



**FOOTBALL  
FEDERATION  
VICTORIA**

**GDT**

**GRIEVANCE  
DISCIPLINARY  
AND  
TRIBUNAL  
BY-LAW**

**2017**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

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1.1 This By-Law is made by Football Federation Victoria Incorporated (**FFV**) pursuant to rule 15 of the FFV Constitution.

1.2 The Objectives of this By-Law are to:

- a) Ensure that all Club Associates and Match Officials observe the Laws of the Game, the FFV Constitution, Statutes, Regulations, By-Laws, Rules of Competition and Policies as shall be applicable from time to time (in this By-Law referred to collectively as **Laws**);
- b) Ensure that Football is played competitively and fairly in a sporting fashion and in accordance with the Laws;
- c) Encourage participation in Football and to improve and advance Football as a spectator sport, and to provide a safe and secure playing and spectating environment;
- d) Provide a system which sets out processes, procedures, guidelines and penalties for any Club Associate(s) who breaches the Laws; and
- e) Ensure that any charges brought against a Club Associate(s) at a Tribunal and any appeal from a Tribunal decision or any charges against a Match Official shall be conducted fairly and in accordance with the principles of Natural Justice.

1.3 The Grievance, Disciplinary and Tribunal By-Law is referred to as the **GDT**.

1.4 Staff contact details:

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
General Manager - Legal and Regulatory	Richard Redman	9474 1837	<a href="mailto:redman@ffv.org.au">redman@ffv.org.au</a>
Legal and Regulatory Coordinator	Phil Dyer	9474 1842	<a href="mailto:pdyer@ffv.org.au">pdyer@ffv.org.au</a>
Tribunal Assistant	Marinella Salafia	9474 1822	<a href="mailto:msalafia@ffv.org.au">msalafia@ffv.org.au</a>

Registrations Coordinator	Joanne Papas	9474 1841	<a href="mailto:jpapas@ffv.org.au">jpapas@ffv.org.au</a>
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1.5 FFV general contact details:

Postal Address: PO Box 7488, St Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC 3004  
E-mail: [discipline@ffv.org.au](mailto:discipline@ffv.org.au)  
Phone: 03 9474 1800 ext. 3  
Website: [www.footballfedvic.com.au](http://www.footballfedvic.com.au)

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

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In this By-Law, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall mean:

- **Abandoned Fixture** means a Competition Fixture which has commenced but has been stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.
- **Additional Suspension** means any Suspension in addition to an Automatic Suspension.
- **Appeal** means either an appeal against a Red Card penalty, or an Appeal against a Tribunal determination, as the case may be.
- **Automatic Suspension (also referred to as Automatic Game, Automatic and Auto)** means a one Match Suspension that cannot be reviewed or challenged and commences immediately upon issue by the Referee, irrespective of notification from FFV.
- **Club** has the same meaning as the FFV Constitution.
- **Club Associate(s)** means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:
  - (a) Club Director(s), Committee Member(s) and Office Bearer(s);
  - (b) Club Official(s) (including but not limited to a coach, team manager or anyone who is officially associated with or on behalf of a Club );
  - (c) Player(s) of a Club;
  - (d) Member(s) of a Club as defined in the Club's Constitution;
  - (e) Supporter(s) of a Club;
  - (f) Spectators at a Match, who unless otherwise identified with a Club shall be deemed to be supporters of the Home Club;
  - (g) Any person(s) involved with and/or who contributes to the game of Football in any capacity;
  - (h) Club(s);
  - (i) Team(s).
- **Competition season** means any series of competitive Matches determined by FFV but does not include a Finals Series.
- **Contract** means the NRR 05 - Professional Player Contract.
- **Entering the Field of Play without permission** means entering the field of play without permission from the Senior Match Official.
- **Finals Series** means a series of finals Matches as designated by FFV.
- **Fine** means a monetary penalty as stipulated in Schedule 2 or otherwise as referred to within this By-Law.
- **FFV** means Football Federation Victoria.
- **FFA** means Football Federation Australia.
- **FIFA** means Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
- **Football** means Association Football, the sport/game which is administered by the FFV/FFA/FIFA and/or any forms, variations, kinds, types or related activities conducted under the auspices of the FFV. Football and soccer have corresponding meanings.
- **Forfeit** means the same as defined in the Rules of Competition.
- **Form** means any of the forms set out in Schedule 3.
- **Grievance** means a Dispute (as defined in the FFV Constitution) to which clause 8.2(j) or 8.3 of the FFV Constitution applies
- **Instigator of a Melee** means inciting or causing a Melee.
- **Match (also Fixture)** means any game of Football played under the auspices of FFV, and in applicable cases FFA, or otherwise played under FFV's direction or control, including but not limited to non-FFV games where FFV has appointed Match Officials or deems the game under its auspices.
- **Match Official** includes the following:
  - (a) FFV appointed Senior Match Official (also known as the Referee),
  - (b) Assistant Match Official (also known as Assistant Referee),
  - (c) Match Assessor,

- (d) Any other person designated by FFV as a Match Official, or
- (e) Any individual who acts as a Match Official in any Match.
- **Match Time** means a period of time designated for a Match to be played, including one hour prior to the scheduled kick off time and one hour after the Referee has signalled full time. Match time also includes:
  - (a) pre-Match inspections and address;
  - (b) half time intervals; and
  - (c) post Match formalities including but not limited to signing Match Records; and during which time the Match Official(s) retains jurisdiction.
- **Melee (non-violent)** means a confrontation, altercation and/or a heated exchange of words and gestures between 3 or more persons who are either Players or Club Associates whether on or off the field.
- **Melee (violent)** means a violent clash, struggle and/or fight, between 3 or more persons who are either Players or Club Associates whether on or off the field, and where 1 or more persons are either physically injured or in FFV's reasonable opinion likely to have been physically injured, regardless of whether any such injury may be serious or otherwise.
- **Misconduct** shall mean any act or omission by a Club Associate or a Match Official that constitutes:
  - (a) a breach of the FIFA Statutes and Regulations;
  - (b) a breach of the FFA Statutes, Regulations, By-Law, policy or code of conduct which may be in place from time to time;
  - (c) a breach of the Laws of the Game;
  - (d) a breach of an FFV By-Law, regulation, code of conduct or policy unless such By-Law, regulation, code of conduct or policy contains a provision or provisions for dealing with any breach thereof;
  - (e) a breach of FFV's Rules of Competition or this GDT;
  - (f) participating, assisting or arranging the participation or assistance of others in any Match fixing, gambling or betting activities in relation to a Match;
  - (g) in the opinion of FFV, conduct which is or may be or has a result that is or may be prejudicial to the interests or reputation of either the game of Football in Victoria, FFV or of any of its sponsors or associates.
- **Misconduct Penalty** means a penalty determined by FFV in accordance with Schedule 2 of this By-law.
- **Misconduct Penalty Offence** means any one of the offences set out in Schedule 2 Part 3 of this By-Law.
- **Offence against a Match Official** means any of the relevant offences set out in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of this By-Law as the case may be.
- **Penalty Offence** means anyone of the offences set out in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of this By-Law as the case may be.
- **Penalty Unit** shall mean the amount set out in Schedule 2 Part B of this By-Law.
- **Play off** means a Match or Matches other than a Finals Series to determine final ladder positions, promotion opportunity or relegation and unless otherwise specified in this By-Law is part of a Competition Season.
- **Protest** means a formal protest against a Match result arising from an allegation that a Club has fielded an Unregistered or Ineligible Player.
- **Recommended Penalty** means the relevant recommended sanction for Misconduct Penalty Offences as per Schedule 2 Part 3 of this By-Law.
- **Red Card** means either a Direct Red Card or an Indirect Red Card.  
**Red Card Appeal** means a review by the Tribunal at first instance of an Additional Suspension received as a result of a Red Card.
- **Season** means the Regular Season as defined in the Rules of Competition, and includes any finals or play-off fixtures, and any Cup fixtures held in the same calendar year.
- **Suspension** shall have the meaning set out in clause 6.1(a) and includes an Automatic Suspension and an Additional Suspension.

- **Team** means a group of players fielded by a Club to participate in a Match.
- **Team Misconduct** in relation to a Club's team means:
  - (i) Where 5 or more of its Players are cautioned during the same Match; or
  - (ii) Where 3 or more of its Players are sent off during the same Match.
- **Tribunal** means the specialist, independent panel of 1 to 3 appointed members that hears and determines allegations of Misconduct. Tribunal cases may include on field Misconduct, Suspensions and Member Protection matters, and/or other Misconduct offences as warranted by the FFV to the jurisdiction as prescribed by the Grievance, Disciplinary and Tribunal By-Law 11. References to the Tribunal may be a reference to the first instance panel, or Appeals Board, as relevant in the circumstances.
- **Vexatious Claim** means a claim or complaint instituted without sufficient grounds and serving or designed only to cause harm or annoyance to another party.

Any term defined in rule 23.1 of the FFV Constitution; clause 1.1.4 of the FFV Rules of Competition; FFV Registration Regulations; the FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations and FFA National Disciplinary Regulations for the purposes of this By-Law shall have the same meaning as set out in that document unless otherwise expressed in this By-Law.

*Headings and Examples are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation.*

### 3. INVESTIGATION AND CHARGES

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#### 3.1 Charge of Misconduct

- (a) Subject to this By-Law only FFV's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or a member of FFV staff designated by the CEO, may bring a charge of Misconduct on behalf of FFV against a Club Associate or a Match Official. The CEO has delegated this function to the FFV General Manager - Legal and Regulatory, but may delegate to another member of staff as required.
- (b) This GDT applies to any and all Matches (Fixtures) as defined, and to any Club, Team, player, coach, official or Club Associate, whether in relation to a Match or otherwise.
- (c) FFV may investigate any matter that is relevant in its opinion to whether a charge of Misconduct ought to be brought in accordance with clause 3.1 (a).
- (d) Such investigation may be carried out by FFV as it sees fit and Club Associates and Match Officials are required to cooperate fully with FFV in the conduct of an investigation.
- (e) At any time FFV may determine whether any charge(s) of Misconduct will be made against a Club Associate and whether it will be dealt with by:
  - (i) the Tribunal;
  - (ii) a Red Card penalty or Misconduct Penalty Offence;
  - (iii) mediation under this By-Law;
  - (iv) any combination of the above; or
  - (v) in any other manner that FFV deems appropriate

and such determination shall be at the absolute discretion of FFV and not subject to review by any party.

- (f) FFV may in its unfettered discretion choose to dismiss or not investigate any matter that it determines to be a Vexatious Claim, or determine at any time whether no action is to be taken in relation to any matter.

#### 3.2 Strict Liability of Clubs

- (a) All Clubs are responsible and liable for the conduct of their Club Associate(s) at or in the vicinity of any Match.
- (b) The strict liability obligations of a Club within clause 3.2(a) apply regardless of the responsibilities attached to any other person or entity in respect of a Match or event.
- (c) Notwithstanding clause 3.2(a) FFV may, in its sole discretion, elect not to proceed against a Club for the Misconduct of a Club Associate where:
  - (i) the Club is (for the relevant Match or event) compliant with Match day security standards and/or protocols as published by FFV from time to time (for example, the Match Day Risk & Security Policy);

- (ii) the Club cooperates with any investigation by FFV into the alleged Misconduct, including without limitation naming or identifying, upon request by FFV, those individuals or Club Associates known to the Club in relation to the alleged Misconduct; and
- (iii) FFV, on review of the information available to it, forms the view that to proceed against the Club for the actions of the Club Associates is unduly harsh or unfair in the circumstances.

Matters that FFV may consider in forming its view under clause 3.2(c)(iii) include but are not limited to: the tribunal and misconduct history of the Club or individuals; the cooperation of the Club; the significance of the nature of the Misconduct; whether the Club acted swiftly to counter the Misconduct and denounce the incident at the relevant times; and whether the Club has taken any relevant action of its own regarding the Misconduct.

- (d) Where a Club complies with all the matters in clause 3.2(c), FFV nevertheless retains a discretion to proceed against the Club for the Misconduct where FFV is of the view that the relevant Misconduct is of a particularly egregious or significant nature. Where FFV does so proceed against the Club, the Tribunal may consider these factors in penalty mitigation in circumstances where the Club is found guilty of Misconduct at a subsequent hearing.

*By way of example: where a Club Associate of a Club releases flares at a Fixture, FFV may decide to not proceed against the Club in its sole discretion where the Club: acts swiftly to deal with the flare at the time; identifies the Club Associate to FFV; and provides such cooperation to FFV as otherwise requested. Any such decision will not preclude the FFV from proceeding against the Club Associate(s) in question for the conduct described.*

### **3.3 Recognition of bans**

- (a) FFV may recognise and apply any validly imposed suspension under the terms of the FFA National Banning Regulations (or other FFA Misconduct or Code of Conduct rules or regulations) upon a Club Associate, as well as any validly imposed suspension upon a Club Associate by another Member Federation, in its absolute discretion.
- (b) Where such suspension is significantly greater in penalty or effect for a given offence than an equivalent Suspension in this GDT, the relevant Club Associate may apply to FFV for the matter to be referred to the independent Tribunal for consideration of the Suspension penalty only for FFV's purposes (but not for consideration of the facts of the matter or the finding).

*Additional note on clause 3.3: stakeholders should be aware that the FFA National Banning Regulations have been revised to include football matches that are sanctioned by a State Member Body (such as FFV) and in which an A-League club is participating. Persons banned by the FFA in connection with Hyundai A-League clubs may be prohibited from attending relevant NPL games.*



## 4. YELLOW CARDS and RED CARD MISCONDUCT

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### 4.1 Misconduct general

Misconduct by a Player that occurs during Match Time may result in:

- (i) a caution (**Yellow Card**), as defined in clause 4.2;
- (ii) an expulsion (**Red Card**) either Direct or Indirect, as defined in clause 4.5; and/or
- (iii) a charge of Misconduct, including the Misconduct Penalty Offences as per clause 5

against a Player, and in applicable cases a Club, in accordance with the provisions of this By-Law.

### 4.2 Yellow Card Offences

A Yellow Card is a caution from a Match Official to a Player for a minor infringement (Law 12 of the Laws of the Game), as set out in Schedule 1 Part 1 of this By-Law.

### 4.3 Accumulation of Yellow Cards

- (a) A Player who accumulates the following Yellow Card infringements during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or competition or Club in which those Yellow Cards are received (excluding junior competitions), shall receive the following sanction upon notification from FFV:

<b>Number of Yellow Cards accumulated:</b>	<b>Automatic Suspension</b>	<b>Fine imposed on Team</b>	<b>In addition:</b>
5 during the same Competition Season	1 Match	1.25 Penalty Units	N/A
10 during the same Competition Season	2 Matches	2.5 Penalty Units	N/A
15 during the same Competition Season	3 Matches	3.75 Penalty Units	Referred to Tribunal for determination of Misconduct.

The additional Match(es) as a result of an accumulation of Yellow Cards Automatic Suspension:

- (i) cannot be appealed;
  - (ii) operate from the time of notification of the Suspension by FFV; and
  - (iii) must be served in the competition in which the majority of the 5 (or 10 or 15 as the case may be) Yellow Cards were received. Where a player has moved leagues or Clubs, the Suspension shall be served in the new league or Club, unless determined otherwise by FFV.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, Clause 6.3(a) of this GDT applies.

- (c) Notwithstanding clause 4.3(a), for FFA Cup Fixtures a Player who accumulates 3 Yellow Card infringements during the same FFA Cup competition the following shall apply:
- (i) a 1 Match Automatic Suspension; and
  - (ii) a fine of 1.25 Penalty Units to the Player's Team.

### **Best and Fairest eligibility**

- (d) For the avoidance of doubt:
- (i) Rule 13.1.6 of the NPL Rules of Competition provides that a Player who receives a Suspension shall be Ineligible to win a Best and Fairest award in the Competition in which the Suspension was received. This includes but is not limited to a Player who receives ten (10) Yellow Cards or more in a Regular Season (Ie, a one match ban under clause 4.3(a) does not make a Player ineligible, but accumulation of a two match ban under clause 4.3(a) does make a Player ineligible for a Best and Fairest award).
  - (ii) Rule 13.1.7 of the State League Rules of Competition provides that a Player who receives a Suspension in a Competition Fixture during the Regular Season (excluding Play Off and Final matches) shall be ineligible to win a Best and Fairest award in any given Regular Season. This includes but is not limited to a player who receives five (5) Yellow Cards or more in a Regular Season (Ie, a one match ban under clause 4.3(a) in State League does make a Player ineligible for a Best and Fairest award).

## **4.4 Finals**

- (a) At the conclusion of the regular home and away Competition Season the number of Yellow Cards accumulated against each player shall be reset to zero. Players otherwise eligible for a Finals Series shall commence the Finals Series with no Yellow Cards recorded against them.
- (b) A Player who accumulates 2 Yellow Cards in separate Matches during a Finals Series shall receive:
  - (i) an Automatic Suspension, which cannot be appealed and which must be served in the Finals Series in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yellow Card was received, unless determined otherwise by FFV; and
  - (ii) a fine of 1.25 Penalty Units to the Player's Team.

## **4.5 Accumulation of Yellow Cards Automatic Suspension in final game of Season or Finals**

Notwithstanding any other provision in this GDT or the Rules of Competition, the following applies:

- (a) Despite clause 4.4(a), any player that receives a Suspension subject to clause 4.3 as a result of the final round of the regular home and away season must serve their Suspension in the next available Match including any relevant Finals Series where applicable.

*By way of example: where a Player or Club Associate accrues their 5<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card in the final round of the regular league Season and where that Player or Club Associate:*

- (i) *is not playing Finals, then the Automatic Suspension for the accumulation of Yellow Cards shall be served in Round 1 of the following competition league season; or*
- (ii) *is playing Finals, then the Automatic Suspension for the accumulation of Yellow Cards shall be served in the first week of the Finals Series.*

*This clause applies for an Automatic Suspension for accumulation of a 10<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card (as the case may be) as well, such that the Suspension may fall across two competition league seasons, including Finals or part thereof.*

- (b) Where a Player or Club Associate accrues 2 Yellow Cards in a Finals Series subject to clause 4.4(b), and where that Player or Club Associate:
  - (i) has a further Finals Series match to be played, then the Automatic Suspension for the accumulation of 2 Yellow Cards shall be served in the next match in that Finals Series.
  - (ii) does not have a further Finals Series match to be played, then the Automatic Suspension for the accumulation of 2 Yellow Cards shall expire with the Finals Series, and is not served in the next competition Season.

*By way of example: where a 2<sup>nd</sup> Yellow Card is accrued by a Player during a Grand Final Match, the Automatic Suspension shall not be served by the Player in Rd 1 of the league the Player is in for the following Season.*

- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, clauses 4.5(a) and 4.5(b) shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency in any other FFV rule, regulation or by-law.

#### **4.6 Voluntarily standing down Players for accumulated Yellow Cards**

- (a) From time to time, a Club may become aware of a Player having accrued their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card (as the case may be) prior to the Club receiving official notification from FFV.
- (b) Where a Club is aware of a Player having accrued their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card (as the case may be) prior to the Club receiving official notification from FFV, and the Club wishes to exclude the Player from a Fixture for the purposes of serving an Automatic Suspension, the Club must prior to the Fixture:
  - (i) notify FFV of the Player's accumulated Yellow Card status and the Club's intent to exclude the Player from the Fixture; and
  - (ii) if requested, provide the Match Records for the Player showing the Yellow Cards received.

If a Club excludes a Player from a Fixture without prior notification to FFV, then that exclusion may not be considered as an Automatic Suspension served for that Player, in FFV's sole discretion.

#### 4.7 **Red Card Offences**

- (a) A Red Card may be issued by a Senior Match Official to a Player or Team Official in respect of a serious infringement (Law 12 of the Laws of the Game) as set out in Schedule 1 Part 2 of this By-Law. Red Cards may either be Direct or Indirect:
  - (i) If a Player is given two Yellow Cards during Match Time in the same Match, that person shall be given an Indirect Red Card, which shall replace the two Yellow Cards that gave rise to it.
  - (ii) If a Player is given a Direct Red Card during Match Time, any Yellow Card the Player has previously received in Match Time remains in place.
- (b) Subject to this By-Law, a Player or Team Official who is given a Direct or Indirect Red Card:
  - (i) must leave the field of play and its immediate surrounds, including the substitutes' bench during a Match; and
  - (ii) shall receive:
    - A. an Automatic Suspension (which for the avoidance of doubt applies immediately upon notification by the Match Official, cannot be appealed or rescinded other than via the Laws of the Game, and applies irrespective of notice from FFV, or of B or C below occurring);
    - B. a Penalty in accordance with Schedule 1 Part 3; and/or
    - C. a Fine of 1.25 Penalty Units to the Player's Team if applicable (see Schedule 2 Part C).
- (c) FIFA Rules of the Game clause 5 provides that where a Referee takes action against a team official who fails to conduct themselves in a responsible manner, the Referee may expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds. For the avoidance of doubt, "immediate surrounds" is defined by FFV to include, but not be limited to, the substitutes' bench and surrounding area, the change rooms, the Referee's room, and any other area a Referee may instruct in issuing the Red Card.
- (d) Upon notification to FFV by the Referee of a Red Card, FFV shall grade the severity of the Red Card in accordance with the Red Card Offence penalties in Schedule 1 Part 3 of this GDT, and advise the Player or Team Official. FFV reserves the right to refer a Red Card to the independent Tribunal for additional consideration of penalty in its absolute discretion where FFV is of the opinion the incident giving rise to the Red Card is of a serious or egregious nature.

#### 4.8 **Multiple Red Card offences in Match**

- (a) Where a Red Card is shown to a Player or Team Official, and the Player or Team Official thereafter performs a further offence(s), FFV may in its absolute discretion:
  - (i) levy additional penalties against that Player or Team Official using the Red Card offence table; or

(ii) refer the conduct to the Tribunal as an MP Offence,

or a combination of both.

*By way of example: a player receives a R2 (violent conduct) Direct Red Card for a tackle, and on leaving the field uses offensive language towards the referee. FFV may proceed in its absolute discretion as follows: either, FFV may subject that player to the R2 penalty for the tackle, and also impose a R6.3 penalty for the offensive language. Alternatively, FFV may refer the Player to the Tribunal to face an R2 charge for the tackle and an MP6A charge for the offensive language.*

- (b) Where FFV applies a 2<sup>nd</sup> red card administratively in respect of a further offence under clause 4.8(a), the 2<sup>nd</sup> Red Card applied by FFV does not count as a Red Card for clause 4.9 purposes.

#### 4.9 Multiple Red Card offences in Season

- (a) A Player who accumulates the following Red Card infringements during the same Competition Season, regardless of the league or competition or Club in which those Red Cards are received or in a Finals Series (excluding junior competitions), shall receive the following sanction:

<b>Number of Red Cards accumulated:</b>	<b>Suspension</b>	<b>In addition:</b>
2 during the same Competition Season	Automatic Suspension, plus 1 Match Additional Suspension	N/A
3 during the same Competition Season	Automatic Suspension, plus 2 Match Additional Suspension.	N/A
4 or more during the same Competition Season	Automatic Suspension, plus 3 Match Additional Suspension.	Referred to Tribunal for determination of Misconduct.

Notes: Neither the Automatic nor Additional Suspension can be appealed. The Additional Suspension must be served immediately after the Automatic Suspension and is in addition to any penalty under clause 4.7(b).

#### 4.10 Early Red Card guilty plea reduction

- (a) A Player who has received a Red Card for conduct set out in Schedule 1 Part 3 shall be assigned the corresponding Penalty as graded by FFV.
- (b) A Player who has received a Red Card for conduct set out in Schedule 1 Part 3 other than any offence that results in an Automatic Game only, or any offence that results in a mandatory Tribunal, may plead guilty to the Red Card.
- (c) A Player who pleads guilty as per clause 4.10(b) shall receive a one Match reduction of the applicable Penalty, provided that the Player or his or her Club has notified FFV in writing of the Player's guilty plea, which is received by FFV by 1:00pm on the Monday following notification by FFV of the Red Card. Once a

guilty plea has been submitted to FFV, the Club Associate is deemed to have waived their right of Red Card Appeal.

- (d) If a Player pleads guilty as per clause 4.10(b) to a Red Card, and also pleads guilty to an administrative Red Card imposed under clause 4.8 (if any), the Player shall be entitled to a one match reduction for each penalty cumulatively applied.

#### 4.11 Red Card appeal against length of penalty only

- (a) A Player who has received a Red Card penalty (other than any offence that results in an Automatic Game only or mandatory Tribunal) may Appeal against the severity of the Red Card penalty only.
- (b) Where a Player chooses to Appeal a Red Card severity of penalty as per clause 4.11 (a), the following shall apply:
  - (i) a completed Red Card Appeal Tribunal Request Form (Schedule 3) must be lodged with FFV by 1:00pm on the Monday following Notification of the Red Card;
  - (ii) the Tribunal Request Fee set out in Schedule 2 must accompany the Form; and
  - (iii) at the time of lodging a Tribunal Request Form, all monies owed by the Player or Player's Club to FFV must be paid in full, unless a prior arrangement with FFV has been agreed. No Red Card Appeal shall be permitted unless the Appellant's Club has paid all monies due and owing by it to FFV.
- (c) Where clause 4.11(b) is not satisfied the Tribunal shall have no jurisdiction to hear a matter and the original Penalty imposed shall apply.
- (d) Upon receipt of a Tribunal Request Form and subject to clause 4.11(b), FFV shall convene a Tribunal to hear the matter as soon as practicable.
- (e) Subject to this clause, at a Red Card severity of penalty Appeal hearing the Tribunal shall have no power to remove a Red Card or an Automatic Suspension, but may make a finding that:
  - (i) the offence has not been proven: in which case the Tribunal may remove any Additional Suspension that may have been imposed; or
  - (ii) the offence has been proven: in which case the Tribunal may increase the Penalty or impose any additional sanctions on the Player in its discretion as it sees fit; or
  - (iii) the Player is guilty of a different offence (or the same offence but at a different grading): in which case the relevant Penalty if any shall be applied and the Tribunal may impose any additional sanctions as per the relevant Red Card penalty offence schedule.
- (f) Notwithstanding lodgement of a Red Card Appeal Tribunal Request Form, until the Tribunal has determined the matter or stayed the operation of any Penalties, a Player must serve all applicable Suspensions and comply with all Penalties.

## 5. OTHER MISCONDUCT

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### 5.1 Misconduct Penalty Offence

- (a) FFV has adopted a system of penalties that apply to conduct that constitutes a Misconduct Penalty Offence (MP Offence) (Schedule 2 Part 3).
- (b) Upon receipt of a Misconduct Report, or in its own discretion, FFV may investigate the matter as per Clause 3. FFV may then issue a Club or Club Associate with a Misconduct Penalty Offence.
- (c) A Club or Club Associate issued with a Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) by FFV may either:
  - (i) accept the Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) and the penalties imposed; or
  - (ii) refer the Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) to a Tribunal hearing.

FFV may also refer Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) matters to the Tribunal in its own discretion at any time.

- (d) *Accepting* a Misconduct Penalty Offence(s):

Where a Club or Club Associate *accepts* a Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) in accordance with clause 5.1(c)(i), the following applies:

- (i) the amount of Fine payable in Schedule 2 Part 3 for the Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) shall be reduced by 25%; and
- (ii) a one (1) Match reduction of the applicable Misconduct Penalty Offence, unless the Penalty is one match only, shall be applied (but no adjustment may be made to any Points penalty); and
- (iii) the Club or Club Associate forfeits their right to Appeal.

- (e) *Referring* a Misconduct Penalty Offence(s):

Where a Club or Club Associate *refers* a Misconduct Penalty Offence(s) to a Tribunal hearing in accordance with clause 5.1(c)(ii), the Club or Club Associate shall pay the Request fee in Schedule 2 Part A, and FFV shall convene a Tribunal hearing as soon as reasonably practical.

- (f) For the avoidance of doubt: a Club or Club Associate charged with multiple Misconduct Penalty Offences during a Fixture may either *accept* all charges, or *refer* all charges to the Tribunal, but not accept some charges and not others, etc. If a matter is referred to the Tribunal and at the Tribunal the Club or Club Associate then pleads guilty no automatic discount under clause 5.1(d) applies.

### 5.2 Serious Offences

- (a) Where a Club or Club Associate is subject to any Serious Offence charge(s) as set out in Schedule 2 part 3 of this By-law, FFV may refer the charges to the Tribunal for determination regardless of clause 5.1(c)(i) in its sole discretion.

## Police involvement

- (b) From time to time, Victoria Police may be alerted to an incident in relation to Football, and FFV may also be reviewing the incident for the purposes of Misconduct.
- (c) Where FFV is reviewing an incident, and it is claimed by a Club or individual that the incident is also the subject of a Police inquiry, FFV will postpone its investigation or progress of a matter where directed to do so by the Police. FFV may otherwise, in its absolute discretion, continue its investigation or progress of a matter, and the fact that a Club or individual claims that the Police are reviewing the incident shall not of itself be reason for FFV to cease its investigation or progress of a matter.

## 5.3 Repeat MP Offences

- (a) Where a Club or Club Associate is found guilty of a Serious Offence and then commits another Serious Offence in the same Season of the first Serious Offence, and where:
  - (i) it is the same Team or Club Associate(s) involved; then the subsequent Serious Offence shall be considered as a Second Offence or Third (or subsequent) Offence, as the case may be, for the purposes of sanctioning under Schedule 2 Part 3;
  - (ii) it is a different Team or Club Associate(s) within the Club; then the Tribunal shall be entitled in its sole discretion to determine whether the subsequent Serious Offence is considered as a Second Offence or Third (or subsequent) Offence, as the case may be, for the purposes of sanctioning under Schedule 2 Part 3.
- (b) Clause 5.3(a) applies for the remainder of the Season of the first Serious Offence regardless of whether the subsequent offences occur in a different Competition or Finals Series.
- (c) Clause 5.3(a) carries across all Serious Offences as listed in clause 5.2(a). For the avoidance of doubt, the subsequent Serious Offence need not be the same offence as the first offence, but rather any other Serious Offence within the same Season for clause 5.3(a) to apply.

*By way of example: a Match occurs on 3 May 2017 and a MP6B (Violence against Match Official) charge is found against a Club Associate at Tribunal. Any other Team or Club Associate within that Club that is charged with any Serious Offence listed in clause 5.2(a) may be subject to the Second or subsequent Serious Offence penalties until the end of the Season.*

## 5.4 Breaches of the Rules of Competition

Any breach of the Rules of Competition may amount to a Misconduct Offence Penalty (MP10) (Other Misconduct) in FFV's sole discretion.



## 6. SUSPENSIONS

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### 6.1 Suspensions

- (a) A Suspension is a ban or prohibition imposed on a Club or Club Associate from participating in a Match in any capacity, either for a period of time, or for a number of Matches. For the avoidance of doubt, a Suspension does not prevent a suspended individual from attending a match as a spectator only; unless otherwise so determined by FFV or the Tribunal.
- (b) For the purposes of clause 6.1(a), unless otherwise directed by a Tribunal, a Club Associate with a Suspension may attend Matches but must not participate as either a Coach, Player or in any official capacity for any FFV Club. This means and includes, but is not limited to a Suspended Club Associate may not:
- (i) enter the field of play;
  - (ii) attend in the Technical Area/bench;
  - (iii) take, or otherwise be involved in, training sessions or warm-ups on Match day;
  - (iv) give the Team or Players instructions, either directly or via a third-party, on Match day (this does not prohibit giving encouragement or barracking);
  - (v) attend the Referee's room or the change room areas;
  - (vi) complete Team / Match Sheets; or
  - (vii) otherwise approach the Senior Match Official to discuss any aspects of the Match as a representative of the Team or Club, or otherwise hold themselves out as having the authority of a Club Associate for the Fixture.
- (c) Notwithstanding clause 6.1(b), unless otherwise directed by a Tribunal, a Suspended Club Associate may:
- (i) act as a Marshal or Assistant Referee, provided that the Senior Match Official is made aware of the individual's Suspension and permits the involvement;
  - (ii) train (unless directed otherwise by the Tribunal); or
  - (iii) participate in FFV's "Summer 7s" or "Football5s" programs, unless the individual's Suspension is for conduct greater than 4 weeks length of Suspension.
- (d) Any violation of clauses 6.1(b) or 6.1(c) may amount to Misconduct and may result in FFV:
- (i) recommencing the Club Associate's Suspension from the date of the violation of the Suspension; or
  - (ii) referring the matter to the Tribunal for determination of Misconduct (MP10)
- in FFV's sole discretion.
- (e) In all cases where an individual is Suspended and ordered to undertake training, provide a written apology, or complete any other tasks as required by the

Tribunal, the individual shall remain Suspended until such time as all aspects of the determination have been satisfied or completed.

## 6.2 Clubs Responsible For Payment of Fines and Monies Owning

- (a) A Club is jointly and severally liable to FFV for payment of any Fine imposed on a Club Associate.
- (b) Any party who fails to pay another party a sum of money in full as required by a Tribunal determination may be:
  - (i) given a time limit in which to settle the debt; and
  - (ii) if the party the subject of the determination is a Club, that Club's relevant Team will play for no points in FFV competitions for each Fixture until the debt is resolved or settled, in FFV's sole discretion.

## 6.3 Serving a Suspension

- (a) For the avoidance of doubt, regardless of notice from FFV, a Red Card received by a Player or Club Associate is an Automatic Suspension and must be served immediately. See clause 4.6(b).
- (b) A Club Associate must serve a Suspension without delay and a Suspension shall remain in effect until served in full irrespective of a change of status, league, level or age group.
  - (i) In all cases until a Suspension is served in full, a Club Associate must not participate in any other Fixture at any level in FFV Competitions. This includes Suspensions that are not totally served in a Competition Season and that are carried over and served in future or subsequent seasons.
  - (ii) A Suspension arising out of a Finals Series which is not served in full in that Finals Series shall be carried over to the following Competition Season in which the Club Associate participates.
- (c) If a Match is postponed prior to its commencement, such Match will not be classified as a Match served under Suspension for the purposes of calculating a Suspension remaining.
- (d) A Match that is Abandoned after commencement, or Forfeited prior to commencement, shall count as a Match served under Suspension for the purposes of calculating a Suspension remaining unless:
  - (i) any Club or Team to which the Suspended Club Associate belongs was responsible for the facts that led to the Abandonment or Forfeit; or
  - (ii) an incident leading to the Abandonment or Forfeit of a Fixture is referred to the Tribunal.

For the avoidance of doubt: where a Match is Abandoned after commencement, or Forfeited prior to commencement, and is subsequently re-played, the Abandoned / Forfeited Match shall not be considered to be a Match served under Suspension, and the relevant Player or other Club Associate will serve their Suspension in the next available Fixture.

- (e) Unless otherwise advised, relevant Suspensions received in the Winter Season shall also be served in the FFA Cup and Dockerty Cup, or any other applicable tournaments, and vice versa. For the avoidance of doubt: this shall not apply to Suspensions arising from an accumulation of 5, 10, 15, Yellow Cards (as the case may be), or out-of-season competitions not administered by FFV.
- (f) Clubs and Club Associates may voluntarily serve suspensions for accumulated Yellow Cards in accordance with the provisions of clause 4.5 above.
- (g) For the avoidance of doubt, where during an independent Tribunal hearing a Club Associate is found guilty on liability, but the Tribunal has postponed or reserved its decision on penalty, the Club Associate shall be considered Suspended until the final decision is delivered, and any Matches missed shall count towards the length of any subsequent ban.

## 7. INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

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### 7.1 Appointment & Composition of the Independent Tribunal

- (a) A pool of independent Tribunal members shall be maintained, and shall consist of such person or persons as FFV shall from time to time deem fit to appoint (**Tribunal Members**).
- (b) A person shall not be appointed as a Tribunal Member if he or she is an FFV Director, Member or employee, or otherwise has a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest that might call into question their independence.
- (c) A person appointed as a Tribunal Member may be removed from the Tribunal Membership at the discretion of FFV, and approved by the Tribunal Chairperson, at any time and without reason.
- (d) One of the Tribunal Members shall be appointed by FFV as the Tribunal Chairperson. The Tribunal Chairperson may approve the appointment of individuals to the Tribunal Member pool. The Tribunal Chairperson herein delegates the administration and appointment of Tribunal Members from the pool to individual hearing panels to the FFV disciplinary department.
- (e) A Tribunal Member shall not be appointed to an independent Tribunal hearing panel if he or she:
  - (i) is a party to, or in any way directly or indirectly interested in, the matter to be heard by the Tribunal; or
  - (ii) is a Member or Official of a Club, or otherwise has any relationship with a Club that is a party to a matter, such that that person may be seen to be not independent.
- (f) Subject to this By-Law a Tribunal hearing may consist of one, two or three Tribunal Members.
- (g) Where at a particular hearing the independent Tribunal consists of more than one Tribunal Member:
  - (i) if the Tribunal Chairperson is one of the Tribunal Members appointed for that hearing, he or she shall act as Chairperson at the hearing; or
  - (ii) In any other case, the Tribunal Members shall appoint a Chairperson amongst themselves at the hearing.
- (h) The Chairperson of all hearings must hold legal qualifications.
- (i) Any objections to the composition of a particular independent Tribunal Hearing Panel by a party must be made prior to, or at, the hearing of the relevant matter, failing which the parties will be deemed to have no objection to the composition of the Tribunal Panel or any member of it.

### 7.2 Jurisdiction of Tribunal

- (a) The Tribunal shall have jurisdiction in respect of:

- (i) any matters referred to it by FFV including, but not limited to, a matter involving a person who has submitted to the jurisdiction of FFV;
  - (ii) any objection to the composition and independence of the Tribunal Members forming the Panel;
  - (iii) any request by a Club Associate to review any sanction;
  - (iv) a Grievance; or
  - (v) any other matter in respect of which the Tribunal is given jurisdiction by FFV.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, the Tribunal shall not have any power to hear disputes relating to a Club Associate's contract with a Club, other than in accordance with clause 10.7.
- (c) No Tribunal Member may represent a Club or Club Associate in any proceedings before the Tribunal whilst either a Tribunal Member, or within 12 months from the end of their term of appointment as a Tribunal Member, without express prior written permission of FFV.

### 7.3 Tribunal Process

- (a) If FFV determines to refer a matter to the independent Tribunal, it shall notify the relevant Clubs of all persons who may be affected by the Tribunal's decision of the following:
- (i) the time, date and place of the hearing;
  - (ii) sufficient details of the allegations against the party charged to enable the party to prepare a response to the allegations;
  - (iii) details of any documents or other evidence which may be relied upon at the hearing in support of the charge; and
  - (iv) that the party may make written representations to the Tribunal and/or appear before the Tribunal to make submissions.
- (b) The Tribunal may conduct the hearing in any manner it sees fit including but not limited to video or teleconference and may, if it considers it appropriate, allow an amendment to the charges provided that:
- (i) all parties affected are given a reasonable opportunity to be heard; and
  - (ii) the hearing is conducted with as little formality, and with as much expedition, as proper consideration of the matters permit.
- (c) The Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices or procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter and in such manner it deems appropriate provided that the Tribunal adheres to the principles of natural justice. The following is ordinarily relevant to Tribunal Proceedings:
- (i) at the commencement of a hearing the Tribunal Chair will read out each charge;
  - (ii) the person or Club charged, if present, will be asked whether or not they plead guilty or not guilty;
  - (iii) the parties will be invited to give to the Tribunal a summary of the matters on which they wish to rely.

- (d) A party may be represented by a person with legal qualifications only upon leave of the Tribunal.
- (e) FFV may make such submissions to the Tribunal as it sees fit; either on the question of what penalty or sanction, if any, ought to be imposed, or in a role as Counsel Assisting the Tribunal.

#### 7.4 Attendance at Tribunal

- (a) By a Club Associate:
  - (i) The attendance at the Tribunal of the Club Associate(s) who have been charged is mandatory.
  - (ii) Failure by a Club Associate(s) to attend Tribunal may result in:
    - (A) a matter being adjourned (see clause 7.10); or
    - (B) the matter proceeding without the Club Associate(s)in the Tribunal's sole discretion, and may result in a charge of Other Misconduct (MP10) in FFV's sole discretion.
- (b) By Referee:
  - (i) Any written (including electronic) Incident Report or Misconduct Report, or other such report completed by a FFV appointed Match Official (Referee(s)) in relation to any matter before the Tribunal, shall stand as the Match Official's statement of evidence, unless the Match Official determines to also provide oral evidence at the hearing.
  - (ii) The ordinary position is that unless a Club or Club Associate provides prior notification to FFV that a FFV appointed Match Official is required for cross-examination, it is deemed that the FFV appointed Match Official is not required for cross-examination and the Match Official's record of events is not challenged for factual matters (and clause 7.5(b) does not apply).
  - (iii) Provided the Match Official is available by telephone if required, the physical presence at a Tribunal hearing of a FFV appointed Match Official (Referee(s)) in relation to any matter before the Tribunal is not mandatory for the matter to proceed, unless otherwise so directed by the Tribunal.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, any written (including electronic) Incident Report or Misconduct Report provided by a Match Official shall stand as the facts of the alleged Misconduct event. The onus shall rest with the party challenging the facts of the event to establish to the comfortable satisfaction of the Tribunal that the facts as recorded are inaccurate or otherwise misrepresent the event.

#### 7.5 Witness evidence

- (a) The Tribunal may require any witnesses who are not parties to the matter to vacate the hearing room until called upon to give evidence.

- (b) Where the author of a document relied upon by a party is not present to be questioned about that document, the Tribunal may attach such weight to the document as it deems appropriate.
- (c) The parties may call evidence from such witnesses as are permitted by the Tribunal and all such witnesses can be subject to questioning by the other party or members of the Tribunal.
- (d) Evidence may be given in-person, or by way of a telephone or video link, unless the Tribunal directs otherwise.

## 7.6 Documents or other evidence at Tribunal

- (a) Parties who wish to rely upon documents or other evidence (video recordings, witness statements, CCTV, photos, and so forth), must provide copies of such material to FFV no later than COB 48hrs prior to the scheduled hearing.
- (b) Material provided after this time will result in such documents not being permitted at the hearing except with leave of the Tribunal. For the avoidance of doubt, a party wishing to rely on video evidence must bring appropriate means to play the evidence at the hearing.

## 7.7 Completion of evidence

- (a) At the completion of the evidence:
  - (i) the parties shall leave the hearing room if requested by the Tribunal;
  - (ii) the Tribunal will consider all the evidence and submissions made during the hearing and make a determination on the balance of probabilities with respect to whether or not the charge(s) have been proven;
  - (iii) The Tribunal may give an oral decision, a written decision, or may postpone the decision until such time as it deems necessary to formulate a decision. The Tribunal is not required to give reasons for its decision, but may do so in its sole discretion.
- (b) If the Tribunal in a particular matter is constituted by more than one person, the question(s) before it may be decided by majority opinion. Where the Tribunal consists of only two persons, the Chair shall have the deciding vote.
- (c) Unless otherwise directed by the Tribunal, FFV shall publish on its website the results of all Tribunal hearings as soon as practicable.

## 7.8 Penalties and Sanctions

- (a) At a Tribunal hearing, the Tribunal may make a finding that the Offence(s):
  - (i) have not been proven. In such case, the Tribunal may remove any Additional Suspension that may have been imposed (but may not remove or alter any applicable Automatic Suspension(s));
  - (ii) have been proven as charged. Where the tribunal makes such a finding in a Recommended Penalty Offence matter, the Tribunal

may either reduce or increase the ordinarily imposed Recommended Penalty Offence where the circumstances so warrant in the Tribunal's sole discretion; or

- (iii) have been proven, but at a different grading or as a different offence. Where the Tribunal considers a different grading or offence has been established, it must give the party charged an opportunity to put any evidence and/or submissions in relation to that different offence to the Tribunal prior to the Tribunal imposing its finding.
- (b) Where the Tribunal finds that charge(s) have been proven (either as charged, or at a different grading or offence), then prior to imposing any penalty or sanction the Tribunal must invite the parties to make submissions to the Tribunal on the question of what penalty or sanction, if any, ought to be imposed.
- (c) Where a Club is found guilty of any charge which arises either wholly or partly out of the conduct of a Club Associate(s), the Tribunal must, when considering the question of penalty, take into account any steps taken by the Club to:
- (i) identify such Club Associate(s) and/or
  - (ii) minimise the risk of a repetition of such behaviour by the relevant Club Associate(s).
- (d) The Tribunal may have regard to any matters which it considers relevant to the question of penalty and, without limitation, may consider:
- (i) the seriousness of the conduct with which the party is charged or found guilty of by the Tribunal;
  - (ii) any loss or damage sustained or likely to be sustained by any party including but not limited to FFV howsoever arising from the conduct;
  - (iii) evidence of the Tribunal history of the party charged;
  - (iv) the extent to which the party has made efforts to prevent the conduct from occurring; and/or
  - (v) insofar as they are relevant, the objectives of the FFV Constitution.
- (e) For the avoidance of doubt if any of the parties do not attend a hearing, a Tribunal may proceed in the absence of those parties, including the Club or Club Associate charged, in the Tribunal's sole discretion.
- (f) The Tribunal is not obliged to give written reasons for any decision made by it. If the Tribunal provides written reasons then FFV shall publish those reasons on the FFV website unless otherwise directed by the Tribunal.
- (g) In addition to any Recommended Penalty required under this By-Law, the Tribunal may impose, in its own absolute discretion, any one or more of the following penalties or outcomes on such terms as it see fit:
- (i) Expulsion;
  - (ii) Disqualification;
  - (iii) Suspension (including but not limited to suspension of a registration or accreditation);
  - (iv) A monetary penalty upon a Club only;
  - (v) A reprimand or caution;
  - (vi) Mediation;



- (vii) Deduction of Championship points;
- (viii) Compulsory attendance at an appropriate Education Course approved by FFV; and
- (ix) Any such other sanction or penalty as the Tribunal sees fit.

*Notes on clause 7.8(g): in accordance with FFA National Disciplinary Regulations clause 12.3, a fine cannot be issued against an Amateur, and in the case of a Professional, cannot exceed one half of the Total Payments that Participant would have received over the duration of the sanction.*

- (h) Where a party fails to comply with a determination of the Tribunal, this may be referred back to the Tribunal for further determination or may be handled in a manner as determined by FFV.
- (i) Subject only to the specified rights of Appeal, a determination of the Tribunal (or the Appeals Board) is final and binding on all parties. The parties undertake to carry out the determination without delay.

## 7.9 Education Courses

- (a) In appropriate circumstances, the independent Tribunal may impose compulsory attendance at an education course approved by FFV as follows:
  - (i) a Respect and Responsibility course;
  - (ii) a Laws of the Game course; and / or
  - (iii) an Anger Management course.
- (b) Where a Club, Team, Club Associate and/or any other person or persons are directed to attend an Education Course:
  - (i) FFV will provide the Club with details of the next available session of the relevant education course;
  - (ii) The ordered Club, Club Associate and/or any other person(s), must attend and complete the course within 30 days of the determination (unless otherwise determined by FFV or the Tribunal);
  - (ii) If a Club or Team has been ordered to attend, and individual persons have not been specified, then all members of that Club or Team are required to attend unless otherwise stated; and
  - (iii) Where an individual is Suspended from participating in football until the relevant education course is complete, it is the responsibility of that individual to provide evidence of successful completion of the relevant course to FFV prior to resumption.
- (b) The cost of participation in an education course (if applicable) shall be paid by the Club, Team, Club Associate and/or any other person or persons who are ordered to undertake such a course. The ultimate responsibility for payment, failing all other persons and/or entities shall be the responsibility of the Club to which any participant(s) belong to or was part of at the time of the education course was ordered.

## 7.10 Adjourments

- (a) Without limiting the generality of any clause of this By-Law or any discretion of the independent Tribunal, adjournments shall only be granted for extraordinary circumstances or where the Tribunal considers it would be harsh or unconscionable to any party or FFV not to do so. Ordinarily, adjournments will not be granted in circumstances where a charged party simply refuses or fails to attend a hearing.
- (b) Any requests to FFV for adjournment of a hearing must be lodged in writing and outline the reasons for adjournment. FFV may grant once-only an adjournment to a party upon application where FFV thinks it is fair and equitable to do so.
- (c) Where clause 7.10(b) has not been satisfied, adjournments may only be ordered at the hearing in the independent Tribunal's sole discretion.
- (d) Notwithstanding any request for adjournment, FFV or the Tribunal where applicable, in its sole discretion may adjourn a matter for its own purposes.

## 7.11 Recording and transcript

- (a) This clause 7.11 stands as notice to all attendees at a FFV Tribunal hearing that sound and voice recording may occur and they may be recorded during a Tribunal hearing without any further notice being provided.
- (b) FFV may record a Tribunal hearing:
  - (i) at the request of a party to a Tribunal hearing; or
  - (ii) of its own volition; andsuch recording shall stand as the official recording of any hearing. No party may record a Tribunal hearing without prior written permission from FFV.
- (b) Where FFV records a hearing, FFV may store that recording for the purposes of an Appeal. FFV may transcribe the recording at the request of a party or of its own volition. The transcript as transcribed by FFV shall serve as the official record of the Tribunal hearing.
- (d) The costs of transcribing a recording (if available) for the purposes of an Appeal shall be borne by the party requesting the transcription.
- (e) Appeal Tribunal hearings will not be recorded.

## 8. APPEALS

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### 8.1 Appeals Board

- (a) FFV shall establish an Appeals Board comprised of senior, legally experienced members of the pool of Tribunal Members to hear Appeals under this By-Law or Appeals allowed under any other FFV Regulation, By-Law or Policy (**Appeals Board**).
- (b) The Appeals Board shall be constituted by such persons as FFV sees fit, save that any member of a Tribunal panel that hears a matter at first instance shall not be eligible to constitute part of an Appeals Board to hear that matter on Appeal.
- (c) One of the Appeals Board members shall be appointed by FFV as the Appeals Chairperson. The Appeals Chairperson herein delegates the administration and appointment of individual appeals board hearing panels to the FFV disciplinary department.

### 8.2 Who can appeal?

- (a) Subject to this By-Law a party subject to a determination of the independent Tribunal may appeal such to the Appeals Board on the following grounds only:
  - (i) Denial of natural justice;
  - (ii) Error of fact or law; or
  - (iii) In any other case with leave of the Appeals Board.
- (b) A party subject to a determination of the independent Tribunal that did not participate in the first instance Tribunal hearing, shall ordinarily have no right to appeal unless leave is granted by the Appeals Board, which shall be heard as a preliminary matter to any appeal hearing as the Appeals Board sees fit.
- (c) If the Appeals Board is satisfied that grounds of appeal are made out it may then proceed to:
  - (i) where a transcript of the Tribunal hearing is available, review the matter in order to remedy any erroneous determinations; or
  - (ii) where no transcript of the Tribunal hearing is available, or in its absolute discretion, rehear the matter on the merits as a new hearing (hearing *de novo*).

### 8.3 Time limit to Appeal

- (a) An appeal may be brought:
  - (i) no later than 5:00pm, 5 business days after the day on which the decision of the Tribunal was notified by FFV; and
  - (ii) by lodging with FFV a duly completed and signed Notice of Appeal in the form set out in Schedule 3 and payment of the appeal fee set out in Schedule 2 Part A (**Appeal Fee**).

- (b) Where 8.3(a) has not been satisfied, no appeal may be commenced without leave of the Appeals Board, or in FFV's sole discretion.
- (c) FFV may waive, upon application, the Appeal Fee in cases of hardship in its absolute discretion. However where FFV waives the Appeal Fee, and the appeal is ultimately unsuccessful, the Appeals Board may order that all or part of the Appeal Fee be paid to FFV.

#### 8.4 **Notice of Appeal**

- (a) The Notice of Appeal shall specify:
  - (i) the grounds of Appeal against the findings made by the independent Tribunal; and/or
  - (ii) whether the Appeal is against the findings of the Tribunal, or the severity of the penalty or outcome imposed by the Tribunal; and
  - (iii) such other details as set out in the relevant Form or as reasonably requested by FFV.
- (b) The Notice of Appeal may be lodged with FFV by:
  - (i) hand delivering it during regular business hours;
  - (ii) e-mail; or
  - (iii) post mail.
- (c) Upon receipt of the Notice of Appeal FFV shall:
  - (i) fix a date, time and place for the hearing of the Appeal as soon as practicable; and
  - (ii) advise all parties interested in the Appeal in writing of these particulars and any amendment to these particulars.

#### 8.5 **Appeal Hearing**

- (a) The provisions of clause 7 shall apply to the appointment, composition, procedures and adjournments of the Appeals Board with such modifications as are necessary as though a reference to 'Tribunal' therein was a reference to 'Appeals Board'.
- (b) Where an Appeal is in relation to a Suspension, such Suspension shall remain in place pending the determination of the Appeal. The Appeals Board may on application by a party to the Appeal or of its own motion:
  - (i) order that the Appeal be adjourned; and/or
  - (ii) stay the execution of any sanction imposed on the appellant pending the determination of the Appeal.
- (c) The Appeals Board may only make an order pursuant to clause 8.5(b) where it is satisfied that there are exceptional and compelling circumstances that make it harsh or unconscionable if an order was not made.
- (d) At the hearing the Appeals Board may:

- (i) make a finding that the offence(s) have not been proven in which case:
  - A. it may order that all, or a portion of, the Appeal Fee be refunded; and/or
  - B. it may remove any Additional Suspension that may have been imposed (but may not remove or alter any applicable Automatic Suspension).
- (ii) or, make a finding that:
  - A. the Offence has been proven as charged;
  - B. the Offence has been proven on a different level or grading; or
  - C. a different Offence has been proven.
- (e) Where the Appeals Board makes a finding that a different Offence has been proven, it may impose or confirm the imposition of the relevant Penalty for that offence, and may in its sole discretion, increase or decrease the Penalty or impose or remove any additional sanctions as it sees fit (but may not remove or alter any applicable Automatic Suspension).
- (f) In the case of all other offences, conduct or omissions, the Appeals Board may impose such penalty or sanction as it sees fit.
- (g) If the Appeals Board considers a different offence may have been committed it must give the party charged an opportunity to put any evidence and/or submissions in relation to that different offence.

## 8.6 Appeals Board decisions

- (a) Appeals Board decisions shall be public and shall be disclosed on the FFV website, unless ordered otherwise by the Appeals Board.
- (b) Only where a party has exhausted all avenues of appeal within FFV, may that party Appeal the Appeals Board's decision via and subject to Football Federation Australia's National Disciplinary Regulations and Grievance Resolution Regulations.
- (c) A decision of the Appeals Board shall be final and binding on the parties and no party may take any action in any court or tribunal or other forum other than via 8.6(b) to challenge such decision or seek to have it varied in anyway.

## 8.7 Associations, Regional Areas, and Other Competition Administrators

- (a) Subject to the applicable constitution, rules, regulations, by-laws or any other relevant document of a Competition Administrator within Victoria, the FFV Appeals Board may be constituted to hear an Appeal from the Tribunal, or equivalent judiciary or disciplinary panel, of a FFV recognised Association, Regional Area or Competition Administrator.
- (b) For the purposes of any Appeal brought in accordance with 8.7(a), the applicable governing document for the Appeal shall be this By-Law.

## 9. REGISTRATIONS, FORFEITS and ABANDONMENTS

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### 9.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this clause:

- **Change of Status** has the same meaning as in the FFV Registration Regulations.
- **Dual Registration** has the same meaning as in the FFV Registration Regulations.
- **Field** means to record a player's name on the Match Record and "Fields" and "Fielded" shall have corresponding meanings.
- **Ineligible** means a player who is one of the following:
  - Playing for the wrong Club or Team;
  - Playing within a stand-down period due to Change of Status;
  - Playing while registered for two clubs at the same time without a Dual Registration exemption to do so;
  - Playing while not Registered;
  - Playing while under Suspension;
  - A player who has been shown a Red Card earlier in a fixture that is still being played;
  - Playing while Ineligible to do so for any other reason determined by FFV;
  - A Player or Players in breach of Rule 2.2 of the Rules of Competition; or
  - A Player or Players in respect of which Rule 3.3 of the Rules of Competition apply.
- **MiniRoos or equivalent player registrations** refers to players under the age of 12.
- **Offence** means when FFV has found upon investigation, audit, processing or notification there has been a breach of this clause including any of the previous fixtures in which an Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) has participated.
- **Registered** means a player who is registered in accordance with the applicable FFV Registration Regulations, and/or FFA National Registration Regulations, including without limitation seeking an International Transfer Clearance (ITC) where applicable.
- **Request for information** from time to time FFV may request that a Club provide to it information in relation to player registration matters or otherwise as reasonably requested in order to ensure the integrity of football.
- **Unregistered** means a player who is not Registered.

### 9.2 Registration – scope and penalties

- (a) All Clubs and Teams must Register all Players in accordance with the FFV Registration Regulations.
- (b) FFV may find Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) through random audits, daily processing or upon investigation following notification of a breach of this clause.
- (c) Where a Club or Team Fields an Unregistered or Ineligible Player in a Fixture, including Finals Series or Play-Off Fixtures, the following applies:
  - (i) A Team that is found to have fielded an Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) during a Fixture(s), the score for the respective Fixture(s) shall be as follows:
    - A. where that Team loses the Fixture, the result shall be the greater of the actual score or a 3-0 result;

- B. where the score is a draw that Team shall be deemed to have lost the Fixture 3-0; or
  - C. where that Team wins the Fixture, the result shall be a 3-0 win to the non-infringing Team.
- (ii) Notwithstanding clause 9.2(c)(i), where FFV finds that a Club or Team has Fielded Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) in multiple Fixtures over a period of time, such that the automatic imposition of a penalty under clause 9.2(c)(i) would, in FFV's opinion, cause undue hardship or would result in an extraordinary penalty situation, FFV may in its sole discretion:
- A. deduct competition points from the Team, capped at 12 points, without altering any of the corresponding individual Match results; or
  - B. reverse such Match results 3-0 as necessary, or issue a Warning and Reprimand; or
  - C. refer the matter to the Tribunal.

Matters that FFV may take into account in making a decision under clause 9.2(c)(ii) include, but are not limited to, whether or not in FFV's opinion the Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) was intentionally or inadvertently Fielded; whether a genuine administrative error occurred; whether the Club made any enquiries to FFV about the Player(s) prior to the Fixture; any remorse shown; the experience of the Team or Club administrator; the age-group affected; and any other factors FFV may consider relevant in the circumstances.

*By way of example: where FFV learns in round 9 of a season that an U14 Team has inadvertently failed to correctly register a Player, rather than automatically deduct 27 points from that Team and reverse 9 Fixtures, FFV may either deduct up to 12 points from the Team and not reverse any individual Fixtures, reverse such Fixtures as necessary, or refer the matter to Tribunal for determination, in its sole discretion.*

- (d) Where FFV learns of Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) via internal audits, and no Club or Team has raised a Protest within time, FFV may deal with the matter via a Warning and Reprimand for the first occasion in its sole discretion. The matter shall then be considered finalised (see Additional Notes section below).
- (e) The time limit for a Club or Team to Protest is three (3) weeks from the date of the relevant Fixture, after which the result of the Fixture is considered finalised.

*Note on clause 9.2(e): it is important for the integrity of the competition and league that the results of Matches are considered final. The intention of this clause is to prevent teams from "saving up" suspicions of Unregistered or Ineligible Players in other teams until shortly before finals, in order to make a last effort to accrue points for finals. Legitimate concerns by a team should be notified to FFV promptly.*

- (g) There shall be no appeal mechanism to the Tribunal or Appeals Board for any determinations made by the FFV in relation to Ineligible or Unregistered Player(s) in accordance with Clause 9.2, unless FFV in its sole discretion refers the matter for consideration to the Tribunal.

*Additional notes on clause 9.2: in state league junior football for U12s to U15s inclusive and junior metro football, the focus is on participation. Where Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) in these leagues are identified, FFV will favour an interpretation of a genuine administrative error unless it can be shown that the Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) were played intentionally. However in NPL leagues, or other state league or metro competitions, FFV's expectation is for greater administrative compliance by Clubs, and participation by Unregistered or Ineligible Player(s) in these competitions may be interpreted against the Club or Team more stringently.*

### 9.3 Forfeits and Abandoned Fixtures

- (a) FFV shall determine the Game Score of any Abandoned Fixture due to Misconduct in accordance with the Rules of Competition.
- (b) Where an Abandoned Fixture is referred to the Tribunal due to a breach of a relevant Misconduct Offence Penalty, the Tribunal may determine only the question of the alleged Misconduct and shall have no power to determine the Game Score or order a full or partial replay of that Fixture.
- (c) Notwithstanding clause 9.3(b), FFV may direct an Abandoned Fixture to be replayed in FFV's sole discretion if the circumstances so warrant.
- (d) Where a Team Forfeits a Match, the relevant Team may be penalised subject to the Rules of Competition and this By-Law.
- (e) In all cases where a Team forfeits a Match the score shall be recorded as 3-0 to the non-offending Team, and the forfeiting Team shall be Fined as follows: where notification of the forfeit is:
- (i) before 9:00am, 5 days prior to the Match, no fine shall apply;
  - (ii) after 9:00am, 5 days prior to the Match, a fine of 3 Penalty Units; and
  - (iii) after 9:00am, 3 days prior to the Match, a fine of 6 Penalty Units.

To avoid doubt this clause shall not apply to WNPL, NPL or NPL2 Teams.

### 9.4 False or Misleading Information

The provision of false or misleading information by a Player, Club or Club Associate on a Prescribed Registration Form or document, or via the on-line Registration System (MyFootballClub), during the player registration process shall constitute Misconduct, and a 2 Match Automatic Suspension on the Player may be imposed, and the matter may be referred to the FFV Tribunal at the discretion of FFV for the determination of any further sanctions which are to be applied.

### 9.5 System or Technical Error

- (a) To avoid doubt, if there is a system or technical error in processing a registration, the above sanctions will be imposed until such system or technical error is proven by the Club or Team or Player, save that:



- (i) Only those system or technical errors that occur on weekdays up until 5.00pm on a Friday, (excluding Public Holidays) will be taken into account; and
- (ii) Should a Club or Team decide to process registrations on non-business days (Weekends and/or Public Holidays) or after 5.00pm on a Friday, the Club or Team is responsible for ensuring all registrations are successfully processed and valid for all Club and team fixtures.

#### 9.6 **Request for Information**

- (a) Where FFV requests a Club to provide information in relation to a Club's registration matters, or otherwise as reasonably requested in order to ensure the integrity of football, the Club must comply within 7 days (or as otherwise reasonably requested by the FFV).
- (b) A failure to comply with clause 9.6(a) shall result in all of that Club's teams playing for no points until the requested information is provided. Should a Club subsequently comply with Clause 9.6(a), any games which were played for no points during the non-compliance period shall not be replayed, and any points potentially lost shall be deemed as forfeited.

#### 9.7 **MiniRoos or equivalent player registrations**

- (a) All Clubs are to ensure that all of their MiniRoos Players are registered in accordance with the FFV registration requirements as published from time to time.
- (b) A failure to comply with point 9.7(a) above shall in the first instance result in a warning given to the Club, at which point they shall be given 7 days (or as otherwise reasonably requested by the FFV) to rectify the situation without any further penalty. Should the matter not be satisfactorily resolved, or should a Club commit further offences, they may be subjected to a Fine of 10 Penalty Units for this and every subsequent offence.

## 10. OTHER MATTERS

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### 10.1 Notification to Club or Club Associates

- (a) Where FFV is required under this By-Law to notify any Club or Club Associate of any matter, such notification requirement shall be deemed to have been satisfied by FFV disclosing the notification in any combination as follows:
- (i) on the FFV website;
  - (ii) sending the notification by email directly to the relevant Club Associate's nominated contact email address as listed in the FFV Club directory (MyFootballClub register);
  - (iii) sending the notification by email to the Club or Club Associate's President or Secretary;
  - (iv) sending the notification to the Club or Club Associate's postal address as listed in the FFV Club directory by pre-paid ordinary post.
- (b) For the purpose of calculating any relevant time periods, such notification will have been deemed to have taken place:
- (i) in the case of notification by publication on the FFV website, or via email, the day on which it was published or emailed online; and
  - (ii) in the case of notification by post, at the expiration of 3 business days from the date on which such notification was posted.

### 10.2 Clubs are responsible for maintaining contact details

- (a) Clubs and Club Associates are responsible for ensuring that Club Contact details, Club Administrator details, Player and Coach details, are correctly notified online via the MyFootballClub online registration system.
- (b) Where a Club or Club Associate fails to correctly notify FFV of a change of details, that is by updating them on the MyFootballClub online registration system, this will not be considered an extraordinary circumstance for the purposes of this By-Law.

### 10.3 Member Protection Policy and GDT

- (a) FFV has adopted the FFA National Member Protection Policy (**MPP**), as advised from time to time, to address issues of discrimination, harassment and vilification for all FFA affiliated Competition Administrators, Clubs and Club Associates.
- (b) Where an incident may constitute either/or a breach of the MPP and this By-Law, FFV may in its sole discretion determine the appropriate governing document under which to investigate, process, and penalise (if necessary) any matter.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, an individual shall remain under Suspension until all penalties have been satisfied or completed whether the penalties were determined administratively or by the Tribunal.

### 10.5 Mediation

- (a) In relation to any dispute, alleged Misconduct or other matter, FFV may require Club or Club Associates to attend mediation with an independent mediator who

shall act as a mediator for the purpose of attempting to reach agreement between the parties to the dispute.

- (b) Mediation shall be conducted on a without prejudice basis and the mediator shall have no power to impose any decision on any of the parties.
- (c) A failure by a Club Associate to attend such a meeting when requested without reasonable excuse may amount to Other Misconduct (MP10) and, at FFV's discretion, may be referred to the Tribunal for Determination.
- (d) Unless agreement is reached at such a meeting and recorded in writing and signed by the parties, FFV may in its complete discretion, decide to refer any allegations of Misconduct or other matter to the Tribunal.
- (e) FV shall neither be a party to mediation nor make submissions on behalf of any party, but may provide case materials from any investigation into the matter conducted by FFV and upon which the parties and the mediator may rely.
- (f) Ordinarily FFV shall not keep a formal record of mediations however may retain a copy of a settlement agreement reached between the parties.
- (g) Mediation may also be sought externally of FFV through the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria, or conciliation may be requested through the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC). To avoid doubt, FFV will not be a party to any external dispute resolution proceedings nor provide any case materials from any relevant investigations.

## 10.6 **Grievance**

- (a) Clauses 8.2(j) and 8.3 of the FFV constitution refer to the resolution of Disputes in accordance with the Grievance Procedure.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, this GDT By-Law constitutes the Grievance Procedure in clause 8.2(j) and 8.3 of the constitution, and grievances to be determined by arbitration may be referred to the Tribunal for determination by FFV in accordance with the procedures in this By-Law.

## 10.7 **Contract Disputes**

- (a) If a Contract dispute arises between Club Associates (Player and Club ONLY) the FFV shall of its own volition or upon a written request by a party to the dispute appoint a person to act as an Arbitrator to determine the dispute provided the dispute arises no more than 12 months prior to the request for arbitration or any other time provided FFV agrees to such referral.
- (b) Unless determined otherwise by a Contract Arbitrator, any amounts of money awarded as part of a determination must be settled in full within 30 days. A failure to comply with this shall amount to Misconduct and may be referred back to the Tribunal for determination.
- (c) A determination made in accordance with clause 10.7(a) shall be binding on the respective parties involved. There will be no appeal mechanism within FFV.

- (d) To avoid doubt, FFV will only appoint an Arbitrator in respect of a [NRR05 – Professional Player Contract](#) that has been lodged with FFV in accordance with the FFV Registration Regulations.
- (e) Where upon FFV discovers that a club has contracted a player but failed to lodge a [NRR05 – Professional Player Contract](#) for that player with FFV and/or FFA, the following may apply:
  - (i) FFV will compel the club to lodge the [NRR05 – Professional Player Contract](#) with FFV and/or FFA and such Contract will apply retroactively as though it had been lodged at the date of execution; and/or
  - (ii) The Club will be charged with Misconduct, the penalty for which shall be determined by the Tribunal.

Where the above clause (i) is applied, the relevant player's professional registration fee (if applicable) must be paid prior to the player being deemed eligible to take the field again.

- (f) Notwithstanding clause 9.2(c), where clause 10.7(e) applies to a Player, that Player shall be deemed to be eligible for the purposes of registration and not subject to the provisions of section 9.2(c).

## SCHEDULE 1 - YELLOW and RED CARD OFFENCES

### PART 1

#### MINOR INFRINGEMENTS – YELLOW CARD CODES

<b>Y1</b>	unsporting behaviour.
<b>Y2</b>	dissent by word or action.
<b>Y3</b>	persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game.
<b>Y4</b>	delaying the restart of play.
<b>Y5</b>	failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in.
<b>Y6</b>	enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission.
<b>Y7</b>	deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.

### PART 2

#### SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS – RED CARD CODES

<b>R1</b>	serious foul play.
<b>R2</b>	violent conduct.
<b>R3</b>	spitting at an opponent or any other person.
<b>R4</b>	denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his or her own penalty area).
<b>R5</b>	denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.
<b>R6</b>	uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.
<b>R7</b>	receiving a second caution in the same Match.

Unless otherwise defined in this By-Law, the definitions of the terms set out above as Y1-Y7 and R1-R7 shall have the same meanings as those set out in the FIFA Laws of the Game and the FIFA Disciplinary Regulations as published from time to time.

**PART 3 - PENALTIES BY RED CARD OFFENCE** (see clause 4.6(d))

CODE	OFFENCE	GRADING GUIDELINES	PENALTY
<b>R1</b>	Serious foul play.  <i>(Typically, but not limited to, serious foul play when the ball is in play)</i>	1. Careless or reckless tackle.	Automatic Game
		2. Attempting to gain possession of the ball using excessive force.	Auto + 2
		3. Conduct that endangers the safety of an opponent in a contest for the ball or has the potential to cause serious injury.	Auto + 4
		4. Conduct causing serious injury.	Auto + 8
<b>R2</b>	Violent conduct.  <i>(Typically, but not limited to, serious foul play when the ball is not in play, and/or pre-meditated violent conduct)</i>	1. Excessive conduct when the ball is not in play or playing distance.	Auto + 2
		2. Violent conduct when the ball is not in play or playing distance.	Auto + 4
		3. Serious and/or premeditated violent conduct when the ball is not in play or playing distance.	Auto + 6
		4. Inappropriate contact with, or conduct toward, a Match Official.	Auto + 8
		5. Serious violent conduct that has caused bodily harm or responsibility for a violent melee.	Auto + 12
<b>R3</b>	Spitting at an opponent or any other person.	1. Spitting at an opponent or another Club Associate.	Auto + 4
		2. Spitting on an opponent or another Club Associate.	Auto + 8
		3. Spitting at or on a Match Official.	12mths
<b>R4</b>	Denying goal scoring opportunity 1.		Automatic Game
<b>R5</b>	Denying goal scoring opportunity 2.		Automatic Game
<b>R6</b>	Offensive, insulting, abusive or intimidating language and/or gestures.	1. Using language and/or gestures in frustration.	Automatic Game
		2. Using language and/or gestures directed at another player or Club Associate	Auto + 2
		3. Using offensive language and/or gestures directed at a Match Official.	Auto + 4
		4. Incitement to violence, or repeated use of offensive language and/or gestures, to another Player or Club Associate.	Auto + 6
		5. Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures.	Auto + 8
		6. Threatening or intimidating language or conduct toward a Match Official, or conduct reasonably perceived as a threat of physical violence toward a Match Official or his/her family or property.	Auto + 16
		7. Violence towards a Match Official or his/her family or property.	12 mths
<b>R7</b>	Second caution (Yellow Card).		Automatic Game

## SCHEDULE 2 - FEES AND FINES

### A. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES (ALL COMPETITIONS)

- Tribunal Request Fee ("Request fee") - \$275.00
- Appeals Board Fee ("Appeal fee") - \$1,100.00

All Administrative fees include GST and are non-refundable, except in applicable cases in accordance with 8.4(d).

### B. FINES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

- PENALTY UNIT – 1 Penalty Unit - \$100.00

Unless otherwise specified in this By-Law FFV may impose a Fine for Misconduct for such amount as it sees fit.

In the case of breaches of the Rules of Competition these fines are in addition to any penalties or consequences set out in the relevant Rules of Competition, this By-Law or which are imposed as a consequence of any other charges which may arise from a breach of the Rules of Competition.

### C. RED/YELLOW CARD SUSPENSIONS FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

<b>Red Card Offences</b>	<b>Penalty Units Seniors</b>	<b>Penalty Units Juniors</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Direct</li></ul>	1.25	N/A
<b>Yellow Card Suspensions</b>	<b>Penalty Units</b>	<b>Penalty Units Juniors</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accumulation of 5, 10, 15, etc, Yellow Cards during the season.</li></ul>	1.25 per multiple of 5 yellow cards	N/A

**PART 2. BREACHES OF RULES OF COMPETITION**

BR CODE		PENALTY UNITS		
		<i>First Offence</i>	<i>Second Offence</i>	<i>Third Offence</i>
<b>BR 1</b>		1	2	4
<b>BR 2</b>		2	4	8
<b>BR 3</b>		3	6	12
<b>BR 4</b>		4	8	16
<b>BR 5</b>		5	10	20
<b>BR 6</b>		10	20	40
<b>BR 7</b>	<i>WPL, MSL 1-3</i>	3	6	12
	<i>WSL 1,MSL 4-5</i>	2	4	8
	<i>WSL 2-4</i>	1	2	4
	<i>Metro, Masters</i>	1	2	4
	<i>Juniors</i>	1	2	4

In addition to the BR7 penalties set out above, where a team fails to participate in three scheduled Matches in the same competition season, FFV may withdraw the relevant team from FFV Competitions.

There shall be no appeal mechanism to the Tribunal or Appeals Board in relation to teams withdrawn by FFV under BR7 nor shall Club's receive a refund of team entry fees.



**Schedule 2 Part 3. MISCONDUCT PENALTIES (MP) BY OFFENCE**

Notes: - Where charges are determined by FFV the default penalty shall be the stated minimum Fine and/or Match Suspension (excluding loss of competition points), or as otherwise advised in this By-Law.  
 - Second or subsequent Offence = Tribunal may impose no less than double the recommended First Offence Penalty.

**RECOMMENDED PENALTY FOR A RELEVANT CLUB ASSOCIATES  
 IN A COMPETITION SEASON:**

	<b>CHARGE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PENALTY:</b>
<b>MP1</b>	Failing to abide by or comply with a direction of a Match Official.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• 1 match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP2</b> (serious offence)	Lighting, discharging or throwing a flare or flares, or other flammable object(s), or aiding, abetting, encouraging or assisting other person(s) to do so.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points (if Club unable to satisfy Tribunal it bears no significant responsibility for the relevant individual(s)' actions); or</li> <li>• 12 month Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP3</b>	Aiding, abetting, procuring, encouraging, assisting or arranging with any other person(s) to engage in Misconduct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• 8 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
(Melees or violent conduct) <b>MP4A</b>	Participating in a Melee (non-violent).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• 4 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP4B</b> (serious offence)	Violent conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• 8 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP4C</b> (serious offence)	Instigator of or otherwise participating in a violent Melee, or other serious Violent conduct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 Penalty Units;</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 12 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>

	<b>CHARGE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PENALTY:</b>
<b>(Club Associate misconduct)</b> <b>MP5A</b>	Inappropriate behaviour by Club Associate(s) at a Match or other FFV event or Fixture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s)</li> </ul>
<b>MP5B</b>	Failing to control Club Associate(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units;</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 4 match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP5C</b> <i>(serious offence)</i>	Club Associate(s) use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 Penalty Units; and/or</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 8 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>(Offences against Match Officials)</b> <b>MP6A</b>	Offence(s) against Match Official(s). (Non-violent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Penalty Units;</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 6 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP6B</b> <i>(serious offence)</i>	Club Associate offence(s) against Match Official(s) (repeated and/or excessive conduct).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 Penalty Units; and</li> <li>• Loss of 6 Points; and</li> <li>• 12 Month Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP6C</b> <i>(serious offence)</i>	Violent offence(s) against Match Official(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 Penalty Units;</li> <li>• Loss of 9 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 2 year Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>(Entering field of Play)</b> <b>MP7A</b>	Entering the Field of Play when not permitted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units; and</li> <li>• 1 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>

	<b>CHARGE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PENALTY:</b>
<b>MP7B</b> (serious offence)	Entering the Field of Play when not permitted and engaging in Misconduct.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Penalty Units;</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and/or</li> <li>• 8 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
(Expulsion from technical area) <b>MP8A</b>	Expulsion from the Technical Area due to minor infringements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Penalty Units; and</li> <li>• 1 Match Automatic Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP8B</b> (serious offence)	Expulsion from the Technical Area due to serious infringements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Penalty Units; and</li> <li>• Loss of 3 Points; and</li> <li>• 4 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP9</b>	Abandonment of a fixture due to Misconduct caused by Club Associate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of 3 Points (unless score reversed pursuant to clause 9); and</li> <li>• 6 Match Suspension for the relevant individual(s).</li> </ul>
<b>MP10</b>	<p>Bringing the game into disrepute.</p> <p>Misconduct including, but not limited to, conduct that has brought, or in FFV's opinion may be likely to bring, the Club, Club Associate, FFV, or the game of Football in Victoria into disrepute, or otherwise adversely affect the image or reputation of the Club, Club Associate, FFV or the game of Football in Victoria, or other Misconduct including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant violent or other Misconduct;</li> <li>- failure to co-operate with, or intentionally impeding, a FFV investigation into Misconduct;</li> <li>- failure to abide by a Tribunal determination; or</li> <li>- Simulation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Such penalty as FFV or the Tribunal shall determine.</li> </ul>
<b>MP11</b>	Prejudicial or defamatory Media or Social Media dissent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Such penalty as FFV or the Tribunal shall determine.</li> </ul>

	<b>CHARGE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED PENALTY:</b>
	<p>Media or Social Media comment(s), whether verbally or in writing, which are derogatory, prejudicial to FFV or the game of Football, or which bring the game into disrepute, or in FFV's sole discretion are reasonably likely to bring the game into disrepute, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) FFV, including any of its Staff, sponsors or commercial partners;</li> <li>(ii) FFV Members, including the FFV Board;</li> <li>(iii) the FFV Tribunal &amp; Appeals Board or any of its members;</li> <li>(iv) other Competition Administrators (as defined in the FFA Statutes) or Clubs;</li> <li>(v) the performance of a Match Official(s); or</li> <li>(vi) any Match, including other Teams and Club Associates.</li> </ul>	
<b>MP12</b>	Registration violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Such penalty in accordance with Clause 9 of the GDT as FFV</li> </ul>

Note: Where a team is subjected to relegation, the Tribunal shall determine relegation, but FFV will determine the relegated league, and such penalty shall apply from the commencement of the following season. If a Team subject to Relegation is unable to be relegated (ie, a junior team, no promotion or relegation existing within the league, or a team's already in the lowest league available), the Tribunal or Appeals Board may consider a point deduction, a denial of promotion opportunities, or any other penalty in place of Relegation.

Note: FFV is concerned to eliminate Misconduct arising out of all Matches, but in particular junior Matches. Where Misconduct takes place in the presence of, or involves, minors directly or indirectly, the Tribunal shall take into account FFV's concerns in this regard, when determining what if any penalty or sanction is to be imposed in respect of any such Misconduct.

## **SCHEDULE 3 - FORMS**

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1. Tribunal Request Form – Federation Imposed Penalty
2. Tribunal Request Form – Red Card Penalty
3. Mediation Agreement
4. Appeal Form



# TRIBUNAL REQUEST FORM FEDERATION IMPOSED PENALTY

DATE: \_\_ / \_\_ / 2015

All details below **MUST BE** completed

Name of Club:	
Name of Club Secretary:	
Club Email: (Official correspondence regarding the Tribunal Request will be sent to your Club via Email)	
Charge(s)/Penalties being appealed:	(1) _____  (2) _____
Fixture: (if applicable)	V
Fixture/offence date: (as applicable)	

**Best Contact Person regarding the Tribunal request:**

Name:	
Phone Number:	
Position at Club:	

**PAYMENT OF TRIBUNAL REQUEST FEE**

Card Type (mark with an X):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa	<input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard
Card number				
Expiry date		CCV number		
Name of cardholder				
Amount	<b>\$275</b>			
Signature of cardholder (type name if lodging by email)				

# TRIBUNAL REQUEST FORM RED CARD PENALTY

DATE: \_\_ / \_\_ / 2017

All details below **MUST BE** completed

Name of Club:	
Name of Club Secretary:	
Club Email: (Official correspondence regarding the Tribunal Request will be sent to your Club via Email)	
Player Name / FFA ID:	
Player Phone Number:	
Charge: (e.g. R1 – Grade 3)	
Suspension: (e.g. Auto + 4)	
Fixture:	V
Date of Fixture:	

**Best Contact Person regarding the Tribunal request:**

Name:	
Phone Number:	
Position at Club:	

**PAYMENT OF TRIBUNAL REQUEST FEE**

Card Type (mark with an X):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa	<input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard
Card number				
Expiry date		CCV number		
Name of cardholder				
Amount	<b>\$275</b>			
Signature of cardholder (type name if lodging by email)				

**Important:** Please note that while a Club has until Monday following notification of a player's penalty to request a Tribunal hearing it does not mean that the matter will be heard at any subsequent Wednesday Tribunal hearing; although all efforts will be made as practicable to hear that matter at any subsequent Wednesday hearing. The Tribunal traditionally sits on Wednesday evenings, and should a Club wait until the last minute to lodge a Tribunal request, the matter may not go before the Tribunal until the following Wednesday week, and that may result in a player missing more than the mandatory automatic one game suspension.



Mediator:	
Date of Mediation:	
Party 1:	
Party 2:	
Party 3:	
Nature of Dispute:	

**MEDIATION AGREEMENT**

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

*We the undersigned parties hereby agree to the above-stated Mediation Agreement. We understand that failure to adhere to the Agreement could result in the matter being referred to the FFV Tribunal, and/or further action being taken at the sole discretion of the FFV.*

Party 1:	Name:		Signature		Club/Position:	
Party 2:	Name:		Signature		Club/Position:	
Party 3:	Name:		Signature		Club/Position:	

**DATE SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES:**     \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_





# APPEAL FORM

DATE: \_\_ / \_\_ / 2017

**All details below MUST BE completed**

Name of Appellant:	
Email of the Appellant: (Correspondence regarding the Appeal will be sent to your Club via Email)	
Date of initial hearing:	
Parties to dispute: (e.g. Westbourne FC & Gippsland SC) (e.g. John Smith & Melbourne Heights FC)	
Nature of dispute: (e.g. Club Misconduct, Player Suspension).	
Grounds for Appeal: (Please specify your reasons for Appealing the initial determination).	(Please Note that Grounds for Appeal are located at 10.1 of the GDT By-Law)

**Best Contact Person regarding the Appeal:**

Name:	
Phone Number:	
Position at Club:	

**PAYMENT OF APPEAL FEE**

Card Type (mark with an X):	<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa	<input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard
Card number				
Expiry date		CCV number		
Name of cardholder				
Amount	<b>\$1,100</b>			
Signature of cardholder (type name if lodging by email)				

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