



COMPETITION REGULATIONS

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Glossary of Terms

Away team	Second named team in any Draw
Club	An incorporated or duly constituted organisation representing Junior and Senior members affiliated to Football South and playing in the district or Federation's competitions.
Club Delegate	Person/s selected from a financial, registered and affiliated Club for communication purposes between Football South and the member Club.
District Administrator	The person/entity appointed by Football South, to perform administrative functions on behalf of Football South.
Football South	Trading name for "No. 7 District Federation of New Zealand Football" encompassing the region of Otago, Southland, North Otago, South Otago, Central Otago and South Canterbury.
Forfeit	A team sanctioned with a forfeit will concede all goals scored in the specific match and the opposition will be awarded a 3-0 result. If the goals scored by the opposition are greater than 3 then they shall retain all goals scored.
Franchise Team	Is an independent team who operates under the umbrella of Football South and meets NZF criteria to participate in the National League.
Home team	First named team in any Draw
International Player	A player who does not qualify to hold a New Zealand Passport and required and International Clearance to play football in New Zealand
Junior Competitive	All Junior competitions where results are recorded and tables published.
Junior Player	A person who plays for any team in a 6 th - 15 th grade competition.
Match Official	The person appointed to act as referee, assistant Referee and/or match Assessor for any match. This person may be officially accredited or a volunteer.
Minor	A Player who has not yet reached 18 years of age.
New Zealand Player	A Player who is a New Zealand Citizen or holds a permanent resident permit or permanent residence status and is eligible to hold a New Zealand Passport.
Notify	The general method of notification to the District Administrator will be by Email from the Club Delegate, but could also include by text message or a written letter.
NZF	New Zealand Football
Player	A person who actually takes the field in the current season
Premier League	Will refer to both Men's and Women's Premier League competitions, unless otherwise specified.

Re-grade	When a graded player for a specific competition plays down into the next graded competition team for a Club.
Season	Shall be as determined in NZF Regulation 5
Senior Grade	All Men's and Women's senior competitions other than Premier League.
Senior Player	A person who plays for any team in a Senior Division.
The Board	The Board of Football South

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. All Football South competitions shall be conducted under the current FIFA Laws of the game and New Zealand Football regulations except where a variation is permitted and is contained within these regulations.
2. The control and management of all Federation competitions shall be vested in the Chief executive of Football South.
3. The Chief Executive of Football South has the power to delegate some of their responsibilities as per 1.2
4. Football South reserves the right to amend these general regulations from time to time, such amendments to be notified to all Clubs. Changes to these regulations can only be implemented a minimum of 28 days after all Clubs have been notified.
5. Final decisions on interpretation of any part of these regulations shall rest with the Chief Executive of Football South Federation or such delegated person. Any decision of the Chief Executive, in regard to these regulations can be appealed to the Federation Board in accordance with the Disputes and Protests procedure as laid down in these regulations.
6. Each Club desiring to compete in Football South competitions shall lodge an entry in writing by the date specified by the District Administrator. All Clubs are required to update Goalnet of all changes to Club personnel, telephone numbers, email addresses within 7 days of any such changes.
7. By entering any team into a Football South competition each Club will agree to abide by the New Zealand Football regulations and code of conduct, Football South Rules and Regulations and the relevant District playing regulations.
8. The final composition of such divisions including promotion/relegation shall be at the discretion of the Football South Chief Executive but will take into account the majority wishes of the Clubs as determined as a properly called pre-season Club meeting with 66% delegate representation from the affected Clubs.
9. The Chief Executive shall have the authority to accept further entries during the season if, in their opinion, it is expedient to do so.
10. The Chief Executive shall have the authority to increase or reduce the number of divisions and to form or discontinue sections in any division as and when the need arises.

2. PLAYER REGISTRATION

1. Every player taking part in Football South competitions in any year must be registered for the club for which they wish to appear. All registrations must include the players minimum details of Full Name, Date of birth, Gender, plus any compulsory fields determined by New Zealand Football and be entered into the National online database (Goalnet).
2. Any player not included in the database or with incorrect registration details will not be eligible to participate in any Football South competitions. It is the responsibility of the members club to ensure that the information held in Goalnet is correct.
3. All players participating in the top 3 Men's and Women's divisions (Being Premier, Division 1 and Division 2) must have their details entered into Goalnet before they take the field for any match. Players participating in leagues from Division 3 down must have their details entered into Goalnet no later than the 30th April each year or before they take the field after this date.
4. In compliance with FIFA regulations & NZF Status & Transfer of players regulation 7.5 A player can only be registered for one club at a time and can only play for that club unless the player is playing for;
 - a) A Futsal club or centre for which that player is also registered
 - b) For a school team that is not a club and not playing in the same competition
 - c) Any other team affiliated to a Federation which plays in a Competition not managed by the Federation. i.e. non affiliated Sunday leagues.
5. As per NZF Status & Transfer of players regulation 7.6 Players may be registered for a maximum of three clubs in any season. During this time, a player is only eligible to play official matches, as that term is defined by FIFA, for two clubs. If during a season, a player returns to the first Club they played a match for, this will be regarded as the third Club.
6. As per NZF Status & Transfer of players regulation 7.7 under all circumstances, due consideration must be given to the sporting integrity of the competition. In particular, a player cannot play official matches for more than two clubs competing in the same competition in the same season.
7. As per FIFA Status of Players Article 4.1 Players who terminate their activity shall remain registered within Goalnet for a period of 30 months from the date of their last appearance, in an official match, for the club for whom they were registered.
8. As per NZF Status & Transfer of players regulation 9.11 Subject to the regulation above, a Club may not withhold a transfer request in relation to a player whose registration has lapsed..
9. Football South may cancel a players' registration if their current Club has been wound up and no longer participates in Football South competitions. This will enable the player to register with a new club rather than transferring.
10. In the event of any player being registered twice, the second registration (according to date order) shall be deemed to be null and void.

11. A player must meet the following age criteria before taking the field in a senior competition:
 - Men's Competition turning 16 years of age during the year
 - Women's Competition turning 15 years of age during the year
12. Dispensation may be given to Boys turning 15 years and Girls turning 14 years of age in that year, based on New Zealand Football development criteria and must be signed off by the Football South Football Development Manager.

3. PLAYER TRANSFERS

1. All transfers of players must comply with the provisions of New Zealand Football Regulation 5 – Status of Players and be processed via the National online registration system (Goalnet).
2. The transfer “window” opens on the 1st October each year and stays open until the 1st July of the following year.
3. Under NZF regulation 5.2 in order to preserve the competitive integrity of its competitions – For the top three (3) Men's competitions and Premier women's competition - No new or existing Club member can be registered for the current season between 1st July and 30th September in any season.
4. No player transfers will be accepted outside the transfer window unless the player can show that because of circumstances beyond their control, they are obliged to move residence more the 50km away from their current club.
5. As a general rule the date a transfer process has commenced will be the effective date of transfer. The net effect of this will be that in the event that a transfer is not completed prior to the closing of a transfer window, the transfer will still be able to be concluded once the window has closed. Irrespective a player cannot play for his engaging (new) club until such time as the transfer has been properly concluded by both the releasing club and the engaging club and where appropriate NZF and the relevant District Federations.
6. Any player wishing to transfer their membership from one club to another shall follow New Zealand Football Regulation 5 requirements. If the player is transferring it is the player's responsibility to;
7. **Within New Zealand**
On receipt of a request from the player to become a member of the (new) Club to which they propose to transfer to. The new Club will promptly electronically 'Request a Clearance' via the 'Goalnet' membership database system. Upon request the new Club shall forward evidence of the request to transfer by the player to Football South.

International

Any player over the age of 10 years who wishes to play football in New Zealand for the first time or wish to transfer from one Member Association to another Member Association (i.e. Between Countries) must obtain an International Transfer Certificate (ITC). Any transfer of any player who upon completing ITC attains the status of a Professional player or any transfer involving the international transfer of a minor (under 18) must be recorded by NZF in the FIFA TMS System. Transfers of Professional players who are acquiring Amateur status and transfers that are Amateur to Amateur are not required to be processed via FIFA TMS.

Registration and transfer – Minors

Any transfer of a minor from overseas to New Zealand including minors who are overseas nationals who are **registering for the first time** in New Zealand must be approved by NZF. Players who are minors and who are registering in New Zealand for the first time must, through their clubs and District Federation, provide NZF, with a signed statement from the players' parents (or legal guardian) stating that:

- The player's parents have moved to New Zealand for reasons not linked to football
 - Confirmation of the parent's employment status
 - Confirmation of the parent's residency and visa
 - Confirmation of the player's enrolment in school, college or university.
8. The new Club must get the player to complete and sign a transfer request form detailing the last Club the player was registered with. They must also provide proof of ID. The transfer form and copy of ID is then forwarded to the Football South office who will then liaise with New Zealand Football, to complete the transfer.
 9. A player will only be eligible to play for their engaging (new) club once the releasing (former) Club and the relevant District Federation have approved the transfer on GOALNET.
 10. No club may unreasonably withhold approval of a transfer request by a player. If a Club has not acted upon a transfer request within seven (7) days of written notice, then the players District Federation may approve the players transfer.
 11. The player's current Club must notify its written consent or refusal to the player's transfer request within 7 days. If the club refuses to release the applicant, such club must state the reason for doing so to both the player and the District Administration Office. The District Administration Office will then resolve any dispute and the decision made by the District Administration Office will be binding on all parties. A fee of \$50.00 will be charged to the club refusing the transfer if the subsequent enquiry finds the refusal was unfairly obstructive.
 12. A Club may withhold a transfer request until the Player has:
 - i. returned any Players equipment

- ii. reimburse to the Club any invoiced and unpaid registration fees, and levies and/or fines paid on behalf of the Player.
13. Any player, who is suspended at the time of a transfer request, can have their transfer approved provided that the transfer record is clearly marked "Player Suspended". The number of playing days left to serve must be indicated.
 14. In cases of exceptional circumstances, NZF will have absolute discretion to determine a player's ability to transfer within New Zealand. Whether a case is an exceptional circumstance or not shall be determined by NZF in its sole discretion, but may include, without limitation, causes related to the following:
 - i. Clerical error;
 - ii. Maintaining the competitive integrity of the relevant competition(s);
 - iii. Personal circumstances;
 15. All player transfers within New Zealand processed on Goalnet will not incur any transfer fees, if Football South are required to manually process a transfer an administration fee of \$10 may be charged for local transfers, \$25 for inter-federation transfer and \$75 for all international transfers
 16. **An international player is not cleared to play until their transfer is completed which is when NZF has approved the transfer in Goalnet.**

4. BREACH OF REGISTRATION & TRANSFER PROVISIONS

1. If any Club is found to be in breach of the registration and/or transfer provisions of these Regulations, due to either
 - a) The receipt of a protest as per Regulation 17. Protests or
 - b) Being brought to the attention of the District Administrator by a Referee's Misconduct/incident report or
 - c) In the event of the District Administrator performing duties as part of their normal day to day operations

Then the following sanctions will apply:

- i. The offending team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match . The opposing team shall be awarded the winning points for the match plus a minimum of a 3-0 result, unless the goals scored by this team in the match exceed 3 then they shall retain all goals scored.
- ii. A fine will be imposed based on the league the breach relates to as follows:
 - Premier League \$100.00 per ineligible player.
 - All other Leagues \$ 50.00 per ineligible player.

- iii. If both Clubs are found to be in breach, the match result shall be annulled and no points or goals will be awarded to either Club. The match will not be replayed. Fines will be imposed on both Clubs as per ii.
- iv. If a Club is subsequently found in breach of the same regulation for the same player/s then the offending team will forfeit points and goals scored for all retrospective matches after the original breach where it is identified the ineligible player/players have played. This includes fines as per ii. for each breach.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. A player being duly registered and otherwise complying with Football South, New Zealand Football and FIFA regulations shall be able to play in any competition in any team entered by their Club, except in the following circumstances:
2. In line with the FIFA Gender verification document:
 - Men's competitions, only Men are eligible to play.
 - Women's competitions, only Women's are eligible to play.
 - In exceptional circumstances a dispensation may be granted if an application is made by New Zealand Football in relation to a specific player.
3. If a Club has a team in a higher competition, the following shall apply:
4. A player starting 3 consecutive matches or more is defined as a graded player for that division.
5. Regardless of whether their team is playing or not, only 3 players may be re-graded on one playing day.
6. A re-grade can only be into the next highest team within the same Club that the re-graded player would normally play for.
7. No player can play in more than one grade or competition on the same day unless the second game is in a higher competition.
8. No re-grade of any players will be allowed in the last 3 league games of the season for each competition excluding Premier graded players moving into the Men's Division 1. Play off and Cup games will be as per their individual rules.
9. If a player is registered with an NZF franchise team and is not required for a fixture in the NZF national competition, they may be temporarily released by the franchise team to play in a Football South competition. That player will be eligible to play for the Club they were registered with at 1st September in the previous year.

If any Club is found to be in breach of the player eligibility provisions of these Regulations, due to either

- a. The receipt of a protest as per Regulation 17. Protests or
- b. Being brought to the attention of the District Administrator by a Referee's Misconduct/incident report or
- c. In the event of the District Administrator performing duties as part of their normal day to day operations

Then the following sanctions will apply:

- i. The offending team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match . The opposing team shall be awarded the winning points for the match plus a minimum of a 3-0 result, unless the goals scored by this team in the match exceed 3 then they shall retain all goals scored.
- ii. A fine will be imposed based on the league the breach relates to as follows:
 - Premier League \$100.00 per ineligible player.
 - All other Leagues \$ 50.00 per ineligible player.
- iii. If both Clubs are found to be in breach, the match result shall be annulled and no points or goals will be awarded to either Club. The match will not be replayed. Fines will be imposed on both Clubs as per ii.
- iv. If a Club is subsequently found in breach of the same regulation for the same player/s then the offending team will forfeit points and goals scored for all retrospective matches after the original breach where it is identified the ineligible player/players have played. This includes fines as per ii. for each breach.

6. PLAYER CONTRACTS

1. A copy of all player contracts relating to players participating in leagues controlled by Football South must be lodged in the Football South Regional Administration Offices. Contracts held by NZF on behalf of NZF Franchise Clubs will be deemed to comply with this Regulation.
 - the contracts will be kept under seal and held in confidence;
 - the contracts will only be opened in the event of a dispute and in the presence of the Club's representative;
 - in the event of a dispute between a player and his/her Club, the decision regarding the dispute will be made by Football South having regard to the conditions of the contract
2. In the event of a dispute where no contract has been lodged as in 7(a) above, and the player is financial and has returned all gear to their old Club, the player will be cleared to their new Club.

7. FIXTURE & COMPETITION RULES

1. All competitions shall be played on dates, times and at venues determined by the District Administrator. The District Administrator may schedule a mid-week fixture in consultation with the Club delegates of the teams affected. If a reasonable agreement cannot be reached the District Administrator may schedule the match and notify both Clubs no less than fourteen (14) days before the scheduled match.
2. Before the final season draw has been published the home team may request a variation to this schedule, all such requests must be lodged with the District Administrator in writing by the Club Delegate no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the first scheduled match being played.
3. Once the season draw has been published by the District Administrator a club cannot request to alter the time, date or venue of a fixture unless a request is received in writing to the District Administrator no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled match being played, who will consult and gain agreement from all relevant parties.
4. All fixtures shall be played at such time and at such venue as scheduled and with both teams, having not less than seven (7) players present. Any team failing to take the field within 15 minutes of the scheduled fixture kick-off time shall be considered to have defaulted the match, unless good cause can be shown. The District Administrator shall be notified immediately if the match is a Premier League match or New Zealand Football scheduled competition, for all other Leagues no later than 6pm after the scheduled kick off time of any such occurrence.
5. If a match is abandoned for any reason, and is a Premier or New Zealand Football scheduled competition, the District Administrator shall be notified immediately. For all other Leagues no later than 6pm after the scheduled kick off time of any such occurrence. The responsibility lies with the appointed referee, if present, or the home team. The District Administrator shall decide the following:
 - a. If the result and any player cautions at the time of the abandonment shall stand, or
 - b. The match will be re-scheduled to another date.
 - c. If a match has been replayed any cautions received during the abandoned match will become null and void.
6. Matches not played for any other reason, will be rescheduled by the District Administrator.
7. A Club may in the case of unforeseen reasons apply for a deferral of a match in exceptional circumstances. Approval is at the sole discretion of Football South.
8. A catch up date must be agreed prior to the approval, if the team who requested the deferment cannot play on the alternative date then they will be deemed to have defaulted the match
9. Defaults must be notified to the District Administrator no later than 5pm on the day prior to the scheduled match. The Club will incur an automatic fine as per the following schedule:
 - Senior Grades \$50.00

- Premier League \$500.00
10. Any Clubs notifying a default after 5pm on the day before the scheduled match will also be required to notify the Club Secretary of the opposition team of the default, The Club will incur an automatic fine as per the following schedule:
 - Junior Competitive \$50.00
 - Senior Grades \$100.00
 - Premier League \$1,000.00
 11. Any team that defaults two (2) consecutive matches, or three (3) matches during any season, will be required in writing to give reasons for their actions to the District Administrator, who may take appropriate action, including suspension from the league.
 12. In the event of a team being withdrawn, suspended or expelled from any competition during any round, all results involving the withdrawn team will be annulled.
 13. If a team is withdrawn from any Junior competitive or Senior grade by their Club the following shall apply:
 - a) With less than seven (7) days notice to the District Administrator before the first round is played, the Club will incur an automatic fine of \$500.00.
 - b) If the team has played more than five (5) matches of the current season the Club will also be liable for the full season affiliation fees for the withdrawn team.
 14. All Knockout Cups under the control of Football South will be played under the NZF National Knockout competition rules.

8. SUBSTITUTIONS

1. All competition games will abide by the substitution rule as stated by FIFA Laws of the Game. That is a maximum of 3 substitute players may be used. Rolling subs will not be allowed.
2. This Law may be modified for Juniors, Women and Masters as stated in the FIFA Laws of the Game. For individual competition rules refer to the attached appendixes.
3. Competitions involving players with disabilities may have modified rules with the approval of New Zealand Football and Football South.

9. MATCH EQUIPMENT

1. Match Balls:
 - Premier League matches – each home team shall provide a minimum of three (3) match balls in compliance with FIFA Law 2 – The ball.

- Local Leagues - each home team shall provide a minimum of one (1) match ball in compliance with FIFA Law 2 – The ball.
 - If balls are provided under a sponsorship arrangement by the District Administrator, these balls must be used and if lost or damaged must be replaced by the same brand by the Club.
2. Nets and corner flags, shall be supplied and erected by the home team at all fixtures in compliance with FIFA Law 1 – The field of play. All items to be checked by clubs for safety.
 3. Non Men’s Premier teams must specify their first choice strip at the time they enter a team into a Football South competition.
 4. Where the referee determines that a clash of colour’s between two teams, the away team must provide a change of strip including a different colour of shirt, shorts and/or socks. It is a visiting team’s responsibility to ensure there is no clash. Failure to wear the alternative strip if there is a clash will incur a fine of \$100, unless a substantiated explanation is provided.
 5. For the purpose of player identification by match officials and spectators, shirt numbering is mandatory. There shall be no duplication of numbers within a team.

10. PREMIER LEAGUE

Men’s Regulations

1. The Premier League will consist of a maximum of eight (8) teams.
2. The League will be played over three (3) rounds, Home and Away for the first two (2) rounds and random selection for Round three (3).
3. An Entry fee will be charged for the Premier League and will be set by November of each year. Once a team has confirmed their participation the entry fee will be payable in two (2) installments on the 28th February and 31st March.
4. All Premier teams except the last placed team will be automatically invited to participate the following season and are required to confirm their participation no later than 15th December each year.
5. The last placed Premier team shall be required to enter into a play off at the end of the season based on the play off criteria based on the number of teams challenging. The play off winner will automatically take the last position in the Premier League for the following season.
6. If a Premier team chooses to withdraw their participation in the Premier League for the following season, they shall be automatically relegated to the 1st Division of their local District. They will be unable to compete in any play off for the Premier League for 2-3 years after they withdraw.

7. All Premier teams will be required to confirm by midday Friday prior to their weekly fixture, the details including correct squad shirt numbers as per the Premier League Schedule sent out by Football South each week.
8. Both Premier teams for each fixture are required to text half time and full time scores within 5 minutes of the half time and 15 minutes of the full time whistle to the Premier League Manager every week.
9. The winner of the current season will represent Football South in the South Island Championship against the Mainland Football Premier League winner. The South Island Championship will be held at alternate venues each year. Football South will fund our representatives transportation and/or accommodation to the Championship match each year.

Match Equipment

10. Men's Premier League the following equipment must be provided:
 - Spectator control ropes 1 metre high and 2 metres from each sideline must be erected down the entire length of the pitch.
 - Technical areas must be clearly marked and managed in accordance with FIFA Law 56 – The Technical area.
 - Seating for up to 5 substitutes within the technical area.
 - Separate changing and showering facilities for match officials.
 - The first choice strip and alternative strip including photo's must be advised to the Premier League Manager no later than 31st March before the current season.
 - The first choice strip must be worn for all fixtures in the current season.
 - Alternative strip must not be worn unless there is a clash of colours.

Premier League Playoff Rules

11. Premier League play offs shall consist of the following formats depending on the number of teams
 - a) Scenario One – **two teams** – the bottom placed Premier League team and one District league winner.
 - Two games – home and away.
 - b) Scenario Two – **three teams** - the bottom placed Premier League team and two District league winners.
 - Game one – play off between the two District league winners – venue drawn out at random.
 - Game two – play off between bottom placed Premier League team and the winner of game one – venue drawn at random.
 - c) Scenario Three – **four teams** - the bottom placed Premier League team and three District league winners.
 - Weekend one – semi-finals – all four teams drawn out at random first teams drawn out have the home game.

- Weekend two – final between the winners of the games in weekend one – venue drawn out at random.

Women's Regulations

12. The Premier League will consist of a maximum of eight (8) teams.
13. The format of the League will be determined at a pre-season Delegates meeting based on Federation team entries.
14. Where a Women's Premier Club has two or more teams playing in the same division only three (3) players may be interchanged per weekend.
15. Women's Premier may have up to 5 non rolling substitutes per match.
16. Women's Premier League will be given a competition exception during the University holidays for one (1) week, Games will be played in the 1st and 3rd week of the University holidays but not in the 2nd week, catch up games may be played where required.
17. Both Premier teams for each fixture are required to text half time and full time scores within 5 minutes of the half time and 15 minutes of the full time whistle to the Premier League Manager every week.

11. COMPETITION POINTS

1. In all league games, three (3) points shall be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) points for a loss.
2. A team's accumulated points shall govern all promotion and/or relegation for each season. In the case of two or more teams accumulating the same number of points in a season, the final positions shall be decided as follows:
 - a. goal difference;
 - b. if still level, the higher number of goals scored;
 - c. if still level, the goal difference from the matches played between the teams equal in points;

12. TEAM CARDS

1. Any team participating in any Senior or Junior Competitive competition administered by Football South must before the commencement of every match complete a defined team card provided by the District Administrator detailing up to eleven (11) starting and up to five (5) substitute players.
 - Premier League (Premier match info sheet appendix 2)
 - District Division 1 (District Division 1 match info sheet)
 - All other Senior grades (General Senior team card)

- All Junior Competitive grades (General Junior team card)
2. If an official referee has been appointed, the team card must be given to the referee 45 minutes before kickoff for a Premier League match and 15 mins before kickoff for a non-Premier League match. If an official referee has not been appointed a team official must retain the team card until the match concludes.
 3. All team cards must:
 - Be legible.
 - Contain the First name, Surname and shirt number of each player and substitute.
 - Record the final score.
 - List goal scorers and their corresponding shirt number.
 4. Each team card should be completed and signed by the referee (or Club based referee), on completion of the match to confirm the recorded result is correct. If no official is present then a team official should record the score on the team card and get the opposition to sign the card.
 5. Clubs must ensure that team cards are in the hands of the District Administrator electronically or by post within the following timeframes:
 - Premier League and District first Division Leagues within 3 working days
 - All other Senior and Junior Competitive Leagues within 10 days of the match.

Failure to comply with any of the above requirements could result in a fine to the Club of \$20.00 per offence.

6. In addition; any team found guilty of playing a player who is;
 - i. Not listed on the team card
 - ii. Playing under an assumed or false name
 - iii. Playing whilst suspended.

due to either;

- a) The receipt of a protest as per Regulation 17. Protests or
- b) Being brought to the attention of the District Administrator by a Referee's Misconduct/incident report or
- c) In the event of the District Administrator performing duties as part of their normal day to day operations

Then the following sanctions will apply:

- i. The offending team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match. The opposing team shall be awarded the winning points for the match plus a minimum of a 3-0 result, unless the goals scored by this team in the match exceed 3 then they shall retain all goals scored.
- ii. A fine will be imposed based on the league the breach relates to as follows:
 - Premier League \$100.00 per player
 - All other Leagues \$50.00 per player.
- iii. If both Clubs are found to be in breach or both teams belong to the same Club, the match result shall be annulled and no points or goals will be awarded to either Club/team. The match will not be replayed. Fines will be imposed on both Clubs/teams as per i.
- iv. If a Club is subsequently found in breach of the same regulation for the same player/s then the offending team will forfeit points and goals scored for all retrospective matches after the original breach where it is identified the ineligible player/players have played. This includes fines as per ii. for each breach.

13. RESULTS

1. The team first named in the draw is responsible for entering match results via Goalnet 'on-line results' by 6.00pm on the day of the fixture. Failure to comply may result in a fine of \$20.00.

14. REFEREES

1. If an appointed referee is not in attendance at the scheduled kickoff time, the following shall apply:
 - a. Each team will provide a referee for each half with the team winning the toss having the choice of which half to referee or
 - b. If both teams agree, a Club based referee may referee the full match who will have the full backing of the District Administrator.
 - c. Clubs must nominate a minimum of one (1) Club based referee for each team entered into a Senior and Youth competition, these referees will be required to sit a Club based Referees course prior to the commencement of the current season.

15. PLAYOFFS

1. The Rules for playoffs will be determined by the District Administrator prior to the commencement of the regular competition, refer to any District Variations for rules for specific non-premier grades.

16. DISCIPLINE & BEHAVIOUR

1. Any misconduct by a Player, Coach, Player-coach, Referee, Match official, Club member, Spectator, Parent or Guardian of a player or any other person under the jurisdiction of New Zealand Football or Football South shall be dealt with in accordance with NZ Football Disciplinary Code.
2. Football South takes unsporting conduct towards match officials very seriously and as per NZF Disciplinary Code. Section 27, conduct of any Player, Coach, Manger or Club official that is deemed by Football South to be in excess of what would normally be sanctioned, will have the following penalties applied:
 - i. At least four playing days for unsporting conduct towards a match official;
 - ii. At least six months for assaulting a match official;
 - iii. At least twelve months for spitting at a match official.
3. Any Club, team official or player found guilty of verbal abusive comments against, or criticism directed at the match officials under any of the following circumstances;
 - i. while at the grounds;
 - ii. during after match speeches;
 - iii. contained in any Club match programme or publication;
 - iv. Public website or social media site

Will incur an automatic fine of \$250.00 to the offending club and may result in a minimum automatic suspension of one (1) playing day. Any further incident during the season involving the same Club would result in a \$500.00 fine for each instance.
4. Football South will establish a Federation Disciplinary Committee in accordance with NZF Disciplinary Code. Penalties for misconduct, Appendix 2 at the beginning of each winter season.
5. If alcohol is present at a match, it is seen to be the duty of the home club to ensure that the control of the fixture in question is not adversely affected due to the consumption, by any individual, of the said alcohol. If, at any time throughout the duration of the fixture, the consumption of alcohol by any particular individual(s) is affecting the referee's control of that fixture, the referee may stop the match until the individual(s) are removed from the immediate vicinity or to such a place that they can no longer affect the control of the fixture. The referee is required to report any such incident to the Regional Administrator. If the fixture, once stopped, is then abandoned for any reason relating to the consumption of alcohol, the matter shall be reported by the referee, in writing, to the Regional Administrator and a minimum fine of \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) will be imposed on the home club.

17. PROTESTS

1. Any club playing in the Football South region may bring a written dispute or protest to Football South through their District Administrator.
2. A protest shall be made, within seven (7) Calendar days of the breach (including Sunday), by forwarding a written statement, on the club's letterhead, signed by the Club Secretary or President, setting out the grounds for the protest and clearly identifying the club, the name of the player or persons involved in the protest to the District Administrator.
3. On receipt of the protest, as outlined above, a copy of the protest will be forwarded to the alleged offending club by the District Administrator. The District Administrator will make the necessary enquiries into the matters placed before them and advise their decision to the party or parties concerned.
4. The District Administrator has the authority to refer the protest to the Regional Administrator or the Chief Executive if required to resolve the protest.

18. APPEALS

1. Each club has the right of appeal against any ruling of Football South to New Zealand Football, as per NZF Rules and Regulations. The appeal must be submitted to NZF through the Regional Administration Office. (Please refer to NZF Disciplinary Code).

19. CLUB DELEGATES

1. Clubs may appoint two (2) Senior and two (2) Junior delegates per Club to attend Club Delegate meetings.
2. Each Club must notify the District Administrator in writing from the Club Secretary who the appointed Club Delegates are for the current winter season no later than 7th February each year.
3. Each Delegate shall, except as otherwise provided, retain his/hers power from one Annual General Meeting until the next, unless Football South has been notified by the Club which the delegates represents that another delegate has been appointed.
4. Each Club shall have one vote only.

20. GENERAL RULES

1. Senior leagues will have Club team entries restricted as follows:
 - Men's Premier League – One team per Club.
 - Women's Premier League – As agreed at a pre-season meeting.
 - Men's Division 1 Regional Leagues – One team per Club.
 - Otago Men's Division 2 & 3 Regional Leagues – Two teams per Club.
 - Otago Men's Division 4 and below are unrestricted.
 - Women's Division 1 and below are unrestricted.
2. Anything not covered by these Regulations shall be at the sole discretion of Football South and their governing Rules and Regulations.
3. All rules may be reviewed by the end of the winter season and any changes will apply to the following season.
4. Club Delegates must be notified no later than 30th November of each year, all changes that shall apply to the following season.

21. FINANCE

1. Football South and New Zealand Football affiliation fees are payable in two installments, with the first installment based on 60% of the previous season total fee invoice on the 30th April and the balance based on actual team entries due on 30th June.
2. Failure to pay the first installment by 30th April will incur an additional 7.5% interest penalty on remaining balance due.
3. Failure to pay the remaining balance including any penalty interest plus the second instalment by the 30th June will incur a further 7.5% interest penalty on the balance of affiliation fees and first instalment interest outstanding.
4. If any affiliation fee balance remains outstanding as at 15th July, Football South reserves the right to suspend all teams from the Club that still has affiliation fees and penalty interest outstanding and will be deemed to be un-financial until all affiliation fees are paid up to date.
5. Clubs deemed to be un-financial prior to an Annual General Meeting shall have no voting rights at the Annual General Meeting.
6. An Entry fee will be charged for the Premier League and will be set by November of each year. Once a team has confirmed their participation the entry fee will be payable in two (2) installments on the 28th February and 31st March.

OTAGO DISTRICT COMPETITION VARIATIONS

Otago Men's Division 1 Play Off

1. The 8th placed team in Division 1 at the end of the season may be required to enter into a play off game against the winner of Division 2.
2. The play off will be determined by the Div 2 winner indicating prior to their last league match that they would like to be promoted to Division 1.
3. The play off game will be played at a neutral venue including extra time and penalties as per standard FIFA regulations to determine a winner.

Masters Divisions

1. Under FIFA Laws of the game, amendments can be made to Masters Football, the following shall apply for Football South competitions
 - a. Any player participating in an Over 35 League must be 35 years of age or older at the time of the match.
 - b. Anyone playing in Masters Over 45 Divisions must be aged 45 years of age or older at the time of the game.
 - c. Match duration shall be 40 minutes per half.
 - d. No slide tackling is permitted.
 - e. No Sin Bin rules apply.
 - f. Unlimited rolling substitutions are permitted during a stoppage in the game and with the referee's permission.
 - g. Referees are supplied as per Regulation 12. Referees.

Women's Divisions

1. Under FIFA Laws of the game, amendments can be made to Women's Football, the following shall apply for Football South competitions
 - a) Women's Division 1 Substitutions: Up to a maximum of five (5) rolling substitutes during a stoppage in a match with the referees permission.
 - b) All Women's matches shall play 45 minute halves, except Women's Division 2 matches and below shall be 40 min halves.

Chinese Charity Cup

1. The 1st and 2nd placed team in the Otago Division 1 competition shall play a one off match to determine the winner of the Chinese Charity Cup. A neutral venue and time will be selected by the District Administrator.
2. Players that are eligible to play in the last 3 competition games of the regular season are eligible to play in a Chinese Charity match.

Hanlin Shield

1. At the end of each season the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed teams in each Junior competitive A Grade and Senior competition will be allocated points relative to their final placing's, i.e. 1st place = 3 points, 2nd place = 2 points and 3rd place = 1 point. The Club with the most points will win the Hanlin Shield for that season.

Otago Youth Grade

1. The youth grade is open to any players aged 16-18 years of age.
2. If a player is turning 16 years old during the year they are automatically eligible to play in the Youth Grade for that season (i.e. for the 2018 season if a player was born in 2002).
3. Players must be turning 16 in 2018 for boys and 15 in 2018 for girls to compete in senior football. A dispensation will only be considered for National Talent Centre identified players upon application. The player will need to be considered to exceed a significant number of attributes linked to the holistic four corner model of development. Consideration must be provided to all Four Corners of Player Development prior to completion of the dispensation form.
4. Having met the general minimum age restriction (turning 16 years of age for boys during the year) on participation in Senior Football, Youth Grade players may take part in five Senior Football games, and remain playing in the Youth grade. Once they have played their sixth senior game, they will not be eligible to continue playing in the Youth grade (excludes female players). 'Playing in senior football' is defined here as being in the starting 11.

4. **Appendix ii.**

SOUTH CANTERBURY DISTRICT VARIATIONS

Senior Football minimum age requirements

Within the South Canterbury District there is insufficient players in the region to run a separate Secondary Schools League, therefore whilst Schools are treated like Clubs and compete in District Senior Leagues the following Senior age restrictions shall apply.

1. A player must meet the following age criteria before taking the field in a senior competition:
 - Men's Competition Turning 15 years of age in the same year
 - Women's Competition Turning 14 years of age in the same year

2. No Dispensation will be given for Boys aged 14 years and Girls aged 13 years.

Cup Competitions

To be added at a later date

Forms

The following can now be found on our website www.footballsouth.co.nz select the About Us Tab and go to the Forms Page

Player international transfer clearance (ITC) form

Argentina ITC additional form

Incident report

Junior dispensation request form

Premier League match info sheet template

General Senior team card Template

General Junior team card template

Schedule of key dates

Date	Description
28-Feb	1st instalment of Premier League entry fee is due
2nd week of March	Senior Club team entries are due
3rd week of March	Junior Club team entries are due
31-Mar	2nd instalment of Premier League entry fee is due
31-Mar	Premier League teams to advise their First choice and alternative strip for the current season
1st weekend of April	Football season commences
1st weekend of April	All Premier League, Division 1 and Division 2 players to be entered into Goalnet before taking the field for any club for the current season.
30-Apr	1st instalment of Club affiliation fees are due, based on 60% of previous season fees.
30-Apr	All Division 3 players and down to be entered into Goalnet or before they take the field for any Club for the current season.
30-Jun	2nd instalment of Clubs affiliation fees are due, based on actual teams entered, minus the 1st instalment.
30-Jun	Player transfer window closes
31-Aug	Football season concludes
30 Sept	Submissions received from Clubs regarding proposed changes to the Football South playing regulations.
1-Oct	Player transfer window re-opens
Oct	Rules and Regulations working group to meet and consider Club submissions regarding playing regulations.
30-Nov	Recommended playing regulation rule changes submitted to the Football South Board for ratification for the following season.

15-Dec

Premier League Clubs to confirm their participation for the next season.