



# **GENERAL COMPETITION RULES**

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# **SENIOR COMPETITION RULES**



## Contents

1	Definitions .....	3
2	Organisation of Competitions .....	4
3	Entries for Competitions .....	4
4	Disciplinary Matters .....	5
5	Disputes and Protests/Appeals .....	5
6	Playing Strips and Equipment .....	5
7	Competitions – Match Venues, Dates and Kick off Times .....	6
8	Referees .....	7
9	Laws of the Game .....	8
10	Substitutions .....	8
11	Playing of Fixtures .....	8
12	Defaults .....	9
13	Suspended or Abandoned Matches .....	10
14	Player Eligibility .....	10
15	Registration of Players .....	12
16	Match Results and Team Cards .....	12
17	Competition Format .....	13
18	Trophies .....	13
19	Non-Compliance .....	13
20	Code of Conduct .....	13
21	Complaints .....	14
22	Fines Payment Schedule .....	15
23	Joe Bartle Fund Policy .....	15
	NBF CUP RULES .....	16
1	Rules of the Glenn Stephens Memorial Trophy .....	16
2	Rules of the Top of the South Trophy .....	17
3	Rules of The McCarthy Challenge Cup .....	18
4	Rules of the Price Charity Cup .....	19
5	Rules of the Gould and Tout Trophy .....	20
6	Rules of the A. R. Hurst Trophy .....	21
7	Rules of the Greg Brown Memorial Trophy (formerly Robbies Bar and Bistro Cup) .....	22
8	Rules of the Women's 1 <sup>st</sup> Division Cup .....	23
9	Rules of the Women's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division Cup .....	24

## 1 Definitions

1.1 The terms below denote the following:

- 1.1.1 **Active Player** – a financial member of a club and active on the registration system
- 1.1.2 **Away Team** – means the team named second in any fixture
- 1.1.3 **Club** – means a financial member of NBF
- 1.1.4 **Comet** – means the NZF Player Registration System
- 1.1.5 **Competition/League** – means a group of club's teams which play each other over a period of a defined season and forms part of the overall competition
- 1.1.6 **Competition Manager** – means the NBF Competition Manager
- 1.1.7 **Competitions Staff** – means the official staff appointed by NBF to administer all NBF competitions
- 1.1.8 **Default** – means failure to arrive on time, participate in, or complete a scheduled match
- 1.1.9 **District Executive (DE)** – means the District Executive of NBF
- 1.1.10 **FIFA** – means Federation Internationale de Football Association, being the world governing body of football
- 1.1.11 **Fines & Fees Schedule** – means the schedule attached to these regulations
- 1.1.12 **Home Team** – means the team named first in any fixture
- 1.1.13 **Home Club** – means the club responsible for the organization and management of matches played at the nominated venue
- 1.1.14 **Inactive Player** – means a player that doesn't have a current registration with any club
- 1.1.15 **Mainland Football (MF)** – means one of the seven Federations of New Zealand Football, governing football within the boundaries as defined by NZF
- 1.1.16 **NBF** – means Nelson Bays Football – a District of Mainland Football
- 1.1.17 **New Zealand Football (NZF)** – The national governing body for football for the country
- 1.1.18 **Playing/Player** – means the person plays in a competitive fixture for a team. Being names as a substitute does not mean the person is a player
- 1.1.19 **Team** – means an official registered team of a club

## **2 Organisation of Competitions**

- 2.1 Nelson Bays Football competitions shall be conducted under the current FIFA regulations except as otherwise specified in these regulations.
- 2.2 The entire control and management of all Nelson Bays Football competitions shall be vested in the NBF Competition Manager. NBF shall have the power to do all other things necessary to ensure the progress of the competitions through all of its stages and may take appropriate action to bring about such results. All or any of the powers vested in NBF may be delegated to a nominee.
- 2.3 Where Nelson Bays Football is required to grant approval for procedures under these regulations, the terms “DE” and “Nelson Bays Football” shall include those people or groups appointed by either the Competition Manager or the Nelson Bays Football District Executive from time to time to oversee these procedures.
- 2.4 Nelson Bays Football shall reserve the right to amend or replace these regulations from time to time, such amendments to be notified to all Nelson Bays Football clubs. Within the current season it is the club’s responsibility to update these regulations with any amendments. Prior to the start of each season Nelson Bays Football shall furnish to each member club at least one copy of the regulations for the coming season.
- 2.5 Final decisions on interpretations of any part of these regulations shall rest with Nelson Bays Football. Any decision by the Competition Manager, DE or Competitions Staff in regard to these regulations can be appealed to the Mainland Football Board in accordance with the Disputes and Protests Procedure as laid down in these regulations.
- 2.6 Fines for breaches of these regulations may be laid down by the Competition Manager, such fines to be notified to Nelson Bays Football Clubs no later than the Senior Finals Day in the year of the competition.

## **3 Entries for Competitions**

- 3.1 Nelson Bays Football will request team entries to their competitions within a certain entry deadline (advised to the Clubs by NBF). Each Club must confirm in writing their intention to enter team/s in divisions in which they are eligible to compete by submitting the NBF Team Entry Form by the entry deadline.
- 3.2 NBF may or may not accept all entries and may or may not accept entries after the deadline. The final composition of competition divisions shall be at the discretion of the NBF Competition Manager.
- 3.3 The NBF Competition Manager shall have the power to accept further entries during the season if, in their opinion, it is expedient to do so.
- 3.4 The NBF Competition Manager shall have the power to increase or reduce the numbers of divisions and to form or discontinue sections in any divisions as and when the need arises.

## **4 Disciplinary Matters**

- 4.1 All misconduct shall be dealt with by Nelson Bays Football Competition Manager or the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with New Zealand Football Disciplinary Code and Nelson Bays/Mainland Football Disciplinary process.
- 4.2 The participants, their players, and officials, agree to comply with the Laws of the Game and with the Nelson Bays Football Code of Conduct.
- 4.3 In addition, the players agree to:
- Respect the spirit of fair play.
  - Behave accordingly.
- 4.4 It is essential that each Club insist on high standards of behaviour and discipline both on and off the field. This relates to foul language, attitudes towards referees etc. If the Club becomes persistent offenders, then they could face a fine or expulsion from a competition or competitions, or such other sanction as the General Competition Manager or Disciplinary Committee think fit.

## **5 Disputes and Protests/Appeals**

- 5.1 Any Club may bring a protest or complaint to Nelson Bays Football through the Competition Manager.
- 5.2 A protest or complaint must be made within seven days of the alleged breach, by forwarding a written statement, on the club's letterhead, detailing the:
- Name of the club, player or person(s) complained against
  - Alleged breach
  - A fee of \$100 plus GST will be charged.
- 5.3 Nelson Bays Football will forward a copy of the protest or complaint to the club complained about for a response.
- 5.4 After ascertaining all details of the alleged complaint, the NBF Competition Manager will decide and advise that decision to the party or parties concerned.
- 5.5 Any club has a right of appeal against any ruling of the NBF Competitions Manager to the Mainland Football Disciplinary Committee and thereafter, to New Zealand Football, in accordance with the respective regulations of Mainland Football and New Zealand Football.

## **6 Playing Strips and Equipment**

- 6.1 Each team shall provide a minimum of one FIFA approved match ball in good playing order.
- 6.2 Each team shall wear its first-choice strip in their home matches, and all other matches where there is no clash.

- 6.3 Where the strips of the team's clash (shirts and/or socks) the away team must wear their alternative strip.
- 6.4 In all matches players shall be permitted to wear undergarments which contrary to F.I.F.A. guidelines may not match the colour of the team shirt or shorts providing always that if such undergarments shall be of the same colour as the opposition shirt/shorts the Referee can at his discretion request that they be removed or covered e.g. long sleeved garments. NBF make this provision to enable the use of compression garments and other such garments which minimise risk of injury and recognise that the expense of requiring players to have multiple coloured such garments is unreasonable at this level of the sport.
- 6.5 Where team colours clash the visiting team shall be obliged to change. Failing to provide a change strip will incur a fine. In the event of the visiting team not providing a change strip then the referee has discretion to abandon the game, in which case the visiting team will be deemed to have defaulted the fixture. All teams are responsible for ascertaining opponent's team colours, the time and venue of the match.

## **7 Competitions – Match Venues, Dates and Kick off Times**

- 7.1 NBF shall publish a fixture list including the match venues, dates and kick off times for the season. All matches shall be played on the dates and times agreed and confirmed by NBF and shall not be varied without prior written approval of NBF.
- 7.2 If either team wishes to alter the match date, kick off time or venue they must seek approval of the opposing club and NBF, setting out in full their reasons for the change. If both clubs agree to a change NBF shall take that into account when giving its decision.
- 7.3 Any additional cost incurred in changing a previously agreed match date, kick off time or venue shall be borne by the club making the request. All rescheduled matches must be played prior to the completion of the competition. Failure to do so will mean the requesting team will be deemed to have defaulted the match.
- 7.4 NBF reserves the right to determine dates, time and venue for all matches.
- 7.5 When inclement weather or any other reason has meant competitions cannot be concluded within the required timeframe the NBF Competition Manager may close any competitions and declare final placing based on, at its sole discretion, the standings at the end of the first completed round, standings at the close of the competition, or as a result of a play-off between two or more teams.
- 7.6 The home club shall be responsible for taking all practical measures to ensure:
- 7.7 That all facilities and equipment comply with Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.
- 7.8 The orderly behaviour of the crowd and safety of the match officials, players, team officials and spectators.

- 7.9 All clubs will be held responsible for the behaviour of their spectators, whether playing at home or away or at a neutral ground. A club must give written notice to NBF of any unruly behaviour of their spectators.
- 7.10 Every club must make every effort to ensure that the NZF Code of Conduct is communicated and made available to its staff, players, coaches, volunteers and club supporters.
- 7.11 During league competition, points shall be allocated based on 3 points for a win, one point for a draw and zero points for a loss. Defaults or forfeits shall be recorded as a 3-0 loss.
- 7.12 At the conclusion of any Nelson Bays Football competition, where two or more teams are tied on point's goal difference will be used to separate the teams. If still tied, the team with the most goals for shall be the winner. If still tied the League winner shall be shared.

## **8 Referees**

- 8.1 NBF shall make provisions for appointments for as many fixtures as possible.
- 8.2 Each referee shall check the accuracy of the Match Team Card for both teams and sign the card as a true and accurate record of the match.
- 8.3 Only referee or the NBF Competition Manager can decide if grounds unfit to play on the day of the match.
- 8.4 Should a referee not be appointed to a match or if the referee fails to arrive, it shall be the responsibility of the Coach/Manager of each team to agree on a person to referee the match. In the event of disagreement, a person appointed by the home team shall referee the first half; a person appointed by the visiting team shall referee the second half.
- 8.5 Should a referee require a linesperson, then each team shall be responsible for providing one person to act as a linesperson and such person shall be responsible to the referee.
- 8.6 All matches shall be refereed in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game, except as amended by the rules of the competition.
- 8.7 Should a match be refereed by a non-appointed referee they have complete authority to enforce the Laws to the best of their ability and have the full support of NBF.
- 8.8 If a team refuses to take the field of play because a referee has not turned up and chooses not to implement the above, the said team has treated the game as a default.
- 8.9 Any payment owed to the referee shall be shared equally by both clubs.
- 8.10 If a coach, manager or captain wishes to discuss any on field decisions, or interpretation with the referee they must wait a minimum of 5 minutes following the conclusion of the match before approaching the referee. However, it shall be the referee's complete decision as to whether such a discussion occurs, and the referee retains complete authority.

- 8.11 Any communication with match officials before, during or after the match must be conducted in a civil and reasonable manner.
- 8.12 A player that has been sent off for spitting, language, fighting or serious foul play cannot be replaced and cannot return to the match at any stage.

## **9 Laws of the Game**

- 9.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 9.2 Any variations allowed to the Laws of the Game will be specified in the playing regulations.

### Sin Bins

- 9.3 The use of Temporary Dismissals using system B will be in effect in the Nelson Division 1 league and Tasman Trophy only.
- 9.4 Any player who receives a Y5 or Y6 for showing dissent will be temporarily dismissed from the match for a period of 10 minutes. The player must sit in between the two technical areas.
- 9.5 This player may not be replaced whilst they are in the 'Sin Bin'.
- 9.6 The procedure for temporary dismissals will follow these [guidelines as stated by NZF](#).

## **10 Substitutions**

- 10.1 In all matches in the First Division of the Senior Men's League, each team can name up to five (5) substitutes and make up to five (5) substitutions in three (3) stoppages, not including half time. Substitutes shall be non-rolling.
- 10.2 In all other divisions lower than the First Division, and in all competitions where teams from such lower divisions compete (including all Senior Women's Divisions/Competitions) each team shall be permitted to name and use five (5) substitutes. Rolling Substitutions shall be permitted for all teams.
- 10.3 In Masters Division, unlimited rolling substitutions are allowed.
- 10.4 Cup Competitions or any Grading competitions may use different substitution rules. In this event, these will be defined by the Competitions Manager prior to the competition start date.

## **11 Playing of Fixtures**

- 11.1 All matches shall be played at the time and location decided by the **NBF** Competition Manager or Competitions staff. A team with at least seven (7) players present must commence the match.



- 11.2 Any team not ready to commence its match within ten (10) minutes of the published start time shall forfeit the match. A forfeit match shall result in three (3) points to the opposition and recorded as a 3-0 win.
- 11.3 In the event of a match being postponed at late notice for various reasons, it shall be the responsibility of the two clubs to confer with a view to play the match at the earliest possible time, unless authorised by NBF.
- 11.4 In the event the match is postponed due to the scheduling of any official NZF or MF fixture the two clubs concerned agree to play the match at the earliest possible time determined by NBF.
- 11.5 In the event of a change of venue being necessary because of unforeseen weather or field of play conditions, the home club shall take all reasonable steps to give adequate notice to NBF and the away team as to a new venue. In the event of any dispute arising as to the suitability of the alternative venue, NBF shall make the final decision, which will be binding, on all parties.
- 11.6 Teams may request a change of date or time of the match with the approval of the opposition team and the NBF Competition Manager. A rearranged match must be played prior to the last match of the league. If the match fails to be completed by the completion of the league the team requesting the alteration to the fixture will be deemed to have defaulted.
- 11.7 If for any reason a match cannot be completed due to any circumstance, then the result of the match shall be decided by the NBF Competition Manager at their complete discretion. The option for the match to be replayed is a viable option, if time allows, and consideration to the score and the duration of the match that remained when the match was abandoned.
- 11.8 If for any reason the league cannot be concluded within the required time frame, the NBF Competition Manager may close the league and declare the final placing at its sole discretion pursuant to the following factors:
- 11.8.1 The standings at the end of the first completed round; or
- 11.8.2 Standings at the close of the competition
- 11.9 During all competitions, points shall be allocated based on three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) for a loss.
- 11.10 Where teams are tied on points in any competition goal difference will be used firstly to separate the teams. If the teams are also tied on goal difference, then the team with the greater number of goals scored shall be declared the winner. If teams are still tied both teams will be declared the league winner.

## **12 Defaults**

- 12.1 Notification of a team's intention to default must be notified to the NBF Competition Manager in writing no later than 24 hours prior to the fixture. A team shall not be fined if they adhere to this clause.

- 12.2 If a team fails to comply with 5.1 the fine as per Fines and Fees Schedule shall be enforced.
- 12.3 A defaulted match, whether notification was given pursuant to clause 13.1 shall be recorded as a 3-0 win to the non-defaulting team.
- 12.4 A team that defaults either, two (2) matches in succession of a total of three (3) matches in a season may be disqualified from the league at the discretion of the NBF Competition Manager.
- 12.5 Any team defaulting on a fixture at Golden Bay, or Golden Bay defaulting a fixture in Nelson shall be subject to a fine of up to \$300 and may be deducted 3 competition points, at the NBF Competition Manager's discretion.

### **13 Suspended or Abandoned Matches**

- 13.1 In the event of adverse weather conditions occurring during the match, which in the view of the referee endangers the safety of the players or officials, the referee may at their sole discretion, suspend play for a period of up to thirty (30) minutes to allow time for conditions to improve to a point that will allow the match to recommence.
- 13.2 In the event of the abandonment of a match due to natural condition (bad weather, safety concerns, serious injury, lighting etc) or outside conditions (equipment failure, eg goal posts, interference of spectators, disorder and fighting between players/spectators); the NBF Manger shall decide if and when such matches are replayed. If the game is not replayed, then the score shall be determined as per 13.3.
- 13.3 If the initial decision is for the match to proceed as per schedule the home club should make all reasonable efforts to make the field of play suitable for the match.
- 13.4 The referee has sole authority regarding the match, regardless of any previous decisions, to the status of the match. They may or may not start the match, suspend or terminate the match as they see fit.

### **14 Player Eligibility**

- 14.1 All Clubs and players will abide by New Zealand Football Regulation on the Status and Transfer of Players
- 14.2 A player is eligible to play in NBF competitions provided that:
  - 14.2.1 The player is duly registered with a club in accordance with FIFA regulations on the Status and Transfers of Players and the relevant NZF regulations.
  - 14.2.2 The player is duly registered with the club in Comet.
  - 14.2.3 The player is of 16 years of age at the time of the match, unless dispensation has been granted by Mainland Football's Director of Football.

- 14.3 Each team shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible player (s) shall be subject to the penalties as determined in the NZF Disciplinary Code.
- 14.4 Players are initially classified by the first team they take the field for in the current season.
- 14.5 Up to a maximum of three players may be regraded from a club's higher league team to a lower league team providing the team is the 'next' possible team i.e NBF Division 1 to NBF Division 2. Players may not move beyond 'one team' from where they would be classified.
- 14.6 Clubs must request approval from the NBF Competitions Manager to regrade players, and all regraded players must be named on the official team sheet and highlighted to show they are regraded players.
- 14.7 Players in a club's lower league team can play for a team in a higher competition at any stage.
- 14.8 After three (3) consecutive games playing in a club's higher league team, the player is deemed to be part of that team and cannot play in a lower league team unless being re-graded as per 14.5 or otherwise a reclassification is granted by MF. It is emphasised that there is no automatic right to play players from a higher division in a lower division of any senior league or competition, and dispensation must be sought from the NBF Competition Manager.
- 14.9 Players CANNOT play for two (2) teams that a club has in the SAME COMPETITION (DIVISION).
- 14.10 For a player to be eligible for master's competition, players must be 40 years of age or over at the time of the match. A maximum of three (3) players aged 35 years or over at the time of the match can play for the team.
- 14.11 A player in a Senior team can only be reclassified lower by one division – ie a player cannot be reclassified into a division, two or more divisions lower than where they are classified.
- 14.12 Any team playing an unregistered or ineligible player, shall be fined and shall forfeit any points arising from any match in which an ineligible player participates. The match shall be awarded to the non-offending team, "goals against" shall stand for the offending team, "goals for" shall be cancelled, or a 3 (three) – 0 (nil) win whichever is the greatest.

#### Youth player Dispensations

- 14.13 To play in Senior Division Football – as per NZ Football Dispensations Rules –

## DISPENSATIONS FOR PLAYING UP OR DOWN GRADES

Players should play in their correct age grade (as determined by date of birth). Competition regulations may allow for dispensation to play up or down grades in exceptional circumstances.

The following table details the minimum criteria required in order for a youth player to play in a senior competition.

### CRITERIA TO PLAY SENIOR FOOTBALL

BOYS	
16 Years	No dispensation required
15 Years	Dispensation & parental consent required
14 Years	No dispensation allowed
GIRLS	
15 Years	No dispensation required
14 Years	Dispensation & parental consent required
13 Years	No dispensation allowed

14.13.1 Boys – The player must be 16 years of age as at the time of the match, unless dispensation has been granted by Nelson Bays Football at their discretion using NBF, Federation and NZ Football criteria (eg. NAGT selection)

14.13.2 Girls – The player must be 15 years of age as at the time of the match, unless dispensation has been granted by Nelson Bays Football at their discretion using NBF, Federation and NZ Football criteria (eg. NAGT selection)

## 15 Registration of Players

15.1 A player can only be registered for one (1) club at a time and can only play for that club unless the player is playing for:

15.1.1 A futsal club for which that player is also registered; or

15.1.2 For a school team that is not a club and not playing in the same competition; or

15.1.3 Any other exceptional circumstances as approved by NZF in its absolute discretion.

## 16 Match Results and Team Cards

16.1 The home club shall be responsible for entering the match results into Comet by 9am Monday following the fixture.

16.2 Prior to the commencement of each match a team card shall be completed by each team and handed to the Referee. At the finish of the match the team cards shall be signed by the referee and returned to the captain/coach/manager of each team. If no referee appointed then both coaches shall sign each other's cards, to approve scores and any comments.

- 16.3 Any team/club/school/manager, filling out a team card with the intention of misleading the NBF Competition Manager shall be fined a maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the team/club/school/manager shall be liable for suspension.
- 16.4 Players participate in a match by their inclusion on the team card. Such a player is adjudged to have played whether or not they were actively involved on the field of play.
- 16.5 The club shall keep copies of all team sheets for the current season and must produce any or all team cards NBF requests within 48 hours of a request being made. Failure to comply could result in fines and penalties being applied.

## **17 Competition Format**

- 17.1 Nelson Bays Football shall decide the format for each competition.
- 17.2 Where possible, senior competitions will comprise of at least 14 rounds.

## **18 Trophies**

- 18.1 Trophies will be presented to all Senior Competition winners
- 18.2 The winners of all Trophies are entitled to have the name of their club inscribed on the Trophy.
- 18.3 Engraving of trophies shall be paid for by Nelson Bays Football to the Authorised engravers.
- 18.4 Each winner of the Trophy shall be required to keep the Trophy in good order and condition and to return the Trophy to Nelson Bays Football when called upon to do so. Clubs shall be liable for the cost of damage to or loss of trophies.
- 18.5 All Trophies for local competitions remain the property of Nelson Bays Football.

## **19 Non-Compliance**

- 19.1 Unless otherwise specified, if a club is in breach of these regulations, in the first instance of a breach, NBF shall notify the club in writing of the breach, and the club will be given a reasonable period to rectify the breach. It is the club's responsibility to undertake remedial action within the timeframe set and to keep NBF informed of progress including any possible delays due to circumstances beyond its control.

## **20 Code of Conduct**

- 20.1 All members are deemed to know, have read and agree to abide by the NBF and NZ Football Code of Conducts. Any breaches of the Code may result in penalties to the individual or the team or club.

- 20.2 No Alcohol should be consumed on side-lines or in the near vicinity of a game. Consumption should only be based at the Clubrooms or a designated area (i.e. beer tent).
- 20.3 Spectators should be at least 1 metre back from the side-line, if problems are continuously occurring a rope barrier should be erected to ensure there is no interference with the game and safety of spectators. This is a requirement under the Health & Safety regulations.
- 20.4 Abusive Language should not be tolerated at any game. It is a bad image for clubs and not a good example for younger players. Referees have the power to remove or discipline any team official/spectator with the full support of Nelson Bays Football.
- 20.5 The Disciplinary Committee shall have power to suspend or inflict such penalty (monetary or otherwise) as it may deem expedient upon any club, team, player, official, member or any other person who shall be guilty of:
- 20.5.1 Any breach of Competition Rules or New Zealand Football Rules and Regulations or Laws of the Game.
- 20.5.2 Objectionable or improper behaviour during or in connection with any match under the control of Nelson Bays Football or any duly constituted meeting in connection with the affairs of the Nelson Bays Football.
- 20.5.3 Misconduct towards a Referee away from the field of play. The offence will be dealt with in the same way as if the offence had been committed on the field of play.
- 20.5.4 Such other act as in the opinion of the Competition Manager or DE shall constitute misconduct.
- 20.5.5 This clause shall also refer to club supporters/spectators attending matches.

## **21 Complaints**

- 21.1 Complaints govern any incident or matter arising from outside of the field of play, i.e ground conditions, equipment, facilities. Any matters concerning player eligibility or specific match incidents is considered a protest/appeal and must follow the process outlines in regulation 5.
- 21.2 Complaints must be in writing from the President or Secretary of the Club making the complaint on club letterhead. No other complaints will be accepted or acted upon henceforth. The complaint must be accompanied by a \$25 fee, this may be refunded at Nelson Bays Football discretion depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the outcome.
- 21.3 The letter should contain a clear statement setting out the complaint and should include evidence to support the complaint. Without such evidence, the complaint will not be followed up.
- 21.4 Complaints will be considered by the Competitions Manager who will decide what, if any, further action is required. Options could include seeking further information and/or hearing from the parties.

- 21.5 Clubs' attention is also drawn to the Code of Conduct covering the playing of the game. This applies to all participants including parents and bystanders.
- 21.6 The fitness of the ground for play shall be decided on the ground by the Referee whose decision shall be final. If the game is abandoned by the Referee due to insufficient ground markings, the home team shall be deemed to be at fault. The Competition Manager shall have the power to determine if the game should be considered forfeit and/or impose a penalty not exceeding \$50.00.
- 21.7 Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other appurtenances of the game, shall not be entertained by the NBF Competition Manager unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. If an objection has been lodged with the Referee, a protest accompanied by the appropriate fee as laid down in the Rules may be lodged with Nelson Bays Football.

## **22 Fines Payment Schedule**

### **Misconduct Fines:**

Yellow Card	\$ 25.00
Red Card	\$ 75.00

### **Defaults**

Local	\$ 50.00
Golden Bay	\$150.00

### **Other**

Unregistered or Ineligible Player	\$ 75.00
Subsequent offence – same player	\$ 200.00
Late and/or No Team Card received	\$ 20.00
Falsifying a Team Card	\$ 50.00 + 3 points
Non-return of a team card upon request	\$ 50.00 + 3 points
Late submission of Results	\$ 10.00
Failure to apply for Age Dispensation	\$100.00
Playing after Age Dispensation declined	\$200.00

## **23 Joe Bartle Fund Policy**

See separate Policy Document

## **NBF CUP RULES**

### **1 Rules of the Glenn Stephens Memorial Trophy**

- 1.1 The Trophy shall be competed for by any team (other than MPL teams) of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the General and/or D.E.
- 1.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in any local league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in a Trophy/Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule.
- 1.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Competition Manager shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 1.4 A player who has played for one team in a Trophy/Cup Competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 1.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot arranged by the District Executive and shall be played on a round robin group basis followed by the knockout principle unless circumstances require the District Executive to alter the format.
- 1.6 Each Group Winner shall be guaranteed a home tie in the first knockout round and shall play a team from a different qualifying group, such team not being the winner of a Group. Draws for semi finals shall be by lot.
- 1.7 The duration of each match shall be two periods of 45 minutes. In the event of the game then being drawn in the knockout stage, two extra periods of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 1.8 In the round robin stage, 3 points shall be awarded for a win; 1 point for a draw and no points for a loss. Qualification for the knockout stage shall be determined by the Competition Manager from time to time depending on the number of teams entering the competition. Places in Qualifying Pools shall be by points, then goal difference, then goals scored.
- 1.9 No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an “ineligible player”.
- 1.10 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competition Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.



## **2 Rules of the Top of the South Trophy**

- 2.1 Marlborough and Nelson Bays Football rules shall apply.
- 2.2 Each team shall play every other team an equal number of matches.
- 2.3 The team scoring the greatest number of points in all matches shall be deemed to have won the League.
- 2.4 In the event of two or more teams having an equal number of points the winner shall be decided by goal difference over the matches and if the team or teams are equal on goal difference then the team that has scored the most goals shall be declared the winner.
- 2.5 No team shall play more than Three (3) players in any one match who are classified in any higher league. Any such player having first been re-classified in accordance with Section 12
- 2.6 If games are postponed in Nelson because of the weather/ground conditions and Blenheim is unaffected then fixtures scheduled for Blenheim playing fields will be played.
- 2.7 If games are postponed in Blenheim because of the weather/ground conditions and Nelson is unaffected then fixtures scheduled for Nelson playing fields will be played.
- 2.8 Any team which has cause to default any game during the season must notify either Marlborough or Nelson Bays Football prior to 12 noon on the Friday before the match. Failure to comply with this rule may result in fines being imposed as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Default \$150
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Default \$200
- 2.9 Any disciplinary action will be handled by the Disciplinary Committee of the District to whom the offending player is affiliated.
- 2.10 Any competition disputes will be heard by a committee comprising of two representatives from both Marlborough and Nelson Bays Football.
- 2.11 To preserve the special character of the league at least two Marlborough teams must be assured entry.

### **3 Rules of The McCarthy Challenge Cup**

- 3.1 The Cup shall be a challenge cup to be competed for by first division teams of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the NBF Competitions Manager.
- 3.2 All matches shall be played on the home ground of the Cup Holder unless otherwise decided by the Competitions Manager.
- 3.3 No matches in this competition shall be played after the last week in August each year.
- 3.4 All challenges for the Cup shall be deemed to have been made from the commencement of the season unless notification to the contrary is received by the Competitions Manager not later than the 30th April each year.
- 3.5 No club shall be permitted to challenge for the Cup more than once in any one year.
- 3.6 The date and time of all matches for the Cup shall be fixed by the Competitions Manager. The holders of the Cup, if so directed by the Competitions Manager, shall accept a challenge to be played in conjunction with any other fixture arranged by such Committee but in no case on a date on which there is a representative match.
- 3.7 If the holders of the Cup refuse to play, or fail to play, any cup match as and when required by the Men's Committee (within the ambit of these rules) then the holders shall forfeit the Cup and hand same over to the challengers, if the challengers, but for such refusal or failure would have played the match as required.
- 3.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and then if necessary, fix another date for the match to be played.
- 3.9 Should the Referee declare the ground unplayable for any fixture, the Competitions Manager, if deemed necessary, will fix another date for the game to be played.
- 3.10 Should any dispute arise as to any matters arising out of these rules, the matter in question shall be decided by the D.E. whose decision shall be final.
- 3.11 If the final score is a draw after two periods of 45 minutes, the Cup is retained by the holder.

#### **4 Rules of the Price Charity Cup**

- 4.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Men's First Division teams of Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Competitions Staff of NBF.
- 4.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in any local league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule.
- 4.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 4.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 4.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competition Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the Competitions Manager to alter the format.
- 4.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 4.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at their discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 4.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and the Competitions manager may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.

## **5 Rules of the Gould and Tout Trophy**

- 5.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Men's Second Division teams of Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Competitions staff of NBF.
- 5.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12 and reclassification must be for reasons set out not to strengthen a team.
- 5.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 5.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 5.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competitions Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the NBF Competitions Staff to alter the format.
- 5.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 5.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 5.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.
- 5.9 No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".

## **6 Rules of the A. R. Hurst Trophy**

- 6.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Men's Third Division teams of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the NBF Competitions staff.
- 6.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12
- 6.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 6.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 6.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competitions Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the Competitions Manager to alter the format.
- 6.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 6.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at their discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 6.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.
- 6.9 No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".

## **7 Rules of the Greg Brown Memorial Trophy (formerly Robbies Bar and Bistro Cup)**

- 7.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Men's Fourth Division teams of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the NBF Competitions Manager.
- 7.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12
- 7.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 7.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 7.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competitions Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the Competitions Manager to alter the format.
- 7.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 7.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at their discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 7.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.
- 7.9 No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".

## **8 Rules of the Women's 1<sup>st</sup> Division Cup**

- 8.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Women's first division teams of Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Competitions Staff of NBF.
- 8.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in any local league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule.
- 8.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 8.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 8.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competition Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the Competitions Manager to alter the format.
- 8.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 8.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at their discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 8.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and the Competitions manager may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.

## **9 Rules of the Women's 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Cup**

- 9.1 The Cup shall be competed for by Women's Second Division teams of Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Competitions staff of NBF.
- 9.2 Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12 and reclassification must be for reasons set out not to strengthen a team.
- 9.3 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
- 9.4 A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
- 9.5 The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the Competitions Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the NBF Competitions Staff to alter the format.
- 9.6 The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 9.7 Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the Competitions Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
- 9.8 The Competitions Manager may at their discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary, fix another date for the match.
- 9.9 No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".