



NORTH QUEENSLAND
FOOTBALL
LIMITED

Junior

Competition

Rules

2019

JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES

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Schedule 1 (a) Club Administration Manual and Schedule 1 (b) are to be read in

conjunction with the Junior Rules and form part of the Competition Rules.

Abandoned – means a Competition Fixture which has failed to commence for any reason or has commenced but has been stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.

Cautions – means yellow and red cards received during a match.

Competition Fixture – means any match that is administered by North Queensland Football, within a competition.

Division – means a particular grade or level of competition within North Queensland Football.

Forfeit – means a failure to participate in a Competition Fixture.

Goal Difference – means the difference between goals scored by a Club/Team (Goals For) and goals scored against a Club/Team (Goals Against) in a match or season.

No Result – means recording a '0-0' score line in a Competition Fixture with no points or goals awarded to either Team. A 'No Result' is recorded as a Competition Fixture played.

Postponed – means a Competition Fixture which has not commenced as scheduled.

Team – means a football team entered by a Club in a Competition administered by North Queensland Football Limited.

1 PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND BODIES

- (a) Any club wishing to participate in the game of football under the control of North Queensland Football Ltd must be duly affiliated in accordance with the Constitution and the club has signed the affiliation agreement with North Queensland Football Limited.
- (b) If a club is un-financial with North Queensland Football Ltd at the closing date of nominations, North Queensland Football Ltd will not accept the Club's nominations unless exceptional circumstances exist.
- (c) All official club correspondence shall be on club letterhead or in the form of an email from the nominated club representative.

1.1 AFFILIATION

Affiliation fees are determined by North Queensland Football Ltd from time to time. Any club, affiliating with North Queensland Football Ltd shall pay the prescribed fees and provide particulars of the uniform of its teams for affiliation purposes. Upon affiliation, the uniform of any affiliated club becomes the property of such club and shall not be worn by any other club.

2 PLAYER & TEAM OFFICIAL REGISTRATION

- (a) All registrations must be lodged via the FFA “Play Football Registration System” online process by the player (or parent and/or legal guardian if the player is under 18 years of age) or team official and shall be accepted by the affiliated club desiring their registration.
- (b) Any player not registered as per current National Registration Regulations and accepted by their club via the “Play Football” online process is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any North Queensland Football competitions.
- (c) Any team official not registered and accepted by their club via the “Play Football” online process is considered unregistered and will not be permitted in the technical area of a fixture held by North Queensland Football Ltd.
- (d) A player must de-register with one club and re-register with the other club via the Play Football process. Players must not play for a club and a club shall not play a player, until that club has accepted their registration via the My Football Club process.
- (e) All competition coaches, managers and other team officials must be registered, as per the Football Queensland regulations, via the “Play Football” program prior to the commencement of the official competition season or before participating in a fixture.
- (f) All competition coaches, managers and other team officials and Mini Roo’s Team Leaders must be registered with current passport style photo uploaded to “Play Football”, as per the Football Queensland regulations, via the “Play Football” program prior to the commencement of the official competition season. Failure to do so may result in forfeit and or loss of points. No photo also means gate fee at Brolga Park is payable.
- (g) De-registration fees and refund policy will be in accordance with Football Queensland guidelines.

3 COMPETITIONS

- (a) North Queensland Football Ltd will call for nominations in the divisions as outlined below, however competitions may vary dependent on the number of nominations received for each division. Competitions may be mixed or gender specific as determined by North Queensland Football Ltd.
- (b) The competition shall comprise of preliminary grading matches, a complete fixture competition and a final series competition. The composition of each age group will be determined based on nominations received.

Age Group	Year of Birth Qualification
Under 15/16 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 15/16 in the reg year
Under 14 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 14 in the registration year
Under 13 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 13 in the registration year
Under 12 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 12 in the registration year
Under 11 Girls	Females attaining the age of 11 in the registration year
Under 11 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 11 in the registration year
Under 10 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 10 in the registration year
Under 9 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 9 in the registration year
Under 9 Girls	Females attaining the age of 9 in the registration year
Under 8 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 8 in the registration year
Under 7 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 7 in the registration year
Under 6 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 6 in the registration year
Under 5 Mixed	Players attaining the age of 5 in the registration year

- (c) Clubs may NOT field more than one (1) team in a competition (A – Group) or division.
- (D) Under 12 age group may field more than 1 x “A” team for 2019 with review at end of season by NQ Football.
- (E) All decisions regarding exemptions will be at the discretion of North Queensland Football.
- (F) There is no obligation for North Queensland Football to accept late nominations however, North Queensland Football may choose to accept a late nomination from a club should it be for a competition that requires additional teams to participate. North Queensland Football may choose to charge a late nomination fee.
- (G) North Queensland Football may, from time to time, also schedule other competitions within the zone. Rules for these competitions shall be set prior to the commencement of any competition. North Queensland Football reserves the right to decide on or amend the size, structure and composition of any competition.

All Clubs are to provide North Queensland Football Ltd with a colour photograph of their current playing strips (shirt, shorts and socks) and a colour photograph of an alternative strip(s). All first named Clubs in the draw will be deemed the "Home" team and therefore will play in their nominated home strips. In the event there is a clash of colours with the visiting team, it will be the responsibility of the visiting team to change into their alternative strip.

*Age group is determined by

- a) All Girl's teams referred to as female's and
- b) Mixed teams referred to as mixed male/female team as determined by Club

- (a) No team will be registered in a competition unless the minimum number of players per team is met and the player's registration has been accepted by the Club. Such players must be eligible for the nominated age group.

Age Groups/Division(s)	Minimum Number of Registered Players
Under 5's to Under 7's	Four (4)
Under 8's and Under 9's	Five (5)
Under 10's, Under 11 's and Under 12's	Seven (7)
All other junior divisions	Nine (9)

3.1 FIXTURES

- (a) North Queensland Football Ltd shall conduct competitions for its affiliated clubs to play in age and/or divisions and in such manner as North Queensland Football Ltd sees fit.
- (b) North Queensland Football Ltd will arrange the dates, times and venues of all matches. These scheduled matches will be advised to participating clubs and teams prior to the commencement of the season. NQFL reserves the right to schedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format as it deems fit. All NQFL matches take precedence in scheduling over non QF and FFA affiliated matches.
- (c) The duration of matches for each age group is outlined in the table below. The Match Official has the right to abandon any match if, in his/her opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.

Competition	Duration	Interval
Under 15/16	2 x 40 mins	10 mins
Under 14	2 x 35 mins	10 mins
Under 13	2 x 35 mins	10 mins
Under 12	2 x 25 mins	5 mins

FFA MINI ROOS FOOTBALL

Under 11	25 mins per half	5 mins
Under 10	25 mins per half	5 mins
Under 9	20 minutes per half	5 mins
Under 8	20 minutes per half	5 mins
Under 7	15 minutes per half	5 mins
Under 6	15 minutes per half	5 mins
Under 5	15 minutes per half	5 mins

- (d) NQ Football have put several procedures in place to reduce the risk of heat stress to not only players but referees, officials, volunteers and family members.
- Any games held at Brolga Park before the Easter Break will follow the below guidelines.
 - NQ Football staff will monitor the WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) during Game Days and if the WBGT exceeds 30 all teams will be asked if they wish to continue or abandon their games. Please be mindful that while the Ambient Temperature might exceed 30o C, it is the WBGT that NQ Football will be monitoring closely.
 - ALL teams MUST take extra drinks breaks. This does NOT get added on to your game time. If for e.g., you are a noncompetitive team and you play 15/20-minute halves—have another short 1 minute break at 7/10 minutes. If you are a competitive team and play 30-minute halves you may choose to have a quick drinks break every 10 minutes.
 - Noncompetitive teams, please discuss with the opposition coach/manager when you would like your break. Competitive teams—please advise your referee when you want your breaks BEFORE the game starts. Both teams have to agree to a break period before advising the referee.
 - If a player is removed from the field due to suspected heat stress they must NOT return to the field of play and you are encouraged to seek assistance from Medical personnel located at the game day office adjacent to the canteen
- (e) All matches shall commence within ten (10) minutes of the stipulated time of commencement. When a match commences later than the stipulated time, a shorter time period may be played with two halves

of equal duration to enable any following match to commence at the proper time. No extra time shall be allowed for injured players during a match.

(e) Junior scheduled fixture day for each group

Mini Roos 5-11 Saturdays, Under 12,13,14 and 15/16 Saturday, U18 Colts & U16 Fillies Thursday Nights for local clubs / Friday nights for Burdekin and Ingham (Home & Away at Brolga Park & Burdekin/Ingham)

Any age group may be scheduled on a midweek or Friday night. If fixture is scheduled for a midweek or Friday night the following time slots will take effect.

Under 12	Starting no later than 7.45pm
Under 13	Starting no later than 7.45pm
Under 14	Starting no later than 8.00pm
Under 15/16	Starting no later than 8.30pm
Colts/Fillies	Starts no later than 8.30pm

3.2 POINTS – Competitive Age Groups only

(a) In all competition fixtures, match points will be awarded as follows:

WIN	Three (3) Points
DRAW One	(1) Point
LOSS	Nil (0) Points
BYE	Nil (0) Points
FORFEIT	(3) Points to the team receiving the forfeit

(b) If, at the end of the competition, teams are equal on points then goal differences will be taken into account in determining:

- i. North Queensland Football Premiers
- ii. The four teams eligible for the semi-finals in each division.

(c) Teams shall not receive any points and/or goals for the results of any pre-season grading matches played to finalize placement of teams within divisions.

3.3 GOAL DIFFERENCE

In cases where goal differences apply, the way they will be arrived at shall be:

(a) Number of goals FOR minus the number of goals AGAINST.

(b) The highest resultant figure from such age division shall be deemed to have the best goal differences and shall take precedence in determining positions.

(c) In the event of teams being equal on goal differences so determined, the team having scored the highest number of goals totally for the season shall take precedence in determining team positions.

(d) In the event of teams being equal on goal differences so determined, and being equal in relation to the highest number of goals scored totally in the season, then such teams shall be separated by results played in the fixture round when they played each other;

- if the number of points is equal, then the team with the superior goal difference from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team;
- in the case of goal difference being equal, the team having scored the most goals FOR from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team;
- if the goal difference and goals FOR are equal, then the team that scored the most away goals from matches played between the teams in question, shall be the higher or highest placed team.

3.4 MONIES OWED TO NORTH QUEENSLAND (NQF) FOOTBALL BY A CLUB

All amounts owed by a Club to NQF must be paid within 30 days of the date of the invoice (7 days in the case of match official payments) issued by NQF in relation to that amount.

If a Club fails to pay any amount owing to NQF in accordance with this, NQF may issue a notice giving the Club a further 14 days to pay that amount.

If a Club fails to comply with a notice issued in accordance with this, or agree to a repayment plan with NQF for the amount owed, NQF may, at its sole discretion:

- Not appoint match officials in cases where amounts owed relate to the payment of match official invoices.
- Rule that Club (or the applicable Team(s) within that Club) ineligible to earn competition points in any Competition Fixture or Sanctioned Match in which the Club (or Team) plays, until the debt is paid;
- Suspend or expel that Club [or Team(s)] from any Competition Fixture (including Cup Fixtures) and/or NQF competitions.
- Prohibit that Club [or Team(s)] from promotion (If rule in place) whilst the debt remains unpaid.
- Deduct points from a Club (or Team) for the following season where the debt remains unpaid or accrues after 30 September of the relevant year.

If NQF and a Club agree to a repayment plan in relation to a debt owed by the Club to NQF and the Club fails to meet any of the terms of that payment plan by the stipulated date and time, NQF may immediately and without the need to issue a further notice, impose one or more of the sanctions referred to above.

4 FIXTURES

(a) North Queensland Football Ltd shall be empowered to draw up and determine the fixtures as it deems fit and in the best interests of North Queensland Football and the game. Such fixtures shall be drawn up and made available to all clubs as soon as practical after the commencement of the season. North Queensland Football Ltd will endeavor to ensure all teams play every other team an equal amount of times.

(b) All fixtures shall belong to and the copyright therein be deemed to be vested in North Queensland Football Ltd.

(c) The team listed first in the draw shall be the home team for that fixture.

(d) All deferrals for games will be declined, unless it's for NQ Football sanctioned fixtures, where the following rules will be followed.

Any competition team with FOUR or more players unavailable due to representative outdoor football duties, at Football Queensland/Football Federation Australia approved tournaments including state-wide school representative tournaments, will be entitled to have their fixture rescheduled upon application. Applications must be made at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.

Should NQFL approve the application to reschedule the match, the following process will occur:

a) For matches needing to be rescheduled, the HOME club has seven (7) days to respond with advice of their preferred option for rescheduling. If no response is received within that time frame, the match will be awarded to the opposition club as a forfeit with a 3-0 score line.

b) Should the HOME club's preferred option be less than seven days from the date of the advice to NQFL, the HOME club must supply a second option outside the seven (7) day time frame. Only in this case will the opposition club have a right of refusal to a reschedule date within seven (7) days.

c) If an AWAY club will not accept any of the options given and does not provide a reasonable explanation in writing as to why, the game will be declared a forfeit and the points awarded to the HOME club.

NQFL will rule as to what is reasonable and the decision will be final.

School Commitments (Junior to U18s inclusive)

Applications due to involvement in local inter-school sport or non-representative sanctioned competitions will not be considered.

Applications due to school commitments / functions will be assessed on their merits. All applications must be accompanied by a letter from the School Principal outlining how the event relates to the education curriculum. The application must be received at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.

- (d) North Queensland Football will reschedule competitive age group fixtures only. There will be **no** rescheduling of MINI ROOS games. Decisions by North Queensland Football are final.
- (e) North Queensland Football shall be empowered to enter into agreements to arrange fixtures, either interstate or intrastate, bearing in mind at all times the standing of the Zone, State or National Authority in such matters and the interests of the members and registered clubs of the Zone.
- (f) Clubs can **ONLY** nominate five (5) competitive teams in total per age group not division. Once all clubs have five (5) teams in a designated age group, clubs may then nominate a sixth.
- (g) Clubs shall not arrange matches unless sanctioned by North Queensland Football Ltd.

5 FORFEITS

- (a) In the event a team is not ready to commence the fixture within 10 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, the match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- (b) Should any team claim such a forfeit the completed Official Match Sheet, signed by the appointed Match Official, or a club official, if one is not appointed noting the circumstances of the non-playing of the fixture must be provided to North Queensland Football Ltd.
- (c) Where any listed player on the team sheet where the match was forfeited by the opposition, then the fixture shall be counted towards the player's tally of matches played in that age or division.
- (d) If, for any reason, a team intends to forfeit a scheduled fixture, the Club is to provide 48 hours written notice of the forfeit to the office of North Queensland Football Ltd. North Queensland Football Ltd shall be responsible for notifying the opposition team and the Match Officials' coordinator. The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- (e) A Club that fails to provide sufficient notification of a forfeit shall be fined \$100 and will be responsible for any Match Official fees in relation to the match.
- (f) A team, which persistently forfeits matches, may, at the discretion of North Queensland Football Ltd, be withdrawn from that competition.

6 TEAM WITHDRAWALS

If any team in the competition withdraws or is removed from fixture competitions, then the following will apply:

- (a) if the team is withdrawn or removed before the competition has started - a bye in the competition will be substituted or a new draw done;
- (b) if the team is withdrawn or removed after the competition has started - the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a bye in the competition will be substituted
- (c) if a team is withdrawn during the second or subsequent rounds, all points and goals acquired will be retained by opposing teams for the completed first rounds. Points and Goals acquired against the withdrawn team will be lost and bye results will be credited for the remainder of the competition for incomplete rounds.

The club involved may be subject to disciplinary action as following:

- (a) Should a club withdraw an accepted team after two (2) weeks of the commencement of the competition, that club maybe fined to a minimum of \$500 Acceptance of a team is determined by its inclusion in any draw.
- (b) Late nominations may be accepted by North Queensland Football Ltd however in addition to the nomination fee, that club maybe fined to a minimum of \$500.
- (c) In determining a penalty North Queensland Football Ltd will take into account all circumstances surrounding the withdrawal or late nomination of a team.

7 POSTPONED MATCHES

- (A) Matches may only be postponed by North Queensland Football Ltd
- (B) North Queensland Football Ltd reserves the right to reschedule all postponed matches on any day, time and place, as it deems appropriate. Consultations between the affected Club shall occur but ultimately the decision rests with North Queensland Football Ltd.
- (C) North Queensland Football reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by NO LATER THAN one (1) week after the conclusion of the fixture season as a NIL-ALL (0-0) DRAW.
- (D) North Queensland Football may decide not to reschedule a fixture that has no bearing on the finals positions.
- (E) If a match is postponed while both teams are at the ground, the teams should attempt to agree to reschedule a date and time. Should a agreed date be settled on, both teams are to advise North Queensland Football of the agreed rescheduling (Via Email).

8. RESCHEDULING PROCESS

Generally, postponed matches will be rescheduled by North Queensland Football for the next available "catch-up" weekend. if the next available "Catch-up" weekend is more than four weeks away, then the matches may need to be rescheduled as midweek matches as determined by NQF.

For matches needing to be rescheduled midweek, once requested by NQF, the HOME club has seven (7) days to respond with advice of their preferred option/s for rescheduling. The AWAY club must respond within seven (7) days from the date of advisement from NQF.

If the HOME club's preferred option is less than ten (10) days from the date of advice to NQF, the HOME club must supply a second option, which must be at least fourteen (14) days from the date of advice. The opposition club has a right of refusal to a reschedule within the ten (10) day time frame. The AWAY club cannot refuse a rescheduled match option that is at least fourteen (14) days from the date that NQF provides the advice.

In exceptional circumstances, clubs may request an exemption by sending a written request, outlining the reasons for the exemption to the NQF Manager for determination.

9. ABANDONED MATCHES

- (a) Should the Match Official abandon a North Queensland Football match, then the match result will stand as at the time of abandonment, unless either of the competing clubs refers the matter to North Queensland Football Ltd for determination.

- (b) Replay requests must be made in writing within three (3) working days of the match being abandoned. The decision of North Queensland Football Ltd regarding the request for a replay shall be final. North Queensland Football Ltd shall take into consideration the following factors when considering a request for a replay:
- reasons why the match was abandoned
 - result of the match at the time of abandonment
 - the impact on the final league standing of a fixture
 - the impact on the finals series of a finals match
 - **the time the match was abandoned**
- (c) North Queensland Football Ltd reserves the right to determine the match result if it is satisfied that one (or both) of the competing teams, its players, officials, members or supporters were directly responsible for the abandonment of the fixture. This includes the abandonment of a match due to a team having less than seven (7) players in an 11 a side match. If the allegation is proven, North Queensland Football Ltd may decide to direct any of the following outcomes:
- the match be recorded as "NO RESULT"
 - the match be recorded as 0-0 draw
 - the match be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club(s), player(s) and official(s). North Queensland Football Ltd determination shall be final.

10. GRADING INTO AGE GROUP DIVISIONS

North Queensland Football Ltd shall create divisions and competitions according to nominations received. North Queensland Football reserves the right to allocate teams to competitions as deemed necessary for the betterment of the game and/or competition.

Competitive Teams must compete in Scheduled Pre-Season matches to determine they are appropriately graded into the correct division nominated.

10.1 TEAMS

- (a) To register a team, each club must name a minimum of players per team (as per rule 3c), such nomination list to be received by North Queensland Football Ltd no later than the prescribed deadline via the MyFootballClub program. An allowance might be made, at the discretion of North Queensland Football Ltd, to allow players named from a lower age group or division, to complete the player list. Each player can only be nominated in one (1) team.
- (b) Clubs can nominate five (5) teams in an age as they see fit i.e. 2 x u12a, 2 x u12b and 1 x u12c OR 5 x u12a etc., for the initial grading matches however players must play in their correct age group unless a Club has a combined age as approved by North Queensland Football Ltd.
- (c) Any club that is given approval to combine an age group must play in the higher age e.g. Combined 13/14 team MUST play in u14 competition.
- (d) Clubs will nominate teams into Pool A, Pool B and Pool C for ages 9-15/16, pools b and c may be combined if insufficient team nominations are received. NQF technical officer will have the discretion to regrade teams if needed prior or during grading or competition grades.
- (e) Where the strength of a team is significantly altered by the late registration of a player or players, the teams will be placed as North Queensland Football Ltd sees fit. NQF have the right to move teams in pools if they believe it's for the better of the game.

- (f) It's the club's responsibility to grade teams in their correct groups. The first 4 weeks will be a guide to NQF to see if the teams are correctly pooled, NQF have the right to change teams where needed. The points accumulated over the first four weeks are for grading purposes only. Any changes to pools will be made before the competition begins.
- (g) NQF will look at all teams before grading games to ensure clubs are correctly pooling teams, NQF have the right to change teams as it sees fit.
- (h) Under 12s is a 9 a side competition which will abide to the mini roo rules, in addition a centre referee will be appointed, points table and finals series will apply. The official offside rule (Law 11, FIFA Laws of the Game) does not apply to ALDI MiniRoos Under 10 & 11. Goals can be scored from the offside position. Game Leaders should direct players permanently standing in blatant offside positions to move into onside positions. Children should be made aware of the official offside rule during training and be encouraged to adopt this philosophy during the game at all times.
- (i) The maximum number of players that can be nominated in each team shall not exceed

Age Groups/Division(s)	Maximum Number of Registered Players
Under 5's to Under 7's	Seven (7) (4 players + 3 subs)
Under 8's and Under 9's	Eleven (11) (7 players + 4 subs)
Under 10's, Under 11 's and under 12s	Thirteen (13) (9 players + 4 subs)
All other junior divisions	Sixteen (16) (11 players +5 subs)

10.1 PLAYERS

- (a) In all Junior competitions there are unlimited return substitutions, with no more than five (5) substitutes permitted to be named on the Match Sheet. A player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player. In these competitions, a player whose name appears on the Match Sheet is deemed to have participated in the match.
- (b) Where a registered club has more than one team registered in the same competitive division or u12s, a player cannot play in a team other than that for which that player has been nominated and is registered e.g. – **Under 12 A players cannot move between the teams**
- (c) Higher division players are NOT permitted to play down in ANY division e.g. 12A to 12B
- (D) Players in SAP or TSP must play in Division A teams only

Females – must play in own age group first, then can play mixed or up an age group

10.2 Players playing up a grade rule

Competitive rulings

- A player can't play up in a higher grade if the higher grade is a jump of 2 years in age to the respective player. (example U14 then next age group up is U15/16. If the player is aged 14 playing in the U14 comp he or she may play up in the U15/16 comp with appropriate form signed. If the player is aged 13 in the U13/14 comp they are not eligible to move up until he or she turns 14.
- A maximum of TWO (2) players are permitted to play up in any one game; this can be full time, or they can play their own age group as well.
- Eligibility of finals – Must have played at least 50% of competition games in that grade to be eligible.
- Any player playing up must have submitted a "Request to play outside of eligible age" form 1 week prior to game. Forms will be on the NQF website and clubs are responsible for submission, a player will not be cleared until FQ have signed the form.
- In the case of a club playing a player who is ineligible due to non-approval from FQ or the team has played more than the max of TWO (2) players up, the offending club shall forfeit the match with a 3-0 minimum result recorded (unless the goal difference was greater to the non-offending club) and may receive a fine from NQF.

Mini Roo Rulings

- Mini-roo players 5-11 may play across teams in their own age groups where necessary, these players can also play up one age group limited to TWO (2) players playing up in any one game. Any player playing up must have submitted a "Request to play outside of eligible age" form 1 week prior to the game. Forms will be on the NQF website and clubs are responsible for submission, a player will not be cleared until FQ have signed the form.

11. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 11.1 A player is eligible to take part in a North Queensland Football Ltd competition match provided his/her name is listed on the Game **Sheet** prior to the commencement of the second half of the match.
- 11.2 Names of players who are not present at the commencement of a game are to be struck off the game sheet and should be added to the game sheet should they arrive before the commencement of the second half.
- 11.3 Any player under suspension by North Queensland Football Ltd or any other Federation is deemed ineligible, and not permitted to participate in any fixture until that suspension is served.
- 11.4 A player whose name is not listed on the Game Sheet prior to the commencement of the second half of any competition match is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in that match.

12 FINALS

- (A) Under 16 players can play an unlimited amount of games in higher divisions, either junior or senior, and still be eligible to play in the U16 final series, provided the player has played more than half of competitive games eligible in that grade and be registered as a player in the lowest division they play.
- (B) Under 12/13/14 players can play finals providing they have played more than half of the scheduled games they could have played for the year from their registration date.

(C) No club will be permitted to participate in the finals series if they are un-financial with NQF. Prior to the commencement of the finals series NQF will advise all clubs as to their respective financial status with regard to participating in the finals series.

(D) If a player was injured during the season, relevant documentation must be provided from a medical practitioner or similar to NQF when requesting eligibility through injury stating nature of injury and time requested away from sport or similar activities.

In the event a Club cannot field a team of 11 players in a game during the finals, the Club may make application to North Queensland Football Ltd for players who have not qualified for consideration.

(e) The leading team at the end of the last round of fixtures in all age groups and or divisions shall be declared Premiers of their respective age group and or division. In the event of multiple teams having equal points the team with the best goal average shall be declared the winner. Should multiple teams have the same goal average, the Premiership will be shared.

(f) The four leading teams at the end of the last round shall play the finals as follows:

Week 1: Semi Finals
1 v 2 - Major Semi Final (Match A)
3 v 4 - Minor Semi Final (Match B)

Week 2: Preliminary Final
Loser (Match A) v Winner (Match B) = (Match C)

Week 3: Grand Final
Winner (Match A) v Winner (Match C)

(g) The winner of the grand final shall be declared Grand Final Winners of their respected age group and or division and receive a North Queensland Football Ltd trophy

(h) In the event of a match being drawn at the end of the time allocated to the various age divisions during any of the finals extra time each way shall be played. Extra time shall be ten (10) minutes each way. Also:

There will be a five (5) minute break between normal time and extra time, but no break between the first and second period of extra time.

If a result can't be achieved in any of the Finals after extra time, then the FIFA rules will be invoked to achieve a result e.g. penalty shoot-out.

(i) In a Penalty shoot-Out a series of five (5) penalty kicks shall be taken by each team alternatively, by different kickers. The goalkeeper may be replaced at any time. All players that were on the field at full time and not actively engaging in the taking of the penalty kicks shall remain on the halfway line in the centre circle. Team officials and interchange players are not permitted to enter the field of play. If, after both teams have taken five kicks, each has scored the same number of goals, then the taking of kicks from the penalty spot shall continue by a different player and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick in the same order until such time as each has taken the same number of kicks and one team has scored a total of goals which establishes it as the winner.

13 MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS

All junior fixtures shall be played at Brolga Park and any other affiliated associations approved by North Queensland Football Ltd. North Queensland Football Ltd will have substitute benches and technical areas set up for all competitive matches and will be on the side of the field opposite the crowd, where possible. (Refer to Laws of the Match). **Each week 1 x U9/10/11/12/13/14/ 15/16 team will be selected to travel to the Burdekin and Ingham on a rotation basis with those age groups from Burdekin/Ingham required to travel to Townsville for approximately 50% of the games.**

- (a) A maximum of TEN (10) persons are permitted to be within the confines of the technical area. They may include the coach, assistant coach, the substitutes and either the trainer or medical staff.
- (B) Approved NQF Identification Lanyards shall be worn at all times by the team coach, assistant/s, the team manager and the team sports trainer by Round 1 for competitive teams and Round 3 for non-competitive teams. Only persons with such identification or designated players as listed on the match sheets shall be in the technical area.
- (C) Competitive team officials who fail to wear their approved NQF ID lanyard OR have not registered are not permitted to sit in the Technical Area. Repeat offenders may be fined and may be removed permanently from the Technical Area.
- (D) Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match.
- (E) The coach and other officials shall remain within the confines of the technical area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team sports trainer or doctor entering the field of play, with the Match Official's permission, to assess an injured player.
- (F) All substitutes must be seated within the technical area. They must wear bibs or an alternative

coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip, Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to their and the opposition team strip. When warming up, substitutes are requested to choose an area furthest from the opposing team.

- (G) All occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner. The Match Official has the right to expel any person from the technical area at any time as he or she sees fit. The match will not recommence until that person has left the playing field to the Match Official's satisfaction.
- (H) Smoking is not permitted at Brolga Park during Junior Fixtures. The consumption of alcohol is only permitted in the designated area.
- (I) Any club that holds Junior fixtures at their home grounds must abide by all new smoking and Liquor Licensing Laws.
- a. North Queensland Football Ltd will print all competitive and non-competitive team sheets using information inputted by clubs into Sporting Pulse. These can be collected from the pigeon hole in front of the Game Day Office.
 - i. At the conclusion of the game the Referee will immediately complete the Team Sheet in the Game Day Office.
 - ii. NO earlier than 15 minutes after the game, officials from both teams can sign their respective team sheets located in tray outside game day office
 - iii. For junior non-competitive matches North Queensland Football Ltd will produce Game Sheets from Sporting Pulse.
Therefore any alterations to teams must be completed by midnight on the preceding Wednesday
 - iv. In the case of a club proven to have played an ineligible player the offending club shall forfeit the match with a 3 – 0 minimum result recorded (unless the goal difference was greater to the non-offending club) to their opponents and may receive a fine \$100 from North Queensland Football Ltd.
 - v. Challenging the Eligibility of a Player
 - On match day, any team may ask the eligibility of any opposing player.
 - No club official shall have the power to prevent an opposition player from taking the field for any reason.
 - NQF reserve the right to check and/or be present during the Team ID process to ensure procedures are being adhered to and completed correctly. If a team is found to be in breach or deliberately trying to mislead either the opposition or NQF then NQF reserve the right to pursue further action against the team.
 - vi. Any club is permitted to lodge a letter of protest to NQF. The protest must be in writing under club letterhead and be forwarded to North Queensland Football Ltd, within two (2) days of the match.
 - Protests will only be considered for obvious breaches of the laws of the game that clearly had a material effect on the outcome of the Match.
- (J) No protests as to the result of a Match will be considered in relation to disciplinary decisions of the Match Officials or decisions of facts relating to play.
- (K) Protests must be accompanied by a \$150.00 administration fee, in order to be considered. The administration fee must be lodged together with the written protest. A refund may apply at the discretion of the Board if a protest is upheld.
- (m) If, through adverse weather conditions or other Acts of God, all fixtures are not played on a particular day/night, matches will be replayed where possible. If a single match is abandoned through any cause, discretionary power as to the award of points, replay or penalty shall be vested in North Queensland Football Ltd, as per Rule 8.

- (n) Players in all grades must appear in proper apparel in the club's registered colours, shirts or jerseys, each with different numbers, and shoes and shin guards in accordance with the laws of the match. In the case of a player infringing, the Match Official shall have the power to order the offending player off the field in order to rectify their apparel or footwear. Goalkeepers must appear in a distinct colour from that registered by the goalkeeper's own club or the opposing team.
- (o) Where two clubs are participating have the same registered colours the first named team will be classed as the home team and the away team must change colours.
- (p) Every registered club is responsible to North Queensland Football Ltd for the action of its players and officials. All clubs are further required to prevent physical and verbal intimidation from spectators towards Match Officials, Assistant Match Officials, officials and players prior, during or at the conclusion of matches. North Queensland Football Ltd shall be empowered to engage the assistance of Police at all matches should the presence of Police be desirable.
- (q) Junior football sizes shall be in accordance with the Football Queensland rules and are as follows:
- Size 3 = Under 6 to Under 9
 Size 4 = Under 10 to Under 13
 Size 5 = Under 14 to Under 16
- (r) For a team to take the field, seven (7) or more eligible players must present themselves to play. This rule applies for 11 a side matches.

14. MATCH OFFICIALS

1. Any Match Official or Assistant Match Official who is also a registered player and is suspended from any match as a player shall not be eligible to act as a Match Official or Assistant Match Official whilst under suspension as a player, as per the directive from FFA.
2. If a registered Match Official is unavailable, an alternative Match Official may be utilised, providing both teams approve the selected person. If both teams cannot agree, then a person should be appointed by the home team to officiate the match.
3. Any person officiating in a match shall be deemed to have the same authority as a registered Match Official to control the match.
4. All Match Officials appointments will be available via Schedula prior to the scheduled matches, where possible.
5. Match Officials shall be paid such fees as shall be from time to time determined by North Queensland Football Ltd. Both competing Clubs shall be equally responsible for the payment of fees. In the event of a forfeit, the forfeiting club is responsible for all match fees. Should the appointed match official fail to honor their appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture. Failure by a Match Official to meet their appointments will result in the Referees Body being asked to show cause why the Match Official(s) should not be fined. NQ Football will pay match officials the following week of fixtures and invoice each club on a 50/50 basis. NQ Football will provide the clubs a statement of account and will expect settlement of account within 7 days. Clubs have a maximum 3 days from issue of invoice to question anything in the invoice to avoid the office

spending time locating old information. Clubs are reminded the cashflow with referee payments is substantial requiring urgent settlements of referee fees.

ii. MINI ROOS FOOTBALL

Mini Roos matches 5-11 will be played as per FFA rules – Rules of the game can be found on NQF website

15. COMPETITIVE FOOTBALL 12-16

Laws of the game rules to be followed – Rules can be found on NQF website

16. MISCONDUCT

Refer to Disciplinary Policy Document

17 MISCELLANEOUS

All trophies shall remain the property of North Queensland Football Ltd, and clubs holding any of these trophies shall be responsible for the preservation of those trophies and shall be responsible to restore or replace any trophy which has been damaged, mislaid, destroyed or stolen. All trophies are to be engraved and returned to North Queensland Football Ltd no later than 1 August in each year.

18 TROPHIES AND AWARDS

NQF trophies awarded at the end of season are:

- **Brian Langan Trophy**

This is decided by the number of premierships won then divided by the amount of competitive club teams entered.

- **Junior Club Champion**

Points from all competitive ages are totaled, then divided by the amount of competitive teams ages 12-16. **To participate clubs must field a minimum of 5 teams**

19 FINES AND SANCTIONS

North Queensland Football shall have the power to impose such penalties as it sees fit upon registered clubs which are found to have brought the Game into disrepute or in breach of these rules.

Teams that either forfeit the game or field understrength teams as determined by the NQF Board shall receive the following penalties

1. Loss of points in the local competition
2. Shall cover all costs associated with the game i.e. referees
3. Further penalties may apply at the discretion of the NQF Board