

CIRCULAR



Subject: F-GRADE INTRODUCED FOR 2018

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Audience: Club Committee, WAAFL Board Members

Summary: The Board recently endorsed to introduce F-Grade for 2018.	Action: Clubs are encouraged to provide further feedback on the structure and composition of the grade. Please email darmstrong@wafc.com.au.
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Further to Circular 62, 2016-17, the Board recently endorsed to introduce F-Grade for 2018.

Based on club feedback, F-Grade will be conducted under the same rules and conditions as other senior grades, however the following amendments will apply. WAAFL By-laws will be amended in due course and issued before the commencement of the 2018 season.

Rule Amendment Summary:

Age	Grade restricted to 28+ (A player shall have attained the minimum age of 28 years to play in F-Grade)
Players	16-a-side on field (14 min/22 max)
Playing times	4 x 15 mins
Breaks	5/10/5 mins
Even up Rule	Yes
Out of bounds	Last possession rule From a kick or handball, a free is awarded against the player who kicked or handballed the ball across the line without it being touched by the position. If the ball goes out of bounds after no clear possession or is touched after a clear possession, the field umpire will ball up 10 metres inside the boundary line.
Umpires (min)	2 field/2 goal club appointed umpires. No boundary umpires required.
Other	Senior team pre-requisite To nominate a F-Grade team the club needs to field at least one senior team in a higher grade.
	3 match rule Once a player plays in 3 higher grade matches in the season that player is not permitted to play F-Grade.
	Fixturing Shorter home and away season, 9 to 12 rounds. Fixturing of matches will be dependent on team nominations, i.e. all matches at one venue or normal rotational home/away fixturing.
	Affiliation fees As per normal senior teams. Fees primarily comprise ground hire and insurances and are on a per team basis than the number of matches fixtured.