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Senol

RULES OF COMPETITION



Senol



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GENERAL MATTERS

APPLICATION AND DEFINITIONS

- a) These Rules shall be subject to amendment in FV's sole discretion, including where required as a result of Government regulation(s). If these Rules are amended for any reason, FV will take reasonable steps to notify Clubs of the amendment(s).

THE FIELD OF PLAY

DIMENSIONS

Under 8 & Under 9

Maximum: 40m long x 30m wide

Minimum: 50m long x 40 wide

Under 10 & Under 11

Maximum: 70m long x 50m wide

Minimum: 60m long x 40m wide

Under 12

Maximum: 70m long x 50m wide

Minimum: 60m long x 40m wide

Under 13 – Under 17

Maximum: 105m long x 68m wide

Minimum: 96m long x 60m wide

THE PENALTY AREA

Under 8 & Under 9:

5m deep x 12m wide

Under 10 – Under 12:

10m deep x 20m wide

Under 13 – Under 17:

16.5m deep x 40.32 wide

GOALS

a) Where possible, Samba goals will be used for the Tournament where applicable or other small, sided goals.

Under 8 & Under 9:

3m wide x 2m high

Under 10 – Under 12:

5m wide x 2m high

Under 13 – Under 17:

7.32m wide x 2.44m high

b) Samba Goals are made to Australian Standard but at no time should anybody hang from the goal or tamper with them in any way.

PLAYING ARENA

The playing arena and technical areas will be demarcated and only Team Officials (x3), registered players, Referees, Football Victoria (FV) staff, Competition Officials and First Aid personnel will be allowed to enter this zone.

THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

SQUAD NUMBERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

Age Category	Maximum Players Registered	Number of Players on Pitch	Maximum Number of Players on Bench
Under 8	9	7	2*
Under 9	9	7	2*
Under 10	14	9	5
Under 11	14	9	5
Under 12	14	9	5
Under 13	17	11	6
Under 14	17	11	6
Under 15	17	11	6
Under 16	17	11	6
Under 17	17	11	6

*Unless otherwise determined by the event manager/coordinator

- a) Each team will be allowed to have three (3) Team Officials that may enter the Technical Area. They consist of the Coach and Team Manager, and Support Staff member (if required) all aged 18+.
- b) Each team will be provided three (3) ID Cards for their Team Officials, so they can enter the Playing Arena/Technical Areas for their respective game, FV will only grant access into the Technical Areas to those who present their ID cards. These ID Cards are NOT TRANSFERABLE.

Age Category	Number of Players on Pitch	Minimum Players to Start Match
	(Incl Goalkeeper)	
Under 8	7	5
Under 9	7	5
Under 10	9	6
Under 11	9	6
Under 12	9	6
Under 13	11	7
Under 14	11	7
Under 15	11	7
Under 16	11	7
Under 17	11	7

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- a) A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than five (5) players of 7 v 7 competitions, six (6) players of 9 v 9 competitions & (7) players of 11 v 11 competitions, one of whom is the goalkeeper.
- b) If a team is late 10 minutes after the scheduled kick off time, they will forfeit the game, and a 3-0 Win will be awarded to the non-forfeiting team. The application of this rule is at the sole discretion of the Match-Day Event Manager / Coordinator.
- c) In the event of the team being reduced to less than five (5) players through injury or dismissal then the game shall be abandoned. The non-offending team will be awarded a 3-0 result unless the score at the time of abandonment was greater and in favour of the non-offending team.

INTERCHANGE

- a) A maximum number of five (5) players are permitted on the interchange bench for each match from U9-U17 unless otherwise determined by the event manager/coordinator.
- b) Each team can make an unlimited number of interchanges in any given fixture. A player who has been replaced may return to the pitch as a substitute for another player.
- c) A substitution can only be made when there is a break in play. A substitution does not need to be confirmed by the referee.

MATCH FORMAT

THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

a) Game durations will be set out per age group, as per below.

Age Category	Match Duration	Half Time Intervals
Under 8	2x 15 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 9	2x 15 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 10	2x 20 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 11	2x 20 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 12	2x 20 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 13	2x 20 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 14	2x 25 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 15	2x 25 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 16	2x 25 minute halves	5 minutes
Under 17	2x 30 minute halves	5 minutes

b) Teams will change ends at the conclusion of the first half.

c) For Semi-Finals, Grand Finals and all Playoffs – if at the end of normal time the scores are equal a five (5) player penalty shootout will be taken according to FIFA Laws of the Game.

** Game duration subject to change depended on final team numbers*

UNDER 8-12 MATCH FORMAT

OFFSIDE

No offside.

START OF PLAY AND RE-START AFTER A GOAL

a) Play is restarted from the middle of the halfway line with all players in their own half of the field of play.

b) Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball.

c) The ball is in play once it moves.

CORNER KICKS

- a) Corner kicks will be awarded when the ball crosses the goal line and is last touched by the defending team.
- b) Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball.
- c) The ball is in play once it moves.

THE GOALKEEPER

- a) Goalkeepers are not allowed to kick or drop kick the ball directly from their hands to restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands.
- b) The ball must be thrown or rolled from their hands or played from the ground with their feet.
- c) If the ball crosses the goal line without entering the goals and is last touched by the attacking team, a goal kick will apply from within the penalty box.

FREE KICKS

- a) All free kicks are direct unless otherwise indicated by the referee.
- b) Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball when the free kick is taken.
- c) The penalty kick shall be taken from the penalty spot (approximately 8m from goal).

THROW-INS

- a) Instead of throwing the ball, a 'throw-in' will be awarded as indirect free kicks from where the ball crossed the touch line.
- b) Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball when the free kick is taken.
- c) A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick in.

UNDER 13-18 MATCH FORMAT

All rules will be enforced as per the IFAB Laws of the Game.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) All issues with regard to player eligibility shall remain at the sole discretion of FV. FV shall make the final decision on eligibility matters, which will be binding, on all parties.
- b) FV shall set the qualifying age for the tournament:

Age Category	Year of Birth
Under 8	Born on or after 2014
Under 9	Born on or after 2013
Under 10	Born on or after 2012
Under 11	Born on or after 2011
Under 12	Born on or after 2010
Under 13	Born on or after 2009
Under 14	Born on or after 2008
Under 15	Born on or after 2007
Under 16	Born on or after 2006
Under 17	Born on or after 2005

- c) Players can only play for one (1) team during the Tournament unless dispensation has been formally requested from FV by contacting info@gofootball.com.au and granted.
- d) Players with need to have played at least two (2) games for their team in the group phase to be eligible to play in the Finals (knock-out) phase of the tournament.
- e) Any team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for whatever reason shall forfeit the match. The result of the game will be awarded 3-0 in favour of the opposing team along with the resultant three points.
- f) Players who are overage can request dispensation from FV to play in a younger age group.
- g) All Dispensation Request Approvals are at the sole discretion of FV and decisions about dispensations are final.
- h) Any Dispensation Request brought to the attention of FV at the event will only be processed at the discretion of the FV. It is up-to each team to issue request well in advance to info@gofootball.com.au to provide reasonable time for processing of the request.
- i) Any teams that are found to be providing incorrect documentation or purposely playing older players to gain an unfair advantage will receive a 0-3 loss for any games the older players participated in. The ineligible players will also be disqualified from the tournament.
- j) Repeated offending teams will be disqualified and affect the participation of their club teams at future events at the discretion of FV.

REGISTRATION

- a) All players must be registered in 2022 for the Tournament via the GO Football website. Checks will be made to ensure that the players are registered and eligible to play
- b) Should a team be impacted by COVID 19 and has participated in less than two (2) competition fixtures, a refund will be applied in full.*

THE BALL

Age Category	Ball Size
Under 8	Size 3
Under 9	Size 3
Under 10	Size 4
Under 11	Size 4
Under 12	Size 4
Under 13	Size 5
Under 14	Size 5
Under 15	Size 5
Under 16	Size 5
Under 17	Size 5
Under 18	Size 5

COMPETITION FORMAT:

- a) The first named team in the draw shall be designated the home team.
- b) A draw will determine the pools. A round robin format will be played in each pool.
- c) Competition points shall be awarded as follows:
 - i. WIN Three (3) points
 - ii. DRAW One (1) point
 - iii. LOSS Nil (0) points
- d) In the event of two (2) or more teams having equal points, their respective positions on the ladder shall be determined as follows:
 - i. Goal Difference.
 - ii. Highest number of goals scored.
 - iii. Results of the head-to-head clash(es) between the teams equal on points.
 - iv. In the event of the teams still being equal, FV shall determine the final position via a coin toss.

- e) If a team withdraws prior to the competition commencing, FV will try and find a replacement. If a replacement cannot be found, then a “bye” will be inserted for all matches involving the withdrawn team in that pool.
- f) If a team withdraws once the competition commences then all matches involving the withdrawn team will be recorded as a 3-0 loss to the withdrawn team (regardless of whether the match has already been played or not).
- g) For any match abandoned due to unforeseen events such as weather, COVID 19 impact, lighting failure etc, these matches will be recorded as a 0-0 draw and a point awarded to each team. Due to timeline restrictions, no matches can be rescheduled as the length of the tournament cannot be extended.
- h) If a match is abandoned by the referee with less than 80% of the game played, then the result will be a 0-0 draw and a point will be awarded to each team. If a match is abandoned after 80% game time has been played, the result at the time of abandonment shall be final.
- i) Any team that walks off the pitch during a match that has not been formally deemed abandoned by the referee will forfeit the match and the result will be recorded a 3-0 loss to the team that abandoned the game, or the score will stand if the score is greater than 3-0 in favour of the non-forfeiting team. Further penalties may also apply.
- j) In extreme heat conditions, FV or the appointed Referee reserves the right to include drink breaks at any time during a fixture.
- k) FV and/or the Match Official may postpone, delay or abandon any Competition Fixture due to weather and/or pitch conditions such as but not limited to excessive heat/humidity, lightning or rain that may endanger participants health and/or safety.
- l) Refer to the [FV Extreme Weather Policy](#) for all rules and guidelines regarding extreme weather conditions.
- m) After the group phase, top teams will compete for the Cup in a (knock-out) phase of the competition.
- n) Each age group’s group phase structure may vary from other age groups depending on the number of teams that have entered the tournament.
- o) The winning team of The Cup will receive a medal for each player. The runners up players will each receive a medal.

GROUNDS

- a) All games will be played at the below locations.

Venue	Zone
Darebin Sports Centre	North-West
Casey Comets FC	South-East

- b) All spectators are to remain behind the barrier for the safety of players and officials.

TEAM APPAREL (PLAYING STRIP)

- a) Each player must wear a top which is the same colour as the rest of their team, except the goalkeeper.
- b) Shorts and socks may be any colour.
- c) Should uniform colours clash, it is the responsibility of the away team to wear an alternate colour.
- d) All first named teams in the fixture will be deemed the "Home" team and therefore will play in their colours.
- e) It is the responsibility of the away team to change into their strip, or wear bibs.
- f) Goalkeepers shall wear any colour provided it does not clash with either team's outfield players. A bib may be issued to the goalkeeper if there is a clash.

FINALS

Format

- a) Saturday 10th December. FV will confirm the finals format in due course.

Venue

- a) FV will confirm the finals venue in due course

MATCH OFFICIALS

- a) FV will supply and appoint all Match Officials (referees).
- b) There will be no assistant referees.
- c) **All the decisions of the match referee are final** and binding as far as the result of a match is concerned, and no protest can be lodged.
- d) Under no circumstances are supporters allowed to approach, question or criticise referees during the tournament.
- e) Any misconduct towards referees will not be tolerated and may result in teams losing points or being removed from the tournament and may affect future participation of teams from the same club. Any serious incidents will be reported to FV's Disciplinary Panel for investigation. FV's GDT penalties and sanctions may be applied at the discretion of the FV Disciplinary Panel.

TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

TEAM MANAGER

- a) All teams are required to appoint a Team Manager and be recorded on the GO Football website.
- b) All teams are required to appoint a Team Manager and be recorded on the Team Sheet.
- c) Team Managers are expected to carry their Team Manager pass on them at all times.

PLAYERS

- a) Shin guards and suitable footwear are compulsory
- b) In accordance with FIFA 'Laws of the Game', a player is forbidden to wear jewellery of any kind. Players wearing jewellery will be required to leave the pitch until such time as the offending jewellery is removed and the player has gained the Match Official's permission to re-enter the playing area.

MATCH RESULT

- a) A Team Official is required to sign off the Scoresheet after the result has been entered by the Referee and prior to leaving the playing area.
- b) The Referee will provide the Scoresheet to the Match-Day Event Manager at the FV Information Desk to update the match's result online via the GO Football website.
- c) Once the Scoresheet has left the playing area no further changes will be considered.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- a) FV shall be responsible for all disciplinary matters relating to players competing in the Tournament.
- b) FV shall appoint a three (3) person Disciplinary Panel and their decision shall be binding and final. Any serious matters will be referred to the Disciplinary Panel and their decision will be final.
- c) Yellow cards in different games will not be accumulated for suspension throughout the tournament. However repeated offenders can be suspended at the discretion of FV.
- d) A player who is sent from the field of play by a referee shall be automatically suspended until his team has played one further match in the Tournament. It is expected that the team ensures the player serves out their automatic game suspension.

MEDICAL ATTENTION

One nominated team official or a nominated representative will only be permitted to enter the field of play where injury has taken place to a player in the nominated team officials' team as per the following conditions:

- a) Should any player playing in a Tournament game receive injury, the agreed team official/representative shall have the right to enter the field of play to attend the player in the absence of the *tournament designated medical person* when directed to do so by the referee.
- b) Ambulances will be called in case of emergency. It is the responsibility of the player or official to ensure they have adequate ambulance cover

BLOOD RULE

- a) In the event a player from either team suffers an injury or wound resulting in the loss of blood, the Referee will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play.

- b) Only when the Referee is satisfied that the injury or wound has been safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to re-join the game.
- c) In the event the player's uniform or attire is splattered with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change their attire before being permitted to re-join the game.
- d) Should the injured player be required to change their uniform, then the Referee will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if another shirt of the same number is unavailable.

INJURY INSURANCE

All registered players seeking to claim injury insurance are covered under FV's Risk Protection Program. Claims on insurance, must be submitted to the insurer via their online form (<http://www.gowgatessport.com.au/football/>). Players participate at their own risk and FV accepts no responsibility for injuries sustained. If an ineligible player (i.e., not correctly registered as per the Rules of Competition) is injured and attempts to claim; the FV will not process this player's claim for injury insurance

CODES OF CONDUCT

PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct shall apply to all participants involved in the tournament. Any breach thereof shall be subject to disciplinary action by FV with possible expulsion from the premises and not be allowed in future events or programs.

- *Give your best at all times.*
- *Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.*
- *Play by the Rules.*
- *Do not argue with the Match Official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the Match Official during a break in play or after the Match is concluded.*
- *Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.*
- *Be a good sport and be prepared to acknowledge good play whether it is from your Team or the opposition.*
- *Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.*
- *Co-operate with your coach, Teammates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.*
- *Remove all jewellery prior to training and Match play, as it is a hazard to you and those around you.*
- *Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s), including the consumption of alcohol at any time.*

PARENTS' CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct shall apply to parents and guardians. Any breach thereof shall be subject to disciplinary action by FV, may be expelled from the premises and not be allowed into future events or programs.

- *Remember that children play the sport for their enjoyment, and not yours.*
- *Encourage children to participate and have fun.*
- *Focus on the child's effort and performance rather than winning or losing.*
- *Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.*
- *Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.*
- *Remember that children learn best by example, so applaud good play by both Teams.*
- *Support all efforts to remove racial and religious vilification, verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.*

- *Respect the match official's decisions and teach your child to do likewise.*
- *Show respect and appreciation to Club officials, including coaches, officials and administrators. Ensure any issues are raised through the correct channels.*
- *Do not smoke or consume alcohol near the Team bench (Technical Area) or sideline.*

COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

Any breach thereof shall be subject to disciplinary action by FV, be expelled from the premises and not be allowed to any future events or programs

- *Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.*
- *Be aware of and support the sport's injury management plans and return to play guidelines.*
- *Help each person (athlete, official, etc) to reach their potential. Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.*
- *Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.*
- *Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.*
- *Treat each participant as an individual.*
- *Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of participants.*
- *Act within the rules and spirit of your sport.*
- *Promote fair play over winning at any cost.*
- *Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators.*
- *Show respect and courtesy to all involved with the sport.*
- *Display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.*
- *Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.*
- *Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment.*
- *Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.*
- *Ensure that any physical contact with another person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.*
- *Be honest and do not allow your qualifications or coaching experience to be misrepresented.*
- *Never advocate or condone the use of illicit drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods.*
- *Never participate in or advocate practices that involve match fixing.*

- *Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.*
- *Do not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour.*

SPECTATORS' CODE OF CONDUCT

All spectators must comply with the [FA National Spectator Code of Behaviour](#).

It is important that all spectators at a Football Victoria (FV) approved fixture are able to enjoy the Match in a safe and comfortable environment. Accordingly, each person present at a FV fixture must:

- *Respect the decisions of the Match Officials, and teach children to do the same;*
- *Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake.*
- *Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin; Not use violence in any form, whether it is against other Spectators, Team Officials (including coaches) or Players.*
- *Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form including the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting.*
- *Comply with any terms of entry of a venue, including bag inspections, prohibited and restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to cause injury or public nuisance.*
- *Not display, or attempt to display, the following items within the Venue:*
- *National, political or racial flags or emblems except for the recognised National flags of the competing teams;*
- *Offensive or inappropriate banners in either English or a foreign language.*
- *Not throw missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators) and must not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority.*
- *Conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of FV, FA, and football generally.*
- *It is the host Club's responsibility to ensure this Spectator Code of Behaviour is implemented and enforced against all spectators.*

Any person who does not comply with this Code or who in the opinion of FV causes or attempts to cause a disturbance may be asked to leave and may be prohibited from attending future FV events.

FV reserves the right to investigate any breaches of this Spectator Code of Conduct and may issue penalties in accordance with its rules and policies as appropriate, including sanctions as per the Grievance, Discipline and Tribunal (GDT) By-Law, and the deduction of match points to the respective team, and finals eligibility.

FOOTBALL VICTORIA (FV) – CONTACT DETAILS:

Address: Level 3, 436 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004

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**ALL DECISIONS IN RELATION TO THIS TOURNAMENT
ARE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF FV.**