



# National Titles

## Event Rules

09.05.2017	Version 5.0 Separation of Hosting Document Separation of Rules of Engagement Document & Review	Russell Lee, Matt Jorgensen, Dale Dower
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## **Introduction**

The CFFA is responsible for organising and overseeing their National Titles Competition and this document lays out details to assist bodies as to what is required of them whilst preparing for and competing in CFFA endorsed events.

There are five (4) distinct sections:

- CFFA Responsibilities
- Sending Party Responsibilities
- Player Responsibilities
- Player Conditions

## **CFFA RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Tournament Director**

The role of this person is to oversee all aspects in relation to all duties listed in this document and is to be the first point of contact for:

- Fixture Queries
- Disciplinary Appeals
- All general queries
- Issues not covered within these guidelines

### **Tournament Referees Director**

The role of this person is to co-ordinate referees for the event and be the sole point of contact for teams and competing confederations for any matters concerning referees.

- Organise Referee Accommodation
- Organise Referee Transportation
- Organise Referee Uniforms
- Organise Referee Allocations
- Competing confederation organisers briefing

### **Registrar**

Players participating at the National Titles will have their details recorded for the purposes of producing Match Cards for all matches they will compete in.

- Participating confederations are to submit their player details to the CFFA Registrar, one (1) month prior to the event start date. This date will be published in the general list of event dates.

### **Treasurer**

The CFFA Treasurer in consultation with the hosting confederation will issue appropriate invoices to the member confederations to cover the agreed budget costs of the event.

- The CFFA shall be the sole party to issue invoices to confederations for the event.

## **General Responsibilities**

The CFFA will be responsible for undertaking the following tasks in relation to the National Titles -

- Organise Referees of suitable quality for the event
- Organise suitable trophies, medallions etc for each Age Division attending and provide the Hosts with the cost involved.
- In conjunction with the hosting confederation prepare and publish Fixtures and Results
- Organise and distribute fixtures prior to the event
- Record all result details as provided by Referee Match Reports

- Publish all results and maintain ladders for each Age Group participating
- Publish all Yellow and Red Cards issued
- Publish Disciplinary actions issued to players.

## **SENDING PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- **Players** – The selection of players to compete at the event and the criteria used in their selection is the sole responsibility of the sending body. Please note CFFA general rules for detailed eligibility criteria.
- **Coaches, Managers & Support Staff** - Outside of the mandatory requirements laid out in this document the number of support staff required for a particular touring party is the sole responsibility of the sending body.
- **Transport for the Event** - This includes any and all air fares and or local transport requirements to get a sending bodies touring party to and from accommodation, church services, opening and closing ceremonies, grounds, airports and any airfare component from their place of residence to the event venue.
- **Accommodation** – Where accommodation is not being provided by the Host, the sending body is solely responsible for the costs of accommodating its touring party for the event.
- **Meals for the Event** – The sending body is solely responsible for the provision of all meals not being supplied at the playing venue for it's touring party before, during and after the event.
- **Player Registration Details** – Provide player details to the Tournament Director one (1) month prior to the event start date in the format requested by the tournament organisers.
- **Code of compliance** – Submit all player, coaches and team management Code of Conduct forms to the CFFA Registrar prior to the commencement of the first game of the tournament.

## **Participating Sending Body Personnel Requirements**

Each participating group is required to have as a minimum, the following nominated people to fulfil the following roles:

- **Tour Leader**  
To be the primary contact point between their group and the CFFA and Event organisers
- **Chaplain**  
Each group attending needs to have a person who will be responsible for the Pastoral Care of their group for the period of the event
- **Judiciary Member**  
Each touring party shall supply one member to be available to sit on any judicial hearing that does not involve his confederation teams.

# PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

## Player Eligibility – *Age Determination*

Age Group	Cut off date
Under 14	Must have turned a maximum of 14 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing
Under 16	Must have turned a maximum of 16 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing
Under 18	Must have turned a maximum of 18 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing
Under 23	Must have turned a minimum of 18 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing. Must have turned a maximum of 23 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing. Each side shall be allowed to play up to 3 overage players per game. It is preferred that these players be under the age of 25.
Senior Women	Must have turned a minimum of 16 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing
Senior Men	Must have turned a minimum of 18 years of age prior to the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year competing

## Eligibility Criteria For Players

- Players participating at National Titles are to be registered as an ***Amateur Player only*** with their relevant sending body.
- Players may hold dual registration status with other football organisations
- Players holding professional or semi-professional status are ***not eligible*** for selection in teams competing at National Titles.
- All members of the CFFA are eligible to send teams to contest nominated age division competitions at National Titles.
- Host confederations are encouraged wherever possible to provide 2 sides in each age division to assist in ensuring even numbered teams in respective divisional draws.
- CFFA reserves the right to invite teams of a suitable standard to compete in the competition in each age division to even out divisions. Teams invited under this clause shall be deemed “invitational” and will hold all the rights of member affiliated teams for the purposes of the tournament.

## Squad Selection Policies

Each participating body is responsible for its own selection criteria and processes they employ to select teams and team members participating at the National Titles. The CFFA has no power to reject any particular players participation at National Titles as long as his application for involvement has been signed off by the sending body and they meet the above eligibility criteria.

## Squad Sizes

- Each team participating is limited to a squad of 20 players maximum of which only 16 players are permitted (11 on-field players + 5 substitutes). Prior to the start of the competition, each team are to supply a list of all players and their shirt number to the competition organisers. Shirt numbers may not be changed from those entered on the team registration form without advising the tournament director in writing of the changes prior to the commencement of the next scheduled game.

- In case of depleting of available players in a particular division teams are able to borrow players from a lower age division to ensure they are able to supply up to 16 players for a particular game. This provision may only be accessed once approval has been gained from the tournament director. Approval is only granted once sufficient evidence has been supplied to the tournament director that the team will be unable to compete without accessing this provision.

## **RULES OF ENGAGEMENT**

### ***Competition Format***

- Wherever possible each team in an age group will play each other team at least once.
- A league table will be maintained and will be used in determine finalists. Normally a team shall play a minimum of 2 games per day in preliminary rounds of the competition and a maximum of 3 games per day.
- Where there are 8 or more teams in any one age division that age division may be split into pools to ensure that the competition can be completed within the allocated playing window. The top two (2) teams in each age division will contest the Championship Final.
- Where there are 4 teams or more in an age division, the third and fourth teams and each subsequent pair of teams (where there is an even number of teams) will contest a Place Final where field and time availability is available to us.
- Any prospective Finals series shall be altered on an event by event basis to suit the needs of the tournament and the availability of fields at the discretion of CFFA executive management committee in consultation with the tournament director.

CFFA reserves the right to alter the competition format from tournament to tournament to reflect the number of teams entered in any one age division and the availability of suitable playing surfaces.

### ***Laws Of The Game***

The current published Australian edition of FFA 'Laws of the Game' shall be used as the overriding laws governing competition during scheduled matches during the event. Variations approved to the above currently include but are not limited to:

- Interchange rules shall apply to all levels of the competition.
- Due to time restrictions on field availability time ***will not*** normally be added on for stoppages of any kind including serious injuries. At the sole discretion of the match referee time may be added on at the end of each half if significant time losses have occurred. This is to be kept to a maximum of 3 minutes in each half and is at the sole discretion of the referee. CFFA reserves the right to alter this ruling on a tournament by tournament basis.
- The score at the time of the stoppage shall be deemed the final score should a game be not be able to be completed within its scheduled time allocation.
- Playing time will be extended when a penalty kick has been awarded at the end of the allocated time period and the designated half of play will be deemed concluded once the penalty kick has been taken.
- The appointed referee of the match is sole and only time keeper for the match.

## ***Match Duration***

<b><i>Age Group</i></b>	<b><i>Halves</i></b>	<b><i>Half Time Break</i></b>	<b><i>Total Match Time</i></b>	<b><i>Stoppage Time</i></b>
Under 14	30 minutes	5 minutes	60 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes half
Under 16 Boys	30 minutes	5 minutes	60 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half
Under 16 Girls	30 minutes	5 minutes	60 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half
Under 18	40 minutes	10 minutes	80 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half
Senior Women	40 minutes	10 minutes	80 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half
Under 23 Men	40 minutes	10 minutes	80 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half
Senior Men	40 minutes	10 minutes	80 minutes	Up to a maximum of 3 minutes per half

The appointed centre referee for the match shall be solely responsible for the allocation of time for a scheduled match.

Match duration times and half time breaks ***may vary from event to event*** depending on local conditions and availability of fields and local council statutes in regard to use of match lighting. Please check your draw to ensure you are aware of the match duration times for any particular tournament. The tournament director reserves the right to alter match duration times during an event if playing time is lost due to environmental or lighting conditions during the tournament.

## ***Interchange (Substitution)***

Interchange will be used in all matches instead of standard substitution.

Each team is allowed an unlimited number of interchanges during all games.

Interchange must not proceed without the Referee's assent in any circumstances. In all matches, the player being rested shall leave the field of play before the interchange player enters the field of play and this shall take place only after the Referee has acknowledged the team officials and Assistant Referee's signal that an interchange is required. Players entering the field of play must do so at the halfway line. Exiting players can leave the field of play under the direction of the Referee. At no time shall more than the permissible number of players in a team be allowed on the field during play.

If an interchange is made without the authority of the Referee, or if an interchange player enters the field of play before the player being rested has left the field of play, the play shall, if necessary, be stopped and the offending player cautioned and removed from the field as per the current published Australian edition of FFA 'Laws of the Game'.

Referees are able to limit a team's interchanges should they believe that the team is 'time wasting'. If this occurs the referee will inform the captain and bench of the offending side that for the remainder of the game their ability to interchange players will be limited to when they are in control of the ball or at an injury interruption.

Players may only be interchanged at a stoppage in play.

## ***Points Table***

Win	4 points
Score Draw	2 points
Draw	1 point
Loss	0 point

In the event that teams are even on points in an age division at the end of the preliminary rounds, the following order of items will be used to determine finals positions.

### **Most Goals For**

- **Most Goals Against**
- **Winning Result against each other (results are combined if sides have played each other twice or more)**
- **Best Disciplined Team – Least number of Red Cards issued to the team**
- **Best Disciplined Team – Least number of Yellow Cards issued to the team**

A penalty shoot-out to decide finalists will be contested at a time to be advised by the tournament director if:

- **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cannot be separated by the above or**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cannot be separated by the above**
- **Lower placed finals positioning shall be determined by coin toss if the above has been exhausted.**

## ***Finals Series Matches***

For each Championship Final that is played where the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the match will proceed directly to Penalty Kicks. There is no allocation for any periods of extra time

- **Each team will alternately take 5 penalty kicks**
- **If after 5 penalty kicks each, the score is still tied, each team will take alternate penalty kicks until a winner is determined.**

## ***Minor Placing Finals Matches***

For each minor placing Championship Final that is played, where the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the match will be deemed a draw and the team finishing higher on the table at the end of the preliminary rounds shall be deemed to be the winner of the fixture.

## ***Medical Clearances***

Match Officials are to record details of players who require on-field medical treatment and submit with their Match Report.

Where a player requires offsite medical care as the result of an on-field incident, the player must obtain a medical certificate stating that the player is cleared to continue playing in the event. The certificate needs to be given to the Event Director before the player can resume playing in the Event.

## ***Discipline***

- Accumulating 3 yellow cards in different games will result in a one (1) match penalty which is to be served in the next scheduled game. The one (1) match penalty is to be served in the next scheduled game that the players team is scheduled to play in regardless whether it is a preliminary round or finals series game.
- Accumulating two (2) yellow cards in the one game (Thus resulting in a RED CARD) will result in a minimum one (1) match penalty which is to be served in the next scheduled game. The one (1) match penalty is to be served in the next scheduled game that the players team is scheduled to play in regardless whether it is a preliminary round or finals series game.

Red Card offences by players that have been issued for the following offences will result in a hearing by the Event Disciplinary Committee. This Committee will advise of penalty to be imposed after the judicial hearing.

- Serious Foul Play
- Violent Conduct
- Spitting at an opponent or any other person
- Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures

Remaining Red Card offences will have an automatic one (1) match penalty, which is to be served in the next scheduled game.

- Denying the opposing team a goal or obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goal keeper within his own penalty area).
- Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or penalty kick
- Receiving a second caution in the same match

Yellow and Red Card offences are defined as those listed in the current FFA Rules of the Game – Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct.

## ***Event Player Disciplinary Committee***

Prior to the Event, participating members are to nominate one (1) person to be a member of the Player Disciplinary Committee. In the event that a player receives a Red Card as per the Discipline section that requires the disciplinary committee to be formed, the Disciplinary Committee will be convened as soon as possible after the matches conclusion and match report has been lodged with the Event Director consisting of the following members:

- Referee Co-ordinator for the event or his nominated representative
- CFFA Event Director or their nominated representative
- One (1) nominated Sending Body Representative from a non-involved sending body. The Committee will meet and decide on the necessary penalty to be applied in relation to the offence being heard.

## ***Event Player Discipline Appeals Committee***

Any competing confederation that wishes to appeal a suspension applied to one of its players must submit an Appeal Request in writing to the Event Director ***via their*** Sending Body Tour Leader stating the grounds for the Appeal within 3 hours of being notified on the suspension.

Please note the following:

- Yellow Card Offences can ***NOT*** be appealed and will stand as issued by the Match Official.

A committee consisting of the following will be convened to hear an appeal and shall be consisted of the following members.

- A CFFA Executive Member who is not affiliated with the appealing player or the opposition team involved in the match in question.
- Two (2) nominated sending body Event Disciplinary Committee members from non-involved sending bodies and not involved in the original decision.
- The result from this hearing is binding and final. There will be no further means of appeal.

## ***Player Awards***

The CFFA awards a number of special awards in each age division contested at National Titles. These awards are either voted on by the match officials or are a result of direct performance on the park during the titles. It is essential that confederations ensure that players numbers and names match as match officials will only be reporting player numbers not names when making out their reports at the conclusion of each scheduled match.

### ***Best Player***

At the conclusion of each match in each age division, the officiating Referee is to award 4,3,2, & 1 points to the players they deem as being the best during the match. These are to be recorded on the match report and submitted to the appropriate officials. The player in each age division that receives the highest total of points will be deemed to be the Best Player for that Division. There a tie occurs, the player with the superior number of maximum points in a match shall be awarded the winner, if still tied 3 point allocations will be used, followed by 2 point and then 1 point allocations until a clear winner can be decided. If players are still tied then each players disciplinary record will be used a tie breaker. If still even on points then the award will be shared.

### ***Best Goal Keeper (Golden Gloves Award)***

At the conclusion of each match in each age division, the officiating Referee is to indicate the Goalkeeper they deem as being the best during the match. These are to be recorded on the match report and submitted to the appropriate officials. The player in each age division that receives the highest total of nominations will be deemed to be the Best Goalkeeper for that Division. Where a tie occurs, each players disciplinary record will be used a tie breaker. If still even on points then the award will be shared.

### ***Top Goal Scorer (Golden Boot Award)***

At the conclusion of each match in each age division, the officiating Referee is to indicate the Goal scorers for the match. These are to be recorded on the match report and submitted to the appropriate officials. The player in each age division that scores the highest total of goals will be deemed to be the Golden Boot for that Division. Where a tie occurs, each players disciplinary record will be used a tie breaker. If still even on points then the award will be shared.

### ***Best on Ground Award***

At the conclusion of the final of the competing age division, the CFFA official shall award the Best on Ground award for fixture in the championship final. The player shall be named and awarded the best on ground medal at the presentation of awards ceremony and be named as the Captain of the All Stars Team for the competing age group. In divisions contested where this is no finals series no Best on Ground award shall be awarded for that division.

## ***CFFA All Star Team Selection***

At the conclusion of the event, the referees 4,3,2,1 votes allocated to identify the best players in each game they officiate, will be used as the basis for naming an All Star Team for each age division present. The top 12 players who have received best player votes in each age division will then be named as the Australian All Star Team for that division. The Best goal keeper and Top goal scorer, Player of the Series and Best on Ground in the Final in each age division shall be added to the team to compete the All Star 16 for each age division.

## ***Presentation Awards Ceremony***

At the conclusion of the event a presentation ceremony shall be held. The make up of this ceremony will be decided on an event basis in consultation between the CFFA and the host confederation.



# Christian Football Federation of Australia

## Players Code of Conduct

- At all times play with an attitude that upholds the aims and objectives of CFFA. Think of CFFA's and football's interests before your own. Encourage your team to play fairly at all times. Help others on the park to have as much enjoyment from the game as you do.
- Play for the fun of it. Never set out to lose. If you do, you are cheating your opponents, deceiving those who are watching, and also fooling yourself.
- Play Fair. Winning is without value if victory has been achieved unfairly or dishonestly. Cheating is easy, but brings no pleasure. Playing fair requires courage and character. It is also more satisfying. Fair play also has its award, even when the game is lost.
- Observes the Laws of the Game. All games need rules to guide them. Without rules there would be chaos. The rules governing our game are simple and easy to learn. Make an effort to learn them, so you understand the game better. By sticking to the rules you will enjoy your game more.
- Respect Opponents, Team mates, Referees, Officials and Spectators. Fair Play means respect. Without opponents there can be no game. They have the same rights as you have, including the right to be respected. Your team mates are your colleagues. You form a team in which all members are equal. Referees are there to maintain discipline and fair play. Always accept their decisions without arguing and help them to help you enjoy your game more.
- Accept defeat with dignity. Nobody wins all the time. You will win some and you will lose some matches. Learn to lose graciously. Don't seek excuses for defeat. Genuine reasons will always be self-evident. Congratulate the winners with good grace. Don't blame the referee or anyone else. Determine to do better next time. Good losers earn more respect than bad winners.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted at CFFA sanctioned games.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team or the opposition.
- While staying at provided accommodation, males are not permitted within female accommodation and vice versa. This is irrespective of being 'invited in' by the occupants. Nominated curfews at accommodation venues are to be observed. Disciplinary action will be taken by the CFFA for any breaches.
- Will attend all events nominated as Compulsory by the CFFA. Disciplinary action will be taken by the CFFA for any breaches.
- Reject Corruption, Drugs, Racism and Violence. Watch out and report to officials any evidence of these things on and off the park at our games. Treat all players and everyone else equally, regardless of their skin colour, religious beliefs or origin.
- Honour those who defend and uphold those defend and uphold their aims and objectives of CFFA. The good name of football and CFFA has survived because the vast majority of people who support and play in our competitions are honest and fair. Sometimes somebody does something exceptional that deserves our special recognition. They should be honoured and their fine example made public. This encourages others to act in the same way and to promote the confederation members by publicising its good deeds.

***I agree to abide by the Christian Football Federation of Australia's player's code of conduct whilst representing my member federation or district confederation at events sanctioned by the CFFA.***

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Player's Name

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Player's Signature

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Date



## Christian Football Federation of Australia Coaches/Managers Code of Conduct

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of everyone involved in CFFA sanctioned games of football (players, spectators, officials etc).
- Ensure that the time the players spend with you is a positive one, including being a role model and mentor for your players.
- Each player is a unique and valued individual. Managers and coaches are to at all times respect this and ensure that all players are encouraged to strive for excellence on and off the field.
- Be fair, honest, considerate and respecting of all players and match officials, and encourage your players to do likewise.
- At all times, act professionally and unselfishly, accept responsibility for your S and your team's actions.
- Commit to know and operate within the rules and the spirit of the game as set down in the constitution and competition rules of the CFFA sanctioned competition you are involved in.
- Be positive in all your verbal and nonverbal communications will all players both your own and your opposition, spectators and match officials at all times.
- Show concern and care towards all sick and injured players and follow the advice of treating medical professionals at all times.
- Actively support all efforts by CFFA to remove verbal and physical abuse from the sport.
- At all times, provide a safe, supportive and organised environment for all players, spectators and match officials.
- Team managers and coaches are to respect the right of an individual team manager and coach to prepare his team before a game without interruption. Communication should be with the team manager only and no approaches should be made to players without the team manager first consenting.

***I agree to abide by the Christian Football Federation of Australia's coaches/manager's code of conduct whilst representing my member federation or district confederation at events sanctioned by the CFFA.***

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**Name**

**(Coach/Manager)**

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**Player's Signature**

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**Date**



# Christian Football Federation of Australia

## Referee Code of Conduct

The following is the CFFA Referee's Code of Conduct, which all CFFA Referee members are required to follow at all times.

- Members will comply with all duties, obligations and procedures specified in their competition handbook or as directed by their competition management committee from time to time.
- All members will apply to the Laws of the Game fairly and impartially.
- All members will treat fellow referees, players, club officials, and spectators with respect and courtesy.
- Members officiating at matches will adhere to their local confederations current dress standards for referees before, during and after the match.
- Members attending matches, whether identified as a member of the body or not, must conduct themselves as if they are appointed to that match.
- Members will conduct themselves at all times in a manner that does not bring the body into disrepute. This includes for example:
  1. Inciting spectators to criticize referees
  2. Disparaging a referee's performance to players while acting as an assistant referee.
  3. Discussing play or players within hearing of players, coaches or others.
  4. Behaving in a manner contrary to community standards.

Breaches of this code of conduct will be dealt with initially by their CFFA Member Federation or Local Confederation Referee's Management Committee and repeat or serious offences will be dealt with by the CFFA Referee's Management Committee.

***I agree to abide by the Christian Football Federation of Australia's Referee's Code of Conduct whilst representing my member federation or district confederation at events sanctioned by the CFFA.***

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**Referee's Name**                      **Referee's Signature**                      **Date**