



**TO: FV METROPOLITAN & GEELONG CLUBS**  
**FROM: FV COMPETITIONS**  
**DATE: WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL 2021**  
**SUBJECT: 2021 – METROPOLITAN & GEELONG COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS  
FIXTURE RELEASE ROUND 1-3**

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Dear Clubs,

Thank you for your patience as we work towards a long-awaited return to football.

We are pleased to announce that the following listed community fixtures for Rounds 1 to 3 are available on the Football Victoria website.

## COMMUNITY FIXTURE RELEASE

Women's State League (WSL 1-5)
Men's Metropolitan League
Men's Metropolitan Masters League
Junior Boys & Junior Girls
MiniRoos Boys (Saturday) & MiniRoos Boys (Sunday)
MiniRoos Girls
Geelong Regional Competitions

## REVIEWING YOUR FIXTURES ROUND 1 TO 3

Whilst we have endeavoured to ensure that all rounds are clash free, there may be instances whereby clashes still exist (i.e. two teams kicking off at the same time on the same pitch).

**Please note during this period, FV will not accept fixture changes to kick off times for Rounds 1 to 3 of the season unless it involves a specific clash (i.e two teams kicking off at the same time on the same pitch) or any fixture change requests that accompany written opposition approval.**

Rescheduling fixtures to the Catch-up Round(s) may not be considered by FV as these rounds are allocated for the following:

- Clubs that have venue restrictions during the regular season
- Washout/abandoned fixtures can be allocated in first instance to the Catch up round.

Should you find a clash at your home venue, we ask that you advise in writing to [competitions@footballvictoria.com.au](mailto:competitions@footballvictoria.com.au) and we will address any clashes for Rounds 1 to 3 immediately.

## REVIEWING YOUR FIXTURES ROUND 4 ONWARDS

The FV Competitions department are continuing to work through round 4 onwards to ensure they are clash free.

Further release to these fixtures will be communicated to clubs as soon as possible.

## SUBMITTING LATE REQUESTS

All late requests are to be submitted through your club's AutoStat account.

### COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS – LATE TEAM WITHDRAWAL – [CLICK HERE](#)

Relevant late team entry fees **will** apply for teams that have been withdrawn from respective Competitions.

### COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS – LATE TEAM ENTRY – [CLICK HERE](#)

Relevant late team entry fees **will** apply for all Late Team Entries.

### COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS U12'S – U21'S – LATE LEAGUE CHANGE REQUESTS – [CLICK HERE](#)

Request to regrade may be actioned after Round 4 (May 9). This is to ensure minimum disruptions to league structures at the beginning of the season.

Important information regarding late requests:

- FV will aim to get late team entries into leagues and fixtured as soon as possible however there is no guarantee that FV will be able to get them into the competition
- To accommodate late team entries FV may consider merging geographical locations, self-graded nominations and/or age groups. The purpose is to avoid disruption to leagues and fixtures that have already been set and ensure we can set fixtures for late team entrants as soon as possible.

## POSSIBLE FURTHER FIXTURE CHANGES - LATE TEAM WITHDRAWALS

**Clubs are urged to inform all administrators, coaches, players and their families that there may be changes for Round 1 fixtures due to late team withdrawals.**

The FV Competitions department received over 150 late team withdrawals since the preliminary fixture release. As all club administrators know, this is often unavoidable due to player numbers that present at clubs as registered players. Whilst we understand that this occurs, all Clubs need to be aware that whenever a team is removed from the competition, it unbalances the previous fixture.



As a result of the late team withdrawals, the Competitions staff are often unable to rebalance the fixture for all Rounds before Round 1. This can lead to unusual fixture patterns in Rounds 2 and onwards. (i.e. two teams have byes in the same round).

The priority is to ensure fixtures in Round 1 are accurate so football can be played by as many teams as possible. For Round 2 and onwards, FV Competitions will endeavour to rebalance leagues as soon as possible to ensure all leagues are even and do not have multiple Byes in each Round.

We understand at the beginning of the community season, some parents, players and club officials may be confused about why a league is not balanced.

If your club/team has been allocated a Bye, we do encourage clubs to directly contact other teams within the age group who may be willing to participate in a friendly game.

If you require contact details for clubs, please [click here](#) which will direct you to the Find a Club section on the Football Victoria website.

**Club are reminded to submit a late team withdrawal via the AutoStat team entry system immediately to ensure amendments can be made to league structures.**

## **LATE TEAM LEAGUE CHANGES & NEW TEAM ENTRIES**

The FV Competitions Team have endeavoured to action as many late team entries and league change requests prior to the start of the season. We appreciate that many late team entries are eager to be allocated into Round 1 fixtures however due to the sheer volume of changes, it is not always possible to allocate over 150 Late Team entries received since the League Structure Release.

Please note, all outstanding late team entries and league changes (including team requests made during and post the team entry period) will be reviewed during the applicable regrading period.

For further information regarding regrading and allocating late team entries, please review the key information on pages 3 & 4 relating to the following competitions which had also been communicated to clubs since the Team Entry Period Commencing in February.

- A & KANGAROOS LEAGUES ONLY (JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS)
- BOYS & GIRLS ALL OTHER LEAGUES (EXCLUDING 'A' /KANGAROOS LEAGUES)
- MINIROOS COMPETITIONS

## **A & KANGAROOS LEAGUES ONLY (JUNIOR BOYS & GIRLS)**

Junior Community Competitions improvements to Under 12 Kangaroos and Boys & Girls 'A' Competitions were communicated in November 2020 – [click here](#) for further information.

Important notes include:

- At its discretion FV, may increase the league structure to more than 10 teams.

- Regular season fixtures will be played in Catch-Up Rounds or across a double weekend (one fixture on a Saturday and one fixture on a Sunday) therefore increasing the number of games played. For example, 12 team structures will be played across 22 Rounds.
- No regrading in and out of these leagues – requesting an ‘A’ competition is a commitment to the ‘A’ competition for the whole of the 2021 season.
- FV will try to avoid this, however leagues may remain unbalanced to ensure each team is playing the same number of games. This may lead to Clubs not having the opportunity to play against all opposition Clubs an even number of times.
- FV at their sole discretion may introduce a league split during the season, which will see teams split once each team plays each other once. In the second half of the season, Clubs under this scenario will then be split into top half and bottom half and play each team in their half, based on their standings. Only teams in the top half of the split are eligible to win the league.
- League structures and fixture formats are at FV discretion.

## **BOYS & GIRLS ALL OTHER LEAGUES (EXCLUDING ‘A’/KANGAROOS LEAGUES)**

Junior Community Competitions improvements guidelines to Regrading for Boys and Girls U12 Wallabies/Joey's & U13 – U21 B,C,D,E,F Competitions – can be found by [clicking here](#).

Important notes include:

- Removal of regrading results.
- Round 1-4 counting as ‘grading games’ and results and ladders reset if the league is impacted by regrading.
- If the league is not impacted by regrading the fixture continues, ladders and results remain.

Each competition season is still required to fit into an 18-round season and as such some teams may not play each other in an even home and away fixture. The fixture is an entirely random draw; therefore, no team is prioritised over another when determining who plays each other twice or once.

## **MINIROOS COMPETITIONS**

FV will continue to review all Late team requests and will endeavour to allocate as many late team entries as possible prior to the season commencing next weekend.

As previously communicated to Clubs on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021, please [click here](#) to view information regarding key changes to the MiniRoos season:

- Metropolitan MiniRoos season will commence on the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- Geelong MiniRoos season will commence on the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- Regrade period after Round 3 is removed and replaced with a regrading period after Round 9.
- Request to regrade may be actioned during the regrading/CUR (June 21- July 9). This is to ensure minimum disruptions to league structures at the beginning of the season.

Currently we are prioritising with all junior and senior late team requests. Please be patient as we work through all requests.



## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Clubs are also reminded regarding Covid-19 protocols that can be found via the following link [Click here](#). FV have allocated time between fixture kick offs, utilising the Covid-19 Guidelines.

## CONTACT US

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the Competitions department on 9474 1800 and press '2' for Community Competitions when prompted, or via email [Competitions@footballvictoria.com.au](mailto:Competitions@footballvictoria.com.au).

Due to the volume of phone calls we are receiving currently, please send us an email with specific requests if you are unable to reach us via the phone.

We appreciate Club's patience during this period. We will endeavour to provide responses to all queries as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Zucchet".

David Zucchet  
**Fixturing Manager**

