

CIRCULAR



Subject: WAAFL PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM FEEDBACK (2)

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Audience: Club Committees, WAAFL Board Members

Summary: The WAAFL wish to gain further club feedback on a Player Points System.	Action: <u>CLICK HERE</u> to submit your feedback by 4pm Monday 9 th July 2018.
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The Board sought feedback from clubs (refer to Circular 35, 2017-18) on key principles that need to be confirmed before further detail of a Player Points System (PPS) can be confirmed.

In relation to Circular 35, 2017-18, 23 clubs provided feedback to four recommendations.

There was conclusive support from clubs (22/1) to recommendation 1 that a PPS apply to the mens grades A, B, C1, C2, C3 and C4.

There was conclusive support from clubs (23/0) to recommendation 4 for penalties for non-compliance with the PPS; i.e. that a team which exceeds the Total Team Points cap, or makes a false or incorrect declaration regarding a player's point allocation, will lose the match and be penalised as playing an ineligible player.

In relation to club feedback on recommendations 2 and 3 from Circular 35, 2017-18, the following is proposed.

1. AMEND LOCAL PLAYER DEFINITION - JUNIORS

There was general support from clubs (17/6) to recommendation 2 for the definition of a Local Player.

A player is deemed a Local Player to his respective WAAFL club if it is:-

- i. the first WAAFL club the player played for prior to playing at another senior football club (i.e. AFL, WAFL and interstate equivalents, and other senior community metro or country clubs); OR
- ii. If the player is yet to play a WAAFL match, the aligned Junior/Senior WAAFL club the player played most of his junior footy seasons between Years 10 to 12.

However, where the player had yet to play senior football and were transferring from juniors to the WAAFL, clubs were concerned the scope of determining a player's "true" junior club was too narrow.

Concerns included;

- Junior players who moved suburbs.
- Merged junior teams within Years 10 and 12.
- School competitions such as PSA and ACC stopping players within Years 10 to 12 playing community club football.

The following amendment is recommended based on AFL Victoria's "home player" definition. This means a player who has not played WAAFL will be assessed on where he only played his junior footy at or at least played a minimum of three seasons at. As a result, a player may be categorised as a Local Player at more than one WAAFL club.

Recommendation 1: A player is deemed a Local Player to his respective WAAFL club if it is:-

- i. the first WAAFL club the player played for prior to playing at another senior football club (i.e. AFL, WAFL and interstate equivalents, and other senior community metro or country clubs); OR
- ~~ii. if the player is yet to play a WAAFL match, the aligned Junior/Senior WAAFL club the player played most of his junior footy seasons between Years 10 to 12.~~
- ii. if the player is yet to play a WAAFL match; the aligned junior club where the player
 - played 40 or more matches; or
 - played a minimum of 5 matches in each of any 5 consecutive seasons; or
 - has only played at.

A player may be categorised as a Local Player at more than one WAAFL club.

2. ALIGNED JUNIOR CLUBS – LOCAL PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

The WAAFL acknowledge and respects existing relationships between junior and WAAFL clubs. However, to ensure a consistent and continuous relationship between junior and senior clubs, and to avoid WAAFL clubs extending relationships beyond their reach, it is being recommended that up to two junior clubs may be nominated by a WAAFL club as an "Aligned Junior Club".

In relation to an "Aligned Junior Club" when assessing Local Player eligibility:-

Recommendation 2: That each WAAFL club shall nominate one primary and one secondary junior aligned club. WAAFL clubs may share the same primary and/or secondary junior club with another WAAFL club.

School teams playing in a WAFC junior club competition may be categorised as an Aligned Junior Club.

Schools teams playing within a school competition such as PSA or ACC may not be categorised as an Aligned Junior Club.

Merged junior teams: where junior clubs merge to form a team for a season, those matches played with the merged team will be attributed to the junior club the player played at preceding the merged team.

3. AMENDED PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES – LOYALTY POINTS REDUCTION

There was general support from clubs to recommendation 3 for the four level player points categories. However, clubs sought further clarity to reward player retention.

Recommendation 3: That a reduction of 1 point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to a player till he reaches 1 point.

A 'Season of Service' means five WAAFL matches played per season with his respective WAAFL club. These seasons do not have to be consecutive seasons nor in the one grade of the WAAFL club.

A 'Season of Service' will not be applicable to Type 2 Local Interchange Permit players. Type 2 Local Interchange Permit players are not WAAFL players. These players are registered in another competition but allowed to play in the WAAFL under permit arrangements. Unless the player is deemed a local player, he will attract points as per PPS categories. This will encourage WAFL clubs to permit players to their local club.

Five WAAFL matches per season is recommended to qualify one 'Season of Service' as it correlates to finals eligibility.

4. AMENDED PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES - TABLE

Club feedback on player point categories was varied. The key principle to the proposed player point categories is that a player selected in a WAAFL's clubs league team is generally considered within the club's best 22 players, and will be of some quality and ability that may attract player payments.

A player coming from outside the respective WAAFL club into the club's best 22 players should be more points than a Local Player.

From club feedback, an additional level to differentiate between WAFL League and WAFL Reserves/Colts was added.

Recommendation 4: A player who has played one or more matches in any of the current or previous two seasons at the following levels of football be allocated points as follows:

Allocation		Grade/Level	Competition
5 points	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFL
4 points	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAFL (League) or interstate equivalents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAFL, SANFL, VFL, NEAFL, TSL, NTFL
3 points	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAFL (Reserves/Colts) or interstate equivalents Senior Community (League) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAFL, SANFL, VFL, NEAFL, TSL, NTFL, TAC Cup WAAFL, WACFL, MFL, interstate competitions
2 points	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Community (Reserves/Colts) Transferring non-aligned junior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WAAFL, WACFL, MFL, interstate competitions Transferred from a junior club not aligned with the WAAFL club
1 point	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Player Not played competitive football in the current or previous two seasons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First WAAFL club or aligned junior club

5. CLUB FEEDBACK VIA ONLINE SURVEY

[CLICK HERE](#) to submit your feedback by 4pm Monday 9th July 2018.