



Rules of Participation

(Rooball Divisions - Under 10)

2009

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RULES OF PARTICIPATION –Under 10

1 STRUCTURE

1.1 Age Groupings

Football Brisbane will arrange age restricted Rooball fixtures for junior players as per the following table. Age groupings may be mixed or gender specific as determined by Football Brisbane.

Age Group	Year of Birth qualification
Under 10	Players attaining the age of 10 years in registration year

All divisions in the age group of 10 years will play under the Rooball Rules as listed in Appendix A.

Players should compete in their own age group wherever numbers permit and must still be registered in accordance with current FFA and Football Brisbane regulations.

Rooball is a modified football game for children 10 years old, played on smaller fields with less players, fewer rules and modified equipment.

In Rooball there are no premiership points or final series and therefore no results or tables are recorded. The game is designed to allow the frequent interchange of players so that all players get equal time on the field. Rooball helps young players develop the skills needed for all positions and players can, in later years, make a decision about which position they enjoy the most.

The composition of divisions in these age groups will be finalised following the receipt of nominations giving consideration to minimise the travel requirements of participating teams where possible.

1.2 Other Events

Football Brisbane may, from time to time, also schedule other matches within the zone. Rules for these matches shall be set prior to the commencement of any match.

2 FIXTURES

2.1 Scheduling

Football Brisbane will arrange the dates, times and locations of all matches. These scheduled matches will be advised to participating teams prior to the commencement of the season.

2.2 Duration

The duration of matches for each age group are outlined in the table below. The referee has the right to abandon any match if, in his/her opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.

Age Group	Duration	Interval
Under 10	2 x 25 mins	5 mins

3 NON-PARTICIPATION IN A FIXTURE

If a team is unable to field fulfil a fixture commitment they must contact their opposition prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

4 WITHDRAWAL/REMOVAL FROM FIXTURES

If any team in any division withdraws or is removed after fixtures are set then a bye may be substituted.

5 INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS

In all Rooball divisions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than three (3) substitutes permitted to be listed on the Match Sheet.

Only players' names listed on the Match Sheet are permitted to take part in the match. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player.

All interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place at the halfway line.

6 GRADING OF PLAYERS

The Under 10 age group will consist of two participation groupings, Geckos and Goannas. Gecko teams will involve players who are new to Rooball, while Goanna teams include the more experienced players. If a club has more than one team within a group, the teams should be of equal standard where possible.

Players should participate in their own age group wherever numbers permit. Football Brisbane will not accept teams where the entire team is playing out of their age group.

If a player is playing out of their age group, they must have been assessed in line with the Player Age Policy.

7 BORROWING PLAYERS

Registered players may be borrowed any number of times by club teams in their own age group provided that the team is short of players.

They may be borrowed to play in a higher age group if that team is short of players provided that they have completed the appropriate Player Assessment Forms.

8 ELIGIBILITY/NON-ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

8.1 Eligible Players

A player is eligible to play in his/her team, provided he/she has been registered in line with Football Federation of Australia National Registration Regulations and Football Brisbane Registration Procedures and Guidelines, and is not under suspension by Football Brisbane or any other Federation.

A player is eligible to take part in a scheduled Football Brisbane match provided his/her name has been listed on the Match Sheet **prior to the commencement of the match.**

9 CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1 Facilities/Ground Arrangements

The home club must ensure:

- the ground is correctly marked;
- it provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened or pegged to the ground and corner flags;
- it provides toilet facilities and dressing room facilities that are hygienic and clean;
- it has adequate refreshment/canteen facilities open to the public;
- it provides a safe environment for players, officials and spectators;
- it provides a Referee's Room where referees can rest and leave their belongings while on the park.

Any club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be fined, suspended or have its home fixtures played away.

9.2 Wet Weather Procedure

Clubs can advise if their fields are unplayable on days with scheduled fixtures by contacting the office of Football Brisbane (3849 5999) or designated office staff. Updated information on fields / matches that have been cancelled will be made available on Football Brisbane's website or by calling **3849 1104**.

In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of a fixture through rain rendering grounds unplayable, Football Brisbane shall determine whether the fixture will be rescheduled.

9.3 Match Sheets

On match day, both teams participating in a Rooball match are required to complete a Football Brisbane Match Sheet prior to the commencement of any match.

A Match Sheet must:

- list all match details (age, division, date, fixture number, participating teams, venue, players' full names and corresponding numbers);
- have a minimum of 5 players listed (of whom one is a goalkeeper) before a match can commence;
- not list more than 9 players for any fixture;
- list all Team Officials;

Players participating in such matches are not required to sign the Match Sheet. If an opposing team challenges the identity of a player they should lodge a report with the Football Referee and then to Football Brisbane for investigation. Each club is to retain the original of completed Match Sheets until the completion of the season. At the completion of the season the original match sheets must be forwarded to Football Brisbane.

9.4 Match Balls

The host club shall provide one football of correct size and in good order and condition for each match. Under 10's shall play with a size four (4) match ball.

9.5 Team Officials

Clubs are accountable for their appointed team officials (coaches, managers, and medical staff) and they should be made aware that they are governed by a Code of Conduct. Penalties including suspension of team officials, fines, and good behaviour bonds, can be levied upon such persons and clubs, where it is found that team officials have breached the Code of Conduct.

1. Team officials must remain within the technical area and are required to wear a Football Brisbane Identification Card at all times in the technical area. Failure to do so may incur a disciplinary fine.
2. Team officials are responsible for trying to keep players behaving in an appropriate manner at all times before, during and after any game.
3. Team officials are not to argue or address any disagreements or comment direct to a referee. Any complaints should be directed to Football Brisbane on club letterhead.
4. A team official can only enter the field of play when the referee indicates to do so.

10 MATCH OFFICIALS INFORMATION

10.1 Extreme Weather Conditions

In extreme weather conditions, Football Brisbane or the appointed match official reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture. If the appointed match official postpones, delays or abandons any fixture due to extreme weather conditions, he / she must outline the reasons in writing to Football Brisbane.

All clubs, players, and match officials are requested to please note the following;

- If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the course of the game; *and*
- If conditions are considered extreme by the match referee, he or she has discretion to allow a 2-minute break during the course of each half.

10.2 Blood Rule

In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he /she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to rejoin the game.

In the event the player's uniform or attire is splattered with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change his attire before being permitted to rejoin the game. Should the injured player be required to change his uniform, then the appointed match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary.

11 DISCIPLINARY

Please refer to the Football Brisbane Disciplinary policy as at 1st February 2009.

APPENDIX A

ROOBALL

The Field of Play

To ensure that Rooball can be easily played and very few special requirements are needed the dimensions of a Rooball field can easily fit into an adult football field. Rooball can be played on any field or open area.

Dimensions

The field of play should be rectangular.

The recommended sizes are: Under 10 - Max: 70m x 50m Min: 60m x 45m

Markings

To simplify the markings there is to be a halfway line, a centre spot and a goal area. The Centre Circle is optional. If marked, a centre circle is to be the same radius as the goal area.

Goal Area

The size of the goal area should be: Under 10 - 7m radius from the goal line

Corner area

There is no need for the corner area to be marked for Rooball. Corners can be taken from the point where goal line and touch line meet.

The Goals

The internal height and width of the goals should be: Under 10 - 2m x 6m

The Ball

Ball sizes should be: Under 10 - Size 4

The number of players

9 players including a goalkeeper (Minimum of 5 players one of whom must be a goalkeeper).

Interchange

Interchange of players is permitted during all Rooball games. Interchange is encouraged to provide each player equal time and provide an opportunity for a supportive coach to help the young player.

Each side may field a maximum of 3 interchange players. Any player may be interchanged at any time, including the goalkeeper. No additional time is allocated for interchange.

The referee must be advised at the time of changing. The referee may direct that a player be interchanged if, in their opinion, the player's behaviour warrants it.

Player's Equipment

A player taking the field of play shall not wear anything which is dangerous to themselves or to another player. Boots or training shoes and shin pads must be worn.

Referees

At this level official referees are not necessary. Players in these age groups rarely attempt to deliberately break the law. If they do other players will all too readily draw attention to it. Responsible adults organising games could well referee the matches if needed.

Clubs are to supply Referees for all Rooball games, preferably not the coach or manager of the team playing. The role of the referee in such games should be to encourage the participants and offer constructive advice where appropriate, and also to give positive praise to players from both sides.

Assistant Referees

They are not required at this level of soccer but may be used if desired.

Duration of the Game

The recommended times for Rooball are: 2 halves of 25 minutes each. At half-time the interval should be 5 minutes for all age groups.

The Start of Play

A game is started by a kick-off from the centre mark. The team not kicking off must stand outside the centre circle (or a minimum of seven (7) metres from the centre mark if no centre circle is marked), until the ball is kicked.

After a goal has been scored the game is restarted from the centre mark with the side conceding the goal taking the kick.

Following half-time the game is restarted with the teams changing ends and the kick-off being taken by the side that did not start the game. A goal **cannot** be scored direct from the kick-off.

Ball in and out of Play

The ball is out of play when it wholly crosses the goal line or the touch line, or when play has been stopped by the referee. These lines are part of the field of play. If the ball is kicked over the goal line (not in the goal) by an attacker a goal kick is taken from inside the goal area. If the ball is kicked over the goal line (not in the goal) by a defender a corner kick is taken from the nearest corner.

Method of Scoring

A goal is scored when the ball has wholly crossed the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar. Players may score goals from anywhere on the field.

Offside

There is no offside in Rooball, but deliberately placing a player or players in an offside position **is contrary to the spirit of the game and is discouraged.**

Fouls and Misconduct

This is an important rule that relates to the behaviour of players during play. Players may not kick, trip, jump at, strike, hold, push, charge or violently charge an opponent.

The law emphasises the need for players to behave in a manner appropriate for a sports person. At this level it is important for referees to determine the intention of the players relative to the above offences and to, at all times, encourage sporting conduct.

Goalkeepers

Only goalkeepers may touch the ball with their arms or hands, and only within their goal area. Upon receiving the ball in his penalty area during the course of normal play the goalkeeper may kick or throw the ball back into play.

Goalkeepers are not allowed to pick up the ball from a deliberate back pass from a player on their own team. Back passes should not be taught to Rooball players. Referees should exercise their discretion in dealing with a deliberate backpass, not penalising the team and explaining the rule to avoid further incidents.

Free Kicks - Indirect

In Rooball all free kicks are deemed to be "indirect". (The "indirect" free kick is one where a goal cannot be scored unless it has been touched by another player other than the kicker). All of the opposing players should be at least 7 metres from the ball when a free kick is taken.

If a free kick is awarded to the defending team within the goal area, the kick can be taken anywhere inside the area. Free kicks awarded in the goal area to the attacking team are taken from the goal area line at a point nearest to where the foul occurred. All other free kicks are taken from where the foul occurs.

Throw-Ins

When the whole of the ball passes out of the field of play along the touch line a throw-in is awarded to the opposing side to that of the player who last played or touched the ball. The ball is thrown in from the spot where the ball left the field of play.

The player taking the throw-in must face the field with both feet on the ground and throw the ball into the field delivering the ball over the head using both hands.

At Rooball level players should be given a second attempt if the first throw is invalid. The referee or coach should assist the player to achieve the correct method. Following two foul attempts then the throw-in is given to the opposing team.

Goal Kicks

Goal kicks are awarded when the whole of the ball has crossed the goal line (except for the scoring of a goal) and was last touched by one of the attacking team. Goal kicks may be taken from anywhere within the goal area. Opponents must be 7 metres from the ball.

Corner Kicks

When the ball passes wholly over the goal line (except for the scoring of a goal) and was last touched by a player from the defending team then a corner kick is awarded. Corners can be taken from the point where goal line and touch line meet. Opposing players should be 7 metres from the ball.

Coaching

Coaches may give constructive instructions from the sideline only (not behind the goal) and then only if they are conveyed quietly without excessive emotion. Coaches and Managers are not permitted to enter the field, during play, unless given permission by the referee.

Team officials are not to argue or address any disagreement or comments direct to a referee. Any complaints should be advised to their club, who, in return, should advise Football Brisbane if warranted.

All team officials should be made aware of their obligations under the FFA Code of Conduct and the sanctions that may apply should they breach these obligations.
