



MEMORANDUM

Reference: M24-10

To: Junior Clubs
From: Competition Coordinator
Date: 3 March 2024
Subject: Junior Competition: Breach of Player Movement Rule, Competition Structure, Team Divisional Grading and Appeal Process
Email: davidware@footballsouthcoast.com

Members

Breach of Player Movement Rule

In reviewing the team lists thus far, the clubs listed below are in breach of the Player Movement Rule H3-1.

Balgownie – 13 Boys C, 13 Boys D, 13 Girls
Cringila – 12 Boys A, 12 Boys B, 13 Boys, 14 Boys
Figtree – 15 Boys
Lakeside – 16 Boys
Shellharbour – 13 Boys D, 16 Boys
South Coast United – 13 Boys B, 14 Boys, 15 Boys, 16 Boys
Thirroul - 16 Boys
Unanderra – 14 Boys
University – 15 Boys

The Club has until **Wednesday 6th March 5:00pm** to give an explanation in writing to FSC and show cause why some or all, of the penalties 3,4, 5, 6 under H3-1 should not be applied to this team and where a club has three or more teams listed above, why FSC should not charge the Club with Misconduct for repeated breaches. If also seeking special dispensation, the Club must also submit the required form.

Code	Code - Offence
H3-1	Exceed Maximum Movement Players in a Team and the breach is found before the competition commences.
H3-2	Exceed Maximum Movement Players in a Team and the breach is found during competition but before those player(s) have participated.
H3-3	Exceed Maximum Movement Players in a Team and the breach is found during competition and the player(s) have participated.
Junior	Club is required to give an explanation and FSC to determine: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Which penalties apply.If the penalty applied is for one or two seasons (current season and next season)If the Club is charged with Misconduct for repeated breaches of this rule (FSC Disc & Disputes Regulation 18.1)
Penalties and Fines	

H3-1	Jun	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warning and the club submit a request for special dispensation; 2. Excess movement players are reallocated to eligible teams, but may have a restriction applied to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) which division/age group the player can be allocated to and b) borrowing for other teams 3. Excess movement players are deregistered by the Club. 4. The team is not accepted into the competition unless they play for zero competition points and will not be eligible for finals. FSC may at its discretion offer the team an opportunity to play in a higher division or age group and play for competition points. 5. The team is permitted to retain the movement players but is deducted 12 or 15 competition points. 6. No entry for the team in any other tournament or State competitions.
------	-----	--

Competition Structure, Division Recommendation

The Grading Committee met on 2 March 2024 to determine the structure of the competition, place teams into divisions in accordance with the competition rule B5 (b)

The Grading Committee shall in its deliberations consider:

- *Movement of players.*
- *Strength of team based on players, previous club and division.*
- *Requests submitted in writing from Clubs.*
- *Position of teams in previous Competition.*
- *Draft grading recommendation from previous year.*

Decisions

1. Ranking

In accordance with rule F2 of the Competition Regulations, all junior competitions shall use the method of **Head-to-Head** to determine ranking.

2. Mercy Rule

In accordance with rule E7 of the Competition Regulations, all junior competitions shall adopt the Mercy Rule.

3. Competition Structures – for divisions playing 18/19 rounds.

Nine and Ten team competitions

18 rounds with all teams playing each other twice.

The top 4 teams in ranking after 18 rounds will qualify for Final series.

Eight team competitions

14 rounds initially with all teams playing each other twice.

The final 4 games will then be drawn based on the ranking of the teams after playing each other once – round order to be determined with each team having 2 home games where possible.

1 v 3 5 v 7	1 v 5 3 v 7	1 v 7 3 v 5	1 v 2 3 v 4
2 v 4 6 v 8	2 v 6 4 v 8	2 v 8 4 v 6	5 v 6 7 v 8

The top 4 teams in ranking after 18 rounds will qualify for Final series.

Seven team competitions

14 rounds initially with all teams playing each other twice.

The final 5 games will be drawn based on the ranking of the teams after playing each other once – round order to be determined with each team having 2 home games where possible

1 v 2 3 v Bye 5 v 6 4 v 7	1 v 6 2 v 7 3 v 4 5 v Bye	1 v 4 2 v 3 5 v 7 6 v Bye	1 v 5 2 v 6 3 v 7 4 v Bye	1 v Bye 2 v Bye 7 v Bye 3 v 6 4 v 5
------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---

The top 4 teams in ranking after 19 rounds will qualify for Final series.

Six team competitions

15 rounds initially with all teams playing each other thrice.

The final 3 games will be drawn based on the ranking of the teams after playing each other twice – round order to be determined.

1 v 4 2 v 6 3 v 5	1 v 5 2 v 3 4 v 6	1 v 2 3 v 4 5 v 6
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------

The top 4 teams in ranking after 18 rounds will qualify for Final series.

Five team competitions

15 rounds initially with all teams playing each other thrice.

The final 4 games will be drawn based on the ranking of the teams after playing each other twice – round order to be determined.

1 v Bye 2 v Bye 3 v Bye 4 v 5	1 v 5 2 v 3 4 v Bye	1 v 3 2 v 4 5 v Bye
--	---------------------------	---------------------------

The top 3 teams in ranking after 18 rounds will qualify for Final series.

11 team competition

11 rounds initially.

The final 7 games will then be drawn based on the ranking of the teams at that point – round order to be determined.

1 v 2	1 v 3	1 v Bye	2 v Bye	1 v 9	9 v 10	4 v 7
3 v 4	2 v 4	2 v 6	3 v Bye	2 v 10	11 v Bye	8 v Bye
5 v 6	5 v 8	3 v 5	4 v Bye	3 v 11	1 v 5	1 v 11
7 v 8	6 v 7	4 v 10	1 v 7	4 v 8	2 v 7	2 v 9
9 v Bye	10 v Bye	7 v 9	5 v 11	5 v Bye	3 v 8	3 v 6
10 v 11	9 v 11	8 v 11	6 v 10	6 v Bye	4 v 6	5 v 10
			8 v 9	7 v Bye		

The top 6 teams qualify for the final series. Format Appendix 9 E

12 team competition

11 rounds initially.

The final 7 games will then be drawn based on the ranking of the teams at that point – round order to be determined.

1 v 2	1 v 4	1 v 6	1 v 7	1 v 9	1 v 12	1 v 3
3 v 4	2 v 3	2 v 8	2 v 5	2 v 10	2 v 11	2 v 4
5 v 11	5 v 9	3 v 7	3 v 6	3 v 12	3 v 9	5 v 6
6 v 12	6 v 10	4 v 5	4 v 8	4 v 11	4 v 10	7 v 8
7 v 9	7 v 12	9 v 10	9 v 12	5 v 8	5 v 7	9 v 11
8 v 10	8 v 11	11 v 12	10 v 11	6 v 7	6 v 8	10 v 12

The top 6 teams qualify for the final series. Format Appendix 9 E

4. Specific Age Structure / Grading

Under 12 Mixed, Under 12 Girls

These competitions are using modified football fields, player numbers and rules as outlined in Article P of the Competition Rules.

The first series of games will be used to grade teams before competitions commence.

12 Mixed: (50 teams)

Albion Park A, Albion Park B, Albion Park C, Balgownie A, Balgownie B, Bulli A, Bulli B, Bulli C, Coledale A, Coledale B, Coniston A, Coniston B, Cringila A, Cringila B, Dapto A, Fernhill A, Fernhill B, Figtree A, Figtree B, Figtree C, Figtree D, Helensburgh A, Helensburgh B, Helensburgh C, Highlands A, Kiama A, Kiama B, Kiama C, Kiama D, Lakeside A, Lakeside B, Lakeside C, Oak Flats A, Oak Flats B, Port Kembla, Shellharbour A, Shellharbour B, Shellharbour C, Shellharbour D, South Coast A, South Coast B, Thirroul A, Unanderra A, Unanderra B, Unanderra C, University A, University B, Warilla A, Woonona A, Woonona B

12 Girls: (17 teams)

Albion Park A, Balgownie A, Balgownie B, Berkeley, Bulli A, Figtree A, Gerringong A, Helensburgh A, Kiama A, Kiama B, Shellharbour A, Shellharbour B, Thirroul A, Unanderra A, University A, Woonona A, Woonona B.

Girls Competitions

13 Girls – 12 Teams, Two divisions

13G Division 1	13G Division 2
Albion Park Bulli Helensburgh Shellharbour A Shellharbour B University	Balgownie Bulli Figtree Gerringong Russell Vale Shellharbour
6	6

14 Girls – 10 teams one Division Review mid comp.

14G Division 1
Albion Park Balgownie Bulli Figtree Helensburgh Port Kembla Russell Vale Shellharbour Thirroul University

15 Girls – 4 teams, 16 Girls – 11 teams.

It is noted that from nominations that:

15 Girls = 3 Division 1 teams, 1 Division 2 team

16 Girls = 3 Division 1 teams, 8 Division 2 teams.

Most 16G Div 2 teams have the majority of players which are 14 or 15.

Decision: Form 2 Divisions – 16G Div 1 and 16G Div 2

16G Division 1	16G Division 2
Shellharbour 16 Thirroul 16 Unanderra 16 Shellharbour 15 Thirroul 15 University 15	Bulli Figtree Gerringong Helensburgh Lakeside Russell Vale University 16 University 15 Woonona

17 Girls – 3 teams, 18 Girls – 3 teams

Fernhill indicated that they could be registering a couple of 18-year-olds, therefore, this would change the nomination to 18.

Most teams do not have many if any 18-year-olds.

Decision: Form 1 Division

17/18G Div 1
Cringila
Fernhill
South Coast United
Thirroul
University Blue
University White

Boys / Mixed Competitions

13 Boys Competition

38 teams – Four divisions

13 Division 1	13 Division 2	13 Division 3	13 Division 4
Albion Park	Balgownie	Balgownie	Albion Park
Balgownie	Cringila	Berkeley	Balgownie
Bulli	Figtree	Bulli	Bulli
Coniston	Kiama	Lakeside	Figtree
Figtree	Russell Vale	Russell Vale	Gerringong Blue
Gerringong	Shellharbour	Shellharbour	Gerringong Red
Highlands	Unanderra	South Coast U	Kiama
Shellharbour	University	University	Lakeside
South Coast United	Woonona	Warilla	Shellharbour
Unanderra			Unanderra
10	9	9	10

14 Boys Competition

30 teams – Four Divisions

14 Division 1	14 Division 2	14 Division 3	14 Division 4
Balgownie	Albion Park	Balgownie	Albion Park
Bulli	Coniston	Coniston	Bulli
Figtree	Cringila	Figtree	Figtree
Helensburgh	Fernhill	Lakeside	Helensburgh
Highlands	South Coast U	Russell Vale	Kiama
Kiama	Thirroul	Shellharbour	Lakeside
Shellharbour	Unanderra	University	Oak Flats
Unanderra			Thirroul
8	7	7	8

15 Boys Competition

26 teams nominated.

The workbook for this age group contains the draft grading for these teams.

16 Boys Competition

18 teams.

The workbook for this age group contains the draft grading for these teams.

It is noted that only 3 clubs in the 16's wish to play Div 1. Over the last several years, the movement of players in the D1 area has significantly impacted on this competition resulting in the top 2 teams remaining. From last season, three of the teams have not reformed, and requests from another two teams to play in Div 2.

After reviewing options, the following structures have been determined and divisions adjusted from the workbook:

15 Division 1 – Three Divisions; 6 Teams in Div 1, 10 Teams in Div 2, 10 Teams in Div 3.

16 Division 1 – Three Divisions; 3 Teams in Div 1, 9 Teams in Div 2, 6 Teams in Div 3.

The 15 Division 1 and 16 Division 1 will be separate competitions but will have competition matches scheduled against each other.

The top 2 teams in 16 Div 1 will play a straight grand final.

The top 4 teams in 15 Div 1 will qualify for a final series.

15 Division 1	15 Division 2	15 Division 3
Balgownie	Albion Park	Albion Park
Bulli	Balgownie	Bulli
Corrimal	Figtree	Figtree
Cringila	Kiama	Helensburgh
Shellharbour	Lakeside	Kiama
South Coast U	Shellharbour	Oak Flats
	South Coast U	South Coast U
16 Division 1	Thirroul	Thirroul
Cringila	University	Unanderra
Shellharbour	Woonona	Woonona
South Coast United		
9	10	10

16 Division 2	16 Division 3
Balgownie	Balgownie
Figtree	Bulli
Gerringong	Fernhill
Helensburgh	Lakeside
Kiama	Shellharbour
Port Kembla	Thirroul
Shellharbour	
Unanderra	
University	
9	6

17 Boys

9 Teams have reformed with the majority from Div 3 in 2023. Helensburgh have players who participated last year in 17 Div 1 but were from 16 Div 3 in 2022.

17 Division 1
Albion Park
Balgownie
Bulli
Coledale
Fernhill
Figtree ##
Helensburgh
Kiama
Lakeside

18 Boys

19 teams have nominated and two divisions formed.

Draft Grading	
18 Division 1	18 Division 2
Bulli	Balgownie Black
Cringila	Balgownie Gold
Coniston	Bulli
Helensburgh	Figtree ##
Russell Vale	Kiama
Shoalhaven	Lakeside
Shellharbour Snr	South Coast U
South Coast U	Thirroul
Wollongong Utd	Unanderra
	University
9	10

Figtree must confirm nominations for 17 and 18 by Wednesday 6th March

4. Teams Withdrawing

Any Club has until **Wednesday 6th March 2024, 5:00pm** to notify FSC of any team you wish to **withdraw** from the Competition without penalty.

Withdrawing a team after this date will incur penalties as specified in the Competition Regulations.

5. Appeals

Clubs who wish to appeal **the structure** of a competition(s) or **a grading** must do so in accordance with Competition Regulation B5 (d)

*Clubs who have any concerns regarding the Competition structure or grading(s) issued may attend the Grading Meeting and make representation to the Committee by way of appeal. Clubs wishing to utilise this means of **appeal must provide written justification of each appeal**, on Club letterhead, to the Competition Coordinator by the date set by FSC. A notice containing appellants will be provided to member Clubs.*

When submitting an appeal, the club needs to provide any further evidence to the information already presented on the nomination form (as this was considered) and should also provide its alternatives – for example on structure what would the competitions look like, divisions, etc. For team grading, who do you suggest should take your place to avoid byes.

Appeals must be lodged by **Tuesday 5th March 2024, 1:00pm** and will be heard on **Wednesday 6th March 2024, commencing at 6:30pm at the FSC Office****.

Clubs appealing must be in attendance or the appeal may be dismissed immediately. This meeting is open to all clubs who may **have two executive committee** persons attend who do not coach the teams being appealed.

The Junior Council after hearing all appeals and considering any late team withdrawals, late player movement or late team nominations shall make a final determination on structure and divisions.

No further appeals can be lodged but FSC under the competition rules may regrade a team.

The attached workbook has data information which was considered. Most sheets will have:

- Column A: Teams listed in ranking order from 2023 as per annual report.
- Column B: 2023 Grading draft as per annual report
- Column C: The total number of players currently in the squad
- Columns D – F: Number of players returning from 2023 with
Team – number returning to the team or from a second team in the same division
Hig – number from a higher division
Low – number from a lower division
- Column G: Number of new or returning players from 2021 or earlier.
- Column H: Number of Movement Players to the squad
- Column I – If Dispensation Form was submitted
Column J - Approval status
- Columns K:L Number of players in age group
- Last Column : Division Requested

Unless otherwise indicated in an age group, the competition structures above will be applied as per the number of teams in a division.