



EQUALISATION SYSTEM

Purpose:

Following the recent WAWFL Diagnostic, WAWFL Planning Forums and AFL National Survey the WAWFL Board and WAWFL Clubs have identified that the uneven competition and subsequent unequal teams is a major issue facing the league.

In order for the WAWFL to be prepared for the National Competition in 2020 and for the WAWFL Clubs to be sustainable and not depleted this equalisation system has been developed to:

- Equalise the competition by ensuring an equal distributing of Talent identified players,
- Steady the number of Talent Identified players receiving transfers and playing outside their zone to ensure Talent Identified players are spread throughout the competition,
- Reward clubs who have successfully instigated and developed junior competitions and player pathways,
- Reward quality clubs that have developed strong cultures and have been able to retain players,
- Reward clubs that develop and play players from within their District Boundary,
- Ensure that the welfare of players is paramount through regulating the number of games a talent identified player can play on one weekend,
- Discourage clubs playing Talent Identified players in both League and Reserves.



Guidelines:

1. There is an allocation of twenty four (24pts) for the Club and twenty two (22 pts) for the League team list for each round of competition. Points are **based on preceding 2 years list of Talent identified players.**

Player Points Value

Player type	Points value
Selected in the National Draft within the last two (2) years	6
Selected as an All Australian in either the 2011 or 2013 Open Women's National Championships	5
Representative in the 2011 and 2013 Open Women's National Championships	4
Representative in the 2013 Open Women's National Championships	3
Representative in the 2011 Open Women's National Championships	2
Selected as an All Australian in either the 2012 or 2013 Youth Girls National Championships (State 18s)	3
Representative in either the 2012 or 2013 National Youth Girls Championship (State 18s)	2
Loyalty points: Total years played at the club, given they qualified in the season 5years 6years 7years 8years +	3pts 2pts 1pt Considered 'home grown' 0 pts

2. **Only Talent identified players playing outside their District Boundary/Zone are applicable and worth points.**
3. For a club that has reached, or is over, their total points allocation, they are permitted to play their 2013 registered players **given they do not receive any player transfers of Talent identified players for the 2014 season.**



4. Talent identified players are players that have State or AFL playing history in the last two events (if named in final squad and don't travel points value still carries for that player):
 - Youth Girls National Championships,
 - Open Women's National Championships,
 - National Draft/ Exhibition game, or
 - Other WAWFL/AFL/WAFC talent identified programs.
5. If a player fits under several different player types they are **deemed the highest value**,
6. **Interstate players** are given the same value for their State or AFL playing history,
7. **Player coaches** are classified a player and are applicable to the same points system,
8. **Players U18 years** must play within the District Boundaries/WAWFL Club Zones outlined in the WAWFL Bylaws,
9. If a **player participates in two games on a weekend** they carry points into **both games** that would go towards the League and Club points allocation.

Process:

10. All Clubs prior to the season will have their Talent identified player points values listed and distributed (as soon as possible following the GF).

This will:

 - Allow teams to see where potential new players live and therefore their potential points value if they move clubs,
 - Puts the onus on each club to manage player movement, thus allowing all clubs to be able to determine their potential points for the following season,
 - Assist in ensuring players are registering the correct address on registration forms i.e. if Player X lives in the Claremont District but is listed as Peel District player then it can be raised with the league,
11. If a club wishes to **dispute** the location of a player or points value they can do so in writing to adickie@wafc.com.au by **COB the 30th of January**.
12. It is the **club's responsibility** to check that they will not go over the Club or League team list points allocation; this includes any players added to the team list manually on game day.
13. The system will be reviewed at the end of each season; clubs will have the opportunity to provide feedback along with any proposed bylaw changes as per the normal processes.
14. In the event that arbitration is required the WA Football Commission will act as independent arbitrators

District Boundaries/WAWFL Club Zones:

15. Players affected by the 2009 District Boundary Review in terms of their current District/Zone alignment can be considered "Home Grown" on the provision that they were playing in that District at the time and that there are relevant records to confirm this.
16. **If a player moves** address they must complete a change of address form within **30 days** of the move, the player will remain in their current zone until they have lived in the zone for a period of eighteen (18) consecutive months as per WAWFL Bylaws. Any players that reach the end of the eighteen (18) month period during the season under this ruling the points will



17. change at the end of that season and be the adjusted points value implemented for the following season.
18. A player that is or was registered at your club and resides within your District/Zone (i.e. Home Grown Player) and subsequently moves outside your District/Zone but remains a registered player at your club will still be deemed a "Home Grown" player.
19. For special circumstances relating to players under the age of 18 and their permanent residence please refer to zoned players in the WAWFL Bylaws

Eligibility:

20. **Player's must qualify for finals** as per the WAWFL By-Laws to be considered a participant in that particular season.
21. In the event of a **forfeit or bye**, no more than three (3) players that played in the League division the previous round will be eligible to play in the lower division for that round, as per WAWFL bylaws.
22. All players when registering with the WAWFL agree that all their **details are true and correct**, if a false declaration is found the player will be deemed ineligible and the club will be issued a fine as per the WAWFL bylaws.
23. Although it is the clubs responsibility to ensure that the player's information is correct the WAWFL will conduct **random and un-notified registration checks**. On request of a registration check the club and player will have until 9am Friday before their next game to complete the required paperwork, in order for that player to be deemed eligible.
24. As part of the WAWFL registration; player's state that they will **not receive any form of remuneration to play within the WAWFL**. If a player is found to be receiving any form of remuneration they will be deemed ineligible and the club issued a fine as per the WAWFL bylaws.

Breach:

25. Any clubs that exceed their League points allocation will be **deemed to have played an ineligible player and the club will be issued a fine and loss of premiership points** for the match as per the WAWFL bylaws.
26. Any clubs that exceed the Club points allocation will be **deemed to have played an ineligible player and the club will be issued a fine and loss of premiership points** for **both matches** that round as per the WAWFL bylaws.



Why this structure?

1. Girls can still play with their friends
2. It's not putting barriers on those new to the game only those that are Talent identified and, therefore likely to continue to play
3. For a club that has reached, or is over, their total points allocation, they are permitted to play their 2013 registered players given they do not receive any player transfers of Talent identified players for the 2014 season, this allows clubs to keep existing registered players from 2013 without asking any of them to either play reserves/not play/move clubs,
4. This allows clubs to keep existing registered players from 2013 without asking any of them to either play reserves/not play/move clubs,
5. This encourages Clubs to only play players in the Reserves Division that may genuinely be at that level (out of form, U/18s).
6. This doesn't penalise those players that were aligned to a District and played in that District before the rezoning occurred in 2009.
7. Loyalty points, encourages players to stay with their clubs and rewards clubs for retaining them.
8. Need to reinforce that state players *should* be playing at the highest possible level to allow them to be selected at State/National/AFL level (if their club's highest level is reserves then that's fine)
9. Given that players that play two (2) games carry points in each match; this could discourage clubs from having Talent Identified players doubling up which would support the AFL's and WAWFL's aim to address player welfare.
10. All feedback from clubs was investigated and implemented where possible in the best interest of the league.