



STELLER

# Rules and Regulations

March 2018

# **INDEX**

|                                                   | PAGE |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. INTRODUCTIONS, DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS | 5    |
| 2. LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL                    | 6    |
| 3. AFFILIATION                                    | 6    |
| 4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY                             | 6    |
| 5. TRANSFERS                                      | 8    |
| 6. PERMITS                                        | 8    |
| 7. SEASON                                         | 8    |
| 8. FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS                          | 8    |
| 9. FIXTURES                                       | 11   |
| 10. GROUNDS                                       | 11   |
| 11. LADDERS                                       | 12   |
| 12. FINALS                                        | 13   |
| 13. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS                        | 15   |
| 14. CONDUCT OF MATCHES                            | 16   |
| 15. MATCH TIME FRAMES AND USE OF STRETCHERS       | 17   |
| 16. EQUIPMENT                                     | 18   |
| 17. MATCH RESULTS                                 | 18   |
| 18. CONTROL AT MATCHES                            | 19   |
| 19. LOSS OF POINTS                                | 19   |
| 20. MATCH CANCELLATION – ADVERSE WEATHER POLICIES | 19   |

|     |                                               |    |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| 21. | GROUND INSPECTIONS                            | 22 |
| 22. | UMPIRES                                       | 22 |
| 23. | 25 METRE PENALTY                              | 24 |
| 24. | BEST AND FAIREST VOTES                        | 24 |
| 25. | TIMEKEEPERS                                   | 25 |
| 26. | RUNNERS                                       | 25 |
| 27. | WATER CARRIERS                                | 25 |
| 28. | TRAINERS                                      | 25 |
| 29. | COACH REQUIREMENTS                            | 26 |
| 30. | UNIFORMS                                      | 26 |
| 31. | REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES                        | 28 |
| 32. | AWARDS                                        | 28 |
| 33. | PRESENTATION NIGHT TICKETS                    | 28 |
| 34. | CLUB ACCOUNTS AND LODGEMENT OF ANNUAL REPORTS | 28 |
| 35. | MEETINGS                                      | 28 |
| 36. | UNAUTHORISED MEDIA STATEMENTS                 | 29 |
| 37. | FINE FOR BREACHES                             | 29 |
| 38. | POLICIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT                  | 29 |

|     |                                               |    |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| 39. | INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL                          | 30 |
| 40. | INVESTIGATION OFFICER                         | 30 |
| 41. | DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE                  | 31 |
| 42. | CONDUCT UNBECOMING, BRING GAME INTO DISREPUTE | 32 |
| 43. | ALTERATIONS TO REGULATIONS                    | 32 |
| 44. | MISCELLANEOUS                                 | 32 |
| 45. | CODE OF CONDUCT                               | 32 |
| 46. | AFL VICTORIA POLICIES                         | 32 |
| 47. | AMATEUR STATUS                                | 33 |

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. *Definitions*

In these Regulations, unless there is something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith, the following expressions have the following meanings:-

|                                  |                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AFL:</b>                      | Australian Football League (ACN 004 155 211)                                        |
| <b>AFL Victoria:</b>             | Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited (ACN 147 664)                         |
| <b>Club:</b>                     | A Football Club which is a Club Member of AFL Victoria pursuant to the Constitution |
| <b>Constitution:</b>             | The AFL Victoria Constitution                                                       |
| <b>State League &amp; Talent</b> | The State League & Talent Manager appointed by AFL                                  |
| <b>SEWF Operations Manager</b>   | The Operations Manager appointed by SEWF                                            |
| <b>Player:</b>                   | A person eligible to play with a Club pursuant to the Rules                         |
| <b>Tribunal:</b>                 | AFL South East Independent Tribunal                                                 |
| <b>VWFL:</b>                     | Victorian Women's Football League                                                   |
| <b>SEWF:</b>                     | South Eastern Women's Football Competition                                          |

### 1.2 *Interpretations*

In these Regulations (including any Schedules), unless the subject or context requires otherwise:

- a. Words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- b. Words importing any gender shall be deemed to include all other genders;
- c. Words importing persons shall be deemed to include all bodies and associations, corporate or unincorporated, and vice versa;
- d. The index (if any) and the headings are used for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this Agreement;
- e. a reference to a thing includes a reference to a part of that thing; and
- f. a reference to a document include the document as modified from time to time and any document replacing it.

## **2. LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL**

- 2.1 All games shall be played in strict accordance with the “Laws of Australian Football” as determined by the AFL,
- 2.2 If a match rule is not covered in the League Regulations, the AFL Laws shall be adopted.

## **3. AFFILIATION**

- 3.1 Each club shall pay as an annual affiliation fee of the sum prescribed by SEWF and/or their respective league from time to time.
- 3.2 An invoice will be issued by SEWF to clubs accompanied by a letter which will outline payment schedule. The full amount of each statement is to be paid in full no later than the prescribed date set by SEWF. In the case of clubs failing to make such payments, unless acceptable alternative arrangements, no team of that club will be eligible for match points until the account is remitted in full. Percentages for any game played while ineligible for match points will be calculated on final scores submitted for each game
- 3.3 All clubs in the SEWF competitions must have completed the AFL Club Improvement Program. Clubs who have not done so by 1<sup>st</sup> June will be dealt with as AFL Victoria sees fit.

## **4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- 4.1 Players in the SEWF must be of the female gender as verified by the appropriate Victorian State Government documentation.
- 4.2 Players in the SEWF must be 16 years of age as of 1<sup>st</sup> January for the season in which they wish to register
- 4.3 A player shall be eligible to play in official matches for the SEWF after the completion of the online registration and subsequent approvals.
- 4.4 Players under the age of 18yrs as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January each season must complete a Parental/Guardian Consent form supplied by the League. The form must be completed prior to the players’ first game and kept by the club. The underage consent form is to be presented to the league on request by the Operations Coordinator or competition manager.
- 4.5 A player that has registered with a club will be regarded as a registered player of the SEWF in the forthcoming season until such time that AFL Victoria determines otherwise.
- 4.6 Players must seek a transfer from their club to play at a different club regardless of if that club nominates for the ensuing season.
- 4.7 Any player found to have participated in a match authorized or

conducted by SEWF without the appropriate permit / transfer granted may be dealt with by SEWF in accordance with Regulation 4.8 and the club whom fielded that player may be dealt with by AFL Victoria in accordance with Regulation 4.8

4.8 Any club that allows a player to play in any home and away games or finals series where that player is:

- (a) not registered with SEWF; or
- (b) not permitted to play with that club; or
- (c) is under suspension; or
- (d) is not qualified under SEWF regulations shall be liable to:
  - (i) a fine for breach not exceeding \$1000; and/or
  - (ii) Disqualification from the competition; and /or
  - (iii) Loss of 4 premiership points for each match in which the player played and the awarding of those points to the appropriate opposing teams as SEWF deems fit. SEWF may also deal with the player concerned as it deems fit.

4.9 No person shall be qualified to play for a club in any match played under the auspices of the SEWF:

- (a) who is not for the time being a duly registered playing member of such club or holder of a permit to play;
- (b) who is under any disqualification or who has not paid any fine for breach imposed by any competent authority. A record of such disqualification or fine for breach (as far as known) shall be kept by the League and shall be available for inspection by all officials at any time.
- (c) unless she is the holder of all required clearances and permits.

4.10 A reported player may continue to play with her club until her case is heard by the Tribunal and any suspension that may be given shall commence from the date of the Tribunal's decision. The suspended player is not permitted to play in any division of the SEWF or VFLW competition whilst under suspension.

4.11 Any player or club representative who makes any misstatement or misrepresentation in applying for:

- (a) registration;
- (b) a clearance approval may be dealt with by SEWF by way of:

- (i) a fine for breach not exceeding \$1000.00; and/or
- (ii) disqualification from the competition; and/or
- (iii) loss of 4 premiership points for each match in which the player played and the awarding of those points to the appropriate opposing teams;

## **5. TRANSFERS**

- 5.1 The SEWF abide by the national transfer rules of the AFL
- 5.2 All players wishing to seek a transfer must fill out an exit survey before approval will be granted at the SEWF level.

## **6. PERMITS**

- 6.1 Youth Girl players wanting to play in the SEWF must request their SEWF or Development League club to apply for a '2. Local Interchange Permit'; this allows the permitted player to play for both clubs for the duration of the permit. (Maximum 5 SEWF or Development League games before a Youth Girl is ineligible for Youth Girl Finals, clubs should check their youth girls league by-laws for full information).

Youth Girl players must not apply for:

- (a) Match Day Permits
  - (b) Temporary Transfers
- 6.2 SEWF players wanting to play in another state out of the official SEWF season should apply for a Transfer. No interstate interchange agreements exist and permits are not allowed
- 6.3 Interstate players wanting to play in the SEWF must also apply for a Transfer. No interstate interchange agreements exist and permits are not allowed.
- 6.4 Players graduating from the Youth Girls Competition to the SEWF must apply for a "Transfer" as per Regulation 5.

## **7. SEASON**

- 7.1 The football season shall commence and conclude on such dates in each year and matches shall be played on such days as SEWF shall decide.

## **8. FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS**

- 8.1 All SEWF divisions shall consist of a maximum of 25 players with a maximum of 18 players from one team being permitted on the field at any time during a quarter.
- 8.2 A team must consist of a minimum of 12 players before play can



commence, and the evening up rules apply as per regulation 8.6.

8.3 *Promotion and Relegation*

- (a) The team winning the premiership in any division may be promoted to the next higher division.
- (b) The team finishing on the bottom of the ladder in any division may be relegated to the next lower division.
- (c) SEWF may decide not to promote a premiership team, or not to relegate a team that finished on the bottom of the ladder if it was deemed detrimental to the competition for that team to be promoted or relegated.
- (d) The promotion or relegation of a team that was not the premiership team or did not finish on the bottom of the division will be determined by SEWF in consultation with the club involved.

8.4 A club joining the League shall be entitled to participate only in the division determined by SEWF.

8.5 Not later than 31 December each year, all clubs must lodge with the League a list of all club office bearers and the number of teams they intend to field, as well as enter this information into footy web.

8.6 Evening Up Rule

- a) SEWF expects all team officials to understand and adhere to the 'spirit' of this rule, which is, the team that has the greater number of players available shall lend as many players as possible to equalize numbers with the other team so that all players available to participate in that match shall have the opportunity to play in as much of that match as possible. If both teams have full sides, an 18 a side game shall be played.
- b) Where one team has between 12 and 18 players and the second team has more players than the first team, **both teams shall field the same number of players**, therefore an equal number of players shall take the field. Exceptions to this rule apply in certain circumstances - refer to 8.6.e).
- c) If a team begins with less than 12 players the match will be forfeited, however a match must still occur as a scratch match.
- d) If during a match, a team's playing numbers drop to below 12 players a forfeit will occur and the match must continue with an equal number of players on the field for both sides.
- e) If players are not offered to the team with less than 18 players, then playing numbers must be reduced so that both teams field

the same number of players. If players are offered, but not accepted, then the team with the greater number of players is not required to reduce playing numbers, i.e. the evening up rule does not apply.

- f) If players are not offered, the team refusing to offer players will have their interchange bench capped at 3 players. The players on the field and the 3 interchanges are the only players permitted to participate in the match.
- g) Team Managers, particularly from the Team that requires the evening-up rule to apply, must ensure that the process is organized as early as possible and prior to the teams taking the field.
- h) **Late Arrivals** - Should a player arrive late, that player may take the field at any time provided the following procedure is adhered to:
  - 1. The Team Manager shall inform the Officials of the other Team.
  - 2. The opposition team is to be informed when the players are ready to take the field that the playing numbers of each side are to be increased.
  - 3. Addition to the playing numbers on the field can only be made providing the numbers on the field remain equal for both teams.
  - 4. Where a head count is conducted and uneven playing numbers are evident the scores at the time of the head count shall be noted and the matter referred to the League for determination of the result of the match.
- i) **Loss of players during the match due to injury or illness** - Should a player be removed from the field due to injury or illness and the team has no interchange players, as soon as practicable but no later than at the next quarter break teams should even the playing numbers. In this circumstance, a player should be offered to the opposition to top up, if the team has players on the interchange or a player can be removed and rule 8.6.f does not apply.
- j) **Daily loan of players** - When players are loaned, the Team Manager of both teams shall note on the Team Sheet the number of players loaned. Players may be loaned on a quarter by quarter rotating basis or for the whole match as appropriate.
- k) Any dispute regarding this rule will be referred to SEWF who will determine penalties, if any, to be applied. Penalties may include loss of premiership points and/or score by the offending team and/or the Club of the offending team shall be penalized as SEWF deems fit.
- l) The Evening up Rule is not to be applied in Finals.

- m) Where a player is ordered off the field by the Field Umpire and there is no replacement available (as per 9.3.4) there is no requirement to even-up the playing numbers on the field.

## **9. FIXTURES**

- 9.1 SEWF shall be responsible for the organisation of matches in each division by preparing fixtures for each team in each division for each season. SEWF may amend a fixture as required.
- 9.2 SEWF shall conduct a series of at least 12 home and away matches where possible for each division to determine which of the clubs shall be entitled to compete in the Finals Series to be arranged to decide the premierships.
- 9.3 Should any club fail to fulfil its engagement to play in any premiership match, SEWF may disqualify the club from further premiership matches or otherwise deal with such clubs as it deems fit.
- 9.4 Any club failing to fulfill its engagement to play shall pay all umpires expenses relative to the said fixture plus an additional fine for breach of \$400 at the discretion of SEWF.
- 9.5 *Alterations*  
Clubs desiring to conduct matches on a day or time other than that published by the League in the official fixture may do so providing the following requirements have been satisfied:
  - (a) a Fixture Change Request is forwarded via email to the Operation Manager 10 business days prior to the fixture match indicating any alterations to time of commencement, venues or day of the published fixture, including confirmation of the change from the opposition;
  - (b) request for matches to be fixtured at night are forwarded to SEWF office accompanied with verification the lights at the proposed venue have a minimum lux reading of 100 LUX

## **10. GROUNDS**

- 10.1 Each club shall have a ground approved by SEWF. The Operations Manager shall have power to compel any club to bring its ground up to the required standard set out in the Laws of Australian Football.
- 10.2 Any club failing to secure the ground originally arranged for a match, shall in lieu thereof, procure another ground ("the emergency ground") and notify the Operations Manager and the opposing club not later than 5pm on the Monday immediately preceding the match, as to the situation of the ground.
- 10.3 If a club fail to give notice under Regulation 10.2 it shall forfeit the match unless SEWF deems the change reasonable

## 11. LADDERS

### 11.1 Point Allocation and Match Ratio Calculations

- a. In the home and away fixture, four points will be allotted for a win, four points for a team in whose favour a forfeit or walkover is ruled, two points for a draw and zero points for a loss or bye. Where a club deemed to be not financial competes in a home and away match, four points will be awarded to the opposition club.

In competitions involving an uneven number of byes for competing teams, the League shall also prepare a match ratio which reflects the number of wins by each team against the number of matches played by each team.

- b. The League shall prepare a weekly ladder for each division and in addition to awarding points for each win, forfeit, walkover, draw, loss or bye it shall also prepare a percentage table comparing the total points scored by each team against the total points scored against each team and in the event that selection for the Finals Series is between teams with the same number of points, the team with the highest percentage points will be entitled to participate in the Finals Series ahead of a team with lower percentage points

- 11.2 The scores used by the League to calculate the points and percentages for each divisional ladder shall be based upon the scores entered into the online match result system.

- 11.3 In the event of a game being forfeited, the defaulting team shall not include the game in club playing records. The team against whom the forfeiting team was to play shall be awarded match points and shall be entitled to include the game in the records of its players. Scores will be calculated by taking the average winning score and average losing score from matches played in that division during that round and be awarded accordingly.

### 11.4 Non-Completion of Matches

- (a) Failure by any club to play an arranged match as set out in the fixture of the League from time to time shall render the club liable for all umpires' expenses relative to the said fixture and a fine for breach of \$400.00 unless a satisfactory reason is received by 5.00pm on the Monday following the failure to play the arranged match.
- (b) If any match which has been started and cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the club or clubs, or where a match has been cancelled at the direction of the officiating umpire, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (i) Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game is concluded prior to half time and the match cannot proceed within the scheduled time, the teams shall depart the arena and the

match will be declared a draw. Each team will be awarded two premiership points and the scores of the teams at the time the match was interrupted would be used to calculate the percentages.

- (ii) Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game has progressed beyond half time and is unable to proceed with the scheduled time for the match, the teams will depart the arena and the scores of the clubs at the time the match was interrupted shall be deemed to be final scores of the match and shall be used to calculate percentages. The team with the highest score will be declared the winner and awarded four premiership points.
  - (iii) If a match has been started and cannot be completed within the time scheduled for reasons within the control of any club, such club will be dealt with by SEWF Victoria at its absolute discretion in any way it sees fit.
- (c) If a club with two teams should forfeit one of their teams, the lower division team must forfeit. A lower division team cannot play if their senior team has forfeited in the same week.
  - (d) In the event that a forfeit or bye occurs, no more than 3 players that played in the higher division in the previous week can play in a lower division for that round. In instances where more are required due to lack of numbers, written permission must be requested from SEWF.

## **12. FINALS**

### **12.1 Arrangements**

- (a) On completion of the home and away fixture, the clubs gaining first, second, third and fourth positions on the premiership lists of each division shall form the Final Four, except where altered by SEWF, and shall compete to determine the premiership under the system adopted by SEWF.
- (b) All finals matches shall be played on all enclosed grounds to be decided by SEWF and where a charge for admittance can be made.
- (c) Participating clubs must submit a list of 35 people including players and staff who will receive free entry to their Final Series matches. No refunds will be made for those not attending.

### **12.2 Draw**

- (a) In the event of the scores being tied at the scheduled end of a SEWF Finals Series match, including the Grand Final, the emergency

goal umpire or umpire observer is required to confirm to the timekeepers that the scores are tied. The match is then to continue until such time as the next score is recorded then the siren is to be sounded.

- (b) In the event that time elapses and a team has a set kick for goal with the opportunity of levelling the scores i.e. the team is one or six points behind, the siren will not be sounded.
- (c) If an immediate passage of play resulting from the set kick for goal e.g. mark by a forward, kick off the ground, punched through etc., which results in a winning score the siren shall be sounded immediately following the goal umpires signal.
- (d) If the set shot results in a winning score (no immediate passage of play resulting) the siren will be sounded immediately, or, if a score from the set shot results in the scores being level the siren shall not be sounded until the next score is recorded.

12.3 SEWF shall exercise full control in relation to the arrangement of the times and places of the playing of all Final Series matches.

12.4 SEWF shall be responsible for the fixing and collection of all entrances fees at all Final Series matches. SEWF may delegate its authority for the collection of entrance fees from time to time.

12.5 *Finals Uniforms*

- (a) The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the Finals Series shall wear their registered guernsey and home (coloured) shorts unless this is varied by SEWF or its appointee.
- (b) The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the Final Series shall use the home team rooms unless this is varied by SEWF or its appointee.

12.6 *Finals Eligibility*

All clubs participating in Final Series matches must be financial with SEWF before the conclusion of the home and away matches. If a participating club is not financial SEWF may at its discretion, remove all or any of its teams from their position in the Final Series matches and promote the next entitled financial teams in their place to participate in the Finals Series.

12.7 *Finals Team Lists*

All clubs fielding teams in the Finals Series must lodge with SEWF a list as accurate as possible showing the number and name of all permitted

players likely to participate in the finals match for inclusion in the record at least 6 days prior to the playing of the first finals series game.

### **13. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

#### **13.1 To Participate in SEWF Finals Matches**

- (a) Players must play at least 3 SEWF matches with their Affiliated Club in the home and away season to qualify to play in the finals series for their senior club.
- (b) To be eligible to play in the clubs second SEWF team finals matches a player must have played in three home and away matches for that particular division during the current season.
- (c) Any player playing 7 or more matches with a club's first SEWF team in the home and away matches is ineligible to play with that club's second SEWF team in the finals series.

Rule 13.1 b and c are disregarded where any club fields both SEWF teams in a finals series match on the same day, or the same weekend.

- (d) Any player included on an official VFL list can, provided she has qualified under the Rules described in rule 13, return to play with the SEWF in the finals
- (e) Any player that plays 7 or more games in any season in the VFLW Competitions is ineligible to play any SEWF finals in that season.
- (f) SEWF players are not permitted to play more than one SEWF game during the finals series in a weekend.
- (g) Players that play a second game on the same weekend during the home and away season due to lack of numbers must be noted with an asterisk and SEWF should be informed in writing as to why this occurred by Monday 12pm following the scheduled match.
- (h) Where a player participates in more than one SEWF match on any weekend during the home and away season, only one match shall count towards finals eligibility qualification. The game that counts shall be the highest grade or age group played.

#### **13.2 Eligibility of players to play between the SEWF and VFLW Competitions**

- (a) In the event that a bye occurs in a VFLW division, no more than 3 players that played in the VFLW in the previous fixture game can play in a lower division for that round without prior consent from SEWF.
- (b) A VFLW player is only eligible to play in a SEWF team during a VFLW bye weekend, if they have previously played 1 game for that SEWF division prior to the bye in the current season.

## **14. CONDUCT OF MATCHES**

### **14.1 Match Day Players and Officials**

- a) Prior to the commencement of each match, each team of a club shall prepare a “team list” of all players, on-field officials, runners, water carriers and trainers, who are actively involved with the team on that day. All players are to be in numerical order. This list must contain an accurate statement of the players and their numbers allotted for that day. No two players are permitted to play in the same team wearing the same number. Each player, on-field officials, runners, drink carriers and trainers on the team list must sign their usual signature beside their name. The team list shall be produced through the Footy Web online system.
- b) Water carriers must be noted on the team sheet and should be wearing a club supplied, fluorescent yellow or vest.
- c) At least 15 minutes before the game, team managers must hand to the field umpire of the match the original copies of their team lists.
- d) A player whose name appears on the team sheet must take part as a player in the match, either on the ground or as an interchange player.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

### **14.2 Official Inside Fence/Coaches Box**

- (a) Only four (4) officials, other than the coach may be in the coaches box, plus suitably attired trainers, runner plus interchange players and an interchange steward, shall be allowed inside the fence
- (b) All officials listed must remain behind the white line at all times during the course of play
- (c) Club doctors may enter the playing arena to administer medical assistance.
- (d) Any official, as referred to above, shall not smoke whist inside the fence at any time during the course of the game.
- (e) Umpires shall report any infringement of this Regulation.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

### **14.3 Centre Square**

- (a) Coaches are not permitted to enter the centre square while the umpires are there for the duration of the game
- (b) Coaching huddles are not permitted inside the centre square during ¼ time or ¾ quarter time breaks.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines



**15. MATCH TIME FRAMES AND USE OF STRETCHER**

- 15.1 Unless agreed by both teams and umpires, play must commence no later 30 minutes after the scheduled start time. If play has not commenced by this time, the team responsible for the delay shall forfeit the match.
- 15.2 Each match shall consist of four 20 minute quarters for all divisions  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time breaks are 5 minutes and  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break is 10 minutes.
- 15.3 Time on shall be called for interruption of play due to injury as determined by the umpire.
- 15.4 The umpire may, at their discretion, indicate time on for any other reason.

**15.5 *Injured Players Requiring Stretcher***

Any player who is injured during a match and who, in the opinion of the Club Trainer or Club Physiotherapist, requires the assistance of a Stretcher, shall be attended by Club training staff and a Stretcher as soon as possible to ensure the health and safety of a Player.

**a) Club Medical Personnel**

A stretcher may only be called by the Club Trainer or Club Medical Officer as listed on the Official Team Sheet if if the Club Trainer or Club Physiotherapist are unavailable at the time when a Player requires the assistance of a Stretcher, a trainer listed on the Official Team Sheet of the other Club may call for a Stretcher.

**b) Stretcher Used**

If a stretcher is called for, the Stretcher must be taken to the injured Player by the shortest and most direct route and the Player must as soon as possible upon being attended by the Club training staff, leave the Arena on the Stretcher by the shortest and most direct route.

**c) Stretcher Not Used**

If the player is assessed by a Club Trainer or Club Physiotherapist as in fact being capable of leaving the Arena without the aid of a Stretcher, then the Player may do so via the interchange gates.

**d) General**

Without limiting the provisions of this Regulation, a Player for whom a stretcher is called must leave the Arena immediately upon direction by a field Umpire, unless the Club Trainer notifies the field Umpire that it would be dangerous to do so. On being removed from the Arena by a Stretcher, the Player shall immediately be taken to the Club's dressing room or medical room for examination and treatment.

**e) Player not to resume**

A Player for whom a Stretcher is called, even if she does not leave

the arena on the stretcher, shall not resume playing for a period of 15 minutes of play (excluding the quarter-time, half-time and three quarter time breaks) from the time when the Player left the arena.

#### **15.6 Breach**

If a stretcher is called in accordance with this Regulation and:-

- a. The Player for whom the stretcher is called does not leave the arena as soon as possible after being attended by Club training staff, or
- b. The Player for whom the stretcher is called is not removed from the arena immediately upon a direction by a field umpire that the Player be so removed save where the Club Medical Officer notifies the field umpire that it would be dangerous to do so; or
- c. The stretcher is not taken to the injured Player or the injured Player is not removed from the arena to the club's dressing room or medical room by the shortest and most direct route
- d. A player resumes playing within a period of 15 minutes of actual playing time (excluding the quarter-time, half-time and three-quarter time breaks) from the time when the Player was removed from the arena,

the club shall be liable to a sanction as determined by SEWF.

### **16. EQUIPMENT**

- 16.1 The home team shall supply two official SEWF Sherrin match balls (Size 4), in good condition. The endorsed SEWF sponsor logo must appear on the match ball when applicable
- 16.2 The home team shall supply and have in position, suitable goal post padding on all goal and point posts before play can commence in accordance with the laws of Australian Football
- 16.3 The home team shall clearly mark the ground to specifications as instructed by the Laws of Australian Football before play can commence. The substance used to mark grounds shall be one that meets health and safety requirements.
- 16.4 The home club shall be responsible for the provision of suitable bell or siren.
- 16.5 The home team must supply a serviceable stretcher that is in a suitable position beside the boundary for the duration of the match before play can commence.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

### **17. MATCH RESULTS**

- 17.1 Correctly completed team sheets, goal umpire cards, timekeeper cards, report sheets and incident report forms must be received by the Operations Manager before 6.00pm following the match via the online jot

form system. All documentation must be stored by the home club team manager until November 1<sup>st</sup> of the competing year.

- 17.2 The JLT online checklist must be completed prior to the game.

Fine for breach: \$50

## **18. CONTROL AT MATCHES**

- 18.1 Clubs shall be held responsible for the maintenance of order prior to, during and after matches (includes intervals in the match).
- 18.2 A registered official of a club disputing a decision of an umpire or using abusive language or threatening or insulting language before, during or after a match shall be dealt with as the SEWF deems fit. The offending persons' club shall also be liable to sanctions.

## **19. LOSS OF POINTS**

A team shall be deemed to lose 4 premiership points if:

- 19.1 The home team fails to forward the match results to the Operations Manager by the required time on a third occasion throughout the season - this includes entering goal kickers, scores and amending team sheets to reflect who actually played.
- 19.2 A player signs the team sheet and is not in uniform either on the ground or on interchange.
- 19.3 A player who is not correctly registered plays in a match.
- 19.4 A player receiving a transfer plays before receiving all levels of approval via the online system.
- 19.5 A team fails to comply with the Leagues conditions and time frame for the payment of fees.

## **20. MATCH CANCELLATION – ADVERSE WEATHER POLICIES**

- 20.1 Heat Policy – Match Day  
The following shall be adopted when extremely hot conditions are expected to prevail on SEWF practice and in season match days.
- 20.2 In the event that the temperature is considered likely to be greater than 32°C at:  
a) the scheduled commencement of a match, or  
b) during the course of a match,
- 20.3 Metro Areas  
One of the officiating field umpires shall contact the weather bureau (phone number below) to determine the current temperature in the area

where the match is to be played and convey those details to the Umpire Coordinator (phone number below) who will provide direction.

20.4 Country Areas

One of the officiating field umpires is to contact the Umpire Coordinator who will in turn make contact with the weather bureau (restricted number) to determine the current temperature closest to the match location and then convey those details back to the umpire concerned who in turn if necessary will implement the policy as outlined below.

20.5 Should the home club for both metro and country areas have some form of temperature reading device that can be used at ground level, that reading can be accepted as the current temperature on the oval.

20.6 Policy Process

- a) Temperature equal to, or greater than 36°C at the scheduled commencement of the game:
  - I. A SEWF match shall not commence if the temperature at the scheduled commencement time is equal to or exceeds 36°C.
  - II. If the temperature has not dropped below 36°C within 30 minutes of the scheduled commencement time of the match, the match shall be cancelled.
- b) Temperature between 32 and below 36°C at the scheduled commencement of the game:
  - I. All quarters are to be reduced to 15 minutes duration
  - II. Umpires may increase the length of the stoppage following a goal to allow additional player/umpire hydration.
  - III. The quarter and three quarter time breaks shall be increased to 10 minutes, with the teams and umpires able to leave the field during the breaks if so desired.
  - IV. The half time break shall be increased to 15 minutes.
  - V. The competing clubs shall be permitted to increase the number of interchange players by up to 2 additional players, providing that each team can add an equal number of player(s).
  - VI. If the temperature exceeds 36°C during the match, the match shall be halted. If the temperature does not drop below 36°C within 30 minutes of the game being halted, the match shall be discontinued and the result determined per the Laws of Australian Football (Law 10.6.2).
- c) Temperature below 32°C at the scheduled commencement of the game but dramatically increases during the game:
  - I. If the temperature is between 32 and 36°C clauses c), d) and e) from section 2 (above) shall apply.
  - II. If the temperature exceeds 36°C during the match, the match shall be halted. If the temperature does not drop below 36°C within 30 minutes of the game being halted, the match shall be discontinued and the

result determined per the Laws of Australian Football (Law 10.6.2).

20.7 In the case of extreme weather, for example, severe hail or extreme cold, the following shall apply:-

a). SEWF matches – the umpires or competing club captains may determine it's not safe to commence or continue the match and the match shall be halted for up to 30 minutes. The umpires shall contact (home team to provide access to a mobile or fixed phone) the SEWF Operations Manager and the Umpire Coordinator to advise them of such situations. If the match cannot be recommenced within 30 minutes, the match shall be deemed incomplete and the result determined per the AFL Laws of Australian Football (Law 10.6.2). The SEWF Competition Manager may determine to extend this 30 minute limitation should he deem appropriate to do so; such information is to be relayed to the umpires in a timely manner. **NOTE:** In situations where the clubs do not agree on whether play should be halted, or recommenced, the umpires should make a judgement. Should both clubs agree that conditions are unsafe; the umpires will be responsible for making the final decision as to the match proceeding or being discontinued.

b). Lightning Policy – Match Day

In the event of lightning being present during the course of a SEWF practice or in- season match, the following procedure is to occur:

i. Upon being satisfied that lightning is present in the immediate proximity of the match venue, the field umpires shall stop play and begin to leave the playing surface to return to their umpires' room whilst directing players and officials to do the same.

c). Policy Process

i. Once in the security of their rooms one of the officiating field umpires shall contact the appropriate SEWF Competition Manager and/or Umpire Coordinator as soon as possible to inform them of the situation.

ii. SEWF Competition Manager and/or the Umpire Coordinator shall make contact with the Severe Weather Expert at the Victorian Bureau of Meteorology and seek advice as to when the storm is expected to clear the proximity of the match venue.

iii. SEWF Competition Manager and/or the Umpire Coordinator shall relay the information from the Severe Weather Expert to the umpires, and such information is to be used as a guide to determine the appropriate time to resume the match.

iv. The field umpires, following discussions with the SEWF Competition Manager and/or the Umpire Coordinator and team managers or captains shall determine when the match is to recommence.

v. If the match is postponed or halted for a period greater than 30 minutes, the match shall be deemed incomplete

| Contact Numbers         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| SEWF Operations Manager | 5995 5060 EXT 5 Rod Hamilton |

## 21. GROUND INSPECTIONS

- 21.1 On the day of any official match arranged by the club officials must make a full inspection of the ground on which the match will be played prior to the match commencing. A representative from each club shall complete the official JLT Match Day Checklist online via the JLT App.  
Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines
- 21.2 If any player or official believes the venue is unsafe for play for whatever reason, he/she should not sign the team sheet.
- 21.3 Any player or official, who does not sign the official team sheet, is ineligible to take part in the match for which the team sheet is required.

## 22. UMPIRES

### 22.1 General

- (a) At the completion of the match the team managers will collect the goal umpires' score cards and the timekeepers' cards.
- (c) SEWF shall appoint the field umpire(s) for each home and away and finals match.
- (d) SEWF may appoint goal and/or boundary umpires for a home and away match.
- (e) SEWF shall appoint the goal and boundary umpires and an emergency umpire for finals matches.
  - (i) Field, goal and boundary umpire fees shall be set annually by SEWF.
  - (iii) In the event of a match not taking place because of a forfeit, the club giving the forfeit must pay all of the umpire fees via SEWF.
- (f) Where a person is involved in an incident which may constitute a Reportable Offence an umpire appointed by the League shall report that person and the matter will be referred to the Tribunal for hearing and determination.
- (g) Umpires shall wear the uniforms prescribed by SEWF. Umpires shall be on the playing field five minutes before the scheduled starting time of each match. The team manager of a club shall notify the

Operations Manager of any infringement of this Regulation.

- (h) The field umpire shall report any breaches of the Rules or Regulations by a club or official of a club to the Operations Manager via the online form.
- (i) Umpires shall be required to attend meetings when notified by the Umpires' Coordinator. Any umpire not present at roll call may be dealt with by the Umpires' Coordinator as they deem fit.

## 22.2 *Goal and Boundary Umpires and Scores*

- (a) Teams must supply a goal and boundary umpire for each match unless supplied by SEWF. Goal and boundary umpires must be 15 years of age or over.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

- (b) If a team fails to supply a boundary umpire or goal umpire, the game shall not commence and the umpire shall direct the offending team's captain to appoint players from their team, who are on the ground, to fulfil these positions. Players who are instructed to fill the positions of goal or boundary umpire shall not take part in the match. If a team fails to comply with the request of the umpire to supply a goal or boundary umpire, that team shall forfeit the match.
- (c) The goal umpires shall record the scores on the cards provided by SEWF and check the scores on the cards between quarters and at the conclusion of the match. Any discrepancy between the scores shall be rectified as soon as possible in consultation with the field umpire. The cards shall be properly completed and signed by the goal umpires. If the goal umpires disagree on the score, but the home team managers score is the same as one of the goal umpires' scores, this score shall be recognized as the official score of the match. Failing which, any disputes shall be referred for hearing and determination SEWF.
- (d) Club goal umpires shall be attired in a white coat or the controlling body's Umpire uniform. Clubs are also responsible for supplying goal umpires with a set of flags and, a pen and goal umpire cards. Club boundary umpires shall, as a minimum, be attired in an orange or green vest, as supplied by SEWF, and as far as practicable, in black shorts or pants (no denim). Any club not having its umpires so attired shall be fined for breach.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

- (e) In all matches, the home club shall be responsible for a scoreboard which shall be in operation throughout the whole game. The scoreboard must be clearly visible to the goal umpires who shall check its accuracy at the conclusion of each quarter. Umpires shall report to the Operations Manager, online umpire report form, any

occasion by which a club fails to operate a scoreboard  
Fine for breach of \$50.00.

- (f) For all official games, the home club is required to submit in Footy Web the amended team sheet, final scores, best players and goal kickers of the home and away teams by not later than 6.00pm on the day of the match or one hour after the match conclusion.

Fine for breach: \$100.00

- (g) Any club who submits incorrect amended team sheets, final scores, best players and goal kickers to Footy Web will be liable to a fine for breach of \$25.00 per amendment

### 22.3 *Official Powers*

All umpires appointed by the Umpires' Coordinator shall have the power to report players, clubs and officials in accordance with such of the Laws of Australian Football, adopted by SEWF from time to time and for any breach of these Regulations.

### 22.4 *Escorts*

- (a) Umpires shall be escorted from the field to their dressing room by the official runners from both teams, when leaving the ground at half time and final siren in all grades. This rule shall apply to all home and away fixtures, as well as all final games unless advised otherwise by SEWF.
- (b) During the home and away series, it shall be the responsibility of both Clubs to protect all umpires from unnecessary abuse or violence, on and off the field.
- (c) The Home Club shall be responsible for the provision of refreshments to umpires a break of play, and shall where necessary, provide medical assistance.

Fine for breach: \$100.00

## **23. 25 METRE PENALTY**

A 25 metre penalty shall replace the 50 metre penalty as referred to in section 18 of the Laws of Australian Football.

## **24. BEST AND FAIREST VOTES**

**24.1.** Official SEWF field umpires shall lodge one set of best and fairest votes in all official League home and away matches. Where two League field umpires are officiating in a match, one set of best and fairest votes will be lodged via the online umpire report on behalf of both umpires.

**24.2.** Three (3) votes will be awarded to the player deemed by the official League field umpires as best player in the match, two (2) votes for the second-best player and one (1) vote for the third-best player.



- 24.3.** Any player who has been found guilty of a reportable offence in a home and away match will be ineligible to win a best and fairest award.
- 24.4.** The player who received the highest number of votes at the end of the home and away season in each division will win the best and fairest award. In the event of more than one player being on an equal number of votes, dual/multiple awards will be presented.

**25. TIMEKEEPERS**

All clubs are to supply a timekeeper, but only one timekeeping card as supplied by the League shall be used at each venue. The home club shall supply the timecard. Both timekeepers from each club shall sign the timekeepers card on completion of the game clearly showing the appropriate details and their signature and their clubs. No person shall be permitted to act as a timekeeper unless they have attained the age of 18 years. Timekeepers from the home team shall hand the timekeepers card to the team manager on the completion of the game. The team manager will lodge the timekeeper card as per match reporting process.

Fine for breach: \$50.00

**26. RUNNERS**

- 26.1.** Each team shall be permitted to use one runner. The runner shall be attired in the approved SEWF Runners' uniform, clearly designated as the Club's runner, whilst inside the boundary fence and during the match.
- 26.2.** The runner shall be allowed to transfer messages to the players from the coach. The runner shall not obstruct the play in any way. The runner must leave the field as soon as they have finished giving messages or instructions to a player.
- 26.3.** No registered player signed on the said match day team sheet can be runner for that match.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

**27. WATER CARRIERS**

- 27.1.** Each team shall be permitted to supply up to 4 water carriers inclusive of any registered trainers. Water carriers shall be attired in the approved SEWF Water Carrier uniform clearly identifiable with the club name as supplied by the club, and as far as practicable, in black shorts or pants (no denim).
- 27.2.** Water carriers shall be permitted to offer players a drink. Water carriers shall not obstruct the play in any way. Water carriers must stay off the field of play whilst not doing their duties. Water carriers must be positioned around the perimeter of the ground and not in the vicinity of the interchange/ coaches' box.

Fine for Breach: \$50.00

**28. TRAINERS**

- 28.1.** Each team must supply at least one registered trainer per match, with no more than 2 registered trainers participating in any match. Trainers shall be attired in the approved SEWF Trainers uniform and as far as practicable, in black pants (no denim).

- 28.2. The SEWF online trainer registration form with supporting documentation must be received by the Operations Manager by no later than 4.00pm on the Wednesday prior to the trainer's first game.
- 28.3. Trainers must have accreditation as specified by SEWF, and be registered via the online registration form
- 28.4. No registered player signed on the said match day team sheet can be trainer for that match.
- 28.5. Trainers may assist players who are injured whilst on the ground. Trainers must stay off the field of play whilst not attending to their duties.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

## 29. COACH REQUIREMENTS

- 29.1. No person may coach (playing or non-playing) in any matches authorised or conducted by SEWF, unless that person has:
  - (a) a current accreditation with the Australian Football Coaching Association of Level One Senior standard or higher; and
  - (b) Completed the online registration as a coach
- 29.2. A non-playing coach does not require a clearance application to coach any club.
- 29.3. A non-suspended and accredited coach must be in charge of the team at all times when the team is playing a match and training.
- 29.4. Any person who purports to coach in any matches authorised or conducted by SEWF without satisfying the requirements of this Regulation may be dealt with as SEWF sees fit.

Fine for Breach: \$50.00

## 30. UNIFORMS

*In general:*

- a. Each club must register its colours and uniforms at the beginning of the season and they shall not be changed without the approval of AFL Victoria.
- b. The teams of each club shall wear their registered club guernseys as approved by SEWF from time to time and at all games. All jumpers must bear the approved SEWF logo at all games. All uniforms shall be supplied by manufacturers as approved by SEWF from time to time. Should any club fail to fulfill this Regulation, SEWF may disqualify the club from further premierships matches or otherwise deal with such club as it deems fit.
- c. If two clubs compete in the same division and those clubs' colours are the same or similar and are drawn to compete against one another, the away club must change its jumper, upon instruction from the Operations Manager.
- d. In the event of teams whose colours are the same or similar meeting in finals, the club finishing higher on the ladder at the completion of the season will

retain its jumper.

- e. All teams shall wear their registered club coloured shorts and socks at all games.
- f. Players who wear bicycle or lycra shorts extending on the legs below the line of the uniform shorts must wear such shorts which are beige in colour and must not extend below the knee.
- g. Players are permitted to wear only SEWF approved glove(s), manufactured for use in Australian Rules Football, in official SEWF matches.
- h. Metal boot studs, bobby pins, jewellery and piercings are not permitted to be worn at any time on the field of play.
- i. A player on the field of play who is not wearing the correct uniform as per the above Regulation shall be yellow carded by the field umpire.
- j. Except with the prior permission of SEWF, clubs fielding multiple teams are to have one set of guernseys for all teams numbered in whole numbers greater than zero (0) with a maximum of two digits. Every club player should wear a unique playing number.

Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines

### **31. REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES**

- 31.1.** SEWF may select any players registered with the League from time to time to participate in representative matches to represent SEWF.
- 31.2.** Any player selected to participate in representative matches must play for SEWF and any failure to do so shall be dealt with by SEWF as it sees fit.
- 31.3.** If any person selected to play in representative matches fails to take the field in the match for which she was so selected, the matter shall be referred to the Independent Tribunal which may disqualify her from playing in premiership matches for such a period as may be determined.
- 31.4.** In all cases under 31.3 of this Regulation shall be sufficient to answer:
  - (a) that the Operations Manager received from the player not less than two clear days before the date of the match a written explanation of her inability to play satisfactory to SEWF
  - (b) that the Operations Manager received within two days after the date of the match a medical certificate that the player was unfit owing to illness or injury to play.
- 31.5.** In the case of a registered playing coach of any club it shall not be sufficient explanation under 31.4 that business affairs prevented her from playing.
- 31.6.** SEWF Home and Away fixture will be a bye for all divisions when Representative games are being held in season 2018.
- 31.7.** No person shall be qualified to play in any representative team unless she is qualified to play for a League club in matches played under the auspices of SEWF.

**31.8. Appointment of Representative Match Staff**

- (a) SEWF shall be responsible for the selection and appointment of coaches, trainers, runners and officials for representative matches. The positions of captain, vice captain and leadership groups maybe be made in consultation and by agreement with coaches.
- (b) Representative match staff shall attend meetings as requested by SEWF.

**32. AWARDS**

The presentation of awards and trophies shall be decided by SEWF.

**33. PRESENTATION NIGHT TICKETS**

Each team shall be allotted 5 tickets for the SEWF Presentation Night in each season and shall be invoiced for those tickets in the annual affiliation fees at the prices prevailing from time to time.

**34. CLUB ACCOUNTS AND LODGMET OF ANNUAL REPORTS**

- (a) All clubs shall forward to the Operations Manager no later than 31 December each year, one copy of their Annual Report. Fine for breach: \$200.00
- (b) No later than 31 December, all clubs shall forward to the Operations Manager:
  - (i) a Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for the immediate past year,  
Penalty - Schedule 11 Fines
  - (ii) Clubs must advise the Operations Manager of changes made throughout the season to the club office bearers and their contact details within 7 days of the change. The Club must update their contact details in the competition management system within the above time frames. Fine for Breach \$20.00 per official

**35. MEETINGS**

**35.1. Compulsory**

SEWF may convene compulsory meeting(s) for club officials as stipulated by the League Manager from time to time. These meetings shall include, but are not limited to: Presidents/Coaches/Team Managers Forum and Finals Participants Meetings.

Fine for breach: First Offence - \$100.00  
Second Offence - \$200.00  
Third Offence - \$300.00 and report to SEWF

Written or verbal apologies for non-attendance at compulsory meetings of the League will not eliminate a fine for breach.

### **35.2. Representatives**

One representative of each club must attend meeting of the League. Such representatives shall be the President or committee member and/or delegate.

## **36. UNAUTHORISED MEDIA STATEMENTS**

No club shall permit any of its officers or members to make any statement to the media (including radio, television and all newspapers) in connection with any policies or acts of SEWF without the prior approval of SEWF. To do so shall render the club concerned liable to:

- (a) a fine for breach at the discretion of the League;
- (b) suspension from the League;
- (c) expulsion from the League in accordance with the Rules of the League.

## **37. FINE FOR BREACHES**

**37.1.** Fines may be imposed by SEWF or the Operations Manager for non- compliance with or violation of these Regulations.

- (a) at the rates specified in regulations
- (b) if no rate is specified at the rate determined by SEWF.

**37.2.** The Fine Schedule 11 is shown on the SEWF website.

**37.3.** The value of all penalties shall be determined by SEWF from time to time and may be adjusted by SEWF at any time.

**37.4.** Fines are to be paid before the clubs next scheduled game or within 7 days if they are not scheduled to play a game before then. If fines remain unpaid by the set date and no contact has been made with the Competition manager, the club will be ineligible to compete in fixture matches.

**37.5.** No appeals against fine for breaches by a club shall be heard until the fine for breaches have been paid.

## **38. POLICIES AND CODES OF CONDUCT**

All players and officials at all League matches shall be subject to the Policies and Codes of Conduct as issued by SEWF.

## **39. INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL**

- i. SEWF shall appoint an Independent Tribunal panel annually, either directly or by authority. Three panel members shall comprise one sitting.
- ii. Such persons shall not be directly associated with any member Club of the SEWF, and shall be thoroughly conversant with the 'Laws of the Game', the Rules and

Regulations of the SEWF, and who, in the opinion of the SEWF, will be thoroughly capable of handling any charges which may be brought before them. SEWF shall interview prospective members prior to appointment.

- iii. Clubs will be responsible to have players or officials involved in any report, to be in attendance at a Tribunal Hearing on the Wednesday night, or such other night as determined by the League Manager, immediately following the match.
- iv. If players or witnesses are not in attendance, without satisfactory explanation to the Tribunal, the Tribunal shall have the power to suspend the offending players or officials or fine the Club of the offending player/s or official/s.
- v. The League Manager shall have the power to defer any case should it be deemed necessary.
- vi. Tribunal Hearings required as the result of charges laid in a Grand Final shall be conducted no earlier than the second Wednesday after the Grand Final.
- vii. Umpires must attend a hearing before the Tribunal of any report made by he/she, except where a set penalty has been accepted.
- viii. If the umpire is unable to attend the hearing, written evidence may be submitted in accordance with AFL Victoria Rules.
- ix. Each affected party must be represented at the hearing by an advocate, as per the AFL Victoria Rules.
- x. Advocates may be Delegates or Officials of Clubs, but shall not be a member of the legal profession, as per AFL Victoria Rules.
- xi. Video evidence at Tribunal Hearings - Refer to AFL Victoria Rules
- xii. The League Manager or Investigation Officer may recommend that the Tribunal view any video of any part of a match.
- xiii. Where a player or official is found guilty of a charge at the Tribunal, the Club shall pay a fine, as prescribed in the Fine Schedule.
- xiv. Should a player be found guilty and is suspended, the penalty shall apply to the matches of the Club in the competition where the offence occurred.
- xv. A suspended player and/or official shall not be permitted to play with any team during the period of suspension nor shall he be permitted to act in any official capacity for the Club concerned.
- xvi. The Tribunal Procedure shall be in accordance with the AFL Victoria Tribunal Procedure.
- xvii. For the application of Prescribed Penalties, refer to AFL Victoria Rules.

#### **40. INVESTIGATION OFFICER**

Annually, SEWF shall appoint one or more Investigation Officers (to be sanctioned by AFL VICTORIA) to deal with matters relating to Unbecoming Conduct under AFL VICTORIA Rule and matters relating to Racial and Religious Vilification complaints.

A \$500.00 deposit will accompany the notice for investigation and will be dealt with

as follows:

- The Club requesting the investigation will cover the Investigation Officer's fees unless the charged player is found guilty at the Independent Tribunal.
- In the case of a complaint being referred to the Independent Tribunal and results in a guilty finding, the club to which the guilty party belongs shall be charged the investigation fee and any other fines that are applicable.
- Where the complaint is deemed to be frivolous by the Independent Tribunal or Investigation Officer the \$500.00 will be forfeited.
- In the event of an appeal, the entire case will be heard as one with the outcome of the appeal determining who will cover the cost of the Investigation Officer's fees.

#### **41. DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**

The aim of this Rule is to keep sport and specifically, Australian Rules Football, out of the legal system. This procedure shall not apply to any matter that is capable of resolution by procedures laid down elsewhere in these Rules / By-Laws or by use of the AFL VICTORIA Rules.

Where a dispute arises between SEWF Clubs or any player, or between Clubs within the SEWF, the following procedure shall be followed:

- Direct negotiations must take place between the parties within five (5) days of the request of any party.
- If, after direct negotiations, the dispute is not resolved, any party after service upon other parties of a notice, that they consider the negotiations have failed, may request within (5) five days that an arbitrator be appointed to resolve the dispute.
- In the case of a dispute between Clubs, the Board may intervene and direct that the dispute be referred to an arbitrator.
- It shall be the responsibility of the party requesting the appointment of an arbitrator to contact the Institute of Arbitrators, seeking the appointment.
- An arbitrator appointed must be a member of the Institute of Arbitrators, and may be a local person if necessary so that costs are minimised.
- Any arbitrator appointed by the Institute shall have sole discretion as to the manner, conduct and place of any hearing, and may vary in any way any fine, penalty, decision or determination that caused the dispute. Any decision will be final and binding on any parties to the dispute.
- Any fees and expenses for the arbitrator, as negotiated, must be paid on an equal share basis, prior to the hearing.
- Members of the legal profession shall be prohibited from representing any party at any hearing, unless the arbitrator grants specific approval.
- Any decision of the arbitrator must be implemented within the time frame specified by the arbitrator.
- The arbitrator shall be empowered to determine any penalties to be imposed if the arbitrator's determination remains unfulfilled. This may include financial penalties, de-registration, loss of premiership points or such other penalty as is

determined.

**42. CONDUCT UNBECOMING, PREJUDICIAL OR LIKELY TO BRING GAME INTO DISREPUTE**

Where SEWF is of the opinion that a club or any official, player or member thereof, or member or any other person has contravened the Rules or Regulations of the League or has been involved in conduct which is unbecoming or likely to prejudice the reputation, or interests of the League, or to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute, SEWF may deal with any such manner as SEWF in their absolute discretion thinks fit and without limiting their power, they may;

- (a) appoint any person to enquire into any matter;
- (b) conduct their own enquiry into any matter;
- (c) refer any matter to the Tribunal;
- (d) impose any penalty that it deems fit including but not limited to, imposing a monetary penalty or bond, a suspension, a disqualification or providing for the loss of or forfeiture of or premiership points or other privileges, benefits or entitlements.

**43. ALTERATION TO REGULATIONS**

The Regulations may be amended by SEWF from time to time

**44. MISCELLANEOUS**

**44.1 Club Playing Outside League**

Clubs shall not participate in a match involving any football club that is not affiliated with the League outside the fixture arranged by the League during the football season. Clubs desiring to participate in matches involving a football club that is not affiliated with the League at times outside the football season shall first notify the Operations Manager of their intention and shall not participate in such a match without the prior written approval of the League.

**44.2 Communication to the League**

All letters and written communications to the League shall be directed to the Operations Manager.

**45. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Competition players must at all times comply with any Codes of Conduct which their affiliated Club and/or SEWF have in force, from time to time.

**46. AFL VICTORIA POLICIES**

46.1 The SEWF adopts AFL Victoria Policies including but not limited to:



- a) Laws of Australian Football
- b) National Player Transfer Regulations
- c) AFL Vic Community League Affiliate Regulations
- d) Gender Regulation Policy
- e) AFL Victoria Deregistration Policy
- f) AFL Anti-Doping Code.
- g) AFL Trainers Policy
- h) Member Protection Policy
- i) National Risk Protection Program
- j) AFL Victoria Infectious Diseases Policy
- k) AFL Victoria Smoke Free Policy
- l) AFL Victoria Alcohol Management
- m) Vilification Policy
- n) AFL Vic Cyber Safety Policy

46.2 AFL Victoria Policies can be found at <http://www.aflvic.com.au/policies-new/policies/>

#### **47. AMATEUR STATUS**

The SEWF players participate as amateurs. An Amateur is one who does not receive or agree to receive, either directly or indirectly, any remuneration or reward whatsoever (whether by match payments or expenses or otherwise) in respect to their participation as a player, in the Victorian Women's Football League. Refer to Appendix 1. For Amateur guidelines

## APPENDIX 1

### Victorian Women's Football League (VWFL) Amateur Status Guidelines

In relation to the SEWF, AFL Victoria defines an **AMATEUR** as follows:

***An Amateur is one who does not receive or agree to receive, either directly or indirectly, any remuneration or reward whatsoever (whether by match payments or expenses or otherwise) in respect to their participation as a player, in the Victorian Women's Football League.***

***Receive or agree to receive*** – remuneration or reward may not be offered in an immediate sense or at some point in the future at an unspecified time.

***Directly or indirectly*** - remuneration or reward may not be offered to the individual player or any person associated with that individual.

***Remuneration or reward*** – examples of what is permissible or not permissible as a reward or remuneration refer to table below.

The spirit of the "Amateur" definition will always prevail and each case will be looked at individually on its own merits. Any payment, reward, or benefit that might induce a person to play with a SEWF club will be regarded as a breach of the definition of amateur status. The examples below are provided as a guide, but clubs should always seek guidance in writing from SEWF as to whether a situation is within, or in breach of, the definition. If such guidance is not sought before the event, a club will not be able to complain after the event if it is found, notwithstanding technical reliance on the examples below, that a given situation is not within the spirit of the definition.

Clubs and individuals, who are found by SEWF to be in breach of the Amateur Status, will incur a penalty as determined by SEWF, including:

- Loss of Premiership Points earned in the games played while the club was in breach and/ or;
- Loss of Premiership points for the following season and/ or;
- Demotion of the club and/ or;
- A fine not exceeding \$5,000
- In the case of the individual, suspension for a period as AFL Victoria deems fit

|                          | <b><i>Allowed</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b><i>Not Permissible</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Employment</i></b> | Clubs, or any person or entity associated with a club, may assist with and/or facilitate a full time or part time employment opportunity for a player, provided the terms and conditions of such employment are consistent with current commercial practices. | Employment cannot be linked to the operations of the club e.g. physiotherapy, fitness/conditioning or working behind the bar or canteen.<br><br>This applies in a direct or indirect sense as defined above.<br><br>Employment cannot be |

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| <b>Awards</b>              | Players may receive awards from sponsors relevant to match day performance. Awards must be non-monetary and not exceed the value of \$60. It is expected that these awards be shared.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Playing Coaches</b>     | Playing coaches may be reimbursed by the Club for out of pocket expenses actually incurred in connection with the coaching                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Playing coaches or playing Assistant coaches are not allowed any remuneration or as per above definition of the word "Amateur".                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                            | services (not exceeding a total of \$2,500 per season) upon production of documentation evidencing the expenses incurred                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | This applies to all playing coaches and not just to the situation where the player is the coach of the team in which he is playing.                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Expenses</b>            | Costs directly associated with playing for the club e.g. club related uniforms excluding personal attire (e.g. boots), insurance, membership, or out of pocket costs incurred as a result of football injuries sustained whilst representing the club, provided these are paid to all players (see scholarship).<br><br>Meals after training may be paid for by the club provided they are provided to all players and not to individuals or a specific group of players. | Any expenses not directly associated with playing for the club.<br><br>This includes the provision of services in kind e.g. building, landscaping, professional services, fuel, other travel related expenses or accommodation.<br><br>They are all examples of expenses that are not permitted. |
| <b>Player Sponsorships</b> | Players are able to source player Sponsorships to offset their annual membership provided all funds are directed towards the club.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Education fees</b>      | Education fees cannot be paid for or subsidised either directly or indirectly as per above description of the word "Amateur".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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| <b><i>Juniors Coaching</i></b>      | <p>Registered SEWF players are able to coach football at their aligned junior club or school for a commercially acceptable fee for service.</p> <p>Appointment cannot be dependent on the playing for the senior club.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Payments for all other positions other than head coach (e.g. assistant coaches, coaching director etc...)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b><i>Scholarship Exemption</i></b> | <p>Proposed scholarships must be approved by the SEWF.</p> <p>Players must have played a minimum of 1 season at the club before being eligible for a scholarship at that club</p> <p>Total scholarship value (for all club scholarships on offer) must not exceed \$2000. Each individual scholarship must not exceed the value of \$500.</p> <p>Scholarships to assist those in economic disadvantage outside of the above criteria will be considered, however must be reviewed and approved by the SEWF on a case by case basis. The SEWF will audit clubs regarding the recipients of the scholarships and the criteria under which they were awarded.</p> | <p>Scholarships are not be used for recruitment purposes (existing players only).</p> <p>Discounting the value of scholarship benefits is not permitted. When determining the value of benefits, a fair and reasonable price that is consistent with market value must be stated.</p> <p>Scholarships can not include any player payments or exchange of money to the player.</p> |