

By-Law E. 2020 SEASON RULE AMENDMENTS DUE TO COVID 19

The following amendments to current rules will apply for the 2020 season due to the COVID 19 Pandemic and the associated disruption to the regular competition. This By-Law will have precedence over all related rules for the 2020 season. Where sections have been changed completely, or deleted, the existing rule will appear with a line through it showing the change.

Rule 4. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

K. Closing Date for Registrations

- (a) Registrations close on the 31st July of the current season, or when this date falls on a weekend, then the last Friday of the month. Registrations must be received at the Association Office by 3.00pm on that day. No registrations will be accepted by the Association Office after that date except as provided for in (b) below.
- (b) The E.C. may approve of the acceptance of a registration after 31st July (or where this falls on a weekend, the last Friday of the month) if it determines that extenuating circumstances exist to permit a late registration to be accepted.

Rule 6. B. Team Re-Grading after Competition Starts

- ~~(a) — Regrading of competition teams should occur at the conclusion of four (4) rounds of football. All regrading decisions will be final and not subject to any appeal.~~
- (a) There will be no Regrading of competition teams for 2020.

Rule 9. A. Competition Format

- ~~(b) — The program of matches will include the provision of a complete finals series as covered by Rule 23.~~
- (b) A finals series for 2020 will only be run at the discretion of the E.C. and only where time and and field availability allow this.
- ~~(c) — Irrespective of the number of teams in any grade or division the season draw will include the provision of eighteen (18) competition rounds before the finals. If it is necessary to abandon any rounds, the total number of rounds drawn will be reduced to allow four (4) weeks for a finals series.~~
- (c) The number of competition rounds to be played in 2020 will be at the discretion of the E.C.

- (d) ~~If it is necessary to abandon any part of the finals series, the E.C. is authorised to arrange an alternate final series within the time available before the official end of the season. The alternative may include night games or “double headers” with the aim of achieving the maximum benefit to the teams involved.~~

Rule 10. STARTING TIME FOR MATCHES

- B. A competition team must have seven (7) players on the field of play and ready to commence play within fifteen (15) minutes after the nominated starting time otherwise the team shall forfeit the match.

Rule 13. NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER GAME

- B. A team participating in a competition match must contain a minimum of seven (7) listed players at the start of the match. There must be at least seven (7) players whose names appear on the match sheet on the field at all times, otherwise that team is to forfeit the match. A team having seven (7) listed players present at the scheduled starting time of the game must take the field of play except in circumstances outlined in Rule 10. D.
- C. A maximum of **eighteen (18)** players per team can participate in all competition matches played under the control of the Sutherland Association. The penalty for a breach of this rule shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team.

Rule 14. IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR COMPETITION MATCHES

- D. (a) Before the start of a match the players nominated to play shall present their I.D. cards for inspection by the Manager of the opposing team.

Rule 16. BORROWING OF PLAYERS

PLAYERS AGED UP TO AND INCLUDING 16 YEARS OF AGE, AS GIVEN BY THE AGE THEY TURN IN THE YEAR, ARE ONLY PERMITTED TO PLAY OR BE BORROWED INTO ANY SIDE THAT IS EITHER ONE (1) OR TWO (2) YEARS ABOVE THEIR AGE. OTHER NORMAL BORROWING RULES APPLY.

A. Players Involved in MiniRoos Under 6 to Under 11

- (a) Players in Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 years MiniRoos may be borrowed into any other side within their age group at any time. Coaches should not borrow players who are obviously of too high an ability for the grade into which they are being borrowed. This is to ensure some equity is retained.
- (b) Players in Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 years MiniRoos may be borrowed into a higher

age group but cannot go up more than two (2) years in age as given by the age they turn in that year. They may be borrowed into any grade of MiniRoos.

- (c) Under 10 players may be borrowed into any Under 10 or Under 11 side but they are only allowed to go down one (1) grade when being borrowed into an Under 12 side. i.e. 10B to 12C, 10C to 12D etc., excepting 10A may only play in 12A, but can be borrowed into any Under 10 or Under 11 grade. No more than **FOUR (4)** Under 10 players who have gone up to the Under 12 age group and down a grade may participate in a match. Players may only be borrowed to the same team **six (6) times** in total during the season. MiniRoos players cannot be transferred into Under 12 teams at any time in the season.
- (d) Under 11 players may be borrowed into any Under 11 side but they are only allowed to go down one (1) grade when being borrowed into an Under 12 or Under 13 side. i.e. 11B to 12C, 11C to 13D etc., excepting 11A may only play in 12A or 13A, but can be borrowed into any Under 11 grade. No more than **FOUR (4)** Under 11 players who have gone up to the Under 12 or Under 13 age group and down a grade may participate in a match. Players may only be borrowed to the same team **six (6) times** in total during the season. MiniRoos players cannot be transferred into Under 12 or Under 13 teams at any time in the season.
- (e) Players in 10A may be borrowed into any Under 10 or Under 11 grade but may only be borrowed into 12A sides.
- (f) Players in 11A may be borrowed into any Under 11 grade but may only be borrowed into 12A and 13A sides.
- (g) Note that girls cannot be borrowed into any 13 years and older men's competitions nor can boys be borrowed into any 12 years and older girl's/women's competitions.
- (h) Boys 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are not to be borrowed into girl's only grades, but girls 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 may be borrowed into Junior Mixed Divisions.
- (i) The penalty for a breach of any part of Rule 16 shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team with Rule 19 applying to the forfeit.

B. Players Involved in Under 12 to Under 21 Years (Boys and Women's Competitions)

- (a) Players may be borrowed into any higher graded side in their age group, or a side in an older age group, a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.
- (b) Where a Club has two or more teams in the same grade, **four (4)** players may be borrowed from the other side in that grade for any match. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may not be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side.

- (c) Girls playing in W12 Divisions may be borrowed into U12 Junior Mixed Divisions. They may only be borrowed into a grade the same or higher than the grade they play, i.e. W12B into 12B or 12A, W12A only into 12A. They may not be borrowed into a grade lower than the one they play. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may **not** be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.

Girls playing in U12 Junior Mixed Divisions may be borrowed into W12 Divisions or W13 Divisions (if applicable). They may only be borrowed into a grade the same or higher than the grade they play, i.e. 12B into W12B, W12A, W13B or W13A; 12A only into W12A or W13A. They may not be borrowed into a grade lower than the one they play. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may **not** be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.

- (d) Players in Under 12 to Under 14 year competitions may be borrowed into a higher age group but cannot go up more than two (2) years in age as given by the age they turn in that year, unless special dispensation is granted under sub clause 16. B. (e). They may be borrowed into any grade higher than the grade they are playing or into one (1) grade lower than the grade they play, except 'A' grade players who may only be borrowed into another 'A' grade side, i.e. 12B into 14C; D into E. Players may only be borrowed a maximum of **six (6) times** in total during the season into an older graded side after which an application may be made to the E.C.

for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. No more than **FOUR (4)** players who have gone down a grade may participate in any one game.

- (e) Special dispensation may be granted for girls registered in W12 to W16 teams ONLY, to be borrowed into a higher age group that is more than 2 years above the age they turn that year. This dispensation will only be considered for approval by the E.C. if:
- (i) A letter of consent is received from the player's parent, guardian or carer and
 - (ii) A letter is received from the Club stating that the player has been assessed by a competent Club Official who has confirmed that the player has the necessary fitness, skill and strength levels to play in the nominated age division and grade.

Approval MUST be received in writing by the Club before the player is permitted to play in the higher age group. No dispensation is permitted for players turning 16 or younger to be borrowed into the W21 or Senior Women's competitions.

- (f) Players in Under 15 year competitions may only be borrowed into Under 16 year's competitions and Players in Under 16 year's competitions may only be borrowed into Under 18 year competitions. These players cannot go up more than two (2) years in age as given by the age they turn in that year. These players may go down one (1) grade when being borrowed into the older age group, excepting 'A' grade

players who may only be borrowed into 'A' grade. No more than **FOUR (4)** players who have gone down a grade may participate in any one game.

- (g) The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.
- (h) Under 18 year players may be borrowed into Under 21 grades. 18A may only play 21A, all other Under 18 players may go down one (1) grade, i.e. 18B into 21C; 18C into 21D etc. No more than **FOUR (4)** players who have gone down a grade may participate in any one game.
- (i) Players 16 years of age as given by the age they turn in that year registered in U18 year's competition are not permitted to be borrowed into any higher age group. Under 18 year players may be borrowed into All Age Men's (AL) and Senior Women's (WS) competitions only in the following manner:

18A may play AL1, AL2, and AL3
Women's 18A may play WSA and WSB
18B may play AL1 up to and including AL6
Women's 18B may play WSA to WSD
18C and lower may play any All Age grade
Women's 18C/lower any WS grade

Eligible players registered in W18B competition may be borrowed into any WS competition, only if the W18 competition has only two grades A and B.

Players may only be borrowed a maximum of **six (6) times** in total during the season into any other side after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.

- (j) Under 21 years players may be borrowed into All Age (AL) and Senior Women's (WS) competitions in the following grades:

21A may play AL1, AL2 and AL3
Women's 21A may play WSA and WSB
21B may play AL1 up to and including AL6
Women's 21B – may play WSA to WSD
21C/lower may play any All Age Grade
Women's 21C/lower may play All Grades WS

Eligible players registered in W21B competition may be borrowed into any WS competition, only if the W21 competition has only two grades A and B.

Players may be borrowed a maximum of **six (6) times** during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.

- (k) The penalty for a breach of any part of Rule 16 shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team with Rule 19 applying to the forfeit.

C. **Players Involved in All Age Men's and Senior Women's Competitions**

- (a) Players may be borrowed into any higher graded side in the All Age (AL) or Senior Women's (WS) competition a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.
- (b) Where a Club has two or more teams in the same grade, **four (4)** players may be borrowed from the other side in that grade for any match. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may not be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side.
- (c) All Age (AL) and Senior Women's (WS) players cannot be borrowed into younger nor older age competitions.
- (d) The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.
- (e) The penalty for a breach of any part of Rule 16 shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team with Rule 19 applying to the forfeit.

D. **Players Involved in Over 35 Men's and Over 30 Women's Competitions**

- (a) Players may be borrowed into any higher graded side in the O35s men's and O30s women's competition a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.
- (b) Where a Club has two or more teams in the same grade, **four (4)** players may be borrowed from the other side in that grade for any match. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may not be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side.
- (c) 35A players may be borrowed into AL1 to AL4; 35B players may be borrowed into AL1 to AL6; 35C players may be borrowed into AL1 to AL10; 35D and below may be borrowed into any All Age grade.
- (d) Women's 30A may be borrowed into WSA and WSB; W30B and below may play in any Senior Women's grade.
- (e) Players may only be borrowed into any competition side (in accordance with these Rules) a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.

- (f) The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.
- (g) The penalty for a breach of any part of Rule 16 shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team with Rule 19 applying to the forfeit.

E. **Players Involved in Over 45 Men's and Over 40 Women's Competitions** (Also refer to By-Law C)

- (a) Players may be borrowed into any higher graded side in the Over 45 men's and Over 40 women's competition a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.
- (b) Where a Club has two or more teams in the same grade, **four (4)** players may be borrowed from the other side in that grade for any match. A player may only be borrowed in this fashion **six (6) times** in the season. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time. An application may not be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side.
- (c) 45A players may be borrowed into 35A to 35C grades and AL1 to AL6 grades; 45B players and below may be borrowed into any Over 35 and any All Age grade.
- (d) Over 40 women may play in any grade of Over 30 women and Senior Women's competition.
- (e) Players may only be borrowed into any competition side (in accordance with these Rules) a maximum of **six (6)** times during the season after which an application may be made to the E.C. for the player to be transferred into that side. They may not be borrowed a **seventh** time.
- (f) The maximum number of players any team can borrow for a match is **six (6)**.
- (g) The penalty for a breach of any part of Rule 16 shall be the loss of the game by forfeit by the offending team with Rule 19 applying to the forfeit.

F. **Special Borrowing Allowances for Team Hardship**

Clubs may seek E.C. approval for a special dispensation of any of the above borrowing rules in cases of team hardship. When considering any applications, the E.C. will also need to take into account the possible impact on opposing teams that the borrowing may cause.

Rule 19. FORFEITS

- C. (a) A team ruled to have forfeited a match shall be required to pay all match and officials fees levied against both teams for that match.

- (b) Except as provided in Rule 19. D., should a team notifying of a forfeit do so at least five (5) days before the date of the scheduled game, then no fees as in C. (a) above will be levied but a fine, the amount to be set by the E.C. prior to Round 1, will be imposed on the forfeiting team.
(See Rule 19.D. for forfeits of any of last three (3) competition games)
- D. (a) A team forfeiting any of the last three (3) competition games drawn to be played prior to the semi-finals shall, in addition to the penalty imposed by Part C above, pay a fine as set by the E.C. prior to the season.

(b) Junior Men's (U12 to U18) and Women's teams (W12 to W18) to pay 50% of the fine set by the E.C. prior to the season.
- E. In exceptional circumstances for the 2020 season, the E.C. may waive any of the above fines.

Rule 23. SEMI-FINALS, FINALS AND GRAND FINALS

- A. ~~The team finishing highest in the competition is classified as the home team.~~
- B. ~~Each Club participating in a match must supply one person for additional Ground Control. This person is responsible for the behaviour of their own spectators and must co-operate with the Club Ground Controllers at all times and must wear a Orange Ground Control Jacket. Jackets to be collected from Ground Control and returned to Ground Control after the match.
The name of each competing Club Ground Control nominee is to be printed on the bottom of the match sheet on the same side as the team represented.~~
- C. ~~Injury time shall be played in each game.~~
- D. ~~Normal borrowing rules apply as per Rule 16.~~
- E. ~~**Semi Finals**
At the end of the second round of the competition or on the date the E.C. rules that the competition shall end, the first four teams on a point score basis shall play semi finals in which the leading team shall play the second placed team in the major semi final and the third team shall play the fourth placed team in the minor semi final. (See Rule 22)~~
- F. ~~**Finals**
The loser of the major semi final shall play the winner of the minor semi final.~~
- G. ~~**Grand Finals**
The winner of the major semi final shall play the winner of the final, with the winner of this match becoming the winner of the competition.~~
- A. For the 2020 season, the playing of any finals matches and the format of these (if played) will be at the discretion of the E.C.

AWARDING OF TROPHIES

Rule 25. AWARDING OF TROPHIES (Also refer to By-Law C)

A. Competition Trophies and Awards

- ~~(a) — Individual trophies will be awarded to each member of both teams participating in the Grand Final of all divisions — Winners and Runners Up.~~
- ~~(b) — In the event of a Minor Premier not participating in a grand final, a trophy shall be awarded to each member of the team.~~
- ~~(c) — Encouragement Award trophies to be awarded to teams up to and including Under 16. The Encouragement Awards shall be determined in accordance with By-Law G (a) to (f) where possible.~~
- ~~(d) — The Association will at its cost, provide up to sixteen (16) trophies per team. Clubs shall be responsible for the cost of any additional trophies.~~
- ~~(e) — No trophies will be given in Under 6 to Under 11 divisions.~~
- (a) Competition trophies for 2020 will be awarded to Grand Final teams only (should a finals series be played). No other trophies will be awarded.**

C. Encouragement Awards

- ~~(a) — Trophies shall be awarded to members of the MOST IMPROVED TEAMS in each division, from U12 up to and including U16. These shall be determined by subtracting the first round competition points from the second round competition points. The team showing the most positive difference shall receive the award.~~
- ~~(b) — If two or more teams have equal positive results the winner of the award shall be such of these teams with the best positive improvement in goal difference, e.g. a team with 10 goals for and 20 goals against in the first round games will have a goal difference of -10, should it in the second round games score 15 goals for and concede 20 goals against, it will have a goal difference of -5 for that round. The improvement for that team will be +5. Where the teams concerned each have a negative result comparing the difference, the winner will be the team with the least negative result. Where all results are still equal, the team with the best positive improvement in goals "for" difference shall be declared the winner.~~
- ~~(c) — Where more than two rounds are played, the competition points of the first and second rounds will be compared with the competition points of the second and third rounds.~~
- ~~(d) — In a 6 or 8 team competition, the half round shall be disregarded and the rules as paragraph (a) above shall apply.~~

~~(e) Teams promoted and downgraded shall have the points referred to in Rule 20 (E) used as the basis of Improvers Points.~~

(a) Encouragement Awards for 2020 will be not be awarded.

Rule 28. TECHNICAL AREA – ALL COMPETITION GAMES

- A. Clubs responsible for marking fields for competition games, Under 12 and older, shall clearly mark a Technical Area ON **BOTH SIDES** OF THE FIELD where possible to define the area where a Coach or Manager is permitted to coach or otherwise direct his/her team. **The home team shall select which technical area they will use and the away team will use the opposite side (if applicable).**