



Football Victoria Inc. Geelong Region Football Committee By-Law

1. Status

This By-Law is made by the Directors under rule 12.9 and 15 of the Constitution of Football Victoria Inc (FV) (**Constitution**). It is to be known as the Geelong Region Football Committee By- Law.

2. Interpretation

Words and phrases defined in the Constitution have the same meanings in this By-Law, which is to be read in conjunction with (and subject to) the Constitution.

3. Purpose

This By-Law establishes and prescribes the functions, membership and method of operation of the Geelong Region Football Committee.

4. Establishment

There is established a Standing Committee of FV to be called the **Geelong Region Football Committee (GRFC)**. The GRFC will operate within the boundaries prescribed in Schedule 1 (**Geelong Region**).

5. Functions

The role of the GRFC is to advise the FV Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) (or officers nominated by the CEO) on matters relating to Football in the Geelong Region in line with the policy framework and strategic direction set from time to time by the Directors.

The GRFC is to advise the CEO (or officers nominated by the CEO) by October each year on the following matters:

- (a) a regional plan that will outline measures to promote, develop and improve Football in the Geelong Region during the following year, including men's, women's and junior Football (**Regional Plan**);
- (b) items to be included in a budget for the Geelong Region for the following Financial Year based on the Geelong Region Fees (as set out in section 8) (**Finance**);
- (c) in conjunction with FV's talented player department, appoint a subcommittee to appoint coaches, selectors and other officials as deemed necessary by the GRFC, in the event that the GRFC decide to field representative teams in nominated FV competitions and other FV sanctioned competitions;
- (d) be the advocacy body in the Geelong Region and liaise with key stakeholder groups including local governments, state government agencies located in the Geelong Region and any other stakeholder groups that can assist in the growth and promotion of Football in the Geelong Region; and



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- (e) other significant issues facing the sport of Football in the Geelong Region as they may arise from time to time.

The CEO must consider the assistance and advice provided by the GRFC in the matters set out in this By-Law. However, subject to section 8.2, all decisions and actions taken by the CEO in relation to the Geelong Region are made in his sole discretion.

The GRFC must determine at its sole discretion how the funds in the Geelong Region Account are to be used.

6. Membership

The members of the GRFC will comprise 1 person elected or appointed by each Eligible Club in the Geelong Region. In addition, the members of the GRFC may appoint up to 2 independent persons to be members of the GRFC for a specified term of no longer than 2 years. The independent members shall have the same rights to attend, speak, vote and serve as Chair or Deputy Chair at meetings of the GRFC as any other member.

7. Proceedings of GRFC Meetings

7.1 Meetings

In addition to the Annual Meeting which shall be held in October each year the GRFC must meet at least 3 times in each year.

The GRFC must inform FV of the date each meeting is to be held at least 14 days before each meeting and FV must always have an officer present at each meeting of the GRFC to provide administrative support.

7.2 Questions decided by majority

A question arising at a GRFC meeting is to be decided by a majority of the votes cast, ignoring abstentions and invalid votes, at a legal meeting, a quorum being present.

7.3 Quorum

Not less than half of those persons who are members of the GRFC must be present to establish a quorum at a meeting of the GRFC.

7.4 Chair

The members must elect one of their number as Chair at meetings of the GRFC. The Chair is to hold office for a period of one (1) year until the end of the Annual Meeting of the GRFC of the following year. No person shall hold office of Chair for more than four (4) consecutive years. The Chair of the meeting has a casting vote.



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7.5 Deputy Chair

The members of the GRFC must elect one of their number as Deputy Chair. The Deputy Chair shall hold office for a period of one (1) year until the end of the Annual Meeting of the GRFC of the following year. No person shall hold the office of Deputy Chair for more than two (2) consecutive years.

7.6 Absence of Chair at a meeting of the GRFC

The Chair will preside at meetings of the GRFC. If a meeting is convened and the Chair is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting, or the Chair is unable or unwilling to act, the following members may preside (in order of entitlement):

(a) Deputy Chair; or

(b) a member of the GRFC chosen by a majority of the GRFC members present.

7.7 Use of technology

The GRFC members agree, by accepting nomination as a GRFC member, to meetings being held using any technology that gives the GRFC members, as a whole, a reasonable opportunity to participate. To avoid doubt, this includes meetings held by telephone and/or video conferencing.

8. Finance

8.1 Geelong Region Fees and Other Revenue

The registration fees collected from players (previously collected by the Geelong Regional Football Association (**Association**) in 2009) will be collected by FV for the 2010 season and all future seasons. These fees will be known as the "**Geelong Region Fees**".

For the 2010 season the Geelong Region Fees will not rise from the amount charged for the 2009 season by more than CPI unless the GRFC deem it to be appropriate. For 2011 and onwards the Geelong Region Fees will be set by FV following consultation with the GRFC having regard to the Regional Plan and Budget for the Geelong Region.

The Geelong Region Fees may only be used by FV for the promotion and administration of Football in the Geelong Region. The component of the registration fees that FV has previously been entitled to will be retained by FV. Any other revenue raised by FV in performing the functions formerly undertaken by the Association or in the Geelong Region (including but not limited to sponsorship, merchandise, canteen sales etc) may only be used by FV for the promotion and administration of Football in the Geelong Region.

FV will determine how the Geelong Region Fees are to be expended on the basis of the Regional Plan and Budget.

8.2 Geelong Region Account

It is acknowledged that the members of the Association have resolved to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Association to FV and cancel the incorporation of the Association.



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The net cash assets (after any liabilities of the Association have been met) will be transferred to a separately identified bank account set up by FV (**Geelong Region Account**). The Geelong Region Account may only be used for the benefit of FV affiliated clubs (or their players or members) located in the Geelong Region or football competitions located or conducted in the Geelong Region.

The GRFC will determine how the funds contained in the Geelong Region Account may be expended and such decisions must be made by resolution of the GRFC. For the avoidance of doubt:

- (a) how the funds kept in the Geelong Region Account are to be used is in the sole discretion of the GRFC; and
- (b) the Geelong Region Fees will not form part of the Geelong Region Account and the expenditure of the Geelong Region Fees will be determined by FV in accordance with section 8.1.

8.3 Provision of Reports to the GRFC

FV will provide the following reports to the GRFC on a quarterly basis, generally in line with FV reporting periods in each Financial Year:

- (a) Income statement (statement of income and expenditure of the monies referred to in section 8.1); and
- (b) Geelong Region Account statement (statement of protected funds).

9. FV Administrative Support

Having full regard for the policy framework and strategic direction of FV as set by the Directors, FV will, at its discretion, provide the support to the GRFC for the promotion, development, growth and administration of Football in the Geelong Region in the following areas:

- (a) business development opportunities including Futsal, beach and other commercial opportunities;
- (b) talented player and coach development pathways in the Geelong Region, including development of the Geelong Region representative teams(as applicable), if determined to be appropriate under the Regional Plan;
- (c) leadership and direction of Football in the Geelong Region;
- (d) preparing the Rules of Competition and Grievance and Disciplinary By-Laws to govern the delivery of Competitions in the Geelong Region;
- (e) an online competition management system that will facilitate the setting of fixtures and the collection of results;
- (f) registration services provided by the FV Registrations Department to Eligible Clubs in the Geelong Region for the registration of players;
- (g) a tribunal and disciplinary process that is overseen by FV, including a Tribunal and Appeals board that will be conducted in the Geelong Region;



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- (h) the FV Referees Department will manage the appointment and development of referees in the Geelong Region;
- (i) employment of a Zone Development Officer, for the delivery of all FV administration and development programs in the Geelong Region, subject to a financial commitment from the GRFC.
- (j) guidance and support to the local governments in the Geelong Region for the planning, growth and infrastructure upgrades required to meet demand;
- (k) promotion of Football throughout the Geelong Region;
- (l) create and manage club and volunteer development programs in the Geelong Region;
- (m) develop and manage a communication strategy to facilitate improved communication between Eligible Clubs, the media and the wider community of the Geelong Region;
- (n) provide an administrative service to support GRFC meetings and activities; and
- (o) any other such measures that FV determines are required to deliver the agreed outcomes for the Geelong Region as identified by the yearly operational plan developed by the GRFC.

11 Review Process

FV and GRFC will conduct a review of the GRFC at the completion of the 2011 winter season. If a majority of Eligible Clubs are not satisfied with the progress of Football in the area then the GRFC may decide to reform an independent association.

12 Definitions

In this By-Law unless the contrary intention appears:

Eligible Club means a Club that meets and has satisfied the requirements of the FV Club Compliance By-Law, as determined by the FV from time to time.

Financial Year means the financial year of FV, being 1 November to 31 October or such other financial year as may be determined by FV (or a relevant authority) from time to time and notified to GRFC.



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SCHEDULE 1: GEELONG REGION COMMITTEE BOUNDARIES

- Surf Coast Shire
- Greater City of Geelong
- Golden Plains Shire
- Colac Otway Shire
- Queens Cliff Borough