



AFL 9s Tournament 2014 By-Laws

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
1. SPIRIT OF AFL 9S	2
2. INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS	2
3. COLOURS & UNIFORMS	3
4. DIVISIONS	3
5. PLAYER REGISTRATIONS	3
6. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS	3
7. POOL MATCHES	4
8. FINALS	4
9. SCHEDULED PLAY	4
10. GENERAL FORFEITS	5
11. LOSS OF MATCH PLAY DUE TO INJURY	5
12. BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS	5
13. BEST PLAYER AWARD	6
14. DISPUTES	6
15. DISCIPLINARY ACTION	7
16. SEND OFF RULE	7
17. COMPLAINTS & APPEALS	7

Introduction

All matches played in the AFL9s Tournament shall be played according to the Rules of AFL 9s.

These By-Laws are adopted by the WAFC and are to be read in conjunction with the AFL 9s Tournament – Terms of Participation.

1. Spirit of AFL 9s

All participants recognise that the AFL 9s Tournament is to be played with the Spirit of the game in mind.

It is incumbent on every participant irrespective of their place in the game to ensure that they will:

- Prioritise fun, enjoyment and safety of all participants;
- Play the game in the inclusive spirit in which it is intended;
- Ensure that values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated;
- Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our game environments;
- Adhere to any directive issued by the Tournament Director and his/her staff.

2. Interpretation & Definitions

Definition	Interpretation
AFL 9s Tournament	The AFL 9s tournament which will be held at Patersons Stadium on 29 th November, 2014
WAFC	The West Australian Football Commission
Tournament Points	The points a team will receive for either winning or drawing a match; Win = 4 points Draw = 2 points Additional points may be awarded in scenarios outlined in the below by-laws
Game Points	The amount of points a team scores or has scored against them in any given match; Super Goal (goal scored by a female) = 9 points Goal = 6 points Behind = 1 point Additional points may be awarded for or against a team as outlined in the below by-laws
Tournament Director	A nominated WAFC employee who is the director of the tournament.

3. Colours & Uniforms

Within the registration process, each team will nominate its team singlet design & colours.

- 3.1 It is at the discretion of the Tournament Director if teams are required to wear 'Clash' singlets, which will be provided by the WAFC.

4. Divisions

The tournament will be run catering for three divisions.

- 4.1 Open Division: no gender, age or other requirements for open division;
- 4.2 Mixed Division: A minimum of three players of each gender must be on the field at all times;
- 4.3 Over 35's: All players must be born before the year 1979. No gender or age requirements

5. Player Registrations

- 5.1 All players participating in the tournament must be registered through the AFL 9s Registration Portal provided by the WAFC
- 5.2 Teams who play unregistered players will be deemed to have forfeited any matches in which the unregistered players participated in, and will be subject to *By Law 10. General Forfeit.*

6. Ineligible players

Ineligible players shall not be included in any team or take part in any match.

- 6.1 The following players shall be classified as ineligible:
 - 6.1.1 A player not registered with a team and the AFL 9s Tournament;
 - 6.1.2 A player who was born since, but not including 1998;
 - 6.1.3 A player who was born after 1979, who is playing in the Over 35's Division;
 - 6.1.4 A player who is banned from participating in either: WAFC affiliated association games or from a registered AFL 9s Centre;
 - 6.1.5 A player who is serving a suspension under the Set Penalties Rule in the *AFL9s Rules + Regulations.*
- 6.2 Should a team include an ineligible player that team will be deemed to forfeit the match, and the match shall be awarded to the opposing team as per *By Law 10. General Forfeit.*
 - 6.2.1 Should the opposing team also play an ineligible player in the same match then no points shall be awarded for the match. Additional

penalties may be administered at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

7. Pool Matches

The format of the pool matches will be determined by the WAFC.

- 7.1 At the conclusion of each match the winning team will be awarded 4 tournament points;
- 7.2 In the event of a drawn match the both teams will be awarded 2 points each.

8. Finals

- 8.1 At the conclusion of the pool match stage the top four teams in each division will advance to the Finals;
- 8.2 Final format;
 - 8.2.1 The first round of finals will be called the Semi Final. In the Semi-finals in each division: 1st will play 4th and 2nd will play 3rd;
 - 8.2.2 The winners of the Semi-Finals will play off in the Grand Final, with the winner of the Grand Final to be named tournament champion;
- 8.3 In the event of a drawn game in any finals match an additional five minutes of extra-time will be played to determine the winner;
 - 8.3.1 Should at the conclusion of the five minutes of extra time the score still be level then a the winner shall be decided by 'Golden Goal', whereby the first team to score a goal will be determined to be the winner.

9. Scheduled play

The schedule of play will be published prior to the commencement of the Tournament.

- 9.1 Teams must be ready to commence play at the scheduled time;
 - 9.1.1 Should one team be unready to commence play 1 minute after the scheduled time their opposition shall be awarded 10 game points. For each additional minute that they are not ready to commence play an additional 10 game points will be awarded to their opposition;
- 9.2 Should both teams be unready for the commencement of play at the scheduled start of play, play will commence as soon as possible.
 - 9.2.1 Where one team is ready after the scheduled start of play but the other is not then the team that is ready will be awarded 10 game points per minute that the other team is not ready;

9.3 Should more than five minutes elapse between the scheduled start of play and the match has not been commenced then the match shall be abandoned, and:

9.3.1 Where one team was ready to play and the other was not, the win will be awarded to the team that was ready to play with 50 game points for and zero game points against.

9.3.2 Where both teams were not ready to commence the match then it shall be deemed not to have constituted a match and no Tournament points or game points will be awarded to either team.

10. General Forfeits

A general forfeit will be enforced where a team is disqualified from the tournament or in other circumstances as prescribed in the By Laws.

10.1 In the event of a general forfeit, the opposition of the team that is being made to forfeit shall receive 4 tournament points and 50 match points.

11. Loss of match play due to injury

11.1 If an injury occurs and less than 10 minutes of official match play is lost then play will resume as normal for the remainder of the match;

11.2 If an injury occurs and more than 10 minutes of official match play is lost then the match will be abandoned and competing teams will be awarded a draw and each receive two Tournament Points. Each team will also be awarded their average for and against game points from the matches played prior to the loss of match play.

12. Bleeding & Blood Borne Infections

No team shall allow any player to participate in any match or continue to participate in any match for so long as such player:

(a) is bleeding; or

(b) Has blood on any part of his/her person or uniform.

12.1 In the event that an Umpire observes a player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of his person or uniform, the Umpire shall take action as follows:

12.1.1 On observing that a player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the player is covered in blood, the field umpire shall direct such player to leave the field immediately a break in play arises (i.e. score, free kick, mark, field bounce).

12.1.2 Only the field umpires can direct a player to leave the playing field, thereby ensuring the team is not disadvantaged by playing one team member short for any period of time.

- 12.1.3 Any player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field, however his replacement must enter through the interchange area.
- 12.1.4 Field Umpire in control of play shall give the replacement player reasonable time to take up his/her position prior to play recommencing.
- 12.1.5 A player, who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire given in accordance with this policy, shall be reported by the umpire for misconduct in that he / she refused to leave the field.
- 12.2 A player shall immediately upon a direction by a field umpire, leave the playing arena, where such umpire is of the opinion that the player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his / her person or uniform. Upon being directed to leave the playing arena, a player shall not return to take any further part in any match until and unless:
- a) the cause of any such bleeding has been abated;
 - b) the injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood is visible;
 - c) any bloodstained article of uniform has been removed and replaced;
 - d) Any blood on any part of a player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

13. Best Player Award

A best player award will be awarded to the best player in each division of the tournament. The umpire shall award votes to the 3 best players at the conclusion of each pool match. The player with the most votes at the end of the pool matches will be awarded the best player award for the division. Voting structure is as follows;

- 13.1 3 votes – best player, 2 votes – 2nd best player, 1 vote – 3rd best player
- 13.2 All votes will be issued at the umpire's discretion
- 13.3 If more than 1 player finishes on the same amount of votes, the award will go to the player that receives the most 3 votes.
- 13.4 If more than 1 player received the same amount of total votes and 3 votes, the award will go to the player that receives the most 2 votes.
- 13.4 If, after the process of 13.4 is completed, the award is still tied then the awards will be given to both participants.

14. Disputes

Any disputes or objections that arise as to the meaning or interpretation of these By Laws should be referred to the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director's ruling on these matters is final.

15. Disciplinary action

For Send-Off Rule and Prescribed Penalties please refer to the *AFL 9s Rules and Regulations Manual*.

- 15.1 For offences covered by the prescribed penalty in *AFL 9s Rules and Regulations* suspensions of one week will be equal to one match of Tournament play;
- 15.2 Should an umpire or official deem it necessary disciplinary matters can be referred to the Tournament Director, the Tournament Director has at his/her absolute discretion the power to:
- a) Suspend a player from: a match, more than one match, or the remainder of the tournament;
 - b) Suspend a team for: a match, more than one match, or the remainder of the tournament;
 - c) Deduct Tournament points from a team;
 - d) Expel a player from the Tournament and the grounds of Patersons stadium;
 - e) Expel a team from the Tournament and the grounds of Paterson's Stadium.

16. Send off rule

The AFL 9s Tournament adopts the Send-Off rule as specified in the *AFL 9s Rules and Regulations Manual*.

17. Complaints & Appeals

Complaints or appeals of official's decisions should be directed to the Tournament Director as soon as possible.

- 17.1 The Tournament Director is the final level of appeal for any disputes, complaints or disciplinary matters that may result as a consequence of participating in the AFL 9s Tournament