in Breach of Salary Cap

In addition to any other sanction or penalty which may be imposed for a breach of the SANFL Regulations, the following sanctions will apply in every case where a breach of Regulation 49(c) arose out of facts which occurred or took place after 31 October 2006.

(a) Club – Voluntary Disclosure

Where a breach of Regulation 49(c) was voluntarily disclosed by the Club to the Salary Cap Auditor or the Football Commission and:

- (i) the amount by which the Salary Cap was exceeded was less than \$10,000, the sanction will be:
 - (A) a fine equal to the amount by which the Salary Cap was exceeded and a fine of \$5,000; and
 - (B) for subsequent offences under \$10,000, at the discretion of the Football Commission, the deduction of up to four Premiership Points from the Team of the Club in the season following the disclosure of the breach.
- (ii) the amount by which the Salary Cap was exceeded was between \$10,000 and \$50,000, the sanction will be:
 - (A) a fine of up to \$50,000; and
 - (B) at the discretion of the Football Commission, for a maximum period of 18 months the exclusion of that Club to register any Players whose Usual Place of Residence has not been within that Club's Promotional Zone for a continuous two-year period prior to registration; and
 - (C) at the discretion of the Football Commission, the deduction of up to 12 Premiership Points from the Team of the Club in the season following the disclosure of the breach.
- (iii) the amount by which the Salary Cap was exceeded was greater than \$50,000, the sanction will be:
 - (A) a fine of up to \$100,000; and

- (B) at the discretion of the Football Commission, for a maximum period of 18 months the exclusion of that Club to register any Players whose Usual Place of Residence has not been within that Club's Promotional Zone for a continuous two-year period prior to registration; and
- (C) at the discretion of the Football Commission, the deduction of up to 12 Premiership Points from the Team of the Club in the season following the disclosure of the breach.

(b) **Club – Non-Disclosure**

Where there is a breach of Regulation 49(c) by a Club resulting from a charge laid by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee under Regulation 75, the sanction will be:

- (i) a minimum fine of \$50,000;
- (ii) the reimbursement of all costs and other expenses directly or indirectly incurred by the SANFL in relation to the investigation of the breach by the Salary Cap Investigation Committee or otherwise as determined by the Football Commission;
- (iii) at the discretion of the Football Commission, for a maximum period of 18 months the exclusion of that Club to register any Players whose Usual Place of Residence has not been within that Club's Promotional Zone for a continuous two-year period prior to registration; and
- (iv) at the discretion of the Football Commission, the deduction of up to 12 Premiership Points from the Team of the Club in the Season following the discovery of the breach.

(c) **Club – Directors, Officials, and Other**

Where a charge alleging a breach of Part Five, other than a breach of Regulation 49(c), is sustained against a Club, Club Official, Director or agent of a Club, the sanction in each case will be a fine of not more than \$50,000 which will be payable by the Club.

(d) **Player – Non-Disclosure**

If a Player is in breach of any Salary Cap Regulation, the sanction will be such one or more of the following sanctions as the Football Commission may determine:

- (i) suspension of the Player from playing football for the Club with which they are registered for such period as the Football Commission determines; and/or
- (ii) de-registration of the Player.

(e) **Sanctions Additional**

- (iii) A sanction provided for under any other SANFL Regulation may be imposed in addition to any sanction imposed for a Salary Cap breach under these Regulations.
- (iv) If either Regulation 78(a) or Regulation 78(b) apply, the Football Commission may in its absolute discretion determine that:
 - (A) if the breach occurred in a Season during which the Club won a premiership in a SANFL Competition, then the Football Commission may remove the premiership from the Club; and/or
 - (B) any application for a Team of the Club to participate in an Interstate Competition under Regulation 147 be disallowed.

79. Historical Breaches of Salary Cap

For matters with facts occurring on or before 31 October 2006, refer to the SANFL Historical Salary Cap Regime.

D GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

This Section D, Part Five establishes the General Investigations Committee, its powers and duties, its composition, and the responsibilities of persons and Clubs to cooperate with it.

80. General Investigations Committee

(a) **Appointment**

- (i) The EGM may appoint a General Investigation Committee comprising up to three persons.
- (ii) The EGM is only compelled to appoint a General Investigation Committee where an allegation of a breach is accompanied by evidence.

(b) **Duration of Members**

Each member of a General Investigation Committee will hold office until or unless:

- (i) they resign; or
- (ii) their appointment is revoked by the EGM.

(c) **Responsibilities of the General Investigation Committee**

A General Investigation Committee shall:

- (i) investigate any matter which may be referred to it by the EGM relating to a breach of these Regulations including the Code of Conduct in Schedule 1, SANFL Men's Regulations, and SANFL Women's Regulations, except any SANFL Salary Cap Regulation; and
- (ii) report the findings of any investigation made by it under this Regulation to the EGM.

(d) Duties to Cooperate

All persons and Clubs must:

- (i) attend a meeting with a General Investigation Committee upon request by the General Investigation Committee;
- (ii) in the case of Clubs, ensure that any Players, Club Officials or members of the Club, attend a meeting with a General Investigation Committee upon request by the General Investigation Committee;
- (iii) cooperate with the General Investigation Committee;
- (iv) fully and truthfully answer any questions asked by the General Investigation Committee; and
- (v) provide any document in their possession to the General Investigation Committee as may be requested by it from time to time.

(e) Failure to Cooperate

If a Club or a person fails to attend a meeting with a General Investigation Committee when requested to do so, or otherwise fails to comply with this Regulation 80(e), the Club and/or any such person will be deemed to have committed a breach of this Rule.

(f) False or Misleading Information

A Club, Player or other person must not provide to the General Investigation Committee in connection with an investigation any information which is in any respect false or misleading or likely to be misleading.

(g) Executive General Manager Football to Receive Report and Recommendation

Upon receipt of a report and recommendation from a General Investigation Committee under Regulation 80(c), the EGM may act upon such report and recommendations as they deem fit.

E TRIBUNAL

This Section E, Part Five sets out the Regulations surrounding the appointment of Tribunal Members and their key powers and duties, hearings and procedures of the Tribunal, the Regulations regarding representation at hearings of the Tribunal, and other matters related to

81. The Tribunal Members

- (a) The Football Commission must appoint at least five (5) but not more than eight (8) Tribunal Members to form the Tribunal, of which in the opinion of the SANFL possess sufficient knowledge of Australian rules Football.
- (b) Of the Tribunal Members, there must be:
 - (i) at least two (2) Legal Practitioners;
 - (ii) one (1) Medical Practitioner; and
 - (iii) at least two (2) other persons who are not Legal Practitioners or the Medical Practitioner.
- (c) The Tribunal Members must be appointed by the Football Commission prior to the SANFL's annual general meeting, in each year for a period of 12 months. The terms of the Tribunal Members expire at the annual general meeting the following year, upon which each Tribunal Member will be eligible for reappointment.
- (d) Before the commencement of each Season, the Football Commission must appoint a chair and deputy chair of the Tribunal from the Tribunal Members who have been appointed.
- (e) The Tribunal Members must sit at such times as are necessary to hear charges which may be referred to the Tribunal under these Regulations.
- (f) Persons appointed to the roles under Regulation 81(a) may be rotated from hearing to hearing, as determined by the SANFL in its absolute discretion.
- (g) The Tribunal Members may be paid an honorarium of an amount to be determined by the Football Commission from time to time.
- (h) If at any time there are fewer than eight Tribunal Members appointed by the Football Commission:
 - (i) the Football Commission may appoint such other person(s) to be Tribunal Members provided that there shall be not more than eight Tribunal Members at any time; and

- (ii) a Tribunal Member appointed under Regulation 81(h) shall be appointed for a period expiring at the next annual general meeting of the SANFL, provided that they will, upon the expiration of their term of appointment, be eligible for reappointment.
- (i) The Tribunal may consist of one or multiple Tribunal Members as the Football Commission deems appropriate.
- (j) Except where the SANFL otherwise determines, a person shall not be appointed to the Tribunal if they are a current Club Official or were a Club Official in the twelve (12) months preceding the appointment.

82. Powers and Duties of the Tribunal

The Tribunal must hear and determine any report, charge or complaint against a Player, Team, Club or any other person which is referred to them under these Regulations or otherwise. Without limitation, the Tribunal has the power to:

- (a) enquire into, hear and determine:
 - (i) a charge made against any party which is the subject of a report made in respect of a breach of the Laws of the Game.
 - (ii) a charge made by an umpire against a Player or Club Official of a SANFL Club, or a Player or official of an Affiliated League or a Club Official of an Affiliated League, on the following grounds:
 - (A) assaulting or attempting to assault an umpire;
 - (B) using abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting language towards an umpire;
 - (C) misconducting themselves towards an umpire;
 - (D) acting in a way which is harmful or derogatory of an umpire;
 - (iii) any other report, charge or complaint which may be referred to them for hearing or determination under Regulation 63, the SANFL Constitution, or any other rules, regulations or policies applicable to the SANFL.
 - (iv) any anti-doping rule violation as contained in the AFAD Code and pursuant to Regulation 139.
 - (v) any person referred to the Tribunal in respect of a breach of the IDP pursuant to Regulation 140.
- (b) summon any person to appear and give evidence at any Tribunal hearing;
- (c) admit or reject any evidence given or tendered at any Tribunal hearing;
- (d) adjourn any Tribunal hearing as may be convenient;

- (e) adopt and pursue any procedure which they believe to be convenient and proper in the hearing, adjudication and determination of any report, charge or complaint;
- (f) determine the manner of, and any matter relating to, the conduct of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint as it thinks appropriate;
- (g) cause a transcript of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint to be taken or recorded in such manner as they determine;
- (h) punish any person who intentionally misleads the Tribunal in respect of anything which is material to the Tribunal's finding of innocence or guilt by way of censure, fine, suspension, disqualification or suspended penalty;
- (i) dismiss any charge as vexatious or not as having been proved;
- (j) punish by way of censure, fine, suspension or disqualification from playing or exercising any official function, or by way of suspended penalty, any person, Team, or Club found to be in breach of any SANFL Regulations; and
- (k) provide such sanction as may be mandated pursuant to the AFAD Code under Regulation 139 and the IDP under Regulation 140.

83. Resignation of a Tribunal Member

A person appointed to the Tribunal may resign by providing notice in writing to the Chief Executive Officer.

84. Removal of a Tribunal Member

The Football Commission may remove a person from the Tribunal at any time, in its absolute discretion.

85. Representation at Tribunal Hearings

(a) Persons Eligible to be Representatives

A person who is reported or charged with a matter which may be heard by the Tribunal is entitled to be represented at the hearing by one person as follows:

- (i) For all matters that may be heard by the Tribunal, a barrister or solicitor, or alternatively as outlined in Regulations 85(ii), (iii), (iv) or (v) below;
- (ii) If the person charged in a report is a Player and they have been charged with a breach of the Laws of the Game, they may be represented by a Players Advocate or by a Director of their Club.

- (iii) If the person charged has been charged with an offence under these Regulations other than a breach of the Laws of the Game, they may be represented by a Director of their Club.
- (iv) If the person charged is a Player or Club Official of a Club which is a member, or under the control, of any Affiliated League, they may be represented by a Club Official, an official of their Club, or the Affiliated League of which their Club is a member.
- (v) If a person charged for a matter that may be heard by the Tribunal is under the age of 16 years, a person or guardian of the person may attend the hearing in place or support of the person, or a person under Regulations 85(i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) as elected by the person.

(b) **SANFL Counsel**

The SANFL Counsel:

- (i) must, when requested by the SANFL, represent the SANFL at any Tribunal hearing; and
- (ii) may, when appearing at any Tribunal hearing, make representations to the Tribunal as they may be directed by the SANFL or otherwise as they may deem fit in the circumstances.

(c) **Only Representative May Question Witnesses**

If a person is represented by any person referred to in Regulation 85(a) at a Tribunal hearing, any questioning of witnesses may only then be conducted by their advocate.

86. Procedures, Rights, Binding Nature, Assistants of the Tribunal

(a) **Procedures at Hearings**

The following procedures must be adopted at any hearing by a Tribunal Member or the Tribunal:

- (i) All charges must be heard at the offices of the SANFL or in such other place or forum as decided by the EGM or such other person as the Football Commission may determine.
- (ii) The Tribunal may alter the day and time for hearing any report or charge. In which case, the person charged, the umpire concerned in the making of the charge, and a Club Official of the charged person's Club must be notified by the SANFL of the altered time and date of hearing.

(iii) A person who has been summoned to attend a Tribunal hearing, and/or that person's representative, must attend at the time and place and in the manner (including by video or telephone conferencing) notified on the Notice of Charge or other relevant notice.

(iv) A person or representative wishing to attend the Tribunal hearing via video or telephone conferencing must first seek the approval of SANFL.

(b) Rights of Charged Person

A person who has been reported or charged with an offence against these Regulations or the Laws of the Game must attend on the hearing of such charge and may:

(i) give evidence in person;

(ii) call witnesses to give evidence;

(iii) question all witnesses who give evidence at such hearing.

(c) Charged Player Fails to Attend

If a person who is the subject of a report or charge fails to attend a hearing despite having been duly notified of the Tribunal hearing, the Tribunal hearing shall proceed in their absence.

(d) Umpires at Tribunal Hearings

Umpires who have reported a Player:

(i) must attend and give evidence at the Tribunal's hearing of that report;

(ii) may call witnesses to give evidence in respect of that report; and

(iii) may question all witnesses who give evidence at the hearing of that report. If a person is appointed by the SANFL to represent the umpire, only that person may question witnesses on the umpire's behalf.

(e) Directors Entitled to Attend

A Director of the reported Player's Club will be entitled to attend any hearing in relation to that report.

(f) Decisions are Final and Binding

Subject to Section G, Part Five of these Regulations, the decision of the Tribunal will be final and binding. After a decision has been delivered by the Tribunal, the matter which was the subject of that decision cannot be reheard nor can the decision be rescinded or altered.

(g) Conduct at Tribunal Hearings

- (i) Where the Chairperson is of the opinion that any person subject to these Regulations and / or a person or representative of a person appearing before the Tribunal has failed to observe directions of the Tribunal or otherwise acted in a contemptuous, irresponsible or discourteous manner, they may deal with that person in such manner as the Chairperson deems fit, including dismissing the person or person's representative and if appropriate, adjourn the proceedings to enable the person to obtain fresh representation.
- (ii) Tribunal hearings shall be conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as a proper consideration of the matters before it permits.
- (iii) The Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to Courts of Record and may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit.
- (iv) The Chairperson may make any procedural not inconsistent with these Regulations that the Chairperson thinks appropriate for the practice and procedure of a hearing. Any such guideline shall be directory in nature and no decision of the Tribunal shall be invalidated by reason of a guideline not being followed.
- (v) Subject to Regulation 86(g)(vi), in accordance with natural justice principles the Tribunal shall:
 - (A) provide any person whose interest will be directly and adversely affected by its decision, a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - (B) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
 - (C) make a decision that a reasonable Tribunal could honestly arrive at.
- (vi) Whilst the Tribunal will endeavour to hear and determine any charge or matter referred to it before the person's Club is next scheduled to compete, to the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:
 - (A) a person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for a hearing; or
 - (B) the Tribunal hearing be scheduled at a time which does not affect the person's or the person's Club's preparation for the next scheduled Match,those requirements are expressly excluded from these Guidelines.

(h) Tribunal to be Procedurally Relaxed

- (i) Even though a condition required to be fulfilled under any SANFL Regulations or the Laws of the Game has not been complied with, the Tribunal may proceed to hear a charge as long as it is satisfied that the substance of the charge made in the report, charge or other matter has been established and that the Player or person so reported or charged would not be prejudiced.
- (ii) If during the course of or following a hearing of a report or charge a Tribunal Member is of the opinion that a person has committed a breach of these Regulations, including the Laws of the Game other than that with which he was charged, may deal with such other breach as if such other breach was the subject of that report or charge being determined and to this effect may amend, alter or substitute any report or charge in place of the original report or charge.
- (i) A Player who is charged pursuant to Part Six shall be dealt with by the Tribunal in accordance with Part Six and this Section E, Part Five of these Regulations.

87. Evidence

- (a) Any person required to attend before the Tribunal may request to adduce witness evidence at the Tribunal hearing, provided that such a request is submitted to the SANFL in writing by no later than 10.00am on the day after notification of the charge or matter (or such other time determined by the SANFL) and contains:
 - (i) the name and address of the witness (plus their qualifications and experience, for expert witnesses only); and
 - (ii) a summary of the substance of the evidence the person proposes to adduce from the witness (including any expert witness).
- (b) Unless permission is granted by the Chairperson, a person shall not adduce the evidence of a witness unless that Person complies with Regulation 87(a) above.
- (c) Only in exceptional and compelling circumstances, as determined by the SANFL in its absolute discretion, will the Tribunal receive evidence from a person who is not an Umpire or recorded on the Club official team sheet for a relevant Match. Exceptional and compelling circumstances does not include circumstances relating to the person's character or standing within the community.
- (d) Any video evidence which is not already in the possession of the SANFL must be submitted to the SANFL by Clubs at a time to be determined by the SANFL.

88. Co-operation with Tribunal

- (a) Subject to Regulation 88(b), a person shall appear before the Tribunal, if requested to

do so by the SANFL or Tribunal.

- (b) The Chairperson may excuse a person from appearing before the Tribunal if the Chairperson is of the opinion that the person is suffering from an injury or medical condition that would prevent that person's attendance.
- (c) Any person who appears before the Tribunal and who in the opinion of the Tribunal has:
 - (i) failed to fully co-operate with the Tribunal;
 - (ii) failed to truthfully answer any questions asked by the Tribunal;
 - (iii) failed to provide any document in that person's possession or control relevant to the matter to be determined by the Tribunal following a request by the Tribunal; or
 - (iv) makes any false or misleading statement or makes a statement or acts in a manner calculated to or which is likely to mislead,

the person shall be dealt with by the Tribunal as it, in its absolute discretion, thinks fit.

89. Prohibited Conduct

- (a) A person who has been issued with a Notice of Charge, or any person acting on behalf or in concert with a person who has been issued with a Notice of Charge, shall not contact or procure another to contact a person who is or ought reasonably to be regarded as a person required to give evidence before the Tribunal, where that contact is intended to or may otherwise mislead the Tribunal or unfairly affect the conduct of the Tribunal hearing.
- (b) No person shall publicly comment on:
 - (i) the contents of a Notice of Charge prior to the conclusion of any determination by the Tribunal and/or completion of the matter, as the case may be; or
 - (ii) a Notice of Investigation and any matter touching upon or concerning an Investigation under these Regulations, until completion of such investigation and/or relevant determination by the Tribunal,

unless the Person establishes, to the reasonable satisfaction of the SANFL, that such public comment was not intended to influence or affect the conduct of the Tribunal hearing or the process of the investigation, as the case may be.
- (c) A Person who contravenes this Regulation shall:

- (i) be deemed to have engaged in conduct which is unbecoming and prejudicial to the interests of a just and fair hearing; and
- (ii) be dealt with by the Tribunal, as it sees fit and in its absolute discretion.

90. Number of Tribunal Members on Tribunal

(a) Tribunal to Mostly Consist of One Tribunal Member

Except when otherwise specified in this Regulation 90, all matters referred to the Tribunal for hearing and determination under these Regulations may be heard and determined by a Tribunal consisting of one Tribunal Member.

(b) Tribunal with Three Tribunal Members

A Tribunal comprising three Tribunal Members must be appointed to hear and determine:

- (i) any matter referred to the Tribunal relating to conduct which breaches the Laws of the Game by a Player, Club Official or other official during a SANFL Senior League Match or within 500 metres of the Playing Arena on the day of a SANFL Senior League Match. For the purpose of this Rule, the word 'official' has the same meaning as in the Laws of the Game and includes a Club Official.
- (ii) any matter referred to in Regulation 82(a)(ii);
- (iii) any other matter which may be referred to it by the Chief Executive Officer of the SANFL.

(c) Tribunal with Four Tribunal Members

A Tribunal comprising of four Tribunal Members must be appointed to hear and determine any matter referred to the Tribunal pursuant to Regulations 82(a)(iv) and 82(a)(v).

- (i) One Tribunal Member must be the chair of the Tribunal. In their absence, the deputy chair of the Tribunal must be appointed as Tribunal Member.
- (ii) One Tribunal Member must be the Medical Practitioner.

(d) Chair of the Tribunal Unable to Attend

If, for any reason, the chair or deputy chair of the Tribunal is unable to attend any Tribunal Hearing, the EGM or any such other person as the Football Commission may determine, must appoint an attending Tribunal Member as chair for that Tribunal Hearing.

- (e) The Tribunal has the power to and must hear and determine any matter referred to it under Regulation 139 and the hearings of the Tribunal must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Part Six and Section A, Part Five of these Regulations.

- (f) A quorum at any hearing of the Tribunal:
 - (i) Constituted pursuant to Regulation 90(b) will be two Tribunal Members; and
 - (ii) Constituted pursuant to Regulation 90(c) will be three Tribunal Members, one of whom must be the Medical Practitioner.

91. Standard of Proof

The Tribunal shall decide on the balance of probabilities whether a Reportable Offence or other charge against a person has been sustained.

92. Onus of Proof

No person appearing before the Tribunal shall bear an onus of establishing that an alleged offence has been committed.

93. Decision of the Tribunal

- (a) The decision of the Tribunal shall be determined according to the opinion of a majority of the sitting Tribunal.
- (b) Subject to Regulation 86(g), the Tribunal may determine any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit.
- (c) Subject to Regulation 93(d), where a charge is sustained in respect of a Reportable Offence, the Tribunal must apply the sanction applicable to the Reportable Offence as per Schedule 4.
- (d) The Tribunal may determine the appropriate sanction in its absolute discretion, without having regard to the sanctions referred to in Schedule 4 where there are exceptional and compelling circumstances which make it inappropriate or unreasonable to apply those sanctions. Exceptional and compelling circumstances will exist where (at the discretion of the Tribunal):
 - (i) a Player has a verifiable exemplary record;
 - (ii) a Reportable Offence was committed in response to provocation;
 - (iii) a Reportable Offence was committed in self-defence; or
 - (iv) there are multiple Reportable Offences arising from the same event or course of conduct,

but does not include circumstances relating to the person's character or standing within the community.

- (e) Where a charge is sustained with respect to a charge or matter not involving a Person or a Reportable Offence, the Tribunal may, subject to any contrary provisions in any relevant Code, Policy, rules or Regulations, impose such sanctions as it, in its absolute discretion, thinks fit.
- (f) The Tribunal is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made by it under these Guidelines.
- (g) Where a charge is sustained against a Person under the age of 16 years at the time of the Reportable Offence, the SANFL shall not publish the decision of the Tribunal insofar that it is viewable by the general public without the express permission of the person charged and their parent/guardian except that, to ensure effective administration of Competitions, access to such decisions and related sanctions will be available to the SANFL and Club administrators who have access to Competition records.

94. Challenge to Jurisdiction, Formalities of Report and Other Technical Matters

Where a person intends at a hearing of the Tribunal to:

- (a) challenge the jurisdiction of the Tribunal to deal with a matter;
- (b) challenge the constitution of the Tribunal;
- (c) challenge the formalities of the laying of any charge; or
- (d) raise any other matter requiring a legal or technical interpretation,

the person intending to do such things must provide full written particulars of all relevant matters and forward a copy of those particulars to the SANFL and any other person who has an interest in the proceeding (including, without limitation, the SANFL) by midday on the day after notification of the charge or matter to be heard by the Tribunal.

95. Validity of Charge and Hearings

- (a) Where there is a procedural irregularity in the making of a charge or any other matter, the Tribunal shall still hear and determine the matter unless it is of the opinion that the irregularity has caused or may cause injustice if the matter was heard.
- (b) Without limitation, the Chairperson may direct that a Notice of Charge be amended to ensure that a matter before the Tribunal is decided according to its merits and not on the basis of a technicality. The power to amend shall include the power to substitute another charge.

- (c) A decision of the Tribunal is not invalid because of any defect or irregularity in, or in connection with, the appointment of a Tribunal member.
- (d) Subject to Regulations 86(g)(vi), 91 and 92, any procedure or requirement regulating the function of the Tribunal is directory in nature and a decision of the Tribunal is not invalid by reason of that procedure or requirement not being fulfilled.

96. Sanction on Club

In addition to any sanction or determination made in respect of a person under Regulation 89, the Tribunal may impose a sanction on that person's Club as they in their absolute discretion think fit, except where the Club satisfies the Tribunal that the conduct of the person was not entered into with the consent, acquiescence or knowledge of the Club.

97. Criticism of Tribunal Decision

- (a) No person or Club shall make any unfair, unreasonable or excessive public criticism of a Tribunal decision or of any Tribunal Member or any other matter touching or concerning the Tribunal or a determination made by it.
- (b) The SANFL shall determine in its absolute discretion in any case, whether any public criticism is unfair, unreasonable or excessive.
- (c) Where the SANFL determines that any public criticism is unfair, unreasonable or excessive, the SANFL may impose a sanction in its absolute discretion.
- (d) Where a person contravenes this Rule, the person's Club may also be liable to a sanction at the discretion of the SANFL.

98. Other Matters and Person Suspension

- (a) A Player must serve a suspension or disqualification, whether determined by a Tribunal or Tribunal Member or by the acceptance of an offer under Schedule 4, in the grade they played in immediately prior to such suspension or disqualification.
- (b) Unless otherwise specified by the Tribunal in exceptional circumstances, where a person is suspended or disqualified by the Tribunal, such suspension or disqualification shall apply to all Australian football competition Matches, subject to Regulation 98(d) below. For the avoidance of doubt:
 - (i) a person suspended in a previous season cannot serve their suspension in any pre- season fixtures or off-season fixtures;
 - (ii) a person suspended in a junior competition graduating to a senior competition

shall serve their suspension in their new grade;

- (iii) a person transferring from another league shall carry any suspensions with him;
and
 - (iv) a person suspended during a split round cannot serve their suspension in that same round in another grade (including representative football).
- (c) Unless otherwise specified by the Tribunal in exceptional circumstances, a suspended person will not be eligible to play representative football if the representative fixture occurs while the person is serving the suspension. If the suspended person was selected in the representative team prior to being suspended then the person foregoes playing in the representative fixture if the fixture occurs during the time of the suspension. In this situation the representative fixture does not count as part of the suspension.
- (d) A person suspended or disqualified by the Tribunal may still participate in practice/training Matches with their registered Club however such Matches will not count as part of the person's suspension or disqualification.
- (e) Law 22.4 of the Laws of the Game shall apply in relation to all persons suspended by the Tribunal.
- (f) A Player who has been suspended or disqualified by a Tribunal Member, or by accepting an offer made under Schedule 4, may apply for permission from a Tribunal Member to play in a Match authorised by the SANFL other than a Match being played for Premiership Points in a SANFL Senior League Competition, or in the Major Round of any competition conducted by the SANFL.
- (g) An application to a Tribunal Member under Regulation 98(f) must be made in writing and include full details of the grounds upon which the application was made. Upon receiving such application, the Tribunal Member may accept or reject it on such grounds as they think fit.
- (h) The SANFL retains a discretion to provisionally suspend a Player who has been reported or charged with an offence against the Laws of the Game that is subject to a Tribunal hearing which may result in a suspension.

F PERMIT TRIBUNAL

This Section F, Part Five sets out Regulations regarding the appointment of Permit Tribunal and its key powers and duties.

99. Jurisdiction of the Permit Tribunal

The Permit Tribunal has the jurisdiction to:

- (a) hear and determine any matter concerning the application for registration or eligibility of a person as a Player within a SANFL Competition pursuant to these Regulations, SANFL Men's Regulations or Women's Regulations;
- (b) hear and determine any matter or dispute relating to an application for the granting, or a refusal, of a transfer to play football made by any Player or Club under these Regulations, the SANFL Men's Regulations or the SANFL Women's Regulations, or to an interstate transfer made in accordance with Part B of the National Policy Handbook under Schedule 3;
- (c) hear and determine any matter referred to it concerning the status of a person as an Import Player or any other category of Player;
- (d) hear the referral of any breach, dispute or question under Part Two or Three of the Men's Regulations, or Part Two of the Women's Regulations; and
- (e) hear and determine any other matter referred to it under these Regulations or by the Football Commission.

100. Powers and Duties of the Permit Tribunal

- (a) In hearing and determining matters pursuant to Regulation 99 above, the Permit Tribunal may:
 - (i) not make determinations inconsistent with these Regulations, SANFL Men's Regulations or the SANFL Women's Regulations;
 - (ii) at its discretion, conduct such hearing by way of written submissions or by a formal hearing;
 - (iii) determine the procedures applying to the hearing in its absolute discretion;
 - (iv) summon any person to appear before it to give evidence;
 - (v) admit or reject any evidence which may be tendered to it;
 - (vi) adjourn its hearings to such time and place as it shall deem fit;

- (vii) adopt or pursue any procedure considered convenient and proper for a hearing and adjudication of any matter before it;
 - (viii) determine the quantum of any transfer fee having regard to the relevant Transfer Fee Guide;
 - (ix) sustain or dismiss any application, objection, appeal or charge brought before it upon such grounds as it deems fit;
 - (x) censure, fine, suspend or disqualify a Player or Club Official;
 - (xi) fine or deduct Premiership Points from a Club; and
 - (xii) make any other order authorised by these Regulations.
- (b) In reaching its decision, the Permit Tribunal must consider any matters relevant to the matter including:
- (i) the interests of the public;
 - (ii) the game of Australian rules football;
 - (iii) the interests of SANFL;
 - (iv) the interests of the person making the application or appeal;
 - (v) any hardship whether, financial or otherwise, likely to be suffered by persons or Clubs which may be affected by the decision;
 - (vi) the age of the person making the appeal; and
 - (vii) any contractual obligations between the Player making the appeal and the Club from which the transfer is sought.
- (b) Determinations and decisions of the Permit Tribunal in relation to any matter referred to it will be final and binding on any Clubs, Players, Officials and all other persons who are bound by and subject to SANFL Regulations.

101. Appointment and Composition of the Permit Tribunal

- (a) The Football Commission must appoint a Permit Commissioner and one or more proxy Permit Commissioners, none of whom may be a Club Director or Club Official.
- (b) Each of the Permit Commissioner and the proxy Permit Commissioners must be appointed for a term commencing on the date of their appointment and expiring on 31st January in the year following the date of their appointment.

- (c) At any hearing of the Permit Tribunal, a quorum shall comprise of one person being either the Permit Commissioner appointed under Regulation 101(a), or where they are unable to be present at such a hearing, any one of the proxy Permit Commissioners appointed.

102. General Provisions Related to Making an Application to the Permit Tribunal

- (a) Unless stated otherwise in these Regulations, the Men's Regulations or the Women's Regulations, an application to the Permit Tribunal to hear a matter within its jurisdiction:
 - (i) must be made in writing and lodged with the Executive General Manager Football;
 - (ii) must be made within 14 days of the date of a SANFL or Club decision being disputed (if applicable);
 - (iii) shall be accompanied by any lodgement fee required by these Regulations; and
 - (iv) can be made by:
 - (A) the Player concerned;
 - (B) the Club for which that Player is seeking to be registered or deemed eligible to play; or
 - (C) the SANFL.
- (b) Upon receipt of a notice complying with Regulation 102(a) and any other applicable Rule, the Executive General Manager Football must:
 - (i) immediately refer the matter to the Permit Tribunal for hearing and determination;
 - (ii) immediately give notice of such appeal to any Clubs or persons that are or may be affected by its outcome; and
 - (iii) inform such Clubs and persons whether the Permit Tribunal will determine the matter by written submissions or by hearing, and seek their comment.
- (c) **Hearing**
 - (i) Where the Permit Tribunal determines to hold a hearing, that hearing shall be held not fewer than 7 days and no more than 21 days after the application is made under Regulation 102, unless a hearing in shorter or longer time is determined by the Permit Tribunal.
 - (ii) The following parties are entitled to appear at a hearing (if held), and be represented by such persons they respectively deem fit, or as directed by the Permit Tribunal:
 - (A) a Player or Club that has lodged the appeal; and

- (B) the Club which has refused the transfer of the Player and which is the subject of an appeal (if applicable).

103. Specific Provisions - Refusal of Transfer from Club to Club

This Regulation 103 relates only to appeals against a decision of a Club to refuse to grant a transfer to a Player.

(a) Lodgement Fee

- (i) The lodgement fee is the amount determined by the Football Commission from time to time, and if left undetermined such fee is the sum of \$250.00.
- (ii) In the event that an appeal by a Player or Club is withdrawn, or agreement or compromise is reached between the parties for the granting of a transfer or permit, and the Permit Tribunal is not notified more than 24 hours before the time appointed for the hearing of the appeal, the prescribed lodgement fee lodged with the SANFL in accordance with Regulation 103(a) shall be forfeited to the SANFL.

(b) If an appeal to which this Regulation applies is successful:

- (i) the Player concerned will be entitled to the transfer sought;
- (ii) the Club from which he seeks a transfer must sign all documents and do everything necessary to give effect to the transfer; and
- (iii) the transfer will be subject to the payment of any Transfer Fee payable.

104. Specific Provisions - Major Round Match Eligibility

This Regulation 104 relates only to applications to hear a matter or dispute relating to the eligibility of a Player to play in any SANFL Major Round which is not specifically provided for.

(a) Application

An application under this Regulation 104 must:

- (i) include all relevant facts and circumstances when it is first lodged with the EGM; and
- (ii) be lodged by no later than 10am on the Monday prior to the Match in which a determination of eligibility is sought.

(b) Deadline for Determination

A matter referred to the Permit Tribunal for determination under this Regulation 104 after the conclusion for the Minor Round must be determined by the Permit Tribunal within 2 full days of the date on which the matter was referred to it.

(c) Exemptions – Personal Reasons

The Permit Tribunal may allow a Player who is otherwise ineligible to play in the Major Round under Regulation 35 to play for a Team if such ineligibility is by reason of injury, sickness, work related commitments, obligations to secondary school Teams, annual leave taken from the Player's work or for any other reason which the Permit Tribunal may deem to be relevant.

105. Specific Provisions – Interpretation and Disputes

(a) Request for SANFL Interpretation

- (i) Any Player, Club Official or Club may request the SANFL give an interpretation of a Regulation in Part Three of the Men's Regulations or Part Two of the Women's Regulations.
- (ii) Upon receipt of a request under Regulation 105(a)(i), the SANFL may:
 - (A) give the interpretation or ruling sought through one of its employees; or
 - (B) refer the request to its solicitors for determination.

(b) Request for Permit Tribunal Review

- (i) A Player, Club Official or Club that is aggrieved by a determination made under Regulation 105(a)(ii), may request that such determination be referred to the Permit Tribunal for review.
- (ii) A referral under Regulation 105(b)(i) must be made in writing to the Executive General Manager Football within one day of receipt of notice of that determination.
- (iii) If a referral under Regulation 105(b)(i) is not within the time constraint under Regulation 105(b)(ii), or no such referral is made, SANFL's determination under Regulation 105(a)(ii) will be final and binding.

(c) Permit Tribunal Timelines

A matter referred under Regulation 105(c) after the conclusion of the Minor Round in any Season must be heard and determined by the Permit Tribunal within two (2) days of the date on which the matter was referred.

106. SANFL Counsel

The SANFL Counsel:

- (a) must, when requested by the SANFL, represent the SANFL at any Permit Tribunal hearing; and

- (b) may, when appearing at any Permit Tribunal hearing, make representations to the Tribunal as they may be directed by the SANFL or otherwise as they may deem fit in the circumstances.

G APPEALS

This Section G, Part Five sets out the procedures for appeals of Tribunal decisions by the Tribunal by the Appeal Board, which will be comprised of one person from the Appeal Board Panel appointed under Regulation 107.

To the extent that anything in this Section G, Part Five is inconsistent with any other Regulations in these Regulations or the National Policy Handbook, the provisions of this Section G, Part Five will prevail.

For the purposes of this Section G, Part Five only, "official" has the same meaning as that in the Laws of the Game.

107. Establishment of Appeal Board

The Football Commission shall establish an Appeal Board to hear appeals in accordance with these Regulations.

108. Jurisdiction of Appeal Board

Subject to Regulation 117, the Appeal Board has the power to hear and determine appeals of decisions:

- (a) of the Tribunal in relation to offences committed by Players and Officials against the Laws of the Game;
- (b) of the Tribunal under Regulations 139, 140 and 141; or
- (c) of the SANFL under Regulation 64.

For the avoidance of doubt, decisions or determinations of the Salary Cap Commissioner, Permit Tribunal and Boundaries Commission, and the Football Commission under Regulation 25 (Player Numbers), Part Five, Section C (Salary Cap breaches) and Regulation 143 (Club Zones) are final and not subject to appeal.

109. Obligations of Appeal Board

(a) Natural Justice and Other Obligations

The Appeal Board must:

- (i) provide any person whose interest will be directly and adversely affected by its decision with a reasonable opportunity to be heard;

- (ii) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
- (iii) endeavour to make an honest and reasonable decision based upon the evidence before it.

(b) **Express Exclusion**

- (i) Subject to time requirements under Regulations 125(b) and 125(c), the Appeal Board must endeavour to hear and determine an appeal brought under this Section G, Part Five before the time when the Team of the appellant's Club is next scheduled to compete, irrespective of whether the appeal is heard at short notice or whether the hearing of the appeal may affect the preparation of the appellant, or the appellant's Club for the next scheduled Match.
- (ii) To the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:
 - (A) a person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for an appeal; or
 - (B) the appeal be scheduled at a time that does not affect the preparation of appellant or the appellant's Club for the next Match in which it's Team is scheduled to compete;

those requirements are expressly excluded from these Regulations.

110. The Appeal Board Panel

- (a) The Members of the Appeal Board Panel must be appointed by the Football Commission.
- (b) The Appeal Board Panel will be comprised of up to four persons who, in the opinion of the Football Commission, possess a knowledge of football and the law relating to appellate Tribunals (**the Appeal Board Panel**).
- (c) Except where the Football Commission otherwise determines, a person shall not be appointed to the Appeal Board Panel if they are a current Club Official or were a Club Official in the twelve (12) months preceding the appointment.

111. Composition of Appeal Board at Hearing

An Appeal Board hearing an appeal shall be comprised of one of the persons appointed to the Appeal Board Panel.

112. Qualifications of Appeal Board Panel

A person must not be appointed to the Appeal Board Panel unless that person has served, is serving, or is qualified for appointment as:

- (a) a Judge of the District Court or the Supreme Court of South Australia;
- (b) a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia;
- (c) a Magistrate in South Australia; or
- (d) any other senior legal practitioner the Football Commission may deem appropriate.

113. Absent Members of Appeal Board Panel

If, for any reason, a person appointed to the Appeal Board Panel is absent or unable to attend a hearing of the Appeal Board, the Football Commission may appoint a person who in its opinion is a suitable replacement having the qualifications set out in Regulation 111.

114. Resignation of Member of Appeal Board Panel

A person appointed to the Appeal Board Panel may resign by providing notice in writing to the Chief Executive Officer.

115. Removal of an Appeal Board Member

The Football Commission may remove a person from the Appeal Board Panel at any time, in its absolute discretion.

116. Secretary of Appeal Board

- (a) The EGM must appoint a person to be the Secretary of the Appeal Board.
- (b) The Secretary of the Appeal Board must:
 - (i) be an employee of the SANFL;
 - (ii) perform any function prescribed in this Section G, Part Five;
 - (iii) assist the Appeal Board in the efficient and proper scheduling and running of matters coming before it; and
 - (iv) perform any other functions as may be directed from time to time by the Appeal Board.

117. Grounds of Appeal

- (a) Except where otherwise determined by the Appeal Board under exceptional circumstances:

- (i) a Player, Official, Club or the Football Commission may only appeal to the Appeal Board under these Regulations on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (A) the appellant was not afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - (B) that the decision was so unreasonable that no body or tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it; or
 - (C) that the sanction imposed was manifestly inadequate or excessive.

118. Appeals for Breaches of the AFAD Code

- (a) A person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Tribunal in relation to an Anti-Doping Rule Violation and is permitted to appeal the decision of the Tribunal (as prescribed by Article 13 of the AFAD Code) to the Appeal Board in accordance with Article 13 of the AFAD Code and these Regulations.
- (b) An appeal lodged under Regulation 118(a) does not require payment, and the time limits imposed by these Regulations are varied to accord with the provisions of Article 13 of the AFAD Code.

119. Representation before Appeal Board

At any hearing before the Appeal Board:

- (a) an appellant may:
 - (i) appear in person; or
 - (ii) subject to leave of the Appeal Board, be represented by a Legal Practitioner or other Club Official and on such terms as the Appeal Board directs.
- (b) The SANFL may be represented by the SANFL Counsel. At an appeal made under Regulation 118, the Football Commission may appoint a member of staff of the SANFL and/or a Legal Practitioner to be SANFL Counsel.

120. SANFL Counsel

- (a) The SANFL Counsel:
 - (i) must, when requested by the SANFL, represent the SANFL at any hearing of the Appeal Board;
 - (ii) may, when appearing at any hearing of the Appeal Board, make representations to the Appeal Board as they may be directed by the SANFL or otherwise as they may deem fit in the circumstances.

121. Representative Failing to Observe Directions of Appeal Board

- (a) Where the Appeal Board is of the opinion that a representative of a person has failed to observe a direction, or has otherwise acted in a contemptuous, irresponsible or discourteous manner during the appeal or to the Appeal Board, the Appeal Board may withdraw leave for the representative to represent the person and may adjourn the proceedings to enable the person to obtain other representation.
- (b) A representative of a person appearing before the Appeal Board who fails to observe a direction or who acts in a contemptuous, irresponsible or discourteous manner at any appeal or to the Appeal Board, will be deemed to be in breach of these Regulations and may be charged under Section G, Part Five of these Regulations.

122. Notice of Appeal

- (a) An appeal under Regulation 117 or 118 must be brought by lodging with the secretary of the Appeal Board a duly completed notice of appeal form (in the form prescribed by the SANFL).
- (b) In the case of an appeal under Regulation 117 the notice of appeal must be accompanied by payment to the SANFL of:
 - (i) The sum of \$500.00 towards the costs of the appeal, which sum will not be refundable in any circumstances; and
 - (ii) The further sum of \$500.00 which shall be dealt with in accordance with Regulation 133.
- (c) All amounts referred to in this Regulation are inclusive of goods and services tax.

123. Lodgement of Notice of Appeal

A notice of appeal under Regulation 122 must:

- (a) be lodged by email to the secretary of the Appeal Board as follows:
 - (i) in respect of a decision for a Policy Breach under Regulation 64, by no later than 12.00pm on the seventh day following the decision of the Tribunal;
 - (ii) in respect of a decision for a breach of the Laws of the Game under Regulation 82(a)(i), by no later than 12.00pm on the day following the decision of the Tribunal;
or
 - (iii) in respect of a decision for a breach of the IDP under Regulation 82(a)(v), by no later than 12.00pm on the fifth day following the decision of the Tribunal.

- (b) An Appeal must include the following information:
 - (i) full name of the relevant appellant;
 - (ii) relevant grounds of appeal under Regulation 117;
 - (iii) copies of all documents used or tendered by the appellant at the relevant Tribunal hearing, which the appellant intends to use or rely upon at hearing of the appeal by the Appeal Board; and
 - (iv) any other information deemed relevant to the Appeal or as requested by the SANFL CEO, EGM or the Appeals Board.
- (c) Notwithstanding Regulation 123(d), an Appeal must be lodged by the person or Club at the subject of the Appeal.
- (d) The EGM may appeal to the Appeal Board in respect of a decision of the Tribunal under Regulations 82(a)(i), 82(a)(iv) and 82(a)(v) within the time specified in Regulation 123(a) above.

124. Report By Tribunal

Upon being notified that a notice of appeal has been lodged under Regulation 123 the Tribunal may provide to the secretary of the Appeal Board a written report on the proceedings before it and the decision made by it, which is the subject of the notice of appeal.

125. Time for Hearing of Appeal

(a) Notification

Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the secretary must:

- (i) fix the date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal as soon as practicable;
- (ii) advise all parties interested in the appeal in writing of those particulars;
- (iii) provide the person appointed to sit on the Appeal Board and Tribunal Counsel with a copy of the notice of appeal; and
- (iv) provide the person appointed to sit on the Appeal Board, the Tribunal Counsel, the appellant with a copy of the video recording of the Tribunal hearing and of any report made by the Tribunal under Regulation 124 together with a copy of all documents provided by the Appellant under Regulation 123(b).

(b) **Variation of Time or Place**

The Appeal Board may vary the date, time or place specified and upon doing so must provide all parties interested in an appeal with notice of any such variation as soon as practicable.

(c) **Attendance**

- (i) An appellant must attend and appear before the Appeal Board at the date, time and place fixed for the hearing of the appeal. Where an appellant fails to attend before the Appeal Board, the Appeal Board may hear and determine the appeal in the appellant's absence.
- (ii) For the avoidance of doubt, the appeal hearing may be held remotely by video or audio conference.
- (iii) The SANFL may be represented by the SANFL Counsel at any hearing before the Appeal Board. Where the SANFL Counsel fails to attend before the Appeal Board, the Appeal Board may hear and determine the appeal in their absence.

126. Appeal to be Heard as a Review

- (a) The Appeal Board must hear all appeals by way of a review of the evidence presented before the Tribunal and determine whether one or more of the grounds of appeal referred to in Regulations 117 or 118 have been established.
- (b) Neither the appellant nor SANFL Counsel may produce fresh evidence at the hearing of an appeal without leave of the Appeal Board. If an appellant or SANFL Counsel seeks leave to produce fresh evidence, the Appeal Board must not grant such leave unless:
 - (i) the evidence could not have been reasonably obtained by the appellant or by the Tribunal prior to the conclusion of the Tribunal hearing which is subject to appeal; and
 - (ii) the evidence is of such character that if considered with the evidence which was presented to the Tribunal at the Tribunal hearing which is subject to appeal, the Tribunal may have reached a different outcome.

127. Procedure and Evidence

- (a) Subject to any other matters set out in this Section G, Part Five, the Appeal Board may regulate any proceedings brought before it in such manner as it decides.

- (b) The Appeal Board is not bound by the rules of evidence nor by the practices and procedures applicable to courts of law. However, it may inform itself on any matter and in any manner as it decides.
- (c) Subject to Regulation 127(d), in accordance with natural justice principles the Appeal Board shall:
 - (i) provide any person whose interest will be directly and adversely affected by its decision a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - (ii) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
 - (iii) make a decision that a reasonable body could honestly arrive at.
- (d) Whilst the Appeal Board will endeavour to hear and determine any charge or matter referred to it before the appellant's Club is next scheduled to compete, to the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:
 - (i) a person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for an appeal; or
 - (ii) the appeal be scheduled at a time that does not affect the appellant's or the appellant's Club's preparation for the next scheduled Match,

those requirements are expressly excluded from these Regulations.

128. Validity of Appeal and Hearings

- (a) Where there is any procedural irregularity in the way an appeal has been brought, the Appeal Board may still hear and determine the appeal unless it is of the opinion that the irregularity has or will cause injustice.
- (b) A decision of the Appeal Board is not invalid because of any defect or irregularity in, or in connection with, the appointment of the Appeal Board Panel member.
- (c) Subject to Regulations 128(a) and 128(b), any procedure of the Appeal Board is directory in nature and a decision of the Appeal Board is not invalid because the Appeal Board has not observed that procedure.

129. Decision of Appeal Board

- (a) On the hearing of an appeal, where the Appeal Board determines that one or more the grounds set out in Regulations 117 and 118 have been established:
 - (i) if the appeal is against a finding of guilt, it may uphold, quash or modify the decision of the Tribunal and/or make any other decision which the Tribunal could have made;

- (ii) if the appeal is against the imposition of a penalty, the Appeal Board may affirm, increase, decrease or vary the penalty imposed by the Tribunal and/or impose any other penalty which the Tribunal could have imposed;
- (iii) it may make such orders and give such directions as it deems fit;
- (b) The decision of the Appeal Board on any appeal will be final and binding on the SANFL, Clubs and all other persons who are subject to these Regulations.
- (c) After a decision has been delivered by the Appeal Board, the matter which was the subject of the decision cannot be reheard, rescinded, or altered.

130. Adjournment and Stay of Sanction

- (a) Subject to Regulation 130(b)(ii), where the Tribunal imposes a sanction that prevents the appellant from participating in a Match, the appellant must serve that sanction pending the determination of the appeal.
- (b) Subject to Regulation 130(c), the Appeal Board may of its own motion or upon application of any party to the appeal, order:
 - (i) that an appeal be adjourned;
 - (ii) a stay of the sanction imposed by the Tribunal pending determination of the appeal.
- (c) The Appeal Board may make an order under Regulation 130(b)(i) only where it is satisfied that there are exceptional and compelling circumstances that make it harsh and unreasonable if such an order is not made. In making such order, the Appeal Board may have regard to:
 - (i) the merits of the appeal and the appellant's prospects of success;
 - (ii) the interests of all Clubs and Players;
 - (iii) the effect on the results of the relevant league; and
 - (iv) the need to permit the due and proper administration of Australian Football in accordance with the SANFL Constitution and these Regulations.

131. No Obligation to Give Reasons

The Appeal Board is not obliged to provide reasons for a decision made by it under Regulations 129 or 130.

132. Onus and Standard of Proof

On the hearing of an appeal, the appellant will bear the onus of establishing that one or more of the grounds of appeal set out in Regulations 117 or 118 have been made out.

133. Appeal Fee

- (a) Where an appeal is successful, the payment made under Regulation 122 must be refunded.
- (b) Where an appeal is unsuccessful, the payment made under Regulation 122 may only be refunded, either wholly or in part, if the Appeal Board determines that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair if the payment was not refunded. The SANFL is to provide such refund upon receipt of an appropriate tax invoice.
- (c) For the purposes of Section G, Part Five, an appeal is successful only if the Appeal Board determines that one or more of the grounds set out in Regulations 117 or 118 have been established.

134. Costs

Each party to an appeal must bear its own costs in relation to the appeal.

135. Appeal may be Abandoned

- (a) Subject to Regulation 135(b), an appellant may abandon an appeal prior the commencement of any hearing of an appeal by giving written notice to the secretary of the Appeal Board.
- (b) Where an appellant abandons the appeal during the hearing of an appeal, the payment made under Regulation 122 will not be refunded.

136. Public Comment and Criticism

A person who is subject to these Regulations must not:

- (a) publicly comment on the contents of any notice of appeal prior to the determination of an appeal by the Appeal Board; or
- (b) make any public criticism of a decision of the Appeal Board or of any member of the Appeal Board Panel or any other matter touching or concerning the appeal.

137. Exhaust Internal Appeal

A person who is subject to these Regulations must exercise their right of appeal under this Section G, Part Five and have any appeal heard and determined by the Appeal Board before commencing or becoming a party to any proceedings in a court of law.

H CLUB IMPOSED SUSPENSIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

This Section H, Part Five sets out the Regulations applicable for when a Club chooses to suspend or disqualify a Player.

138. Suspension of Player by a Club

- (a) If a Club suspends or disqualifies one of its Players, the Club must within the seven (7) days of the date of such suspension or disqualification provide the SANFL with:
 - (i) the name of the Player; and
 - (ii) written reasons for the suspension or disqualification.
- (b) Upon receipt of the notice of suspension or disqualification of a Player under Regulation 138(a), the SANFL must endorse and confirm:
 - (i) the suspension or disqualification period stated in the notice; or
 - (ii) the suspension or disqualification for a period of 42 days,whichever is the less.
- (c) If the period of suspension or disqualification shown in the notice given under Regulation 138(a) is greater than 42 days, then if after a period of 42 days has elapsed the Club still wishes to impose the longer period of suspension or disqualification, it must make an application to the Tribunal to endorse and confirm it.
- (d) If:
 - (i) the Club does not make an application to the Tribunal for the endorsement and confirmation of the suspension or disqualification as provided in Regulation 138(c);
or
 - (ii) the Tribunal refuses to endorse and confirm the suspension or disqualificationthen the suspension or disqualification will be deemed to have been completed.

PART SIX: INTEGRITY

The SANFL is committed to the integrity of sport and Australian rules football. It therefore subscribes to a philosophy and adopts a stance that all SANFL competitions are clean and fair.

This Part Six of these Regulations prescribe the policies by which the SANFL deals with anti-doping, illicit drugs and Match-fixing/gambling.

139. Australian Football Anti-Doping (AFAD) Code

The SANFL shall adopt the Australian Football Anti-Doping Code, as amended from time to time.

140. Illicit Drugs Policy

- (a) The SANFL shall adopt an Illicit Drugs Policy (**the IDP**), as exhibited in Schedule 6 of these Regulations, which sets out its approach and response to illicit drug use within the SANFL competitions.
- (b) The IDP applies to all SANFL Senior League Players, Clubs and Club Officials.
- (c) The IDP does not apply to AFL-listed or AFLW-listed Players for AFC or PAFC.

141. Gambling Policy

The SANFL adopts the Regulations relating to gambling contained in Section 13 of the National Policy Handbook in Schedule 3 to these Regulations as amended from time to time, except:

- (a) SANFL Players who are not involved with AFC or PAFC are allowed to bet on AFL Matches but not SANFL Matches; and
- (b) any SANFL Players who are involved with AFC or PAFC are not allowed to bet on any football Matches.

PART SEVEN: COMMISSIONS AND STATE TEAMS

A BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

This Section A, Part Seven sets out the Regulations surrounding geographical Promotional Zones of Clubs outlined in Schedule 6 of these Regulations, the appointment of the Boundaries Commission and its key powers and duties.

142. Appointment of Boundaries Commission

- (a) The Football Commission may from time to time appoint:
 - (i) a Boundaries Commission comprising of five persons who will hold office for such period of time as the Football Commission determines, at least one of whom must be a member of the Football Commission, and none of whom will be a Director or Club Official of any Club; and
 - (ii) the chair of the Boundaries Commission for such a period of time as the Football Commission determines, to be a person who has been appointed under Regulation 142(a)(i) and is a member of the Football Commission.
- (b) The Football Commission shall set the terms of reference for the Boundaries Commission from time to time in its absolute discretion.

143. Powers and Duties of the Boundaries Commission

- (a) The Boundaries Commission may:
 - (i) inquire into, hear, and receive, submissions relating to the Zone(s) of each Club;
 - (ii) review the Zone(s) which have been allotted to each Club; and
 - (iii) make recommendations to the Football Commission about altering the boundaries of any Zone(s) allotted to a Club, including the allotment of any previously unallotted area within South Australia to a Club.
- (b) Upon finalising any recommendation relating to the Zone(s) of a Club, the Boundaries Commission must report such recommendations in writing with a map of the Zone(s) allotted to the Club to the Football Commission.
 - (i) Upon receipt of the decision and map from the Boundaries Commission under Regulation 143(b), the Football Commission may accept or reject the recommendation of the Boundaries Commission;
 - (ii) If the Football Commission passes a resolution to accept a recommendation of the Boundaries Commission under Regulation 143(b)(i), then the decision detailed in

the recommendation and the map relating to the boundaries of any Zone(s) of a Club shall be final and binding on the Clubs.

- (c) Any reference to 'Zone(s)' in this Regulation includes the Promotional Zones of a Club.

B STATE TEAM COMMITTEE, COACH AND MANAGER

This Section B, Part Seven sets out the Regulations surrounding the appointment of the State Team Committee, Coach and Manager as well as their key powers and duties.

144. Appointment of State Team Committee, Coach and Manager

The Football Commission must in each year when a State Match is scheduled, appoint:

- (a) a State Team Selection Committee and a chair of that committee;
- (b) a State Coach; and
- (c) a State Team Manager.

145. Powers and Duties of the State Team Selection Committee

The State Team Selection Committee:

- (a) must make recommendations to the Football Commission in connection with the appointment of any other personnel required for the management of a State Representative Team, including a chair of this committee;
- (b) must ensure the State Team Selection Committee chooses a group of Players to be prepared for selection in a State Representative Team if required to do so by the Football Commission;
- (c) must choose Players for the State Representative Teams and appoint the captain and vice-captain of such Team if required to do so by the Football Commission;
- (d) may summon any Registered Player to attend before it and to undergo any medical examination or other preparation required by it; and
- (e) may make recommendation(s) to the Football Commission about ways to improve the performance of any State Representative Teams.

146. Powers and Duties of the State Team Manager

- (a) The State Team Manager will be responsible for:
 - (i) the implementation of any approved training program for a State Representative Team;

- (ii) all matters incidental to:
 - (A) the preparation of Players for selection for a State Representative Team; and
 - (B) the preparation of Players chosen in any State Representative Team.
- (b) All Players and other persons engaged in the preparation of any State Representative Team must accept the directions of the State Team Manager in relation to all matters concerning:
 - (i) travel;
 - (ii) accommodation;
 - (iii) times and places of attendance;
 - (iv) media and sponsor engagements;
 - (v) dress; and
 - (vi) behaviour and discipline.

PART EIGHT: OTHER COMPETITIONS

This Part Eight of these Regulations deals with Clubs or Players playing in Interstate Competitions, and Players playing in School Football Matches.

A INTERSTATE COMPETITIONS

147. Interstate Competitions

- (a) The Football Commission may approve or revoke its approval of an Interstate Competition at its absolute discretion.
- (b) The Football Commission may determine that a Team of a Club will compete in an Interstate Competition that has been approved under Regulation 147(a).
- (c) Without limiting Regulation 147(b), a Club shall not permit or cause a Team of the Club to play in an Interstate Competition unless the Club has been:
 - (i) directed to so by the Football Commission; or
 - (ii) been granted an approval by the Football Commission.
- (d) A direction, or approval, by the Football Commission given under Regulation 147(c) may be subject to such conditions the Football Commission in its absolute discretion considers to be appropriate.
- (e) Any Club that competes in an Interstate Competition must:
 - (i) within 14 days of receiving a request from an Organising Body, enter into any agreement which sets out the rules and conditions of the Interstate Competition; and
 - (ii) comply with terms of that agreement.
- (f) To the extent of any inconsistency between these Regulations and the Interstate Competition Rules, the Interstate Competition Rules will prevail.
- (g) Subject to the Interstate Competition Rules, the only Players who will be eligible to play in any Interstate Competition Match will be Players who are eligible to play for a Team of their Club in a Minor Round Match under these Regulations.
- (h) A Club that has been directed or approved by the Football Commission to play in an Interstate Competition must endeavour to be successful in that Interstate Competition.
- (i) For the avoidance of doubt, a Club must select those Players who are available to play and give the Team of the Club the greatest likelihood of winning each Interstate Competition Match.

- (j) If the Football Commission determines that a Club has committed a breach of this Regulation 147, the Club shall be liable to receive:
 - (i) a fine of up to \$50,000; or
 - (ii) any further sanctions provided in Part Five of these Regulations.
- (k) The amount of the fine under Regulation 147(j) shall be determined by the Football Commission in its absolute discretion.
- (l) In determining whether to impose a fine under Regulation 147(j), the Football Commission must provide the Club an opportunity to make submissions as to:
 - (i) why a fine should not be imposed; and
 - (ii) anything the Club wishes to be considered when determining the amount and manner of payment.

B SCHOOL FOOTBALL

148. School Football

Where a secondary school provides the opportunity for a student enrolled at that school to play football in a school football competition, that student has a first obligation to play football for a Team of their school except where they are selected to play in the SANFL Senior League of a SANFL Club.

PART NINE: SANFL AWARDS

The Football Commission may give awards to persons who have rendered services of a special nature to the SANFL, a Club, an Affiliated League or to the game of Australian Football as outlined in this Part Nine of these Regulations.

149. Merit Awards

- (a) An award may be awarded to a person who has rendered outstanding service to an Affiliated League, a Club or to the game of Australian football (**Merit Award**).
- (b) The following conditions apply to Merit Awards:
 - (i) Not more than five Merit Awards may be awarded to persons nominated by an Affiliated League(s).
 - (ii) Not more than five Merit Awards may be awarded to persons nominated by Clubs in any given year.
 - (iii) Not more than one person from a single Club may receive a Merit Award in a given year.
- (c) The nomination of a person for a Merit Award must be lodged with the EGM by no later than:
 - (i) 31 May in each year in the case of a nominee of an Affiliated League; and
 - (ii) 30 June in each year in the case of a nominee of a Club.

150. Club Service Awards

- (a) An award may be awarded to any servant or Club Official who has rendered special services to a Club or to the game of Australian Football (**Club Service Award**).
- (b) The following conditions apply to Club Service Awards:
 - (i) Not more than two Club Service Awards may be awarded in a given year.
 - (ii) Not more than one person from a single Club may receive a Club Service Award in a given year.
- (c) The nomination of a person for a Club Service Award must be lodged with the EGM by no later than June 30 in each year.

151. SANFL Service Award

A SANFL Service Award may be awarded to a person who has served the SANFL as a Match Day Officer or State Team Official for a minimum of 15 years provided that not more than four such Awards may be awarded in any year.

152. Regulation of Awards

The Football Commission may prescribe and amend guidelines for the making of each of the Awards referred to in this Part Nine of these Regulations from time to time.

SCHEDULE 1: CODE OF CONDUCT

SANFL is committed to fostering a positive image of the sport and ensuring that everyone involved with the sport is treated with respect and dignity.

This Schedule 1 sets out the standards and behaviour expected of all persons to whom the Master Regulations apply. It aims to:

- Ensure that everyone involved in the sport is aware of the standards of behaviour expected of them and the way to deal with any conduct that is alleged to breach this Code of Conduct.
- Establishes a binding code of appropriate and ethical behaviour representative of SANFL values.

1. National Policy Handbook

SANFL adopts the rules and regulations contained in section 10 of the National Policy Handbook as amended from time to time.

2. Prohibited Conduct

No person shall act towards or speak to any other person in a manner or engage in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person or group of persons on any basis, including but not limited to:

- (a) race;
- (b) religion;
- (c) colour;
- (d) descent or national or ethnic origin;
- (e) disability;
- (f) sexual orientation; or
- (g) gender identity.

3. Expected Behaviours

- (a) All persons must not:
 - (i) use abusive, threatening or insulting language to or interfere with or assault any other person;
 - (ii) obtain, or attempt to obtain, admission to any Playing Arena without producing a proper entrance pass or paying the proper admission charge;

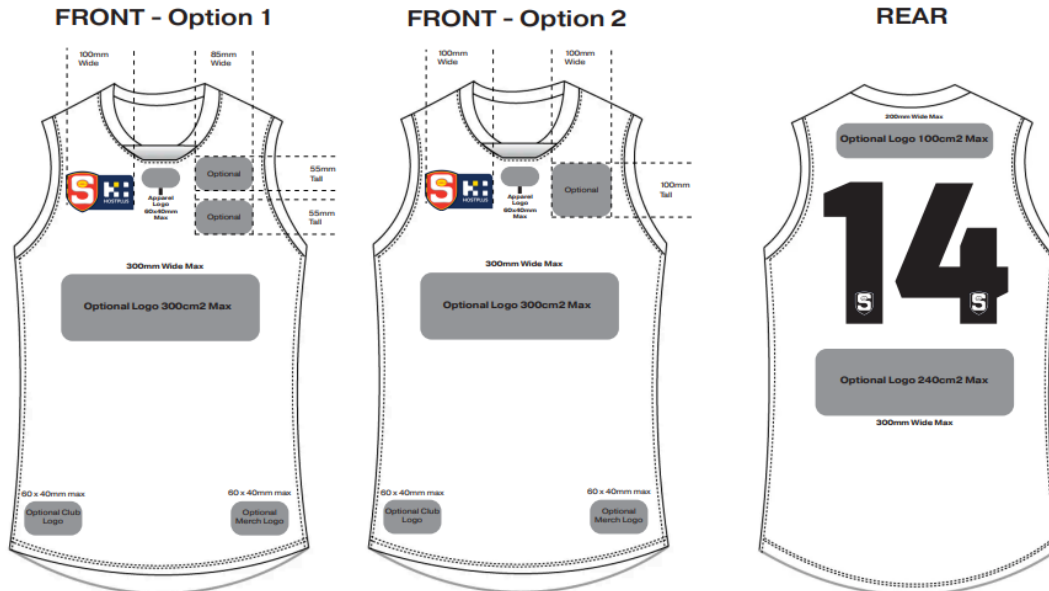
- (iii) make any comment in any publication whether written, televised or broadcast, or which is otherwise published on any electronic or visual medium:
 - (A) which in the absolute discretion of the SANFL detrimental or prejudicial to the welfare, image, spirit or best interests of the SANFL;
 - (B) which in the absolute discretion of the SANFL critical of an umpire or of a decision of any Tribunal, commission or committee appointed under these Regulations, SANFL's constitution, or any other Regulations, regulations or policies applicable to the SANFL;
 - (C) concerning any complaint or charge which has been made concerning an alleged breach of these Regulations, or any matter which has been referred to any Tribunal, commission or committee appointed by SANFL, before such complaint, charge or matter has been heard and/or determined.

4. Any breaches of this Schedule 1 will be dealt with under Part Five of these Regulations.

SCHEDULE 2: CLUB UNIFORM TEMPLATES

2023 HOSTPLUS SANFL LEAGUE

On Field Apparel Template

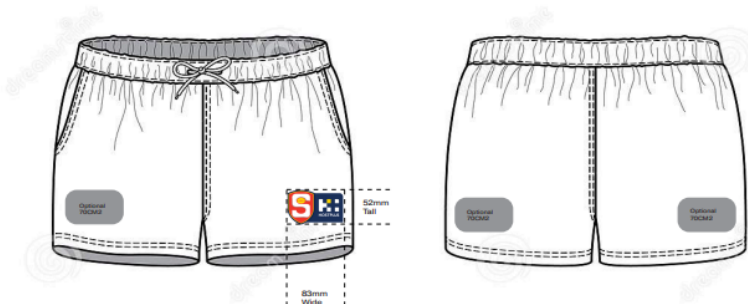


2023 HOSTPLUS SANFL LEAGUE

On Field Apparel Template



SHORTS - FRONT AND REAR



Tips for effective branding:

- Ensure logos are easily identifiable
- Keep logos simple where possible and in contrast to guernsey
- Maximise space allocated for each logo position
- Use a logo only, rather than logo with tagline
- No other logos apart from the shield logo are to appear in the numbers. This should be the mono version of the logo.

SCHEDULE 3: NATIONAL COMMUNITY FOOTBALL POLICY HANDBOOK

National Community Football Policy Handbook is found [here](#).

SCHEDULE 4: REPORTABLE OFFENCES AND PROCEDURES

PART 1: REPORTING PROCEDURES

1. Umpire Report

- (a) If an umpire has a good faith belief that a person has committed a Reportable Offence in accordance with Part 2 during a Match, the umpire shall inform the person that they have been reported:
 - (i) at the time of the incident;
 - (ii) before the commencement of the next quarter; or
 - (iii) where the incident occurs in the final quarter, as soon as is reasonably possible after the completion of the final quarter.
- (b) An umpire may inform the captain, acting captain or Official of the Club with which the Reported Person is registered of the report, where it is impractical to inform the person who has been reported.

2. Notice of Charge

As soon as practical after the completion of the Match, the umpire shall complete a Notice of Charge in the form prescribed by the SANFL in respect of any Reportable Offence. The umpire shall:

- (a) categorise the Reportable Offence having regard to the categories of Reportable Offences (and, where applicable, the grading of a Reportable Offence), as set out in Part 2 below;
- (b) include the Notice of Charge in the Match day paperwork submitted to the SANFL at the completion of the Match; and
- (c) retain a copy of the Notice of Charge.

3. Referral of Incident and alleged Reportable Offence

- (a) Where an umpire has not reported a person under section 1 but suspects that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, the umpire must, as soon as practical after completion of that Match and on the day of the Match:
 - (i) complete an incident referral form in the form prescribed by the SANFL (Incident Referral Form);

- (ii) lodge a copy of the Incident Referral Form together with the Match day paperwork with the SANFL;
- (b) Where a Club suspects that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, the Club may submit a written complaint to the SANFL, by no later than 5.00pm on the next business day after the relevant Match or other time as agreed by the SANFL. The SANFL may levy a fee for the administration of the referral (with the fee amount, if applicable, to be determined by the SANFL in its absolute discretion), which may be refunded if the SANFL determines, that the person who is the subject of the written complaint may have committed a Reportable Offence.
- (c) A complaint lodged in accordance with section 3(b) cannot be withdrawn by the Club after it has been lodged with the SANFL.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Regulations, if an authorised person of the SANFL is of the opinion that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, that authorised person may report that person by completing a Notice of Charge. The authorised person shall provide a copy of the Notice of Charge to the charged person, their Club, any other person and the Club of any other person directly involved in the charge.

4. Investigation

The SANFL may order an investigation into the alleged Reportable Offence and after receiving an investigation report, the SANFL believes:

- (a) in good faith that the person and/or Club has committed a Reportable Offence in accordance with these Regulations (and having regard to the Laws of the Game), the SANFL may issue a Notice of Charge to the charged person and/or Club, as well as any other relevant person involved in the incident; or
- (b) in good faith that the person and/or Club has otherwise breached the National Policy Handbook and the SANFL Regulations, the SANFL may issue a Notice of Charge pursuant to Part 5 of these Regulations.

5. Match Footage Review

- (a) Where a review of Match footage is deemed necessary by the SANFL, whether as a result of an Umpire Report under section 1 of this Part 1, an Incident Referral Form under section 3 of this Part 1, Investigation or any other reason whatsoever, the SANFL may appoint any number of persons, in its sole discretion, to review the Match footage (Match Review Panel). If the Match Review Panel determines that the incident under review is a Reportable Offence, the Match Review Panel shall issue a Notice of Charge

to the charged Person and that Person's Club, as well as any other relevant Person involved in the incident.

- (b) The Match footage shall be admissible evidence at any Tribunal hearing in relation to the matter of the Reportable Offence.

6. Withdrawal of Charge

- (a) The Match Review Panel or other person who has issued a Notice of Charge may withdraw the Notice of Charge at any time prior to a Tribunal hearing by lodging a written notice with the SANFL.
- (b) The SANFL may withdraw a Notice of Charge at any time prior to a Tribunal hearing.
- (c) The SANFL will communicate the withdrawal of a Notice of Charge to the Player, Club and any relevant person as soon as practicable after it is withdrawn.

7. Relationship to Laws of the Game

This Schedule 4 of the Regulations shall be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game and the National Policy Handbook, but to the extent of any inconsistency, these Regulations shall prevail.

PART 2: REPORTED PERSONS AND REPORTABLE OFFENCES

8. Application

- (a) This Part 2 sets out the different categories of Reportable Offences and appropriate sanctions and courses of action in respect of Reportable Offences.
- (b) The categories of Reportable Offences are as follows:
 - (i) Classifiable Offences (sections 13 and 14 of this Part 2);
 - (ii) Direct Tribunal Offences (section 15 of this Part 2);
 - (iii) Low-level Offences (section 16 of this Part 2); and
 - (iv) Auditory Offences (section 17 of this Part 2).
- (c) This Part 2 is to be used by the SANFL (including any Match Day Officer or other person(s) responsible for assessing a Reportable Offence) to determine the appropriate category of offence, sanction or course of action prior to any Tribunal.

[Guidance note: Examples of Reportable Offences committed in the AFL/AFLW Competition are listed under section 20 of this Part 2. The AFL will make vision of these examples available to Organising Bodies from time to time.]

9. Reported Persons in SANFL Senior Leagues

- (a) Where a Reported Person participates in the SANFL Senior Leagues and receives a Notice of Charge under these Regulations, they (or the relevant Club on their behalf) may:
 - (i) accept the sanction outlined in the Notice of Charge; or
 - (ii) pay the monetary fees as outlined below, to challenge the Reportable Offence(s) outlined in the Notice of Charge at Tribunal:
 - (A) SANFL Men's League - \$400; or
 - (B) SANFL Women's League - \$200.
- (b) The proposed sanction outlined in the Notice of Charge will be deemed to have been accepted if no response is received by the SANFL from the Reported Person, or the relevant Club on behalf of the Reported Person, by 10.00am on the business day immediately following the day on which the Notice of Charge was issued, or such other time as determined by the SANFL.
- (c) If a challenge at the Tribunal under section 9(a)(ii) is Successful, the fee will be

refunded to the Player or Club (whichever paid the fee).

- (i) For the purposes of this section 9(c), 'Successful' means the Reported Person is found not guilty of a Reportable Offence (as outlined in the relevant Notice of Charge), or the classification of the Reportable Offence has been downgraded by the Tribunal, resulting in a lower sanction.
- (d) The applicable sanctions for Reportable Offences in SANFL Senior Leagues is outlined in sections 9 and 10 of this Part 2.

10. Reported Persons in Other SANFL Competitions

- (a) Subject to this Part 2, where a Reported Person participates in Other SANFL Competitions and receives a Notice of Charge under these Regulations, they (or the relevant Club on their behalf) may:
 - (i) accept the Early Guilty Plea penalty (EGP Penalty) offered, in accordance with this Part 2 of this Schedule; or
 - (ii) challenge the matter at Tribunal, in which case the Reported Person may be subject to a higher sanction in the Tribunal's discretion.
- (b) An EGP Penalty will be deemed to have been accepted if no response is received by the SANFL from the Reported Person, or the relevant Club on behalf of the Reported Person, by 10.00am on the business day immediately following the day on which the Notice of Charge was issued, or such other time as determined by the SANFL.

11. Tribunal Hearings

- (a) Where a matter is referred to Tribunal under section 9(a)(ii) or 10(a), the SANFL shall fix and give notice to the Reported Person and / or their Club and any other relevant parties, of the date, time and place for the Tribunal hearing.
- (b) The SANFL may vary the date, time and place of the Tribunal hearing by notice in writing to the Reported Person and / or their Club, and any other relevant party.
- (c) Subject to section 13(b), the Tribunal shall deal with the Notice of Charge where:
 - (i) a person does not elect to accept an Early Guilty Plea in accordance with section 10; or
 - (ii) notification referred to in section 12 has been given by the Match Review Panel or the SANFL.

- (d) Should a person plead guilty to a Reportable Offence subject to an alternative classification and successfully contest the Notice of Charge at the Tribunal (such that the Tribunal determines to downgrade the charge), the person will be entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction obtained had the Player accepted an Early Guilty Plea for that lesser offence. Where the notification referred to in section 12 has been given by the Match Review Panel or the SANFL, the Person the subject of the Notice of Charge shall be entitled to lodge a plea at the Tribunal hearing which may be considered by the Tribunal in the determination of any penalty.

12. Direct Tribunal Offences

- (a) Where the Match Review Panel or the SANFL (as the case may be) determines in its absolute discretion, that a Notice of Charge should be determined by the Tribunal without the person having the option to accept an Early Guilty Plea, the Match Review Panel shall provide written notification to that effect to the Reported Person, in which case the person shall be dealt with by the Tribunal in accordance with section 11(c)(ii).
- (b) This written notification shall specify relevant particulars of the alleged offence(s).
- (c) If the Reported Person is charged with a Classifiable Offence under this Part 2, the Tribunal will not be bound by the classification table in section 13 of Part 2 and will be at large in relation to penalty.

13. Classifiable Offences

(a) Which Reportable Offences are Classifiable Offences?

A Classifiable Offence is a Reportable Offence specified in Table 1 below which may be graded by SANFL in order to determine an appropriate base sanction for that Reportable Offence.

Table 1 – Classifiable Offences
Charging
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact to the Eye Region

Forceful Front-On Contact
Headbutt or Contact Using Head
Kicking
Kneeing
Rough Conduct
Striking
Tripping
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact to the Face

(b) **Grading Classifiable Offences**

- (i) Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations (note in particular section 19 which provides for some offences to be classified as low-level offences in some instances), the SANFL must grade a Classifiable Offence in accordance with Table 2 below:

Table 2(a) – SANFL Senior Leagues Classification Table			
Conduct	Impact	Contact	Sanction
Intentional	Severe	High / Groin	4 Matches or Tribunal referral
		Body	3 Matches or Tribunal referral
	High	High / Groin	3 Matches
		Body	2 Matches
	Medium	High / Groin	2 Matches
		Body	1 Match
	Low	High / Groin	1 Match

		Body	Fine (SANFL Men's) or Reprimand (SANFL Women's)
Careless	Severe	High / Groin	3 Matches or Tribunal referral
		Body	2 Matches or Tribunal referral
	High	High / Groin	2 Matches
		Body	1 Match
	Medium	High / Groin	1 Match
		Body	Fine (SANFL Men's) or Reprimand (SANFL Women's)
	Low	High / Groin	Fine (SANFL Men's) or Reprimand (SANFL Women's)
		Body	Fine (SANFL Men's) or Reprimand (SANFL Women's)

Table 2(b) – Other SANFL Competitions Classification Table				
Conduct	Impact	Contact	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
	Severe	High/Groin/Chest	5 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	4 Matches (no Tribunal)
		Body	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	3 Matches (no Tribunal)

Intentional	High	High/Groin/Chest	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Body	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Medium	High/Groin/Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Low	High/Groin/Chest	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand
Careless	Severe	High/Groin/Chest	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	3 Matches (no Tribunal)
		Body	3 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	2 Matches (no Tribunal)
	High	High/Groin/Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Medium	High/Groin/Chest	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand
	Low	High/Groin/Chest	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand

(ii) If applicable, the SANFL may grade a Classifiable Offence in accordance with the specific classification table.

(iii) For the SANFL to arrive at a grading set out in Table 2, the SANFL must use the

interpretation provisions set out in section 14 of this Part 2 to assess whether:

- (A) the Conduct is Intentional or Careless;
 - (B) the Impact is Severe, High, Medium or Low; and
 - (C) the Contact with the other Person is High/Groin/Chest or to the Body.
- (iv) The SANFL may refer a Classifiable Offence directly to the Tribunal on the basis that:
- (A) it is a Classifiable Offence which the SANFL has graded as Severe Impact (together with any Contact or Conduct grading); or
 - (B) it is a Classifiable Offence which attracts a base sanction that the SANFL finds inappropriate.

[Guidance note: See section 15 (Direct Tribunal Offences) of this Part 2].

- (v) References to 'Chest' in this Part 2 apply to persons participating in female Competitions only.
- (vi) In respect of a charge for a Classifiable Offence where the Impact is graded by the SANFL as Severe, if only the minimum prescribed sanction (set out in Table 2 above) is sought, the SANFL will, in its discretion, specify that minimum prescribed sanction and the Player may enter an early guilty plea and accept the sanction without the matter being referred directly to the Tribunal. If the SANFL does not specify that the minimum prescribed sanction is sought, the charge will be referred to the Tribunal and the charged Player will not have the option to enter an early guilty plea.

14. Determining the grading of Classifiable Offences

(a) Grading Conduct

- (i) The Conduct will be graded as Intentional or Careless.
- (ii) Intentional Conduct
 - (A) A person intentionally commits a Classifiable Offence if the person engages in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence with the intention of committing that Reportable Offence.
 - (B) An intention is a state of mind and may be formed on the spur of the moment.

- (C) Whether or not a person intentionally commits a Reportable Offence depends upon the state of mind of the person when the person engages in the conduct with which they are charged. What the person did is often the best evidence of their intention. In some cases, the evidence that the conduct itself provides may be so strong as to compel an inference of what the person's intent was, no matter what they may say about it afterwards. If the immediate consequence of conduct is obvious and inevitable, the deliberate engaging of the conduct carries with it evidence of an intention to produce the consequence.
- (D) As an example, a strike will be regarded as Intentional where a person delivers a blow to another person with the intention of striking them.
- (E) The state of a person's mind is an objective fact and has to be proved in the same way as other objective facts. The whole of the relevant evidence has to be considered. It is necessary to weigh the evidence of the person as to what their intentions were along with whatever inference as to their intentions can be drawn from their conduct and/or other relevant facts. The person may or may not be believed. Notwithstanding what the person says, it may be able to be concluded from all the material that the person intentionally engaged in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence.

(iii) Careless Conduct

- (A) A person's conduct will be regarded as Careless where it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the person. Each person owes a duty of care to other persons not to engage in conduct which will constitute a Reportable Offence being committed against those persons.
- (B) To constitute a breach of that duty of care, the conduct must be such that a reasonable Player would not regard it as prudent in all the circumstances.
- (C) Further, a person will be careless if they breach their duty to take reasonable care to avoid conduct which can be reasonably foreseen to result in a Reportable Offence.

(b) **Grading Impact**

- (i) The Impact will be graded as Low, Medium, High or Severe. In an assessment as to the level of Impact, the following factors will be considered:
 - (A) the extent of force, in particular any injury sustained by the person who was

- offended against (as set out in any relevant medical report);
- (B) the absence of injury does not preclude the classification of Impact as Low, Medium, High or Severe;
 - (C) the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, must also be factored into the determination of Impact, particularly in the following cases:
 - (1) intentional strikes, such as those with a swinging clenched fist, raised forearm or elbow;
 - (2) high bumps, particularly with significant head contact and/or momentum;
 - (3) any head-high contact with a Player who has their head over the ball, particularly when contact is made from an opponent approaching from a front-on position;
 - (4) forceful round-arm swings that make head-high contact to a Player in a marking contest, ruck contest or when tackling;
 - (5) any contact that occurs when the other person should not reasonably be expecting or is not reasonably prepared for contact (i.e. contact off the ball);
 - (6) any dangerous tackle;
 - (D) Low Impact is the minimum impact required for a Classifiable Offence which requires more than just negligible impact. However, the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, may result in an upgrade to the level of Impact, including from negligible to a higher level of Impact;
 - (E) strong consideration will be given to the distance the incident occurs from the ball and the expectation of contact of the other Person (especially in the case of intentional strikes);
 - (F) consideration will also be given not only to the impact between the offending person and the other person, but also any other impact to the other person as a result of that impact; **[Guidance note:** *For example, where the other person as a result of the impact from an offending person is pushed into the path of a fast-moving third person, the impact to the other person may be classified as High or Severe Impact, even though the level of impact*

between the other person and offending person was only Low or Medium Impact.]

- (G) the body language of the offending person in terms of flexing, turning, raising or positioning the body to either increase or reduce the force of impact.
- (ii) Whilst an Intentional or Careless act causing a concussion will usually be graded as Severe Impact, when other factors relevant to Impact, including the observable level of force, are more consistent with a lesser impact grading (e.g. High Impact or Medium Impact) a lesser impact grading may be imposed for a Careless Act.
- (iii) Table 3 sets out Impact guidelines and provides a summary of indicative Impact guidelines for Low, Medium, High and Severe Impact incidents. For the avoidance of doubt, Table 3 is included for guidance purposes and must be considered together with factors set out in Section 14(b) of this Part 2;

Table 3 – Impact guidelines	
Low	<p>Player: Minimal or no impact on the Match - the Player continued to play the majority of the Match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.</p> <p>Person (other than Player): Person continued in their relevant capacity in relation to the Match for the majority of the Match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.</p> <p>The Impact grading may be raised under the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury.</p>
Medium	<p>Player: Clearly some impact on the Player, and/or the Player left the field for a lengthy period of time, and/or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required, and/or may miss one Match.</p> <p>Person (other than Player): Clearly some impact on the person, and/or the Person was prevented from continuing in their official capacity in relation to the Match for a lengthy period of time, and/or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required.</p> <p>The Impact grading may be raised under the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury.</p>

High	<p>Player: Major impact on the Player, and/or the Player was unable to participate in the remainder of the Match, and/or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and/or may miss some Matches.</p> <p>Person (other than Player): Major impact on the person, and/or the person was unable to continue in their official capacity in relation to the Match for the remainder of the Match, and/or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and/or may miss some Matches.</p> <p>The Impact grading may be raised under the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury.</p>
Severe	<p>Person (including Player): Major impact and serious injury to the person, and/or likely to miss a significant number of Matches.</p> <p>The sanction determination may be raised under the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury.</p>

(c) Grading Contact (High/Groin/Chest, Body)

- (i) High Contact is not limited to contact to the head and includes contact to the top of the shoulders.
- (ii) A classification of High Contact may apply to a Careless or Intentional Dangerous Tackle (refer to section 19(f)(iii) of this Part 2) which has the potential for an injury to be caused, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, through dangerous high contact with the ground and where high contact does not actually occur.
- (iii) Contact to the Groin includes contact to the crease or hollow at the junction of the inner part of each thigh with the trunk together with the adjacent region, including the testicles and vulva.
- (iv) Contact to the Chest means contact to the breast(s) of the other person (females only).
- (v) Where contact is both High and to the Body, it will usually be classified as High Contact.
- (vi) Where contact is both to the Chest and to the Body, it will be classified as Contact to the Chest (females only).
- (vii) Contact will be classified as High, to the Groin or, in the case of females only, to the Chest, where a Person's head, groin or chest makes contact with another

person or object such as the fence or the ground as a result of the actions of the offending person. By way of example, should a person tackle another person around the waist and as a result of the tackle, the tackled person's head makes forceful contact with the fence or the ground the Contact in these circumstances would be classified as High, even though the tackle was to the body.

- (viii) The SANFL has the discretion to grade contact as Body contact rather than High contact where the Body impact would result in a more significant sanction.

(d) Impact of a bad record on Classifiable Offence

- (i) The sanction for Classifiable Offences may be increased where a person has a bad disciplinary history.
- (ii) Where a person has been found or pleaded guilty to two of the same low-level Classifiable Offence within the current Season (with that Classifiable Offence having a base sanction of a Fine (SANFL Men's) or Reprimand (SANFL Women's) as per Table 2(a), or a base sanction of 1 match as per Table 2(b) (Other SANFL Competitions)), any third or subsequent commission of the same low-level Classifiable Offence within the same Season will result in an additional 1 match suspension in to the relevant sanction, with the Person able to accept 1 match with an early guilty plea. For the avoidance of doubt, the Low-level Offences referred to in section 16 of this Part 2 will not be affected by this bad record provision.
- (iii) The SANFL has the power to directly refer a Person to the Tribunal as a result of the person's bad disciplinary history. In this instance the Tribunal will not be bound by Table 2. Evidence in relation to the record of a person may be tendered to the Tribunal without the leave of the Chairperson.

(e) Injury

The SANFL and the Tribunal can inquire and receive information as to the nature and extent of any injury suffered by a person in relation to a Reportable Offence. The nature and extent of injury may be a relevant factor in determining the level of Impact, Contact and in some instances, the nature of the Conduct. A Club must provide a medical report upon request by the SANFL or Tribunal.

15. Direct Tribunal Offences – Classification

(a) Which Reportable Offences are Direct Tribunal Offences?

Direct Tribunal Offences are those Reportable Offences which are referred by the SANFL to the Tribunal for determination without grading (i.e. without an assessment of the Reportable Offence using Table 2), including the following Reportable Offences:

Table 4 – Direct Tribunal Offences
Attempting to Strike an Umpire
Behaving in an Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire
Eye Gouging
Intentional Contact with an Umpire
Spitting on Another Person
Spitting on or at an Umpire
Stomping
Striking an Umpire
Serious Misconduct

(b) Direct Referral to Tribunal

Where the Match Review Panel or the SANFL (as the case may be) determines in its absolute discretion that a Notice of Charge should be determined by the Tribunal without the person having the option to enter an Early Guilty Plea, the Match Review Panel shall provide written notification to that effect to the Reported Person, in which case the person shall be dealt with by the Tribunal in accordance with section 11(c)(ii) (and will be deemed a Direct Tribunal Offence). This written notification shall specify relevant particulars of the alleged offence(s), unless the Reported Person is charged with a Classifiable Offence under this Part 2. In this instance the Tribunal will not be bound by the classification table in section 13 of Part 2 and will be at large in relation to penalty.

(c) Determination of Direct Tribunal Offences

The Tribunal will determine a Direct Tribunal Offence in accordance with these Regulations. The Tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction for a Direct Tribunal Offence in its absolute discretion.

16. Low-Level Offences

(a) Which Reportable Offences are Low-level Offences?

Low-level Offences are the following low-level Reportable Offences which, having regard to the provisions of this section 16 and section 19 of this Part 2, do not require classification (i.e. do not require an assessment of the Reportable Offence using Table 2):

Table 5 – Low-level Offences
Attempt to Strike / Kick / Trip
Careless Contact with an Umpire
Disputing Decision
Instigator of a Melee / Wrestle
Interfering with a Player Kicking for Goal
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Injured Player
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Umpire
Not Leaving the Playing Surface
Obscene Gesture
Pinching
Prohibited Boots, Jewellery or Equipment
Scratching
Shaking, Climbing or Interfering with Goal or Behind Post

Spitting at Another Player
Staging
Striking
Kicking
Time Wasting
Tripping
Engaging in a Melee / Wrestle
Any Other Act of Low-Level Misconduct which is not a Classifiable Offence or Direct Tribunal Offence

(b) Sanctions for Low-level Offences

- (i) Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations, for Low-level Offences the SANFL must impose the base sanctions (with a reduced sanction for an Early Guilty Plea) set out in Table 6 below:

Table 6 – Low-level Offence Base Sanctions			
1st & 2nd Low-level Offence		3rd & Subsequent Low-Level Offence	
Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
1 Match	Reprimand	2 Matches	1 Match

Table 6 – Low-level Offence Base Sanctions (SANFL Senior Leagues)	
1st & 2nd Low-level Offence	3rd & Subsequent Low-Level Offence
Sanction	Sanction
Reprimand	1 Match

- (ii) If applicable, the SANFL may impose base sanctions for Low-level Offences in accordance with the specific Low-level Offence sanctions table adopted by the SANFL provided such table has been approved by the AFL.
- (iii) A reference to second, third and subsequent Low-level Offences is a reference to a second, third or subsequent of the same Low-level Offence occurring at any time in the current Season. For the avoidance of doubt, a prior offence other than a Low-level Offence will not count as a first offence for the purposes of the above Table 6.
- (iv) The SANFL may refer a Low-level Offence directly to the Tribunal on the basis that it is a Low-level Offence which attracts a base sanction that the SANFL finds inappropriate.

17. Auditory Offences

(a) Which Reportable Offences are Auditory Offences

An Auditory Offence is a Reportable Offence specified in Table 7 below which may be graded by the SANFL in order to determine an appropriate base sanction for that Reportable Offence.

Table 7 – Auditory Offences
Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language towards or in relation to an Umpire
Using Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Language

(b) Grading Auditory Offences

- (i) Unless otherwise specified in these Regulations (note in particular section 19 which provides for some offences to be classified as low-level offences in some instances), the SANFL must grade an Auditory Offence in accordance with Table 8 below.

Table 8(a) – Auditory Classification Table – SANFL Senior Leagues			
Conduct	Receiver	Volume	Sanction

Threatening	Umpire*	Any	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*
	Another Person	Loud	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*
		Medium or Low	3 Matches
High-level Abusive/Obscene /Insulting	Umpire	Loud	4 Matches
		Medium or Low	3 Matches
	Another Person	Loud	3 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches
Low-level Abusive/Obscene /Insulting	Umpire	Loud	3 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches
	Another Person	Loud	2 Matches
		Medium or Low	1 Match

Table 8(b) – Auditory Classification Table – Other SANFL Competitions				
Conduct	Receiver	Volume	Base Sanction	
Threatening	Umpire*	Any	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	N/A
	Another Person	Loud	4 or more Matches (Tribunal)*	N/A
		Medium or Low	3 Matches	2 Matches

High-level Abusive / Obscene / Insulting	Umpire	Loud	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Medium or Low	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Another Person	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches	1 Match
Low-level Abusive / Obscene / Insulting	Umpire	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Medium or Low	2 Matches	1 Match
	Another Person	Loud	2 Matches	1 Match
		Medium or Low	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand

**Refer to section 17(b)(iv) and 17(b)(v) of this Part 2 for treatment of offences graded as Threatening language directed at an Umpire and Threatening language directed at Another Person of Loud Volume.*

- (ii) If applicable, the SANFL may grade an Auditory Offence in accordance with the specific classification table adopted by the SANFL provided such table has been approved by the AFL.
- (iii) For the SANFL to arrive at a grading set out in Table 8, the SANFL must use the interpretation provisions set out in section 17(c) of this Part 2 to assess whether:
 - (A) the Conduct is Threatening, High-level Abusive, Obscene or Insulting or Low-level Abusive, Obscene or Insulting;
 - (B) the Receiver of the Conduct is an Umpire or Another Person; and
 - (C) the Volume of the Conduct is Loud, Medium or Low.
- (iv) Subject to section 17(b)(v) of this Part 2:
 - (A) in respect of a charge graded by the SANFL as Threatening language directed at an Umpire, that charge will be classified as Behaving in an

Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire, a Direct Tribunal Offence; and

(B) in respect of a charge graded by the SANFL as Threatening language directed at another Person of Loud Volume, the SANFL may refer that charge directly to the Tribunal.

(v) In respect of a charge under section 17(b)(iv) of this Part 2, if only the minimum prescribed sanction (set out in Table 8(a) or (b) above) is sought, the SANFL will, at its discretion, specify that minimum prescribed sanction and the Player may enter an early guilty plea and accept the sanction without the matter being referred directly to the Tribunal. If the SANFL does not specify that the minimum prescribed sanction is sought, the charge will be referred to the Tribunal and the charged Player will not have the option to enter an early guilty plea.

(c) **Interpretative provisions of Auditory Offences**

(i) Grading Conduct

(A) The Conduct of an Auditory Offence will be graded as:

- (1) Threatening;
- (2) High-level Abusive, Obscene or Insulting; or
- (3) Low-level Abusive, Obscene or Insulting.

(B) Threatening language means language that conveys an intention to cause bodily harm or cause someone to feel vulnerable or at risk.

(C) High-level and Low-level Abusive, Obscene or Insulting language includes rude, shocking or offensive language which may abuse, insult or offend any person or group. In grading whether Abusive, Obscene or Insulting language is High-level or Low-level, the following factors will be considered:

- (1) the tone of the language;
- (2) the extent of aggression in the language;
- (3) the actual or potential hurt caused by the language;
- (4) the body language of the offending Person.

[Guidance note: Where any auditory offence involves the use of words or sounds that are considered to constitute vilification or discrimination, the offence is to be dealt with under Schedule 1.]

(ii) Grading Receiver

- (A) The Receiver will be graded as umpire or another person.
- (B) Umpire means a field, boundary, goal or emergency umpire who has been appointed to officiate in the relevant Match.
- (C) Another person means any person who is not an umpire, regardless of whether that person is able to be identified or not.

(iii) Grading Volume

- (A) The Volume of an Auditory Offence will be graded as Loud, Medium or Low.
- (B) Loud means the language could be heard from more than 50 metres away or heard by spectators.
- (C) Medium means the language could be heard from more than 10 metres away, but less than 50 metres away, and/or heard by other Players and/or heard by Football Officials.
- (D) Low means the language could be heard from no more than 10 metres away, and/or conversational language.

18. Other factors regarding sanctions

(a) **Reduction in base sanction for an Early Guilty Plea**

The base sanction for a Classifiable Offence or Auditory Offence will be decreased where a person submits an Early Guilty Plea (if available). As per Table 2 or Table 8(a) or (b) (as applicable):

- (i) an early guilty plea in respect of a Classifiable Offence or Auditory Offence with a fixed base sanction of a two, three or four Match suspension will result in a one Match reduction in that suspension; and
- (ii) an early guilty plea in respect of a Classifiable Offence or Auditory Offence with a base sanction of a one Match suspension will result in a reprimand and/or fine (at the discretion of the SANFL).

(b) **No automatic reduction for exemplary record**

- (i) A person will not receive an automatic reduced base sanction for their exemplary Disciplinary History.
- (ii) If a Classifiable Offence or Auditory Offence is contested or referred to the Tribunal, a Person with a verifiable exemplary Disciplinary History may argue that their Disciplinary History constitutes exceptional and compelling circumstances under Regulation 93 of these Regulations. This may make it inappropriate to apply the sanctions in Table 2 or Table 8(a) or (b) (as applicable) to the determined classification. In such circumstances, the Tribunal may determine the appropriate sanction in its absolute discretion,
- (iii) Exceptional and compelling circumstances does not include circumstances relating to the person's character or standing within the community.

(c) **Reportable Offences in a Grand Final**

The SANFL or Tribunal (as applicable) may apply (at its absolute discretion) a loading of up to 100% in relation to the base sanction for any Reportable Offence committed during a Grand Final.

(d) **Multiple Reportable Offences in a single Match**

Where a Person is found guilty of multiple Reportable Offences from a single match, the individual sanctions must be added together to form the final sanction applicable to the Person.

19. Other factors regarding certain Reportable Offences

(a) **General**

- (i) The *Laws of the Game* sets out a non-exhaustive list of specific Reportable Offences in Law 22.2.2 as well as providing for various categories of permitted contact which will not constitute a Reportable Offence (for example, legally using a hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open arms, providing the football is no more than five metres away, and contact which is incidental to a marking contest where a Player is legitimately marking or spoiling or attempting to mark or spoil the football).
- (ii) The *Laws of the Game* define certain Reportable Offences, but provide that in interpreting/classifying Reportable Offences, words, terms or phrases which are not defined in the *Laws of the Game* will be given their ordinary meaning.

- (iii) This section 19 provides guidance in relation to the characteristics of particular Reportable Offences and other relevant factors.

(b) Striking, Kicking

- (i) Striking and kicking are interpreted in accordance with their ordinary meaning. A strike would usually be by hand, arm or elbow and would generally not apply to other contact using the body. A strike can also occur with an open hand. A kick is generally applied to contact by foot or leg.
- (ii) A kick requires more than negligible impact to be a Classifiable Offence.
- (iii) A strike can be graded as a Classifiable Offence where the actual impact is negligible, if the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, warrants an upgrade to at least Low Impact.
- (iv) Where a strike or kick does not have more than negligible impact, it is open to a Controlling Body to charge a Person with Striking or Kicking under Table 5 where it is satisfied that notwithstanding the result, the intention of the Person was to commit a Reportable Offence. Where no contact is made, a Controlling Body may charge a Person with an Attempt to Strike or Kick, which are both Low-level Offences.
- (v) Under the Classifiable Offences, any Intentional strike or kick where non-negligible contact occurs to the victim player's body or head will usually be classified as Medium Impact at a minimum.

(c) Classification of certain strikes

The following factors will be considered when determining the classification of the Reportable Offence of Striking:

- (i) Intent: Notwithstanding any other part of these Regulations, the fact that an act of striking occurred behind the play or off the ball or during a break in play or with a raised forearm or elbow is usually consistent with the strike being intentional. Further, where a Player intends to forcefully push or fend an opposition Player off the ball (including to gain separation for the purpose of contesting the ball) and the effect is that the Player commits the Reportable Offence of Striking, the strike will usually be graded as Intentional.
- (ii) Impact: Notwithstanding any other part of these Regulations, any Careless or Intentional strike which is of an inherently dangerous kind and/or where there is a potential to cause an injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury,

(such as a strike with a raised elbow or forearm) will usually not be classified as Low Impact even though the extent of the actual physical impact may be low. Such strikes will usually be classified at a higher level commensurate with the nature and extent of the risk of injury involved. Strong consideration will also be given to the distance the incident occurs from the ball and the expectation of contact of the other Player.

(d) **Misconduct**

- (i) Misconduct has a wide meaning and generally is any conduct which would be reasonably regarded as unacceptable or unsportsmanlike or where it has the effect or potential to prejudice the reputation of any person, Club or the SANFL or to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute.
- (ii) Acts of Serious Misconduct will be referred directly to the Tribunal.

[Guidance note: Generally, for conduct to constitute Serious Misconduct, the SANFL will consider that a sanction of at least 4 Matches is appropriate as a sanction for that conduct.]

- (iii) Any other act of Misconduct will be a Low-level Offence unless the SANFL determines that:

- (A) the Low-level Offence sanction is inappropriate; and
- (B) the act of Misconduct is not Serious Misconduct,

in which case the SANFL may impose a sanction of either a 2 Match or 3 Match suspension, with the relevant person entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction applicable in Table 2 with an Early Guilty Plea (i.e. a 2 Match suspension reduced to a 1 Match suspension with an Early Guilty Plea).

(e) **Forceful Front-On Contact**

- (i) Bumping or making contact that is at least Low Impact to an opponent from front-on when that opponent has their head over the ball is a Reportable Offence. Unless Intentional, such conduct will be deemed Careless except where:
 - (A) the Player was contesting the ball and it was reasonable for the Player to contest the ball in that way; or

- (B) the contact was caused by circumstances outside the control of the Player which could not reasonably be foreseen,

in which case such conduct will not constitute a Reportable Offence.

- (ii) Any Careless or Intentional Forceful Front-On Contact where High Contact has been made and that has the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, will usually be graded at a minimum as Medium Impact, even though the extent of the actual physical impact may be low.
- (iii) A Player may bump another Player's body from side-on but any contact forward of side-on will be deemed to be front-on. A Player with their head down in anticipation of winning possession of the ball or after contesting the ball will be deemed to have their head over the ball for the purposes of this section 19(e) of this Part 2.

(f) **Rough Conduct**

Rough Conduct is interpreted widely and may be any contact which is unreasonable in the circumstances.

It is a Reportable Offence for a person to intentionally or carelessly engage in Rough Conduct against another person which is unreasonable in the circumstances. Without limiting the wide interpretation of Rough Conduct, regard will be had to the following recognised forms of Rough Conduct:

(i) **Rough Conduct (High Bumps)**

A person will be guilty of Rough Conduct where in the bumping of another person (whether reasonably or unreasonably) the person causes contact that is at least Low Impact to be made with any part of their body to that person's shoulders, head or neck. Unless Intentional, such conduct will be deemed to be Careless, except where:

- (A) the person was contesting the ball and it was reasonable for the person to contest the ball in that way; or
- (B) the contact to the other person's head or neck was caused by circumstances outside the control of the person which could not be reasonably foreseen,

in which case such conduct will not constitute a Reportable Offence.

Any high bump which constitutes Rough Conduct that has the potential to cause injury, or the potential to cause further or greater injury, will usually be graded at a minimum as Medium Impact, even though the extent of the actual physical impact may be low.

The purpose of section 19(f)(i) of this Part 2 is to, as far as practicable, minimise the risk of head injuries to persons and this purpose must be front of mind for all persons and will guide the application of the section.

For the purposes of these Regulations, head clashes that occur when a person has elected to bump are circumstances that can reasonably be foreseen. Players will ordinarily be liable if they elect to bump if not contesting the ball.

(ii) **Rough Conduct (Bumps to the Body)**

If section 19(f)(i) does not apply (for example, in the case of a bump to the body), a person may still be guilty of Rough Conduct if the person's conduct was unreasonable in the circumstances. In determining whether a bump was unreasonable in the circumstances the following factors will be considered (without limitation):

- (A) whether the degree of force applied by the person bumping was excessive for the circumstances;
- (B) whether the person being bumped was in a vulnerable position; and
- (C) whether the person could reasonably expect the contact having regard to the person's involvement in play or ability to influence the contest.

(iii) **Rough Conduct (Dangerous Tackles)**

The application of a tackle may be considered Rough Conduct where the tackle is unreasonable in the circumstances. In determining whether the application of a tackle constitutes a Reportable Offence and whether the tackle is Careless or Intentional, the following factors will be considered (without limitation):

- (A) whether the tackle consists of more than one action, regardless of whether the person being tackled is in possession of the ball;
- (B) whether the tackle is of an inherently dangerous kind, such as a spear tackle or a tackle where a Player is lifted off the ground;
- (C) whether the person being tackled is in a vulnerable position (for example,

arm(s) pinned) with little opportunity to protect themselves;

- (D) whether the person being tackled is slung, driven or rotated into the ground with excessive force (for example, a run down tackle where the tackled player is driven into the ground with excessive force).

(iv) **Rough Conduct (Contact Below the Knees)**

Under the *Laws of the Game*, making contact with an opponent below the knees is prohibited. A person who keeps their feet is vulnerable to serious injury from other persons who lunge, dive or slide toward them and make contact below the knees. This section 19(f)(iv) aims to protect such persons from the risk of foreseeable injury. A person may be guilty of Rough Conduct if the person makes contact below the knees of another person and does so in a manner which is unreasonable in the circumstances. It is not a defence that the person who made contact below the knees was contesting the ball or was first to the ball. The primary responsibility of persons with respect to contact below the knees is to avoid the risk of foreseeable injury. In determining whether contact below the knees is unreasonable in the circumstances, the following factors will be considered:

- (A) the degree of momentum and/or force involved in the contact;
- (B) whether the person causes contact below the knees by sliding with their foot, feet, knee or knees in front of them;
- (C) whether the other person was in a position that was vulnerable to contact below the knees (for example, standing over the ball or approaching from the opposite direction); and
- (D) whether the person making contact had any realistic alternative ways of approaching the contest or situation.

Where contact is not made below the knees of the other person but to another part of that person's body, a person may still be guilty under the general definition of Rough Conduct for making unreasonable contact by sliding or dropping into another person with their knees or feet first.

(v) **Rough Conduct (Smotherers)**

Where a Player elects to leave the ground in an attempt to smother the football, any reasonably foreseeable high contact with an opponent that is at least Low

Impact will be deemed to be Careless at a minimum, unless the Player has taken all reasonable steps to avoid that high contact and/or minimise the force of that high contact (for example, by adopting a body position that minimises the force of the high contact).

(vi) **Rough Conduct (Pushing Opponent into Contest)**

A Player may be found guilty of Rough Conduct where they forcefully push an opponent into another player, or players, from either team in circumstances that are unreasonable.

(g) **Contact with an Umpire**

(i) **Intentional Contact with an Umpire**

(A) Contact with an umpire that is deemed intentional will be referred directly to the Tribunal. In considering whether contact with an umpire is intentional, regard may be had to whether the contact is aggressive, forceful, demonstrative and/or disrespectful.

(B) A Player may also be charged with the offence of Intentional Contact with an umpire by pushing or holding an opponent into an umpire or their direct path.

(C) Where contact with an umpire is forceful but only incidental (i.e. it is not otherwise aggressive, demonstrative or disrespectful), the SANFL has the discretion to not charge the Player with Intentional Contact with an umpire (resulting in a direct referral to the Tribunal) and instead charge the Player with Careless Contact with an umpire (but provided such Contact is not otherwise disrespectful, demonstrative or aggressive).

(ii) **Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Umpire**

Where contact with an umpire is not aggressive, forceful, demonstrative or disrespectful but could otherwise be regarded as intentional, it will be classified as Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an umpire which is a Low-level Offence.

(iii) **Careless Contact with an Umpire**

A charge of Careless Contact with an umpire is a Low-level Offence. In determining whether the contact was careless, the following factors will be

considered:

- (A) whether contact occurs at a centre bounce or ball up;
- (B) whether the person has set up behind the Umpire;
- (C) whether the person has taken a path that intersects the Umpire's exit line from a stoppage;
- (D) the force of the contact;
- (E) whether the umpire's decision making is impeded;
- (F) whether the umpire goes to ground as a result of the contact;
- (G) any mitigating factors (for example, effort to avoid contact, offline bounce or throw, pushed by opponent into Umpire's path).

A Player may also be charged with the offence of Careless Contact with an umpire by pushing or holding another Person into an umpire or their direct path.

(h) **Umpire abuse**

Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language Towards or in relation to an umpire will be a Low-level Offence unless the SANFL determines that:

- (i) the Low-level Offence sanction is inappropriate; and
- (ii) the conduct does not constitute the Direct Tribunal Offence of Behaving in an Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire,

in which case the SANFL may impose a sanction of either a 2 Match, 3 Match or 4 Match suspension, with the relevant person entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction applicable in Table 2 with an early guilty plea (i.e. a 2 Match suspension reduced to a 1 Match suspension with an early guilty plea).

(i) **Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language**

Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language will be a Low-level Offence unless the SANFL determines that:

- (i) the Low-level Offence sanction is inappropriate; and
- (ii) the conduct does not constitute the Direct Tribunal Offence of Serious

Misconduct,

in which case the SANFL may impose a sanction of either a 2 Match or 3 Match suspension, with the relevant person entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction applicable in Table 2 with an early guilty plea (i.e. a 2 Match suspension reduced to a 1 Match suspension with an early guilty plea).

(j) **Melee**

(i) **Engaging in a Melee/Wrestle**

A Melee/Wrestle is defined as an incident involving persons who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another, and which is likely to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute or prejudice the interests or reputation of the SANFL. In determining if a person's conduct constitutes Engaging in a Melee/Wrestle, the following factors will be considered:

- (A) the duration the person is involved in the Melee/Wrestle;
- (B) the vigour applied by the person;
- (C) whether the Melee/Wrestle occurs at a break in play, particularly at quarter breaks and half time;
- (D) whether the person contributed to an escalation of the Melee/Wrestle; and
- (E) the role of the person (for example, Player or Football Official).

(ii) **Instigator of a Melee/Wrestle**

Where a person's conduct results in retaliatory action which leads to a Melee/Wrestle, that person's conduct may constitute a Reportable Offence of Instigator of a Melee/Wrestle. The Reportable Offence of Instigator of a Melee/Wrestle is separate to the Reportable Offence of Engaging in a Melee/Wrestle and a Person may be found guilty of both Reportable Offences.

(k) **Staging**

Staging includes excessive exaggeration of contact in an unsportsmanlike manner. In determining whether a person's conduct constitutes the Reportable Offence of Staging, the following factors will be considered:

- (i) whether the conduct affected, or was likely to affect, the umpire decision-making;

- (ii) whether the conduct incited a melee; and/or
- (iii) whether the conduct was in the spirit of the game.

(l) Tripping

- (i) Tripping is interpreted in accordance with its ordinary meaning. In determining whether a person’s conduct constitutes the Reportable Offence of Tripping, to the following factors will be considered:
 - (A) how fast the opponent was moving;
 - (B) whether the trip was by hand or by foot/leg; and
 - (C) whether contact was made with a swinging motion.
- (ii) To constitute a Classifiable Offence, Tripping requires more than negligible impact. Where a trip does not have more than negligible impact, it is still open to the SANFL or Tribunal to charge a Person with Tripping under Table 5 where it is satisfied that notwithstanding the result, a Reportable Offence was committed. Where no contact or minor contact is made, the Panel can charge a person with an Attempt to Trip, which is a Low-level Offence.

20. Example Reportable Offences

The following incidents are examples of Reportable Offences which were processed in accordance with these Guidelines. Vision of these incidents is available on request to the AFL.

CLASSIFIABLE OFFENCES	
Striking	<p>Example 1 – Patrick Dangerfield on Ryan Byrnes (Round 2, 2025) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / High Contact</p> <p>Example 2 - Kallan Dawson on Jack Crisp (Round 14, 2024) Careless Conduct / Medium Impact / High Contact</p> <p>Example 3 - Patrick Voss on Nick Vlastuin (Round 5, 2025) Careless Conduct / Severe Impact / High Contact</p> <p>Example 4 - Aaron Francis on Lachlan Bramble (Round 16, 2025) Intentional Conduct / Medium Impact / Body Contact</p>

	Example 5 - Thomas Lynch on Jordon Butts (Round 16, 2025) Intentional Conduct / Severe Impact / High Contact
Kneeing	Example 6 - Toby Greene on Reef McInnes (Opening Round, 2025) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / Body Contact
Rough Conduct (High Bumps)	Example 7 - Darcy Byrne-Jones on Ryan Byrnes (Round 4, 2025) Careless Conduct / Medium Impact / High Contact Example 8 - Daniel Houston on Lachlan Fogarty (Round 4, 2025) Careless Conduct / High Impact / High Contact Example 9 - Joel Amartey on Jordan Boyd (Round 10, 2025) Careless Conduct / Severe Impact / High Contact
Rough Conduct (Dangerous Tackles)	Example 10 - Mason Redman on Finn O’Sullivan (Round 8, 2025) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / High Contact Example 11 – James Peatling on Lachie Neale (Round 13, 2025) Careless Conduct / Medium Impact / High Contact Example 12 – Bonnei Toogood on Zoe Wakfer (Round 2, 2025) Careless Conduct / High Impact / High Contact
Rough Conduct (Contact Below the Knees)	Example 13 – Sabrina Frederick on Bethany Lynch (Round 6, 2024) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / Body Contact
Rough Conduct (Pushing Opponent Into Contest)	Example 14 – Brody Mihalcek on Nick Vlastuin (Round 20, 2025) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / Body Contact Example 15 – Rhyann Mansell on Liam O’Connell (Round 3, 2025) Careless Conduct / Severe Impact / High Contact

Forceful Front-On Contact	<p>Example 16 - Georgia Gall on Chelsea Biddell (Finals Week 2, 2025) Careless Conduct / Low Impact / High Contact</p> <p>Example 17 – Matt Crouch on Jack Carroll (Round 5, 2024) Careless Conduct, Medium Impact, High Contact</p> <p>Example 18 - Alex Davies on Lachlan Jones (Round 18, 2024) Careless Conduct, Severe Impact, High Contact</p> <p>EXCEPTION: CONTESTING THE BALL</p> <p>Example 19 - Tom Green on Joel Freijah (Round 7, 2025)</p>
Tripping	<p>Example 20 - Harvey Thomas on Zac Bailey (Round 14, 2025) Intentional Conduct / Low Impact / Body Contact</p>
Headbutt or Contact Using the Head	<p>Example 21 - James Harmes on Steven May (Round 1, 2024) Intentional Conduct / Low Impact / High Contact</p>

LOW-LEVEL OFFENCES	
Careless Contact with an Umpire	<p>Example 22 - Ella Roberts & Lily Goss (Round 12, 2025)</p> <p>Example 23 – Jordan Croft (Round 23, 2025)</p>
Engaging in a Melee or Wrestle	<p>Example 24 - Aaron Francis & Rory Lobb (Round 16, 2025)</p>
Instigating a Melee or Wrestle	<p>Example 25 – Zak Butters (Round 4, 2025)</p>
Staging	<p>Example 26 - Elaine Grigg (Round 12, 2025)</p>
Unreasonable or Unnecessary	<p>Example 27 – Brady Hough on Rowan Marshall (Round 10, 2025)</p>

Contact with an Injured Player	
Other Misconduct	<p>Example 28 – Bailey Smith on Jarman Impey (Round 6, 2025)</p> <p>Example 29 – Dakota Davidson on Meara Girvan (Round 8, 2025)</p>
Attempting to Trip	<p>Example 30 – Jeremy Howe on Will Ashcroft (Round 6, 2025)</p>

SCHEDULE 5: SANFL CLUB ZONES

SANFL Club Zones found [here](#).

SCHEDULE 6: ILLICIT DRUGS POLICY

SANFL Illicit Drugs Policy made available to clubs and players by SANFL, and can be requested by contacting SANFL.

SCHEDULE 7: APPROVED CONTRACTS

*Attached as Appendices;

1. SANFL Standard Player Contract;
2. SANFLW Standard Player Contract;
3. SANFL Rookie Program Contract; and
4. SANFL Standard Category 'B' Playing Contract.

SCHEDULE 8: LODGEMENT/REPORTING DATES

Competition	Submission Requirement	Date
SANFL Women's League	Player Contracts	TBC
SANFL Women's League	Preseason Salary Cap Spreadsheet	TBC
SANFL Women's League	End of Season Salary Cap Spreadsheet	TBC
SANFL Men's League	Player Contracts	TBC
SANFL Men's League	Preseason Salary Cap Spreadsheet	TBC
SANFL Men's League	End of Season Salary Cap Spreadsheet	30 October 2026

SCHEDULE 10: ADVICE OF VARIATION OF CONTRACT FORM

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Appendix 13

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC

ADVICE OF VARIATION OF CONTRACT

To: The General Manager – Football Operations
South Australian National Football League Inc.

By the attached Contract made on the date specified in Item 1 of the Schedule set out below ("the Schedule") the player referred to in Item 2 of the Schedule ("the Player") contracted with the Club referred to in Item 3 of the Schedule ("The Club") for the provision of services as a footballer.

The parties have agreed to a variation of the terms of the Contract as follows:-

Dated this day of 20

.....
SIGNED by the Player in the presence of:

.....
SIGNED for and on behalf of the Club by
its duly authorised Officer for the purpose:

THE SCHEDULE

1. Date:
2. The Player:
3. The Club:

SCHEDULE 11: HISTORICAL SALARY CAP REGIME

18A SALARY CAP (to 31 October 2006)

18A.1 Football Commission to determine a Salary Cap

The Football Commission must determine a Salary Cap to apply in each Financial Year. For the purpose of this Regulation, the expression "Salary Cap" means the maximum total amount which a League Club may pay or provide to its Players and/or Associates of Players by way of Football Payments in a Financial Year.

(The Football Commission will set the level of Salary Cap each year).

18A.2 Football Commission may issue Guidelines

The Football Commission may from time to time issue guidelines concerning the Salary Cap and the value to be placed on any Football Payment.

18A.3 Football Payments

The value of all or any part of any money, consideration or other benefit paid or provided between the period commencing on 1 November in a year and expiring on 31 October in the next year under any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding between a League Club or any person or entity directly or indirectly associated with a League Club (including without limitation any sponsor, supporter or supporter group of that League Club) and a Player or an Associate of that Player which relates to or is consideration for the playing of football by that Player for any team of that League Club in any Match other than a Major Round Match referred to in Regulation 5, is or will be deemed to be a Football Payment for the purpose of these Regulations.

(Anything of value paid to or to a player or associate for playing football during the minor round between 1st November and the 31st October in any year).

18A.4 Deemed Football Payments

Without in any way limiting Regulation 18.3 the following payments or benefits paid or provided to or for the benefit of a Player or Associate of a Player by a League Club or by any sponsor, supporter, supporter group of or any person or entity associated directly or indirectly with that League Club are or are deemed to be Football Payments.

18A.4.1 Payments Made Under Contract

All payments paid by a League Club to a Player under any contract of service which a Player may have with a League Club which relate to or which are consideration for the playing of Football by that Player for any team of that League Club.

18A.4.1.1 in any Minor Round Match; or

18A.4.1.2 in any Major Round Match

18A.4.1.2.1 to the extent that any payment made to the player in respect of a Major Round Match exceeds the average match payment (excluding any bonus or incentive payments) payable to the Player in respect of a Minor Round Match, under the Contract of Service, during the year in which the Major Round Match played.

18A.4.2 Match Payments

All payments made by a League Club to a Player which relate to or which are consideration for the playing of Football by that Player

18A.4.2.1 In a Minor Round Match in which a Player is selected and plays for a team of a League Club, including payments made for Matches won, Matches lost and all other bonuses or incentive payments.
(Any payments made to a player who does not have a contract with his Club).

18A.4.2.2 A Major Round Match to the extent that any payment made to the Player in respect of a Major League Round Match exceeds the average match payment (excluding any bonus or incentive payments) payable or paid to the Player in respect of a Minor Round Match during the year in which with Major Round match is played.
(Any payment made to a player for a Major Round Match over and above his average payment for a minor round match to be included).

18A.4.2.3 In excess of \$75 made to a player for each Reserves match.

18A.4.3 Injury Payments and Injury Insurance

All payments made or agreed to be made by a League Club including without limitation payments made or agreed to be made in respect of a Major Round Match:

18A.4.3.1 to a Player whilst he is injured, by way of match payments, which are in

excess of an amount which is 50% of the amount which would have been paid to the Player if he had played in four winning matches in the League Team of his Club.

(A player is allowed to be paid 50% of his winning game payment for up to a maximum of four games without those amounts being included in the Salary Cap. Any additional payment must be included).

18A.4.3.2 to or for the benefit of a Player or Associate of a Player by way of

reimbursement for wages or salary lost by a Player in his employment as the result of an injury sustained by the Player whilst playing football for his League Club to the extent that such payments result in the Player receiving from all sources in excess of \$500 per week for the period he is unable to work up to a maximum of 13 weeks in any Football Season.

(Player can be paid \$500 per week up for to a maximum of 13 weeks for loss of time because of injury without those amounts being included in the Salary Cap. Any payment for an excess of that total must be included).

18A.4.3.3 to or for the benefit of a Player or Associate of a Player as a reimbursement of any premium paid in respect of an insurance policy taken out by the League Club or a Player or Associate of a Player under which payments of the kind referred to in Regulation 18A.4.3.1 and 18A.4.3.2 are made to the League Club; the Player or Associate of the Player as a result of injury sustained by the Player whilst playing football for that League Club.

(Any insurance premium paid on behalf of a player must be included).

18A.4.4 Supplementary Wages

Wages and salaries paid to a Player or Associate of a Player to supplement the income of a Player derived from employment negotiated under or which is ancillary to a contract of services between a Player and a League Club.

Wages paid to a Player or Associate of a Player from genuine employment with the League Club are to be excluded from Football Payments.

(Any payment made to a player whilst awaiting employment or in lieu of unemployment must be included).

18A.4.5 Market Value of Employment and Services Actually Rendered

Where a Player or an Associate of a Player is employed by a League Club or by any sponsor, supporter (including supporter group) or any person or entity associated directly or indirectly with a League Club and if such Player or Associate is paid an amount which in the opinion of the Salary Cap Officer is in excess of the market value of the Player's or the Player's Associate's services or where the Player or Associate does not provide services consistent with the normal terms and conditions of such employment, the amount by which the payment exceeds the market value of those services or the whole of the payment as the case may be, shall be deemed to be a Football Payment of the Player.

(If a player is employed by the Club, a Sponsor or any person/company associated with the Club and is paid say \$200 over the Industry Award, that \$200 must be included).

18A.4.6 Board or Rent Subsidies

Payments paid, given or provided to or for the benefit of a Player other than a Youth Listed Player or an Associate of a Player other than a Youth Listed Player by way of accommodation expenses, education expenses, living away from home allowance, rental, rental subsidy or rental discount.

(Any payment made to or on behalf of a player, other than a Youth List player for Board, Rent, etc must be included).

(If a Youth Listed player is receiving a benefit for Board/Rent and is upgraded to a senior list, the value of that benefit must be included from the date in which he is upgraded).

18A.4.7 Relocation Expenses

18A.4.7.1 Payments made or benefits provided in cash or kind, including air travel given to a Player or an Associate of a Player as an inducement to a Player to enter into a contract to play football for a League Club except any payment made to a Player and or an Associate of a Player by way of relocation expenses paid to a player transferring to a League Club from outside the Metropolitan Zones allotted to League Clubs by the Boundaries Commission under Regulation 4.5.

18A.4.7.2 In each year of the agreed term of a Player's contract of service, an amount equal to the total calculated under Regulation 18A.4.7.1 divided by the number of years (or part years) of the term of that contract. If the Club makes the election referred to in Regulation

18A.4.7.1, the amounts calculated under this Regulation 18A.4.7.2 will be brought to accounts as Football Payments in each year of the agreed term of that contract, regardless of whether or not the Player completes his contract of service with the League Club. (If a player is paid say, \$3,000 as a Sign on or Relocation payment for a two year contract, the Club may include \$1,500 in each year of the contract, provided the player is transferring from outside the Club's metropolitan boundary).

18A.4.8 Lump Sum Payments on Termination of Contract

Any lump sum paid to a Player on termination of his Contract to play football with a League Club made directly or indirectly to a Player or an Associate of a Player.

18A.4.9 Loans

The full amount of loans made to any Player or an Associate of any Player shall be deemed to be a Football Payment to the Player at the time of the advance of the loan. An amount equivalent to any repayments of the loan shall be deducted from the Salary Cap of the League Club in the year or years in which repayments are made.

18A.4.10 Best and Fairest Payments

Payments or benefits in cash or kind given or made available to Players in respect to Club Awards for League Player.

18A.4.10.1 Major Round

Contract payments made to a Player for a Best and Fairest incentive during the Major Round shall not be included in the Salary Cap provided any such payment does not exceed the contracted amount. Any amount paid to the player in excess of that amount shall be included.

(The Club has a Best and Fairest vote value of \$20 during the minor round. Should this amount be increased during the major round, the total value of the increase over \$20 shall be included in the Salary Cap).

18A.4.11 After Match Club Awards - Sponsors

Payments or benefits in excess of a total of \$300 in each Round of Matches given to Players as After Match Awards.

18A.4.12 Playing Coaches Fees

Where a playing coach plays in any League Match, the higher of the amount stated as a match payment in any contract which he may have with the League Club or, an amount equal to the highest match payment paid to any other Player of that League Club.

18A.4.13 FBT

All Fringe Benefit Tax payable by a League Club in respect of any Football Payment.

(Fringe Benefits Tax is payable in Airfares, Medical Insurance, Injury insurance etc, unless the total value of the benefit(s) provided is included in the player's Group Certificate).

18A.4.14 Superannuation

All statutory and other contributions to Superannuation made by a League Club on behalf or for the benefit of a Player.

18A.4.15 AFL Players

A Player who is registered to play with an AFL Club on the date of the first Minor Round Match in each season who plays football for a team of the League Club will be deemed to have been paid:-

(This ensures that a Rookie List Player who has been elevated during the season to the Senior List of an AFL Club because of injury to another Player on the Senior List of that AFL Club but who has not become a registered AFL Player, or, has become a registered AFL Player but are deleted from the Senior List of that AFL Club upon the return of the Injured Player, are not included in the same category as registered Players of an AFL Club for the purposes of calculating deemed Match Payments under Regulation 18A.4.15).

18A.4.15.1 An amount of \$350 in respect of each League Match played for a League Club up to a total of forty matches played for a League Club and/or an AFL Club.

18A.4.15.2 An amount of \$500 in respect of each League Match played for a League Club in excess of a total of forty matches played for a League Club and/or an AFL Club.

18A.4.16 Milestone Payment Minor Round

All milestone payments attained during the minor round shall be included in the Salary Cap.

18A.4.16.1 Major Round

Any contract payment paid to a player having attained a milestone during the major round shall not be included in the Salary Cap, provided such payment does not exceed the contracted amount.

(A player is contracted to receive \$1,000 in attaining an 18A game milestone. Should the Club increase this amount to \$2,000 for a major round, then \$1,000 will be included in the Salary Cap).

18A.5. Football Payments not to exceed Salary Cap

Subject to any guidelines which may be issued from time to time or in any particular case by the Football Commission, neither a League Club nor any person or entity directly or

indirectly associated with a League Club (including without limitation any sponsor or supporter group of that League Club) in any Financial Year give to or apply for the benefit of, or offer to give to or apply for the benefit of a Player or Associate of a Player any Football Payments or cause or offer to cause any Football Payments given to or applied for the benefit of all Players of the League Club and/or Associates of those Players, whether given or applied by the League Club or by some other person or entity, which in total would exceed the Salary Cap for that League Club for that Financial Year. For the purposes of determining whether a Club has given or applied any Football Payments in accordance with this Regulation 18A.5 in any Season, it will be deemed that the maximum value of Football Payments which may be given or applied to a Player or Associate of a Player under any contract agreement arrangement or understanding has been so given or applied. (Total payments and benefits provided to all players or their associates by the Club, Sponsors or other associates of Clubs must not exceed the Salary Cap in any year).

18A.6. Application of Regulation 18A

18A.6.1 Regulations 18A.1 and 18A.2 will cease to have any effect after 31 October 2006.

18A.6.2 Regulations 18A.3 to 18A.5 inclusive will remain in full force and effect until 31 October 2006, and after that date until such time as the football Commission determines otherwise. Those Regulations will only apply after 31 October 2006 for the purposes of determining as to whether or not any facts circumstances occurring on or before that date, are evidence amounting to a breach of Regulation 18A.5 on or before that date.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Version	Description of change
26.08.2025	2026 v1	Original version
13.03.2026	2026 v2	Updates to Schedule 4: Reportable Offences and Procedures, to reflect version 5.1 of AFL's National Community Football Policy Handbook