



ADELAIDE HILLS JUNIOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

COMPETITION RULES

April 2016

Approved by Resolution at the
Board Meeting held 14th January 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	PRELIMINARY.....	1
2.	INTERPRETATION	1
3.	LAWS OF THE GAME.....	2
4.	OFFICIAL CLUB CONTACTS	2
5.	ANNUAL FEES AND DUE DATES.....	2
6.	CODES OF CONDUCT.....	2
7.	CHILD SAFETY AND SECURITY CLEARANCES.....	2
8.	REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS.....	3
9.	PLAYING OF INELIGIBLE PLAYERS	4
10.	REGISTRATION OF TEAMS.....	5
11.	AGE OF PLAYERS.....	6
12.	TEAM SHEETS.....	7
13.	PLAYER TRANSFERS	8
14.	PLAYER AWARDS.....	8
15.	NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS.....	8
16.	DURATION OF LEAGUE & ASSOCIATION CUP MATCHES	8
17.	COMPETITION POINTS.....	9
18.	UNEQUAL LEAGUE ROUNDS.....	9
19.	GOAL DIFFERENCE.....	9
20.	INTERCHANGE PLAYERS	10
21.	FORFEITURE OF MATCHES	10
22.	SHORTENED MATCHES.....	11
23.	POSTPONED MATCHES.....	11
24.	ABANDONED MATCHES	12
25.	RESCHEDULED MATCHES (inserted 2015).....	12
26.	HOT WEATHER & LIGHTNING POLICIES.....	13
27.	JEWELLERY, SPECTACLES & PLASTER (OR SIMILAR) CASTS POLICY	13
28.	MODIFIED RULES (NON-COMPETITIVE).....	14
29.	MODIFIED RULES (COMPETITIVE).....	14
30.	PITCH MARKINGS	15
31.	GOALS.....	15
32.	BALLS	15
33.	COLOURS & UNDERGARMENTS	16
34.	TEAM OFFICIALS.....	16
35.	COACHING.....	16
36.	REFEREES.....	16
37.	DISCIPLINARY MATTERS.....	17
38.	ASSOCIATION CUP RULES	17
39.	CARNIVAL RULES.....	18
	APPENDIX A. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES.....	19
	APPENDIX B. SCORE REPORT EXAMPLE	25
	APPENDIX C. MODIFIED RULES SUMMARY	26

REVISIONS

14 January 2015	Revised rules approved
March 2015	Appendix A1 a)-c) – Clarification of coverage of disciplinary rules 15 a) – Inclusion of U13G game duration 30) – Inclusion of U13G ball size 36 m) – Clarification of pre-season eligibility 11) – Adjustment for electronic team sheets for all divisions 27) – Inclusion of modified rules for U13G
April 2015	Updated template match report
May 2015	Change to U10 team sizes Inclusion of photos/scans for non-competitive team sheets Removal of need to initialing changes to non-competitive team sheets
July 2015	8) Clarification in a) 9) Clarification in b) Registration in MyFootballClub 9) Allowance of players to play up 9 Clarification in g) Ad-hoc playing in other teams 11) Clarification in b) 11) Inclusion of penalties for incorrect team sheets 24) Insertion of new section 24 with regulations for rescheduling of matches
October 2015	5) Include payment modes 7b) Update Child Safe link 8a,d) Clarification about registration categories 8g) Allow for EFT payments 9) Clarification of ineligible players and penalties (new section) 10i) Allow for EFT payments A6) Explicit description of deemed notice A8,9) Clarify time lines for notice and appeals A10) Bring in grounds for appeal from FFA statutes
February 2016	Update to Postal Address
April 2016	8k-m) Development Group registrations
	12) Revisions to accommodate competitive team sheets in the Sporting Pulse database
	12m) Removal of photos/scans for non-competitive team sheets
	29c) Clarification regarding application of girls reduced team sizes
	38o) Clarification covering mixed and girls cup
July 2017	9) Fixed error in cross-references to penalties for playing ineligible players

1. PRELIMINARY

These Competition Rules shall apply to the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association competitions. 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

The meaning of words or phrases in these Competition Rules have the same meaning as in section 2.1 of the Constitution, or as defined in section 2 of the By-Laws.

In these Rules the following meanings apply.

“AHJSA” means the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association Incorporated.

“AHRB” means the Adelaide Hills Referees Branch.

“CLUB” means an Affiliate Member of the AHJSA.

“CLUB OFFICIAL” means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives.

“COMPETITION ADMINISTRATOR” means the entity responsible for the conduct and staging of a Competition.

“DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE” means the disciplinary committee constituted in accordance with the Grievance Resolution Regulations that has jurisdiction over a Competition.

“DISCIPLINARY HEARING NOTICE” means the notice issued by a Competition Administrator to a Participant citing him or her to appear before a Disciplinary Committee to be heard in relation to an alleged Offence and possible disciplinary sanction.

“DISCIPLINARY INFRINGEMENT NOTICE” means the notice issued by a Competition Administrator to a Participant notifying of the disciplinary sanction imposed for an Offence committed by that Participant.

“DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS” means the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations, FFA National Grievance Regulations, Part V of the FFA Statutes (Judicial Bodies and Disciplinary Sanctions), the FFA Code of Conduct.

“AHJSA EXECUTIVE” means the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association Executive Committee

“FIFA” means Federation Internationale de Football Association.

“FFA” means Football Federation Australia.

“FFSA” means Football Federation South Australia.

“FOOTBALL” means “Association Football” as recognised by FIFA from time to time. To avoid doubt, Football includes the games of soccer, soccer football, indoor or 5 a side (Futsal) soccer and beach soccer.

“MATCH” means any match of football played in Australia under the auspices of the AHJSA, or under the AHJSA’s direction or control.

“PARTICIPANT” means a Player or a Team Official.

“PLAYER” means any person who is, from time to time, registered to a Club, whether that person is male or female, junior or senior or an amateur or professional. For the avoidance of doubt, a reference to a Player during a Match includes a substitute and a substituted player.

“SAJSA” means the South Australian Junior Soccer Association Incorporated.

“SEASON” means the period determined by the Board during which such time in each year football shall be played under its auspices.

“**TEAM**” means a team of players under the jurisdiction of an affiliated club or a team entered independently of an affiliated club.

“**TEAM OFFICIAL**” means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club’s team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team or match day doctor), physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff.

“**Written**” or “**In Writing**” includes letter or 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 shall 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 published by the AHJSA each season. (amended 2014)

5. ANNUAL FEES AND DUE DATES

- (a) The annual fees, charges and due dates are published by the AHJSA each season. (amended 2014)
- (b) Payments to the AHJSA must be done by (inserted 2015)
 - (i) Cheque made payable to the Adelaide Hills Junior Soccer Association and posted to AHJSA PO Box 319 Littlehampton SA 5250, or
 - (ii) Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), using the banking details as provided by the AHJSA from time to time, and available on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au.
- (c) Cheques must be posted by the due date (inserted 2015)
- (d) EFT transactions must be completed by the due date. (inserted 2015)

6. CODES OF CONDUCT

- (a) Each club shall ensure that club officials, team 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.
- (b) All club officials, team officials and players are bound by the FFA Football Code of Conduct, and spectators are bound by the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct.

7. CHILD SAFETY AND SECURITY CLEARANCES

- (a) All clubs must abide by the FFA National Member Protection Policy and the FFSA Child Safe Guidelines. In particular, all clubs should ensure that all volunteers are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the Mandatory Reporting Requirements under the South Australian Children’s Protection Act
- (b) Each club must ensure that its coaches, managers, registrar and any club or team official over the age of 18 years, having unsupervised contact with children under 18 years old or access to personal information about children under 18 years old have a National Criminal History Record Check of not more than 3 years standing at the start of the season, which is free from any criminal record that would have an effect 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 South Australian Government's Department for Education and Child Development website: www.families.sa.gov.au/childsafes (amended 2015)

- (c) Each club shall provide the AHJSA with a copy of the club's Police Check Register. The Police Check Register must indicate that the club chairperson, secretary or nominated club person has sighted the police check certificate for each official and has assessed that person as being "Suitable to Volunteer (STV)" or "Unsuitable to Volunteer (UTV)". (amended 2013)
- (d) Clubs do not need to post copies of police checks to the AHJSA (amended 2013)
- (e) (deleted 2012)
- (f) 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)
- (g) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the club Child Protection Officer may request the matter be referred to the FFSA for review.
- (h) 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.
- (i) 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, the applicant must obtain a National Police Certificate Application Form PD267 online. The form can be located at http://www.sapolice.sa.gov.au/sapol/services/information_requests/police_checks.jsp and then click into Police Check Application PD 267. If an applicant is unable to complete the form online the applicant must request a hardcopy from the Records Release Unit on 8204 1408. (amended 2014)
 - (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 records the details on the club register forwards the form to the Child Safety Officer of the AHJSA PO Box 319 Littlehampton 5250. (amended 2014)
 - (v) The AHJSA Child Safety Officer will forward the form to the FFSA Office for the FFSA to approve the use of the VOAN and insert the VOAN number. (amended 2014)
 - (vi) The FFSA will forward the form directly to SAPOL
 - (vii) SAPOL will send the National Police Certificate direct to the coach/club official. Once received from SAPOL the National Police Certificate must be provided to the club in accordance with Rule 7(b).

8. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) A player shall be registered with the AHJSA for the season by registering online with an AHJSA club through the [MyFootballClub](#) online registration system. The player must be registered as a junior outdoor or social player, and the player registration must have been accepted by the nominated club through the [MyFootballClub](#) system. (amended 2015)
- (b) deleted 2014.
- (c) A player registration fee is payable by the club to the AHJSA in respect of each player registered unless the player has already paid the National Registration Fee 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.

- (d) If a player is already registered for the outdoor season with another competition (e.g. an FFSA Junior Premier League club) they register with the AHJSA as social players. 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. Otherwise, the player must register as an outdoor player (amended 2015).
- (e) deleted 2014.
- (f) deleted 2014.
- (g) Player registration fees must be paid by the due date and in the form as described in 5(b). (amended 2015)
- (h) deleted 2014.
- (i) Once the online registration is completed the player is registered to play with the nominated club for the season 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 and has agreed to abide by the rules and policies of the AHJSA.
- (k) A participant in a club development group shall be registered with the AHJSA for the season by registering online with an AHJSA club through the [MyFootballClub](#) online registration system. The player must be registered as a programme player, and the player registration must have been accepted by the nominated club through the [MyFootballClub](#) system. (inserted 2016)
- (l) The AHJSA does not require any registration fee for participants registered as a programme player.
- (m) Any person registered as a programme player shall not be eligible to play in the AHJSA competitions

9. PLAYING OF INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

- (a) Only eligible players can participate in AHJSA competitions. A player is not eligible to participate if he / she is unregistered, or is serving a suspension from participation as a result of a disciplinary penalty imposed by the AHJSA, or is ineligible as a consequence of a directive by a parent body of the AHJSA.
- (b) All and only players recorded on the official team sheet of a match are deemed to have participated in that match.
- (c) The following penalties will be applied where an ineligible player participates in a match:
 - Competitive Grades
 - (i) If a club is found to have played an ineligible player in any match, the result of each and every match in which the ineligible player has participated will be determined on the following basis:
 - a. If the match was won by the opposition the result shall stand.
 - b. If the match was won or drawn by the team fielding an ineligible player the result shall be voided. The opposition team shall be awarded a win with a score of three (3) goals to nil and receive three (3) points. (amended 2015)
 - c. If both teams in the match fielded an ineligible player, then the score shall be voided and the score shall be recorded as 0-0. Neither team shall be awarded any points. (inserted 2014)
 - (ii) In an Association Cup game a team fielding an ineligible player will be disqualified from further participation in the cup. The result of the match will be determined on the following basis:
 - a. If the match was won by the opposition the result shall stand. (inserted 2015)

- b. If the match was won by the team fielding an ineligible player the result shall be voided. The opposition team shall be awarded a win with a score of three (3) goals to nil and receive three (3) points. (inserted 2015)
- c. If both teams in the match fielded an ineligible player, then the score shall be voided. Neither team shall be awarded any points. (inserted 2014)

Non-Competitive Grades

- (i) There are no direct penalties for playing an ineligible player.

10. REGISTRATION OF TEAMS

- (a) Registration of teams shall be on the team nomination form which can be downloaded from the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au and returned by the due date. Team nomination forms must be emailed to the AHJSA Programming Director at programmer@ahjsa.asn.au. (amended 2014)
- (b) Players shall be allocated to a team on the [MyFootballClub](#) system, irrespective of whether he/she is playing in a competitive or non-competitive division, and must be eligible to play in the team to which he/she has been allocated. A player may only be registered and allocated to one team. (amended 2015)
- (c) A player can only play in the team in which he/she is allocated, except under the following conditions:
 - (i) 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 one or both leagues.
 - (ii) A player may play without restriction for a team in an age division higher than the age division to which he/she is allocated. For example, a player registered and allocated to an U12 team may play in an U14 or U16 team without restriction in addition to playing in the U12 team to which he/she has been allocated. This rule applies to League matches only, and not the Association Cup which is subject to Association Cup Rules 38(g), 38(m) and 38(n). (inserted 2015).
- (d) deleted 2014.
- (e) deleted 2014.
- (f) 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 allocated, provided that the club may, before the third league game, reallocate a player on the [MyFootballClub](#) system Excepting the conditions of Rule 10(c) the player must for the remainder of the season play only for that team. (amended 2015)
- (g) In recognition that player unavailability may occasionally cause a team to have less than the number specified in these rules as the normal team size, a player may if required under these circumstances only, play for another club team in the same age group, or subject to age eligibility, a lower age group, without infringing Rule 10(b), 10(c) or 10(f) or needing to be separately registered for that team. In this context depleted team numbers shall mean the number of available players for that game is less than the normal team size specified in these rules for the division. Where the team size is specified as a range, this is the minimum of that range. For clarity, this is seven (7) players for U8, U9, U10 and U12G, nine (9) players for U13G and U17G, and eleven (11) players for all other divisions. A maximum of three (3) players can be brought into the team under this rule. This rule applies to League matches only, and not the Association Cup which is subject to Association Cup Rules 38(g), 38(m) and 38(n). (amended 2015)
- (h) The provision of 10(g) is for occasional use where it is otherwise not possible to achieve a full team due to genuine player unavailability because of injury, illness or absence. It is not to be used to increase the number of players in a team to the normal team size as described in Rule 10(g) where the number of players allocated to the team is less than this. Nor is it to be used to “stack” a team with the intention of improving the chances of the team winning a match. If the AHJSA Executive is of the opinion that Rule 10(g) has been abused or has not been applied in the spirit in which it is intended to operate, then the AHJSA Executive may investigate and

impose such penalties as it deems fit. This includes the retrospective declaration of the ineligibility of any player who has participated under rule 10(g). (amended 2015)

- (i) Team registration fees must be paid by the due date and in the form as described in 5(b). (amended 2015)
- (j) 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.
- (k) The G League and the Mixed League are considered two separate competitions for the purpose of registration and a female may be allocated to play in both leagues for the same club. (inserted 2011)

11. 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) There are two categories of overage exemption in competitions conducted by the AHJSA: automatic, and by written application. (inserted 2014)

An automatic overage exemption will be granted by the AHJSA under the following conditions

- (i) The age of the player is within 1 year of the qualifying age for the age group
- (ii) The player is not a rep squad or JPL player (or equivalent)
- (iii) The maximum number of overage players in the team does not exceed 2
- (iv) The club provides a list of the overage players including their name, DOB, and team to the AHJSA prior to the commencement of the competition
- (v) The AHJSA must receive notification of an overage player exemption before the player is deemed eligible to participate. Any games in which an ineligible player has participated shall be dealt with under Rule 9(c).

An overage exemption by written application is required where

- (i) The age of the player is more than 1 year from the qualifying age for the age group
 - (ii) The player is selected into a rep squad or is a JPL player (or equivalent)
 - (iii) The player would increase the number of exemptions in the nominated team to three
- (c) A maximum of three overage players will be allowed per team. The exemption will only be granted for the nominated team. (amended 2014)
 - (d) The AHJSA 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. The application may be approved having regard to the following matters (amended 2014)
 - (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. Fourteen (14) players including overage players will be considered to constitute a viable squad. (amended 2014)
 - (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. (amended 2013)

- (e) Written applications for an overage exemption must be on the form available on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au and must be received by the due date. Applications received outside of this time frame will be considered at the sole discretion of the AHJSA Executive. (amended 2014)
- (f) A player who is the subject of a written application is only clear to play under an age exemption when written confirmation by letter or email is received by the club from the AHJSA Executive. Otherwise any overage player shall be deemed ineligible. Any games in which an ineligible player has participated shall be dealt with under Rule 9(c). (amended 2014)
- (g) An exemption is valid only in the season for which it is granted and the AHJSA Executive may revoke the exemption if it considers that the club has provided misleading or incomplete information at the time the decision to grant the exemption was made or circumstances have since changed so that the exemption is no longer required.

12. TEAM SHEETS

- (a) A team sheet is required for all league (non-competitive and competitive) and association cup matches (amended 2015)
- (b) Each team must retain its copies of the team sheets as a record of the game.
- (c) The AHJSA Executive may impose a penalty of deduction of match points up to the maximum number of points otherwise awarded to a team in a match where the club's team sheet for the match is incorrectly completed, or not of the form as in Rule 12(d),(k). (inserted 2015)

Competitive Grades

- (d) For competitive grades, the team sheet as available on the Sporting Pulse database shall be used. (inserted 2016)
- (e) For competitive grades, three (3) copies of the sheet are required (amended 2016)
 - (i) One for Home team
 - (ii) One for Away team
 - (iii) One for Referee
- (f) 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. A maximum of sixteen (16) players only may be nominated on the team sheet. Additional players must be crossed out.
- (g) 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.
- (h) 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.
- (i) The referee will lodge the Referee copy of the 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.
- (j) The home team is responsible for entering the match results into the Sporting Pulse database. The match results must be entered by the home team within 48 hours of the completion of the match. (inserted 2016)

Non-Competitive Grades

- (k) For non-competitive grades, the team sheet shall be produced using the Team Sheet template available on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au – Blank_AHJSA_SP_Team_Sheet_Non_Competitive.docx. The player information is obtained via the Sporting Pulse website.
- (l) For non-competitive grades, two (2) copies of the sheet are required (inserted 2015)
 - (i) One for Home team
 - (ii) One for AHJSA

- (m) The home and away teams must lodge the AHJSA copy of the completed sheet with the AHJSA Registrar not later than Tuesday following the match played by posting it to the AHJSA Registrar. (modified 2016)
- (n) deleted 2015.

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

14. PLAYER AWARDS

- (a) The AHJSA shall award at the conclusion of each season "Best & Fairest Player" winner and runner-up trophies to two players in each competitive age group. The winner and runner-up will be the players who aggregate the most and second-most number of points respectively as awarded after each match by the officiating referee. (inserted 2014)
- (b) The referee shall award points on the basis of
 - (i) 3 points to the best & fairest player on the field
 - (ii) 2 points to the next best & fairest player on the field
 - (iii) 1 point to the next best & fairest player on the field.
- (c) The AHJSA Registrar shall keep a tally of the points throughout the season.
- (d) The AHJSA shall award at the conclusion of each season a "Rising Star Achievement Award" to one male and one female player. The recipient of the award shall be a player who is eligible to play in the lowest competitive team age groups (mixed and girls), and is determined by the Chair with consideration to individual and team skills, leadership, commitment and focus of the player. (inserted 2014)

15. NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

Each home team is required to email scores, a brief report and details of goal scorers and best players from competitive matches through to the AHJSA Publicity Officer at results@ahjsa.asn.au no later than 6 PM on the day the match is played.

An example of the format required is attached as APPENDIX B.

16. 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 25 minutes each half.
 - Under 12G 25 minutes each half.
 - Under 12 mixed 30 minutes each half.

Under 13G	30 minutes each half.
Under 14G, 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 minutes and no more than 10 minutes in duration.

17. 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.

18. UNEQUAL LEAGUE ROUNDS

The league season will generally 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 league positions 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

<u>Total points scored in the full round(s)</u>		
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

<u>Total goals scored in the full round(s)</u>		
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

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

19. 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) The positive goal difference from each match will be limited to 6 goals. For example if the final score in a game is 11 – 2, the winning team will have goals for increased by 8 goals and goals against increased by 2 goals – and vice versa for the losing team.
- (c) 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, their positions shall be declared tied.

20. INTERCHANGE PLAYERS

- (a) For teams in non-competitive age groups unlimited interchanges are 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.

21. 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 programmer@ahjsa.asn.au, the AHJSA Registrar registrar@ahjsa.asn.au and the opposing club's official email contact before 6 PM 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 AHJSA Executive 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 AHJSA Executive the result shall be determined in accordance with the rules in Rule 21(b)(ii) and 21(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 21(a)(i) the AHJSA Programming Director will notify the AHRB 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 21(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.

- (d) A forfeiture will not be granted to any team where it has been proved to the satisfaction of the AHJSA 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.

22. 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.

23. 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 AHJSA Programming 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, there is a reasonable prospect that the condition of the ground will improve (through natural means or by intervention) sufficiently for a following match on the same day to be able to be played, then the decision to postpone a match under Rule 23(b) shall not carry through to any following match. In making this decision, the referee must take into account the concerns of any home team official with regard to the ability of the pitch to be in a playable condition. (inserted 2014)
- (d) If, in the opinion of the referee, there is no prospect that the condition of the ground will improve (through natural means or by intervention) sufficiently for a following match on the same day to be able to be played, then all subsequently scheduled association matches on that ground shall be 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 matches 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 2011,2014)
- (e) It shall be the responsibility of the home club to notify the AHJSA Programming Director programmer@ahjsa.asn.au and the AHJSA Registrar registrar@ahjsa.asn.au of any postponement(s) under Rules 23(b), 23(c) or 23(d) within 72 hours of the postponement.
- (f) 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.
- (g) A match is postponed under Rule 23(f) by a member of the home team committee notifying the opposing club's official contact, the AHJSA Programming Director at programmer@ahjsa.asn.au and the AHJSA Registrar at registrar@ahjsa.asn.au of the postponement by the time stated in Rule 23(f).
- (h) The AHJSA Programming Director will be responsible for notifying the Referees' Co-ordinator of any postponement under Rule 23(f).
- (i) A match postponed under Rule 23(f) will not incur a referee match payment.
- (j) If a referee is in attendance and makes a decision to postpone the match under Rule 23(b), he/she shall be entitled to the full match payment.

- (k) Postponed matches are to be rescheduled by the end of the season by mutual consent between the clubs, and the AHJSA Programming Director is to be notified at programmer@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 Programming Director. (amended 2011)
- (l) If a team cannot play at the time and place determined by the AHJSA Programming Director it shall be deemed to have forfeited the match in accordance with Rule 21(a)(iii). If the AHJSA Programming Director cannot reschedule the match, the match shall be declared a draw and one point and no goals awarded to each team.

24. 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 Programming Director or,
 - (ii) Deem a forfeit by either team under Rule 21(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.

25. RESCHEDULED MATCHES (inserted 2015)

- (a) Unless otherwise notified by the AHJSA, and excluding the application of Rule 23 for the postponement of matches, the time and location of each league match shall be as in the schedule of matches published by the AHJSA.
- (b) Clubs may request a change to the time and/or location of a scheduled match. The change must be approved by the AHJSA Programming Director prior to the game commencing, and the AHJSA is not obligated to approve any request for a change in the published schedule of matches.
- (c) Clubs cannot request a review of the decision of the AHJSA Programming Director.
- (d) A request for a change in the published schedule of matches will be considered only under the following conditions:
 - (i) The request must be made by the club to the AHJSA Programming Director at programmer@ahjsa.asn.au. Requests from individual coaches or managers will not be considered.
 - (ii) The club must notify the AHJSA Programming Director at least seven (7) clear days prior to the sooner of the proposed or scheduled commencement time of the match. For clarity; for a match scheduled on a Saturday, the request must be received no later than the Friday of the preceding week. Late requests will not be approved.
 - (iii) The proposed time and/or location of the match must not affect other matches scheduled for the same day.
 - (iv) Prior to submitting the request to the AHJSA, the requesting club must have obtained the agreement of the opposition club to the change. The change must be by mutual agreement of the two clubs, and a club is not obligated to agree to a request for a change in the scheduled time and/or location of a match. Clubs are encouraged to be accommodating of requests which are for genuine reasons.

- (v) No match can commence later than the scheduled day of the final round of the league competition for the applicable age division.
- (vi) The match must be supervised by an official AHRB referee. Clubs should understand that obtaining referees for weeknight or Sunday matches is difficult, and such requests are likely not to be approved due to an inability of obtaining a referee.
- (vii) The AHJSA Programming Director will determine whether a referee is available for the proposed change in the match time and/or location.
- (viii) The AHJSA Programming Director will notify the affected clubs of the decision regarding approval. If the request is approved the Schedule of matches as published by the AHJSA will be updated. If the request is not approved the match will be played at the scheduled time and location.

26. HOT WEATHER & LIGHTNING POLICIES

- (a) The AHJSA adopts the FFSA hot weather policy which prohibits training or competition for junior players between the hours of 11.00 am and 5.00 pm 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.
 - (i) 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.
 - (ii) If the forecast temperature for Mt Barker under Rule 25(a) is 33 degrees Celsius or more all matches, competitive and non-competitive, regardless of kick off times, shall be cancelled.
- (b) The AHJSA adopts the Lightning Policy of the NSW Sport and Outdoor Recreation Activities which can be summarized as:

Lightning can strike more than 10 km from the edge of a thunderstorm. It is generally agreed that 10km is the minimum safe distance from a storm. The 30/30 rule is used to serve as a guide for the suspension and safe resumption of activities.

- (i) The first part of the 30/30 rule is determined by counting the seconds from when the lightning flash was seen to when the thunder is heard. Sound travels at about 1 km every 3 seconds, so a 30 second interval means the storm is 10 km away.
Staff should be monitoring the storm's approach and as the flash to bang count nears 30 seconds, people at risk should already be seeking safe shelter. A "flash to bang" count of 30 seconds or less requires immediate and urgent evacuation to safety.
- (ii) The second part of the 30/30 rule provides the criteria for resuming activities. It is recommended that the storm be 20 km away before it is considered safe. A typical storm moves at 40 km/h, so waiting 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning seen provides the 20 km safe distance.

Copies of the FFSA hot weather and lightning policies are on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au. (amended 2014)

27. JEWELLERY, SPECTACLES & 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 (including any kind of jewellery).

(a) JEWELLERY

The FFA's Jewellery Policy can be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au.

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.

(b) 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.

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.

A copy of this policy can be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au.

(c) 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.

28. MODIFIED RULES (NON-COMPETITIVE)

Modified rules will apply in the U/8, U/9, U/10 and U/12G age groups as set out in APPENDIX C.

A copy of the modified rules may also be found on the AHJSA website www.ahjsa.asn.au.

29. MODIFIED RULES (COMPETITIVE)

(a) Corner Kicks (modified 2015)

- (i) Corner kicks in U/12 Mixed and U13G shall be taken from a spot halfway between the corner flag and the intersection of the penalty box with the goal line.
- (ii) All other competitive grades shall take corner kicks from within the corner quadrant.

(b) Goal Kicks (inserted 2014, modified 2015)

- (i) Goal kicks in U/12 Mixed and U13G shall follow the modified rule: If the goal difference is 6 or more goals, the leading team must move back to the halfway line when the trailing team takes a goal kick. An infringement of this rule will cause the goal kick to be retaken.
- (ii) All other competitive grades shall take goal kicks according to the rules of the game.

(c) Reduced Player Numbers (inserted 2015, modified 2016)

In recognition that clubs occasionally have difficulty providing teams of 11 players and to encourage fair contests, the Girls competition allows for games between teams limited equally to fewer than 11 players on the pitch.

- (i) The maximum number of players on the pitch for each team in all Girls grades is 11.

- (ii) Where one or both teams are unable at the commencement of the match to field a team of 11 players as listed on the team sheet, both teams must play with a reduced number of players. The number of players must be the same for both teams (i.e. 9 vs 9 or 10 vs 10), except as described in clause (iii) below.
- (iii) Where the number of players in one team at the commencement of the match is 8 or fewer, then the other team may choose to field at most 9 players on the pitch (i.e. 9 vs 8 or 9 vs 7).
- (iv) The size of the team on the pitch can be increased from that specified in clauses (ii) & (iii) under special circumstances during a game, and by approval of the referee. Typically, this clause provides for where it is necessary to accommodate players who are late but are listed on the team sheet and who could normally play when they arrive. For example, where both teams list 11 or more players, but team A has only 10 at the start of the match due to a player being late, then the game shall begin with 10 vs 10 players but will increase to 11 vs 11 once this becomes possible.
- (v) Coaches may, by mutual agreement, choose to vary the number of players on the pitch (e.g. 8 vs 8 with a substitute on each bench) provided that any such agreement is in the spirit of this rule.
- (vi) The minimum number of players is 7 vs 7 for all games, as specified in the LOTG 3.

30. PITCH MARKINGS

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

- (a) Pitch markings for the non-competitive leagues are set out in the AHJSA modified rules in APPENDIX C.
- (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 1metre 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.

31. GOALS

- (a) 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)
- (b) Goal sizes for the non-competitive leagues are set out in the AHJSA modified rules at APPENDIX C.

32. BALLS

Ball sizes shall be:

- (i) Under 7, 8 and 9 age groups a size three (3)
- (ii) Under 10, 12 and 13G age groups a size four (4) (modified 2015)
- (iii) Under 13 Mixed and over a size five (5) ball.

33. COLOURS & UNDERGARMENTS

- (a) Every club shall register its playing colours with the AHJSA and apply to the AHJSA for permission to change its playing colours.
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) 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)

34. 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 18 years of age or over 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)

35. 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 U/10 and U/12G, 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.

36. 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 Rule 36(c) or to arrange for payment of the match fee and present the team sheet. Nor is it permissible for any club official 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 the match payments as described in the schedule of fees.
- (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 association cup finals and semi-finals.

37. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

The disciplinary procedures of the AHJSA are detailed in APPENDIX A.

38. ASSOCIATION CUP RULES

- (a) All teams that are entered in the AHJSA 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 Rule 19 of the competition rules; 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 AHJSA 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 8 of the competition rules.
- (i) A club will forfeit an Association Cup game if unable to field the minimum number of players as stated in Rule 21(a)(ii) of the competition rules.
- (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 AHJSA Executive.

- (m) For a player to participate in an Association cup match/game he/she must have been nominated as per Rule 9(b) of the competition rules. Where the Association cup is not run as a separate pre-season competition, the player must have played a minimum 50% of the possible 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 AHJSA Executive to vary the above conditions stating reasons. The AHJSA 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.
- (o) The G League and the Mixed League Association Cup are considered two separate competitions and a female may play in both cup competitions, subject to other eligibility requirements. That is, a female may be separately team tied to a Mixed team and a G League team. (inserted 2016)

39. CARNIVAL RULES

The following rules apply to all age groups except U/7 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 U/7, U/8 U/9, U/10 and U/12G.
- (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 19 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 U/7, U/8, U/9, U/10 and U/12G, 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 U/7, U/8, U/9, U/10 and U/12G 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 U/7, U/8, U/9, U/10 and U/12G finals if there is no winner after extra time then the trophy will be shared.

APPENDIX A. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- (a) The AHJSA shall follow the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations, FFA National Grievance Regulations, Part V of the FFA Statutes (Judicial Bodies and Disciplinary Sanctions) and the FFA Code of Conduct (the "Disciplinary Regulations"). The regulations apply to Clubs, Players and Team and Club Officials and spectators as defined within the Disciplinary Regulations.
- (b) These rules must be read with reference to the Disciplinary Regulations.
- (c) These Disciplinary Procedures are administered by the person delegated by the Board to act as the Competition Administrator or, if no such delegation is in place, the Board acting as the Competition Administrator.

A1. MANDATORY MATCH SUSPENSIONS

- (a) Penalties received in League And Association Cup Competition (amended 2015)
 - (i) A Player who receives a red card or two yellow cards from the referee in a League or Association Cup matches 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. All Players who are sent off are to be reported, with all details, on the match sheet.
 - (ii) Any Player sent off under (a) is automatically suspended for the following League or Association Cup match, whichever is played first.
 - (iii) Additional penalties or review of a suspension consistent with the Disciplinary Regulations may be applied by the Competition Administrator in accordance with the processes in the Disciplinary Regulations.
 - (iv) Where a Player receives 2 yellow cards during the same Match and therefore receives a red card, the two yellow cards are expunged from his or her record.
 - (v) Where a Player receives a yellow card and then a direct red card in the same Match, the yellow card will not be expunged and will be counted in the Player's accumulation of yellow cards.
 - (vi) A Player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow card infringements during the course of the season of any League or Association Cup competition:
 - a) 4 yellow card cautions during the season equates to a 1 match suspension.
 - b) 6 or more yellow card cautions during the season equates to a 2 match suspension for each additional infringement.
 - (vii) A Player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of red card infringements during the course of the season of any League or Association Cup competition:
 - a) 1st red card suspension during the season, equates to a 1 match suspension
 - b) 2nd red card suspension during the season, equates to a 2 match suspension
 - c) 3rd or subsequent red card suspension during the season, equates to a 3 match suspension for each additional infringement.
 - (viii) The suspension to be applied to a Player for a red card offence is listed in the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations, Annexure A - Table Of Offences
 - (ix) Any Player who receives a red card or yellow card from the referee in a League or Association Cup match shall be dealt with according to these competition rules. For the purpose of the application of any penalty, League and Association Cup competitions shall be treated as a single competition. (inserted 2015)
 - (x) Any penalty, including suspension, received as a result of participation in a League or Association Cup match shall not flow through to Representative matches. (inserted 2015)
- (b) Penalties received in Representative Carnival Competition

- (i) Any Player who receives a red card or yellow card from the referee in a Representative match shall be dealt with according to the competition rules in force for the Representative match. (amended 2015)
 - (ii) Any penalty, including suspension, received as a result of participation in a Representative match shall not flow through to League or Association Cup matches. (inserted 2015)
- (c) Team Officials
- (i) A Referee may take action against a Team Official who fails to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may expel the Team Official from the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitute's bench.
 - (ii) A Team Official who is expelled from the field of play by a Referee 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.
 - (iii) A Team Official who has been expelled from the field of play by a Referee must serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension.
 - (iv) The suspension to be applied to a Team Official for an offence is listed in the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations, Annexure A - Table Of Offences
 - (v) A Team Official who is suspended as a result of participating in a Representative match shall be dealt with according to the competition rules in force for the Representative match. The suspension shall not flow through to League or Association Cup matches. (inserted 2015)
 - (vi) A Team Official who is suspended as a result of participating in a League or Association Cup match shall be dealt with according to these competition rules. The suspension shall not flow through to Representative matches. For the purpose of the application of any penalty, League and Association Cup competitions shall be treated as a single competition. (inserted 2015)
- (d) Team Misconduct
- (i) The Competition Administrator may impose additional disciplinary sanctions on a Club for the misconduct of a Team, including when:
 - a) Five (5) Players are cautioned or sent-off during one (1) Match
 - b) Three (3) Players are sent off during one (1) Match
 - c) Several Players together make threats or show force against a Match Official
 - d) Several Players together engage in a melee or brawl.
 - (e) A Club shall not play a suspended Player, or allow a Team Official to participate where they are suspended.
 - (f) The Competition Administrator will notify Clubs of any mandatory suspension applicable to a Player or Team Official, however each club is deemed to be aware of the Disciplinary Regulations and any mandatory suspension or restriction applying to a Player or Team Official. The imposition of all mandatory suspensions are immediate, and additional penalties are applicable where a mandatory suspension or restriction has been ignored, irrespective of whether the Club has been notified or not.

A2. EFFECT OF ABANDONED, CANCELLED AND FORFEITED MATCHES

- (a) If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. If a Match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended Player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture.
- (b) A yellow card issued during an abandoned Match will be annulled if that Match is replayed and upheld if that Match is not replayed.

- (c) A direct red card issued during an abandoned Match will be upheld, regardless of whether the Match is replayed or not.

A3. ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS

- (a) The Competition Administrator may determine that the sending off of a Player or the expulsion of a Team Official was of such a nature as to warrant a match suspension greater than the mandatory match suspension. In imposing an additional match suspension, the Competition Administrator must determine that a sanction additional to a mandatory match suspension is imposed in accordance with the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations Annexure A - Table of Offences.
- (b) If the Competition Administrator has determined that an offence by a Participant was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, the Competition Administrator must send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Participant (through his or her Club). The notice must be sent in a timely fashion to allow the Participant time to lodge an appeal before the next applicable Match.
- (c) The Disciplinary Infringement Notice must provide:
 - (i) Details of the Offence including where and when it occurred (if known)
 - (ii) The disciplinary sanction imposed
 - (iii) The right to appeal the decision
- (d) A Participant may appeal the disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by notifying the Competition Administrator within seventy two (72) hours from the deemed receipt of the notice.
- (e) The Competition Administrator shall postpone the application of any disciplinary sanction pending the outcome of an appeal to the Disciplinary Committee.

A4. CITING A PARTICIPANT

- (a) The Competition Administrator may cite a Participant to appear before a Disciplinary Committee in relation to:
 - (i) A red card
 - (ii) A serious infringement that has escaped the Referee's attention.
- (b) A Disciplinary Committee may:
 - (i) Sanction a red card
 - (ii) Sanction a serious infringement that has escaped the Referee's attention
 - (iii) On application from the 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:

- a) A disciplinary decision must have been made by the Referee to issue a yellow card or a red card
 - b) It clearly must have been a wrong decision (such as a right decision against a wrong player or mistaken identity)
 - c) 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.
- (c) If the Competition Administrator cites a Participant to appear before a Disciplinary Committee, that Competition Administrator must send a Disciplinary Hearing Notice to the Participant (through his or her Club).
 - (d) The Disciplinary Hearing Notice must provide:
 - (i) Reasonable detail of the alleged Offence, including when and where it allegedly occurred (if known)

- (ii) Notice of possible sanctions
 - (iii) The date, time and place of the disciplinary hearing.
- (e) The Competition Administrator must ensure a disciplinary hearing is heard in a timely fashion to enable a Player or Club to have the opportunity to be heard and to make submissions in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction before the next applicable Match.
- (f) A Player subject to a Disciplinary Hearing must attend the hearing and be accompanied by a Club Official of his or her Club.
- (g) A Team Official subject to a Disciplinary Hearing may attend the hearing and be heard, or provide written representations to the Disciplinary Hearing.

A5. POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

- (a) Mandatory match suspensions are incurred for the accumulation of yellow and red cards by a Player and for the expulsion of a Team Official in accordance with clauses A1(a), A1(b) and A1(c).
- (b) The Competition Administrator or a Disciplinary Committee:
- (i) May impose the types of sanctions as specified in Part V of the FFA Statutes; and
 - (ii) Must determine the scope and duration of each sanction in accordance with the Range at the Table of Offences of the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations.
- (c) If, in the case of a group of people involved in violent conduct, it is not possible to identify the instigators, the Competition Administrator or the Disciplinary Committee may sanction the Club to which the aggressors belong.

A6. NOTIFICATIONS

- (a) The Competition Administrator shall send all notifications to Players, Officials or spectators of Clubs via their Club. The Club is responsible for transmission of the notice to the Players, Officials or spectators, and the Players, Officials or spectators are deemed to have been informed by the AHJSA by the notification to the Club.
- (b) All notifications to Clubs shall be in writing by letter or email, and sent to the Club Secretary or official club contact, as notified to the AHJSA. (amended 2015)
- (c) For the purposes of notifications a notice will be taken to have been received (inserted 2015)
- (i) if delivered by hand to the recipient's address, on the date of delivery, as long as delivery is acknowledged in writing by the recipient;
 - (ii) if sent by post, 3 days after the posting; and
 - (iii) if sent by email or facsimile on a working day at the recipient's, on the date of transmission, or if sent on a non-working day at the recipient's, on the next working day (in both cases as long as the sender's email or facsimile machine records a successful transmission).
 - (iv) Unless otherwise specified, all notices must be received by close of business on a working day at the recipient.

A7. DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES

- (a) The Disciplinary Committee shall be formed as necessary by the Competition Administrator and consist of three Directors of the Board. The Competition Administrator is not to sit on the Disciplinary Committee.
- (b) The Disciplinary Committee shall follow the FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations in the conduct of its hearings.
- (c) If a Player or 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 Official.

- (d) A decision of the Disciplinary Committee, including any additional sanctions imposed, shall be given to the Club in writing by letter or email.
- (e) Except in the case of obvious error, the particulars of which are exclusively contained at clause A4(b)(iii), there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
- (f) An appeal from the Competition Administrator's disciplinary sanction must be heard by the Disciplinary Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:
 - (i) The nature and severity of the infringement
 - (ii) The offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated Offence
 - (iii) The culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional, negligent or reckless)
 - (iv) Any reasons prompting the offender to commit an infringement
 - (v) The remorse of the offender
 - (vi) Any extenuating circumstances.
- (g) If a Participant disputes the Disciplinary Committee's Determination, that Participant must notify the Competition Administrator within seven (7) days from deemed receipt of the decision.
- (h) An appeal against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee may be made in accordance with the FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations.
- (i) All decisions of the Disciplinary Committee remain in force unless reversed by the Appeals Committee.

A8. BREACHES OF THE CODES OF CONDUCT

- (a) Any complaint regarding the conduct of any Club, Player (except an offence committed under Rule A1), 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 Competition Administrator may, at any time, instigate an investigation into the conduct of any Club, Player, Official, referee or spectator on his or her own initiative.
- (c) Any complaint in regards the conduct of a referee who is a member of the AHRB will be referred to the AHRB for such action as they see fit. If the referee is not a member of the AHRB, the complaint will be dealt with according to these Disciplinary Regulations.
- (d) The Competition Administrator shall consider the complaint and make a decision as to whether it contains matters which would breach the FFA Code of Conduct or the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct.
- (e) If the Competition Administrator considers that the complaint contains matters which would breach the FFA Code of Conduct or the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct he or she must advise the Club concerned of the nature of complaint against it, its Players, Officials or spectators as the case may be. The notice must include the possible sanctions. Any notification to the Club is deemed to be notification to any Players, Officials or spectators as appropriate and as described in Rule A6. (amended 2015)
- (f) The Club or any individual against which a complaint has been made may, in writing by letter or email to the Secretary of the AHJSA, respond to the issues of the complaint and possible sanctions. The response must be received by the AHJSA within seven (7) days of the deemed receipt of the written notice of the complaint. (amended 2015)
- (g) The Competition Administrator may dismiss the complaint or impose such sanctions, not inconsistent with Part V of the FFA Statutes, as he or she sees fit. Before imposing any sanctions the Competition Administrator must wait until the Club or individual against which a complaint has been made has had the opportunity to respond to the complaint. (amended 2015)
- (h) The Competition Administrator 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.

- (i) Any request for a review needs to be in writing by letter or email to the Secretary of the AHJSA and received by the AHJSA within seven days of the deemed receipt of the notice. (inserted 2015)
- (j) The Competition Administrator shall postpone the application of any disciplinary sanction pending the outcome of any review. (inserted 2015)

A9. BREACHES OF THE AHJSA COMPETITION RULES

- (a) Any alleged breach of these AHJSA Competition Rules by a Club, Player or Official, brought to the attention of the Competition Administrator may be investigated as he or she deems necessary. If the Competition Administrator considers that the alleged breach contains matters which require sanction he or she must advise the Club concerned of the nature of the alleged breach by it, its Players or Officials as the case may be. The notice must include the possible sanctions. Any notification to the Club is deemed to be a notification to any Players or Officials as appropriate and as described in Rule A6. (amended 2015)
- (b) The Club or any individual against which a complaint has been made may, in writing by letter or email to the Secretary of the AHJSA, respond to the issues of the complaint and possible sanctions. The response must be received by the AHJSA within seven (7) days of the deemed receipt of the written notice of the complaint. (amended 2015)
- (c) The Competition Administrator may dismiss the complaint or impose such sanctions, not inconsistent with Part V of the FFA Statutes, as he or she sees fit. Before imposing any sanctions the Competition Administrator must wait until the Club or individual against which a complaint has been made has had the opportunity to respond to the complaint. (amended 2015)
- (d) The Competition Administrator 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.
- (e) Any request for a review needs to be in writing by letter or email to the Secretary of the AHJSA and received by the AHJSA within seventy two (72) hours of the deemed receipt of the notice. (inserted 2015)
- (f) The Competition Administrator shall postpone the application of any disciplinary sanction pending the outcome of any review. (inserted 2015)

A10. GROUNDS OF APPEAL OR REVIEW (inserted 2015)

- (a) An appeal against any decision of a Disciplinary Committee or the Competition Administrator may be made in accordance with the FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations.
- (b) For clarity the interpretation of this is that the sole grounds for any appeal or review are that:
 - (i) the parties were not afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the issues or merit and/or sanction
 - (ii) the determination was affected by bias
 - (iii) the decision was one that was not reasonably open to the Disciplinary Committee or the Competition Administrator having regard to the evidence before him or her
 - (iv) The sanction was disproportionate to the severity of the infringement.

APPENDIX B. SCORE REPORT EXAMPLE

Example of how to send scores to publicity

Both Teams to email details for both teams to results@ahjsa.asn.au by 8pm on the day of the match (or earlier if able to) in the following format:

Age Group (& Division if applicable)

Home Team 3 v Away Team 1. (Include team name and/or colour if applicable)

Goal Scorers: Home Team – A. Player, B. Player.

Away Team – C. Player.

Best Players: Home Team – 1st D. Player, 2nd E. Player, 3rd F. Player.

Away Team - 1st G. Player, 2nd H. Player, 3rd I. Player.

Sent from: (your team).

Match reports should be brief and accurately reflect the match and positively reflect on each team and the referees. The main point of these is to promote the club and team. Photos are very welcome, however please ensure you can name all players in the photo including any opposition players (distant players excepted).

Please note that results will be printed following the maximum six (6) goal difference rule.

In both cases, individual player goal counts should not be included, only the team goal count, remembering that only competitive teams record scores.

APPENDIX C. MODIFIED RULES SUMMARY

AHJSA MODIFIED RULES SUMMARY (REVISED MAY 2015)

The U/8, U/9, U/10 and U/12G 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	7v7 to 9v9 in equal numbers by coach agreement	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			
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			
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			
Ball Over Side Line	Throw in 2 attempts allowed			

Playing Format	Under 8	Under 9	Under 10	Under 12G
Goal Kick	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must retreat to halfway. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must retreat to halfway. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must retreat to halfway. To be in play ball must go out of area untouched.	From anywhere in penalty area/goalkeeper safety zone. Opposition players must retreat to halfway. 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. All free kicks are indirect.	Defenders must be 7m from ball. All free kicks are indirect.	Defenders must be 7m from ball. All free kicks are indirect.	Defenders must be 7m from ball. All free kicks are indirect.
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.