



ADELAIDE HILLS JUNIOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC.

COMPETITION RULES FOR THE 2011 SEASON

INDEX

RULE NO	RULE	PAGE NO
1	PRELIMINARY	1
2	INTERPRETATION	1
3	LAWS OF THE GAME	1
4	OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS	1
5	CODES OF CONDUCT	1
6	SECURITY CLEARANCES	1
7	REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS	2
8	REGISTRATION OF TEAMS	3
9	AGE OF PLAYERS	4
10	TRANSFERS	5
11	TEAM SHEETS	5
12	NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS	5
13	DURATION OF LEAGUE & ASSOCIATION CUP MATCHES	5
14	COMPETITION POINTS	6
15	UNEQUAL LEAGUE ROUNDS	6
16	GOAL DIFFERENCE	6
17	INTERCHANGE PLAYERS	7
18	FORFEITURE OF MATCHES	7
19	SHORTENED MATCHES	8
20	POSTPONED MATCHES	8
21	ABANDONED MATCHES	9
22	HOT WEATHER POLICY	9
23	JEWELLERY POLICY	9
24	SPECTACLES and PLASTER (or SIMILAR) CASTS POLICY	10
25	MODIFIED RULES	10
26	PITCH MARKINGS	10
27	GOALS	11
28	CORNER KICKS	11
29	BALLS	11
30	COLOURS	11
31	TEAM OFFICIALS	11
32	COACHING	12
33	REFEREES	12
34	DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES	13
35	ASSOCIATION CUP RULES	16
36	CARNIVAL RULES	17
APPENDIX A	OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS	18
APPENDIX B	MODIFIED RULES SUMMARY	19
APPENDIX C	SCORE REPORT EXAMPLE	20

LAST UPDATED: MARCH 2011

1. PRELIMINARY

These Competition Rules shall apply to the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association competitions for season 2011. To the extent that anything in these competition rules conflicts with existing AHJSA by-laws, the by-laws will be amended to bring them in line with these Competition Rules.

2. INTERPRETATION

In these rules the following meanings apply.

‘AHJSA’	means the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association Inc.
‘AHRB’	means the Adelaide Hills Referees Branch
‘FIFA’	means the Federation Internationale de Football Associations.
‘FFA’	means the Football Federation Australia Inc
‘FFSA’	means the Football Federation South Australia Inc.
‘Team Official’	means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, assistant referees, medical staff, gear persons and other support staff.
‘Written’ or ‘In Writing’	includes email.

3. LAWS OF THE GAME

All matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of soccer as laid down from time to time by FIFA, except such adaptations or modifications as may be contained in these Rules to take into account local conditions and regulations and the ages of players registered with the AHJSA.

4. OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS

Each club will provide the email address and telephone number of at least one club contact person to be recorded as the official club contact(s). Where any communication with a club is required under these Rules, communication via the official club contact will be deemed sufficient. A list of the official club contacts is attached as [Appendix A](#).

5. CODES OF CONDUCT

Every club shall ensure that officials, players and spectators are aware of the FFA Football Code of Conduct and Spectator Code of Conduct which are available from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab.

6. SECURITY CLEARANCES

- (a) Each club must ensure that its coaches, managers and any club or team official over the age of 18 years, having unsupervised contact with children under 18 years have a Level 1a – Standard Disclosure Duty of Care - National Police Certificate of not less than 2 years standing at the start of the season, which is free from any criminal record that would have an affect on minors. This applies regardless as to whether or not the person has a child in the team. Registered Teachers and serving Police Officers need only supply documentary evidence of their current employment. Guidelines on evaluating the information on National Police Certificates can be found on the Federal Government’s Ausport website:
http://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/ethics/child_protection/law/background_checking (amended 2011)

- (b) Each club shall provide the AHJSA with copies of it's officials' police checks with each copy endorsed by the club chairperson, secretary or nominated club person as follows:
"I certify that I have sighted the original police check and this is a true copy
Signed xxx Designation xxx." (amended 2011)
- (c) Clubs shall post the certified copies of police checks to the AHJSA PO Box 147 Crafers SA 5152 marked "Attention AHJSA Chairperson". The AHJSA Chairperson will act as AHJSA Child Protection Officer. (inserted 2011)
- (d) The AHJSA Child Protection Officer will decide whether any National Police Certificate which contains a criminal record - is of a nature which fails the Federal Government's Ausport guidelines and makes the person unsuitable for coaching or managing children under 18. (amended 2011)
- (e) Any person deemed unsuitable for coaching or managing children under 18 must not be involved in coaching or managing any team playing in any AHJSA competition. (amended 2011)
- (f) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the AHJSA Child Protection Officer may request the matter be referred to the FFSA for review.
- (g) The AHJSA Child Protection Officer will ensure that all coaches and managers of representative teams provide suitable National Police Certificates before their appointment is confirmed.
- (h) If a coach or manager needs to apply for a National Police Certificate, in order to have the FFSA Volunteer Organisation Authority Number (VOAN) number attached and the appropriate authorisation given so no fee is payable, the following procedure must be followed.
 - (i) Firstly, fill out the application form available from Police Stations or from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab
 - (ii) Take the form completed with the applicant's details to a Police Station with the required Identification.
 - (iii) Have the form authorised at the Police Station once Identification has been sighted and approved **but do not lodge the form or pay the fee.**
 - (iv) Lodge the form with the club secretary who forwards the form to the Secretary of the AHJSA PO Box 147 Crafers 5152.
 - (v) The AHJSA Secretary will forward the form to the FFSA Office for the FFSA to approve the use of the VOAN and insert the VOAN number. The FFSA will forward the form directly to SAPOL
 - (vii) Once received from SAPOL the National Police Certificate must be provided to the club in accordance with rule 6(a)

7. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) A player is registered with the AHJSA for the season by being nominated, together with his/her FFA national registration number, on a club's team registration sheet for a particular age group.
- (b) If a player does not have an FFA national registration number he/she must complete an FFA national registration form NRR03 supplied by the AHJSA to the club registrars. No photographs or details of fees are required on the form. A copy of the form may be downloaded from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA Documents tab. The FFSA number will be allocated by the AHJSA registrar on receipt of the form.

- (c) A player registration fee of \$50 is payable by the club to the AHJSA in respect of each player registered unless the player has already paid the National Registration Fee \$11 to another club in a different competition (e.g. the FFSA Junior Premier Leagues) under dual registration arrangements, in which case the AHJSA registration fee is reduced to \$39.00
- (d) If a player is already registered for the season with another competition (e.g. an FFSA Junior Premier League) this fact must be identified on the team registration sheet. Copies of the team registration sheet may be downloaded from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA Documents tab. The AHJSA has permission from the FFA for players to be dual registered with the FFSA Junior Premier Leagues including the FFSA Junior Premier League for girls.
- (e) If additional players are nominated after the initial team registration sheet has been lodged, a further team registration sheet containing only the details of the new player/players, together with the player registration fees and if required, the national registration forms, must be lodged with the AHJSA registrar by 5pm on the Thursday night before a match if a player is to be eligible to play on the following weekend except for the first game when these documents must be lodged by 5pm 25 March 2011.
- (f) Additional team registration sheets required under rule 7(d) should be emailed to registrar@ahjsa.asn.au with a confirmation that the registration fee(s) have been posted to AHJSA, PO Box 147 Crafers 5152
- (g) A cheque for the player registration fees(s), made payable to the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association must be posted to AHJSA, PO Box 147 Crafers at the same time that the team registration sheet is emailed to the registrar.
- (h) FFA national registration forms must be posted to the AHJSA Registrar, PO Box 147 Crafers SA 5152 (amended 2011)
- (i) Once the team registration sheet is received and fees are posted, the player is registered to play with the nominating club for 2011 unless a transfer is effected.
- (j) A club must not nominate a player for registration unless the parent or legal guardian of the player has consented to him/her being nominated to play for the club in 2011 and has agreed to abide by the rules and policies of the AHJSA.

8. REGISTRATION OF TEAMS

- (a) Registration of teams shall be on a team registration sheet (AHJSA Form 2) and contain the details of players to be registered for that team for the season. A player may only be registered for one team. Provided that the G League and the Mixed League are considered two separate competitions for the purpose of registration and a female may register to play in both leagues. (amended 2011)
- (b) A team registration sheet shall be lodged for each team to be registered, whether competitive or non-competitive.
- (c) Team registration sheets must be lodged with the AHJSA Registrar by 15th March 2011 or the team will not be registered for the season.
- (d) Team registration sheets required under rule 8(c) must be emailed to registrar@ahjsa.asn.au with a confirmation that the registration fee(s) have been posted to AHJSA, PO Box 147 Crafers 5152. A copy of the team registration sheet must be emailed to the programming director at programming@ahjsa.asn.au
- (e) If a club registers more than one team in any age division a player must play for the team he/she in which he has been nominated, provided that the club may, before the third league game, advise the AHJSA registrar by email that it wishes for a player to

change teams for the remainder of the season, after which he/she must play for that team only.

- (f) In recognition that player unavailability may occasionally deplete team numbers and so, to allow sufficient flexibility in team selection to maintain a balanced competition, a player may, if required under these circumstances only, play for a team in a higher, or subject to age eligibility, a lower age group, without infringing rule 8(a) or 8 (e) or needing to be separately registered for that team. This rule applies to League matches only not the Association Cup which is subject to Association Cup Rules 35 (g), 35(m) and 35 (n). (amended 2011)
- (g) If the Executive is of the opinion that rule 8(f) has been abused or has not been applied in the spirit in which it is intended to operate, then the Executive may investigate and impose such penalties as it deems fit. (amended 2011)
- (h) A team registration fee of \$45 for each non competitive team and \$55 for each competitive team is payable by the club to the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association by 5pm on 15th March 2011. Cheques must be posted to AHJSA PO Box 147 Crafers SA 5152.
- (i) No team will be registered unless the team registration sheet contains the minimum of players required to field a team in the team's age division.
- (j) The G League and the Mixed League are considered two separate competitions for the purpose of registration and a female may register to play in both leagues. (inserted 2011)

Copies of the team registration sheet may be downloaded from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA Documents tab.

9. AGE OF PLAYERS

- (a) For the purpose of determining the age of the player in respect of competitions conducted by the AHJSA his/her age on 1st January in any year will be regarded as his/her age for the next following season, e.g., a player who turns 9 years old on or after 1st January shall be eligible to play in the U/9 age group in the following season.
- (b) The Executive may grant permission for a player to play in the age group immediately below his/her rightful age group in competitions conducted by the AHJSA upon written application being made by the player's Club. A maximum of two overage players per club may be allowed in any competitive age group having regard to the following matters.
 - (i) Whether there is no team at the club in a higher age group in which the player could play.
 - (ii) Whether the team requires the overage player to form a viable playing squad. 14 players including overage players will be considered to constitute a viable squad and an overage player will not be sanctioned if he/she increases the squad beyond 14.
 - (iii) The players date of birth in relation to the season.
 - (iv) Whether it is impractical for the player to play for another club because of geographical considerations.
 - (v) The player's skill level and playing experience.
 - (vi) Any verifiable medical reasons.

In non competitive age groups consideration may also be given to family reasons and a viable playing squad will be considered to be three players above the standard playing numbers for the age group. (amended 2011).

- (c) Applications for an overage exemption must be on the form available under the Documents tab and two weeks must be allowed for the Executive to consider the application.

- (d) An exemption is valid only in the season for which it is granted and the committee may revoke the exemption if it considers that any of the above factors were incorrectly applied at the time the decision to grant the exemption was made.

10. TRANSFERS

- (a) AHJSA transfers only affect players who are registered under the auspices of the AHJSA. Transfers are only required after a player has already registered or re-registered for a club for a given season. They are not required if a player transfers to another club in the off season.

A transfer is effected by the secretary of the player's new club notifying the AHJSA Registrar and the player's previous club's secretary that he/she wishes to transfer clubs and must state the date that the transfer will take effect. FFA National Registration Regulation transfer forms NRR08 2009 Cancellation of Amateur Registration and NRR11 2009 Supplementary Registration must accompany the transfer request. These forms can be downloaded from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the Documents tab.

- (b) Any adjustment regarding fees as a result of the transfer is the responsibility of the two clubs concerned.
- (c) No transfer may take place unless the permission of the player's parent or legal guardian has been obtained.

11. TEAM SHEETS

- (a) A team sheet is required for all competitive league and association cup matches.
- (b) It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that their appointed match official makes out team sheets in a proper manner. Names of players, including initials, must be printed legibly. Sixteen (16) players **only** may be nominated on the team sheet,
- (c) It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that it is properly completed and handed to the referee at least 5 minutes before the commencement of the match.
- (d) It is the responsibility of each club to record the best players for its team in the appropriate section of the team sheet which will be retained by the home club.
- (d) The referee will lodge the white copies of completed sheet with the AHJSA Registrar not later than Tuesday following the match played by posting it to the AHJSA Registrar. Any changes to team sheets must be initialed by both coaches and the referee.
- (e) Each team must retain its copies of the team sheets as a record of the game.
- (f) Team sheets are not required in non-competitive leagues.

12. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

All home teams are required to email scores from competitive matches and each club's goal scorers and best players through to the AHJSA Publicity Officer at publicity@ahjsa.asn.au no later than 6 PM on the day the matches are played. An example of the format required is attached as Appendix C.

13. DURATION OF LEAGUE & ASSOCIATION CUP MATCHES

- (a) The duration of all league and cup matches conducted under the auspices of the AHJSA, with the exception of the Association Cup Carnival and other similar Carnivals, shall be:

Under 8 & 9 mixed:	20 minutes each half.
Under 10, 10G	25 minutes each half.
Under 11 & 12 mixed & 12G	25 minutes each half.
Under 14G, 13 & 14 mixed:	35 minutes each half.
Under 17G & 16 mixed:	40 minutes each half.

(b) The half time interval shall be no less than 5 and no more than 10 minutes in length.

14. COMPETITION POINTS

Competitive leagues will be conducted on a points basis awarded to the teams as follows:

- 3 points for a win;
- 1 point for a draw; and
- No points for a loss.

15. UNEQUAL LEAGUE ROUNDS

The league season will end by the last weekend in August and it is recognized that this may result in some competitions consisting of unequal rounds. In such a circumstance the league will be determined on the number of matches played without allowance for the fact that some teams will not play each other an equal number of times.

However if a league with unequal rounds also contains a bye, points and goals for and against will be allocated to a team with a bye in the unequal round according to the average points that team scored in the completed full round(s) calculated on the following basis;

Points

Total points scored in the full round(s)

Total matches played in full round(s)	= 0 - 1.49 points	then 1 point awarded
	= 1.50 - 2.49 points	then 2 points awarded
	= 2.50+ points	then 3 points awarded

Goals For

Total goals scored in the full round(s)

Total games played in the full round(s)	= X.00 -X.49 goals	then rounded down
	= X.50- X.99 goals	then rounded up

Goals Against

Total goals conceded in the full round(s)

Total games played in the full round(s)	= X.00 -X.49 goals	then rounded down
	= X.50- X.99 goals	then rounded up

16. GOAL DIFFERENCE

- (a) Goal difference shall be determined by subtracting the number of goals scored against a team in the competition from the number of goals scored by the team in the competition.
- (b) Where 2 or more teams have the same number of points, the team with the better goal difference shall hold the higher position, as follows:
 - (i) The team with the higher positive goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
 - (ii) The team with a positive goal difference shall be deemed to have a better goal difference than a team with a negative goal difference;
 - (iii) The team with the lower negative goal difference shall be deemed to be the better goal difference;
 - (iv) Where goal differences are the same, the team which scored the greater number of goals shall be deemed to have the better goal difference; and
 - (v) Where goal differences are equal and the teams scored the same number of goals, their positions shall be declared tied.

17. INTERCHANGE PLAYERS

- (a) For teams in non competitive age groups unlimited interchange is permitted.
- (b) For teams in competitive age groups, up to five (5) players may be interchanged at any time during the match and in accordance with the laws of the game.
- (c) Referees are to be notified of the interchange of players by the team manager or coach prior to the interchange taking place and in accordance with the FIFA rules for exchanging players on the field.

18. FORFEITURE OF MATCHES

- (a) A competitive match may be forfeited for any of the following reasons:
 - (i) By a club notifying the AHJSA Programming Director, by email to programming@ahjsa.asn.au, the AHJSA Registrar registrar@ahjsa.asn.au and the opposing club's official email contact before 6PM on the Thursday night before the match is scheduled, that the team will be unable to play the match at the scheduled time and place. If the game is scheduled for a day other than a Saturday then the last time for a postponement in these circumstances will be 48 hours before kick off.
 - (ii) By a team being unable to field seven (7) or more players within 10 minutes of the scheduled starting time of a match, or at any time throughout the match.
 - (iii) By a team failing to be ready to commence the match within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time .
 - (iv) By a team playing a suspended, unregistered or otherwise ineligible player.
 - (v) By a direction of the Executive Committee as a result of an investigation into the reasons leading to the abandonment of a match by the referee.
- (b) Forfeiture of matches shall be on the following basis:
 - (i) If the match is forfeited before the start the forfeiting team's opponents shall be awarded three (3) points and three (3) goals. The forfeiting team shall not receive any points and will have been deemed to have conceded 3 goals. It is permissible for the depleted team and its opponents to play a friendly match in lieu of the competitive match subject to the agreement of the officials of both teams. (amended 2011)
 - (ii) If the match is forfeited after the start and the forfeiting team is the losing team at the time of forfeiture, the score of the match at the time of forfeiture shall stand.
 - (iii) If the match is forfeited after the start and the forfeiting team is not the losing team at the time of forfeiture, that team shall receive neither points any goals but shall be deemed to have conceded three (3) goals. Their opponents shall receive three (3) match points and be credited with three (3) goals. (amended 2011)
 - (iv) If the match is forfeited by direction of the Executive Committee the result shall be determined in accordance with the rules in Rule 18(b) (ii) and 18(b)(iii) depending on whether the forfeiting team was or was not the losing team at the time the game was abandoned.
- (c) If a match is forfeited under rule 18(a)(i) the AHJSA Program Director will notify the AHJRA Referees' Co-ordinator of the forfeit and no referee's fee shall be payable. If a match is forfeited for any reason other than under rule 18(a)(i) the referee is entitled to the full match referee fee. In the case of a forfeit by a team being unable to field seven (7) or more players within 10 minutes of the scheduled starting time of a match,

the referee fee shall be paid by the forfeiting team. In all other cases, the referees' fee shall be paid in equal portions by both teams.

- (f) A forfeiture will not be granted to any team where it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Executive that the opposing team failed to play a scheduled match because of a genuine misdirection or failure to notify changed playing time or grounds or any other circumstances. Such a case will be treated as a postponement.

19. SHORTENED MATCHES

If a match is required to be shortened for any reason and if another match is scheduled to commence immediately thereafter, the Referee shall shorten both halves proportionately to enable the match to be completed on time. Such fact shall be noted on the match card by the referee.

20. POSTPONED MATCHES

- (a) A postponed match is a match which is postponed before the initial kick off because of weather, ground or other adverse conditions which may cause damage to the ground or injury to players.
- (b) If an official referee is in attendance the referee will make the decision whether or not to postpone the match. However, the referee must take into account the concerns of any home team official over potential damage to the pitch if the game continues. If in the opinion of the home team official the pitch will suffer damage, the referee must use common sense and act in the best and long-term interests of the competition and postpone the match. In such situations, the home team official must provide a report outlining the reasons for the advice to postpone the game to the Program Director within 72 hours of the postponement. In all other cases the decision to postpone the match will be the sole decision of the referee.
- (c) If, in the opinion of the referee, a game cannot be played on the ground on that day, then all subsequently scheduled games on that ground shall be automatically cancelled and the referee shall notify the Referee's Co-ordinator of that fact by telephone. The home club shall use its best endeavors to notify, as soon as possible by telephone, the official club contacts of any opposing teams scheduled to play that day that the games have been postponed. Referees appointed to any postponed matches following a decision to postpone a match by a previous referee shall be entitled to the full match fee. (amended 2011)
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the home club to notify the AHJSA Program Director programming@ahjsa.asn.au and the AHJSA Registrar registrar@ahjsa.asn.au of any postponement(s) under Rules 20(b) or 20(c) within 72 hours of the postponement.
- (e) A match may be postponed before 6PM on the Thursday prior to the game if in the opinion of the home team committee ground damage will result if the match proceeds. If the game is scheduled for a day other than a Saturday then the last time for a postponement in these circumstances will be 48 hours before kick off.
- (f) A match is postponed under Rule 20(e) by a member of the home team committee notifying the opposing club's official contact, the AHJSA Program Director at programming@ahjsa.asn.au and the AHJSA Registrar at registrar@ahjsa.asn.au of the postponement by the time stated in rule 20(e).
- (g) The AHJSA Program Director will be responsible for notifying the Referees' Co-ordinator of any postponement under Rule 20(e).
- (h) A match postponed under Rule 20(e) will not incur a referee match payment.
- (i) If a referee is in attendance and makes a decision to postpone the match under Rule 20(b), he/she shall be entitled to the full match payment.

- (j) Postponed matches are to be rescheduled by the end of the season by mutual consent between the clubs and the AHJSA Program Director notified at programming@ahjsa.asn.au of the revised time and place. If clubs cannot agree on a time and place for rescheduling the match within 4 weeks of the original date or the end of the season whichever comes sooner, the match will be rescheduled at a time and place determined by the AHJSA Program Director. (amended 2011)
- (k) If a team cannot play at the time and place determined by the AHJSA Program Director it shall be deemed to have forfeited the match in accordance with Rule 18(a)(iii). If the AHJSA Program Director cannot reschedule the match, the match shall be declared a draw and one point and no goals awarded to each team.

21. ABANDONED MATCHES

- (a) An abandoned match is a match which is abandoned by the referee after the initial kick off because of adverse weather or pitch conditions; crowd, officials or player disturbances or for any other reason, which in the opinion of the referee, requires the game to be abandoned.
- (b) Any matches which are abandoned shall be separately judged by the AHJSA Executive and a decision made on the result depending on the reason for the abandonment; the scores at the time of abandonment and the time remaining to be played.
- (c) The AHJSA executive may;
 - (i) Order an abandoned game be treated as a postponed game to be replayed at a time and place determined by the AHJSA Program Director or,
 - (ii) Deem a forfeit by either team under rule in 18(a)(v) or,
 - (iii) Order that no result be recorded or,
 - (iv) Order that the score at the time of abandonment be recorded as the result of the game.

22. HOT WEATHER POLICY

The AHJSA adopts the FFSA hot weather policy which prohibits training or competition for junior players between the hours of 11.00am and 5.00pm on days when the forecast temperature is 33 degrees Celsius and more and bans training or competition entirely when the forecast temperature is 36 degrees Celsius or more, with the following modifications.

- (a) In respect of league and cup and carnival matches, the temperature shall be the temperature forecast for Mt Barker according to the early evening news bulletins on radio and television on Thursday night before Saturday matches.
- (b) If the forecast temperature for Mt Barker under Rule 22(a) is 33 degrees Celsius or more *all* matches, competitive and non competitive, regardless of kick off times, shall be cancelled.

A copy of the FFSA hot weather policy is on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab

23. JEWELLERY POLICY

Law 4 of FIFA's Laws of the Game states that a player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewellery). The FFA's Jewellery Policy can be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab. Note that jewellery must be removed not taped over. In addition, hair clips, including butterfly clips and bobby pins must not be worn as they would pose a danger to players.

24. SPECTACLES AND PLASTER (OR SIMILAR) CASTS POLICY

Law 4 of FIFA's Laws of the Game states that a player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player.

SPECTACLES

Neither the FFA nor the FFSA has issued a specific policy on the wearing of spectacles but they recognise that there have been technological advances in sports eyewear and tolerance needs to be shown where children are concerned.

In so far as competitive age groups are concerned the AHJSA adopts the policy of the SAJSA which allows the wearing of spectacles provided that the player has written confirmation from their optometrist that the lenses and frames are made of materials and are of a construction that does not pose a danger when playing soccer. A copy of this policy can be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab.

In so far as the non competitive age groups are concerned, because of the reduced likelihood of head clashes, the AHJSA policy is that spectacles may be worn provided that the frames are sufficiently flexible and rounded so as not to pose a danger to the player or another player and that the player has a written certification from his/her optometrist that the lenses are of a suitable material for the playing of sport. It is not necessary that the frames be specifically designed for the playing of sport.

PLASTER AND SIMILAR CASTS

A player may use equipment other than the basic equipment provided that its sole purpose is to protect him physically and it poses no danger to him or any other player. All items of clothing or equipment other than the basic equipment must be inspected by the referee and determined not to be dangerous.

Modern protective equipment such as headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material are not considered dangerous and are therefore permitted. However plaster cast and other rigid supports are not permitted even if covered with padding material.

If an item of clothing or equipment that has been inspected by the referee at the start of a match and determined not to be dangerous becomes dangerous or is used in a dangerous manner during the match, its use must no longer be allowed.

25. MODIFIED RULES

Modified rules will apply in the under 8, under 9, under 10 and under 10G and under 12G age groups as set out in [appendix B](#). A copy may also be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab.

26. PITCH MARKINGS

All pitch markings for competitive matches shall be in accordance with FIFA's laws of the game.

Pitch markings for the non competitive leagues are set out in the AHJSA modified rules in Appendix B.

For all competitive matches a spectator line shall be marked 2 metres out from each touchline. Spectators must remain behind this line at all times while the match is in progress. If a ground is fenced then the fence line is deemed to be the spectator line.

Two technical areas, one for each team, shall be marked on the same side of the ground, on either side of the centre line and at least 1 metre back from the touch line. Only players,

managers and coaches are allowed in the technical areas. Unless otherwise directed by the referee the coach must remain within his/her own technical area at all times while the match is in progress.

27. GOALS

Goals for all competitive matches should be in accordance with FIFA's laws of the game i.e. 7.32m wide and 2.44m high. However, where clubs have existing goals which are less than this standard they may apply to the AHJSA for an exemption, provided the goals in question are a minimum 6m wide and 2.1m high. (amended 2011)

Goal sizes for the non competitive leagues are set out in the AHJSA modified rules at Appendix B.

28. CORNER KICKS

- (a) Corner kicks in U/11 and U/12 shall be taken from a spot halfway between the corner flag and the intersection of the penalty box with the goal line.
- (b) All other competitive grades shall take corner kicks from within the corner quadrant.
- (c) Non competitive grades shall take corner kicks as set out in the AHJSA modified rules at Appendix B.

29. BALLS

Ball sizes shall be:

- (a) Under 7, 8 and 9 age groups a size three (3)
- (b) Under 10, 11 and 12 age groups a size four (4)
- (c) Under 13 and over a size five (5) ball.

30. COLOURS & UNDERGARMENTS

Every club shall register its playing colours with the AHJSA and notify the AHJSA of any changes.

- (a) When the playing colours of opposing teams are sufficiently similar as to be considered likely to confuse the referee or other players, it shall be the responsibility of the home team to play in colours distinguishable from its opponents. In Cup or Carnival matches played on neutral grounds, the first -named team in the draw shall be considered to be the home team.
- (b) Every player in a team, with the exception of the goalkeeper, who shall wear distinguishable colours, shall display a number in a prominent position, which shall correspond with his/her number on the match card. Goal Keepers must also wear suitable colours to differentiate them from the referee.
- (c) Undergarments such as "skins" are permitted provided that they do not clash with opposition colours to the extent that in the opinion of the referee they will confuse either the referee or other players. (amended 2011)

31. TEAM OFFICIALS

- (a) In every competitive match each team must nominate a team official who must wear the distinguishing official's vest provided by the AHJSA.
- (b) The team official is responsible for ensuring that any directions of the referee are carried out and that behaviour of his/her team officials, players and spectators meets the requirements of the appropriate code of conduct.

- (c) The team official must be a person over 18 years of age and must not be the coach of a competing team.
- (d) The team official must identify him/herself to the referee in the centre of the ground prior to the start of each match. The match will not commence until this happens.
(amended 2011)

32. COACHING

- (a) Coaches or officials of any team shall not coach their team from behind either goal line.
- (b) In competitive matches coaches must remain within their own technical area.
- (c) Spectators must be kept away from the area behind either goal line.
- (d) In non competitive age groups, except under 10, the coach is permitted on the field of play. The coach must not impede play and must not enter either goalkeeper safety area.
- (e) Referees may not coach teams while refereeing in competitive age groups.

33. REFEREES

- (a) The Referee has the authority to make disciplinary decisions, as from the moment the Referee enters the field of play until he or she leaves the field of play after the final whistle. During a Match, the Referee makes the disciplinary decisions and these decisions are final.
- (b) Referees will be appointed by the AHRB to competitive matches subject to availability.
- (c) In the event of an official referee not being appointed to officiate at any particular match, the home team shall nominate a referee for that particular match.
- (d) It is not permissible for club officials to approach a referee immediately prior to any match except for the purpose of ascertaining that the referee is the person properly appointed or for the purpose of electing a referee in accordance with the previous rule or to arrange for payment of the match fee and present the team sheet. Nor is it permissible for any club officials to approach a referee, during the course of any match.
- (e) It is not permissible for any club official to object to, complain about, or otherwise criticise the conduct of any referee in the presence of that referee or in the hearing of any other person except at any properly constituted hearing convened for the purpose of receiving such objection, complaint or criticism.
- (f) Referees officiating in their first season will wear distinguishing green shirts.
- (g) Referees appointed to matches by the AHRB shall be entitled to following match payments.

Centre Referee Match Fees

U11 \$40
 U12 \$40
 U13 \$45
 U14 & U14G \$45
 U16 & U17G \$55

Centre Referees appointed to trial matches and friendly games are provided with an approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ match fee rounded up below:

U11 \$24
U12 \$24
U13 \$27
U14 & U14G \$27
U16 & U17G \$34 (amended 2011)

- (h) In all league and preliminary cup games the cost referee's fee is shared equally between both competing clubs. It is the responsibility of the home team to collect the opposing team's portion and pay the total fee to the referee at least 5 minutes before kick off.
- (i) The AHJSA will bear the cost of referees and assistants referees in all cup finals and semi finals.

34. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

These disciplinary procedures are subject to the FFA's National Disciplinary Regulations National Grievance Regulations and Part V of the FFA's Statutes. Links to these FFA policies may be found on the AHJSA's website www.ahjsa.asn.au under the AHJSA DOCUMENTS tab.

INFRINGEMENTS OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME

A. Players - Red and Yellow Cards

- (a) A player who receives a red card or two yellow cards from the referee in a game for infringing the laws of the game shall immediately leave the field of play and take no further part in the match. The player must stay behind the spectator line and not re-enter the field of play or the technical area.
- (b) Any player sent off under Rule 34A(a) is automatically suspended for the following League or Association Cup, or Representative game, whichever is played first. All players who are sent off are to be reported with all details, on the match sheet.
- (c) If, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, the offence in Rule 34A(a) is of a nature which might warrant a suspension of more than 1 match the Executive Committee may convene a Disciplinary Committee of 3 of its members to consider the offence and impose such additional match penalties against the player as it may deem appropriate.
- (d) A player subject to a Disciplinary Committee hearing convened under Rule 34A(c) must attend the hearing and be accompanied by an official of his/her club.
- (e) A player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow card minor infringements during the course of the season at any concurrent competition.
 - (i) 4 yellow card cautions during the season, equates to a 1 match suspension.
 - (ii) 6 or more yellow card cautions during the season, equates to a 2 match suspension for each additional infringement.
- (f) A player who is sent off under Rule 34A(a) shall be deemed not to have been cautioned and shall not be penalised under this clause if he/she was cautioned in the match before being sent off or not.
- (g) A player must serve an additional mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of red card serious infringements during the course of the season at any competition.

- (i) 1st red card suspension during the season, equates to a 1 match suspension
- (ii) 2nd red card suspension during the season, equates to a 2 match suspension
- (iii) 3rd or subsequent red card suspension during the season, equates to a 3 match suspension for each additional infringement.

(h) Each club shall keep a record of their players' cautions, and shall not play a suspended player.

B. Team Officials - Expulsion from the Vicinity of the Field of Play

- (a) A referee may expel any team official for an infringement of the laws of the game.
- (b) A team official who is expelled by the referee in a game for infringing the laws of the game shall immediately leave the vicinity of the field of play including the technical and the substitutes' bench and take no further part in the match. The team official must stay behind the spectator line and not re-enter the field of play or the technical area.
- (c) A Team Official who has been expelled from the field of play by a Referee must serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension.
- (d) If, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, the offence in Rule 34B(a) is of a nature which might warrant a suspension of more than 1 match the Executive Committee may convene a Disciplinary Committee of 3 of its members to consider the offence and impose such additional match penalties against the team official as it may deem appropriate.
- (e) A team official subject to a Disciplinary Committee hearing convened under Rule 34B(c) may attend the hearing and be heard or provide written representations to the Disciplinary Committee.

C. Disciplinary Committee Proceedings

- (a) 7 days notice specifying the nature of the alleged offence and the time and place any Disciplinary Committee hearing shall be given to the club in writing by letter post or email for transmission to the player or team official concerned.
- (b) If a player or team official fails to attend the Disciplinary Committee hearing the Disciplinary Committee may adjourn the hearing to another time and place or may proceed and make a determination in the absence of the player or team official.
- (b) A decision of the Disciplinary Committee, including any additional sanctions imposed, shall be given to the club in writing by letter post or email for transmission to the player or team official concerned.
- (c) An appeal against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee may be made in accordance with the FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations
- (d) A Disciplinary Committee may:
 - (i) sanction a red card;
 - (ii) sanction a serious infringement that has escaped the Referee's attention; and
 - (iii) on application from a Competition Administration, rectify an obvious error in the Referee's disciplinary decision

The following guidelines apply to determine whether a Referee's decision amounted to an obvious error under clause (d):

- (i) a disciplinary decision must have been made by the Referee to issue a yellow card or a red card;
- (ii) it clearly must have been a wrong decision (such as a right decision against a wrong player or mistaken identity); and

(iii) it must not have been a discretionary decision by a Referee as to whether an action was a foul or a yellow or red card. (amended 2011)

BREACHES OF THE CODES OF CONDUCT

- (a) Any complaint regarding the conduct of any club, player (except an offence committed under rule 34A(b)), official, referee or spectator shall be lodged in writing by letter or email, by the Secretary of the Club concerned, or the Secretary of the AHRB, as appropriate, to the Secretary of the AHJSA within seventy two (72) hours of the cessation of the match in question.
- (b) The Executive Committee may, at any time, instigate an investigation into the conduct of any player, official, referee, spectator or club on its own initiative.
- (c) If the complaint is regarding the conduct of a referee who is a member of the AHRB, the complaint will be referred to the AHRB for such action as they see fit. If the referee is not a member of the AHRB, the Executive Committee will deal with the complaint according to these Disciplinary Procedures.
- (d) The Executive Committee shall consider the complaint and make a decision whether it contains matters which would breach the FFA Football Code of Conduct or the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct.
- (e) If the Executive Committee considers that the complaint contains matters which would breach the FFA Football Code of Conduct or the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct it must, in writing by letter or email, advise the club concerned of the nature of complaint against it, its player(s), official(s) or spectator(s) as the case may be and request the club to make the nature of the complaint known to the individuals concerned.
- (f) The club or any individual against which a complaint has been made may, in writing by letter post or email to the Secretary of the AHJSA PO Box 147 Crafers SA 5152 or secretary@ahjsa.asn.au, respond to the complaint within 7 days of receiving written notice of the complaint,
- (g) The Executive Committee may dismiss the complaint or impose such sanctions, not inconsistent with Part V of the FFA Statutes, as it sees fit.
- (h) The Executive Committee shall, through the club concerned, advise any party against which sanctions have been imposed of the decision to impose the sanctions, the nature of the sanctions and the party's right to have the decision reviewed under the FFA's Grievance Resolution Regulations.

35. ASSOCIATION CUP RULES

- (a) All teams that are entered in the AHJSA normal competitive league competitions must enter the Association Cup competitions.
- (b) The first named team will be deemed the home team in all cup draws regardless of where the match is played.
- (c) The AHJSA will supply match balls and pay for referees and assistant referees at all cup semi finals and finals
- (d) In the event of there being no winner at the end of the official period, after an interval of five (5) minutes, a further twenty (20) minutes shall be played consisting of two periods of ten (10) minutes each way without further interval. The golden goal rule does **not** apply. Should there still be no winner at the end of extra time, the match shall be settled by taking five (5) penalties each and then sudden death penalties. Each penalty is to be taken by a different player.
- (e) In the event that it is necessary to determine a best loser (or losers) to progress to the next round regard will first be had to goal difference determined as per competition rule 16; if goal differences are equal then the team who scored the most goals is the best loser. Goal difference and goals scored are to be taken as at the end of full time, or if played, extra time. Penalty goals are not to be taken into account. If teams are still tied after considering goals scored then the Executive will determine a method of deciding which team proceeds as best loser.
- (f) Provided a player is of suitable age, is registered for his/her club, has not previously played for any other team in cup competition during that season and is not under suspension, then he/she may play in cup matches.
- (g) In each team, any player named on a cup team sheet must play only for that team in all subsequent cup rounds. A maximum of five (5) substitutes may play in a match and may be interchanged at any time.
- (h) All players must be registered in accordance with Rule 7
- (i) A club will forfeit an Association Cup game if unable to field the minimum number of players as stated in Rule 18
- (j) Team sheets are required for all cup matches.
- (k) The duration of Cup matches is the same as for the normal AHJSA league games.
- (l) Any situation not covered specifically in these rules may be referred to the AHJSA Competition Rules and thereafter to the Executive.
- (m) For a player to participate in an Association cup match/game he/she must have been nominated on the team nomination sheet as per Rule 8; must have played a minimum 50% of the season's league games for that team, and is then deemed to be Cup tied to that team. Written application can be made to the Executive to vary the above conditions stating reasons. The Executive decision will be final.
- (n) If a player transfers during the season having played in a cup match for his/her previous club he/she shall not be eligible to play in any subsequent cup rounds for his/her new club.

36. CARNIVAL RULES

The following rules apply to all age groups except u7 which will use the 4 aside Small Sided Games (SSG) format but will have finals. However the spirit of the SSG format must be maintained i.e. no goalkeeper and no set field positions. Club sponsored Carnivals may adopt their own rules. (amended 2011)

- (a) 7 aside.
- (b) Two x 10 minute halves. Immediate changeover at half time.
- (c) The first named team on the fixture supplies the ball for the match.
- (d) If matches start late then they must be shortened.
- (e) No offside.
- (f) Penalties apply for age groups except under 7, under 8 under 9, under 10 and under 11G.
- (g) Goal 'D' is a goalkeeper safety zone for all age groups. Only the goalkeeper is allowed in the zone. If defender in box then a corner kick awarded; if attacker in box then a goal kick awarded. Goal kicks may be taken from anywhere within the penalty box.
- (h) The scoring system shall be 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss across all age groups.
- (i) If teams are tied on points after the preliminary or round robin rounds then the team with the better goal difference as per rule 16 of the competition rules shall be the winner. If goal difference is the same then the team which scored the greater number of goals shall be the winner. If both teams are tied on goals scored then the tiebreaker rules applies.
- (j) Except for under 7, under 8, under 9 and under 11G, if a tie breaker is required after the preliminary or round robin rounds to decide which team will contest the final or win the competition respectively, it shall be settled by taking five (5) penalties each and then sudden death penalties. Each penalty is to be taken by a different player.
- (k) In the case of a tie breaker being required in under 7, under 8, under 9 and under 11G after the preliminary rounds to decide which team will contest the final or win the competition respectively, the tie breaker will be settled by the drawing of lots in the presence of team managers.
- (l) In finals only, if there is no winner at the end of the official period, after an interval of five (5) minutes, a further ten (10) minutes shall be played consisting of two periods of five (5) minutes each way without further interval. Should there still be no winner at the end of extra time, the match shall be settled by taking five (5) penalties each and then sudden death penalties. Each penalty is to be taken by a different player.
- (m) In under 7, under 8, under 9 and under 11G finals if there is no winner after extra time then the trophy will be shared.

APPENDIX A

OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS 2011

Club	Contact	Email	Telephone
Bridgewater	Greg Miller	millers@activ8.net.au	8388 6802
Hahndorf	Anita Kerr	anitakerr@yahoo.com.au	0423 460 895
Mt Barker	Kai Schmidt	secretary@mbusc.com.au	0478 302 894
Mt Lofty	Phil Fryer	pccdd@netspace.net.au	0439 030 552
Mannum	Henry Grabowski	henry_grabowski@bigpond.com	0408 835 800
Murray Bridge	Grant Klenke	klenkegc@internode.on.net	0411 057 039
Nairne	Andy Buchanan	tooting@rocketmail.com	0417 675 017
Rangers	Julianna Boylan	jboylan@adam.com.au	0429 018 964
Stirling Districts	Mike Steer	grahaman@tpg.com.au	0407 023 487
Stirling East	Tammy Morrison	tamramorrisosp@gmail.com	0433 763 055
Strathalbyn	Sue Catlow	sue@uniqueimage.com.au	0408 854 919
Torrens Valley	Paul Lewis	paul.lewis@people.net.au	8389 8384
Woodside	Chris Jones	chrstrudy@bigpond.com	0427 714 962

2011 AHJSA MODIFIED RULES SUMMARY

For 2011 the U8, U9, U10 and U12G will follow the rules set out in the table below *as far as is practicable*.

Playing Format	Under 8	Under 9	Under 10	Under 12G
Numbers	7v7	7v7	9v9	7v7 to 9v9 in equal numbers by coach agreement
Field Size	Approx. 50m x 40m or across pitch	Approx. 50m x 40m or across pitch	Approx. 60m x 40m or across pitch	Approx. 60m x 40m or across pitch
Field Markings	Painted Lines	Painted Lines	Painted Lines	Painted Lines
Penalty Area (See Goalkeeper Safety Zone)	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m
Goal Box (See also Goalkeeper Safety Zone)	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m
Goalkeeper Safety Zone	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m	12m x 5m
Halfway Line	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Centre Circle	7m diameter	7m diameter	7m diameter	7m diameter
Corner Quadrants	0.7m	0.7m	0.7m	0.7m
Corner Flags	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Goal Size	Min: 3m x 1.80m Max: 5m x 2m	Min: 3m x 1.80m Max: 5m x 2m	Min: 3m x 1.80m Max: 5m x 2m	Min: 3m x 1.80m Max: 5m x 2m
Goal Type	Goals	Goals	Goals	Goals
Goal Nets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ball Size	Size 3	Size 3	Size 4	Size 4
Designated Positions	Flexible	Yes	Yes	Yes
Goalkeeper	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Goalkeeper Only Safety Zone in Goal Box Area - see note 2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Defender in Safety Zone - see note 1	Corner Kick	Corner Kick	Corner Kick	Corner Kick
Attacker in Safety Zone - see note 1	Goal Kick	Goal Kick	Goal Kick	Goal Kick
Offside	No	No	No	No
Penalty Free Kicks	No - see goalkeeper safety zone rules	No - see goalkeeper safety zone rules	No - see goalkeeper safety zone rules	No - see goalkeeper safety zone rules
Game Start	Teams line up in their own (defensive) half. Game is started with a kick forward to a team mate from the halfway line. Opposition players must outside centre circle or 7m from ball on kick off.	Teams line up in their own (defensive) half. Game is started with a kick forward to a team mate from the halfway line. Opposition players must outside centre circle or 7m from ball on kick off.	Teams line up in their own (defensive) half. Game is started with a kick forward to a team mate from the halfway line. Opposition players must outside centre circle or 7m from ball on kick off.	Teams line up in their own (defensive) half. Game is started with a kick forward to a team mate from the halfway line. Opposition players must outside centre circle or 7m from ball on kick off.
Restart After Goal	From halfway as per game start	From halfway as per game start	From halfway as per game start	From halfway as per game start
Ball Over Side Line	Throw in 2 attempts allowed	Throw in 2 attempts allowed	Throw in 2 attempts allowed	Throw in 2 attempts allowed
Goal Kick	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must be 7m outside penalty area. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must be 7m outside penalty area. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must be 7m outside penalty area. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must be 7m outside penalty area. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.
Corner kick	From corner	From corner	From Corner	From Corner
Free Kicks	Defenders must be 7m from ball	Defenders must be 7m from ball	Defenders must be 7m from ball	Defenders must be 7m from ball
Playing Time	2x 20m halves	2 x 20m halves	2 x 25m halves	2 x 25m halves
Interchange	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Half time Break	5-10 minutes	5-10 minutes	5-10 minutes	5-10 minutes
Coach on Field	Yes, but not in safety zone	Yes, but not in safety zone	No	No
Referee	Home Club Referee	Home Club Referee	Home Club Referee	Home Club Referee
Competitive League	No	No	No	No

Notes:

The following rules should be applied with common sense.

1. Attackers/Defenders in the Goalkeeper safety zone should only be penalised if they are playing or attempting to play the ball or if their presence impedes the goalkeeper. Other accidental incursions should receive a reminder that they must stay out of the safety zone.
2. There is no larger penalty area than the goalkeeper safety zone for the goalkeeper to handle the ball in including kicking after picking it up. Unless by picking up the ball the goalkeeper clearing prevents a possible goal scoring opportunity the goalkeeper should not be penalised but reminded that (s)he can only handle the ball in the safety zone.

Example of how to send scores to publicity. Home team to email details for both teams to publicity@ahjsa.asn.au by 6pm on the day of the match in the following format:

Home team to go first.

Age Group

Bridgewater 2 Hahndorf 3. Goal Scorers: Bridgewater – J Smith 2, S Ramsey.
Hahndorf – B Perry, L Jones, M Martin. Best Players: Bridgewater – J Smith, E Foulds, S Ramsey. Hahndorf – M Martin, P Dilena, J Fox.