



**AUSTRALIAN
RULES FOOTBALL
BY LAWS**



2025

***AIC BY LAWS ARE DEVELOPED IN ADDITION TO THOSE
OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY,
EXCEPT STATED OTHERWISE. THE BY LAWS ARE
REVISED ANNUALLY.***

AIC AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL BY LAWS 2025

Clause 1 GRADES AND AIC AGGREGATE

- a) Grades catered for shall be: Open 1st XVIII, Open 2nd XVIII, Year 10, Year 9A, Year 9B, Year 8A, Year 8B, Year 7A, Year 7B, Years 6 A - D and Years 5A -D
- b) 7A, 8A, 9A,10A and 1st XVIII will count towards the overall aggregate.

Clause 2 COMPETITION POINTS

Win	=	2 points	Loss	=	0 points
Draw	=	1 point	Washout	=	1 point

BYE POINTS In the event a member College does not field a team in a competition and a 'bye' is created in the draw, zero points shall be allocated.

Clause 3 SELECTION OF TEAMS AND RESTRICTIONS ON PLAYERS

- a) Colleges shall select players of a higher graded team before selecting those of lower graded teams, whether the higher grades are engaged or not (where applicable)
- b) Players selected in a team on a given fixture round may not take the field for any other team on that day, except an eligible Year 10 student playing as a substitute in the First XVIII game. This player will not be permitted to play in the first quarter of the First XVIII game.
- c) Players must be turning 16 in the year of competition to be eligible to play in the Open grade including First XVIII.
- d) All primary teams will play with 12 per side with an unlimited bench.
- e) Years 7 – Open teams will play with 18 per side with 7 players allocated to the bench.
- f) The following age and year level framework must apply when selecting teams and based on the year of competition.

Year 5 – turning 10 or 11 years old
Year 6 – turning 11 or 12 years old
Year 7 – turning 12 or 13 years old
Year 8 – turning 13 or 14 years old
Year 9 – turning 14 or 15 years old
Year 10- turning 15 or 16 years old
Open (Years 10/11/12) – turning 16, 17 or 18 years old

Clause 4 PLAYER COUNT

- a) A player count may only be requested by the captain of a team which believes that the opposing team has more than the authorised number of players on the playing surface.
- b) If after an official count by the field umpire, the opposing team is found to have more players on the playing surface than authorised, the field umpire shall liaise with the goal umpires and any points scored (goals and behinds) for that quarter to that point in time will be removed from that teams overall score.

Clause 5 SUBSTITUTIONS Refer to Clauses 3 (d) and (e)

Clause 6 FORMAT OF MATCHES

- a) 1st XVIII = 4 x 15-minute quarters
All other grades including 2nd XVIII = 4 x 12-minute quarters
- b) i) First XVIII games will have a 5-minute break at quarter time, halftime and three-quarter time.
ii) In all other games the quarter time break will be two minutes, half time break will be five-minutes and the third quarter time break will be three minutes.
- c) There shall be no time off for injury.
- d) For a game to start, teams must take the field with no less than 4 players than the designated number of players per team e.g. For all Years 7-Open teams where teams are made up 18, a game must start with a minimum of 14 players. This means that there is no bench for that team.
- e) The following rule shall ONLY apply to Year 5 games: All Year 5 matches are to play with sectors – players must rotate between sectors each quarter and can only play a maximum of 2 quarters in 1 sector.

Clause 7 MATCH VENUES AND TIMES

- a) The match venues and times of games are as stated in the AIC AFL Draws 2025.
- b) Open AFL fixtures will be played on a Friday afternoon. All other fixtures will be played on a Saturday morning.
- c) Ground markings including boundaries must comply with the laws of the game.

Clause 8 OFFICIALS

- a) All primary school fixtures will be appointed with one field umpire as allocated by AFLQ. Each school is to provide a goal umpire for each game.
- b) AFLQ will provide Year 7 games with one field umpire and schools are to provide their own goal umpires.
AFLQ will provide Year 8, 9,10 and 2nd XVIII games with two field umpires and schools are to provide their own goal umpires.
AFLQ will provide First XVIII games with two field umpires and goal umpires.
- c) In the event of the nominated official umpire not being in attendance ten minutes after the scheduled commencement time, Heads of Sport or Coordinators may mutually agree on the

provision of a qualified umpire or official. If no qualified umpire or official is available, there must be a mutual agreement on the provision of an unqualified official.

Clause 9 BALLS

- a) Match balls will be supplied by AFLQ.
- b) Years 5 and 6 grades shall use a leather size 3 ball
- c) Years 7 and 8 grades shall use a leather size 4 ball
- d) Year 9 , Year 10 and Open grade shall use a leather size 5 ball.

Clause 10 UNIFORM

All teams must wear numbered jerseys.

Clause 11 DISQUALIFIED PLAYER OR OFFICIAL (ORDER OFF LAW)

- a) The order off law shall apply to all competition matches from U12 to U17. Only Field Umpires are permitted to order a player from the field.
- b) Yellow Card: a player issued a yellow card must leave the field for 15 minutes of playing time. They can be replaced. A player can receive two yellow cards without being reported.
- c) Red Card: a player issued with a red card must leave the playing area and must not return. They can be replaced AFTER 15 minutes of game time has elapsed.
- d) White Card: a white card can be issued to the coaching box if the umpire deems that there is inappropriate behaviour. The Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of all those in and around the coach's box. First offence is a warning. Second offence warning will come with a free kick and a 50m penalty. A third offence will see the Head Coach red carded and they must exit the playing area along with a free kick and a 50m penalty
- e) Also refer to General By Laws Clause 7 'Player Suspension' - If a player is technically fouled that results in a send-off, or, if a player is carded that results in a send-off, that player will be disqualified from playing in the following round of AIC fixtures. The player must not take part in any further play on that given day. This is administered by the Head of College/Principal in consultation with the Head of Sport. Any sanction taken by the offending school, must be notified to the EO.

Clause 12 WEATHER

Refer to AIC General By Laws Clause 17 'Extreme Weather'

In a week of extreme weather conditions, and particularly if hot weather is predicted (more than 36 degrees) then the President or a delegate from the Management Committee is to consult all member AIC schools and consider cancelling fixtures. If fixtures are cancelled this decision will be made by 1.00pm Friday (prior to said round). This process will be facilitated by the Executive Officer.

Clause 13 MEDICAL

First aid officers who hold a minimum qualification of Advanced Life Support and are registered health care professionals (AHPRA) ie formal qualifications (min.) in Paramedical Science or Nursing must be in attendance at all fixtures.

ANNEXURE A

Other rules pursuant to the AFLQ State Football Regulations

BANNED ITEMS

The attire of players taking part in all matches shall be the attire that is officially approved by AFLQ. Banned items include:

- Gloves
- Metal tags
- Long fingernails
- Caps
- Sunglasses
- Padding of any sort (includes but not limited to - shin pads and shoulder pads)
- Jewellery (includes but not limited to - earrings, body piercing jewellery, chains, watches, and rings)
- Bike pants and compression shorts that are not beige coloured

Exemptions to banned items may be granted on application to the Competition Manager where special circumstances exist.

Players who wish to wear spectacles during matches and training sessions should wear spectacles with PLASTIC FRAMES and PLASTIC LENSES. A band must also hold the spectacles on securely. This will minimise the risk of injury to the player, teammates, and opposition players. Approval to wear spectacles that do not have plastic frames and plastic lenses should be sought in writing from the Competition Manager.

OFFICIALS DURING MATCHES

- 1 x coach
- 1 x assistant coach
- 1 x team manager
- 1 x team runner
- 2 x water carriers

COACHES BOX

The following officials only are permitted in the Coaches Box

- Coach x 1
- Assistant Coach x 1
- Team Manager x 1
- Runner x 1