



Rules of Participation

(Small Sided Football - Under 6/7/8/9)

2009

INDEX

1	Structure	
1.1	Age Groupings	3
1.2	In House Divisions	3
1.3	Hubs/Grouping Structures	3
2	Fixtures	
2.1	Scheduling	3
2.2	Duration	3
3	Non-Participation in a Fixture	4
4	Withdrawal/Removal from Fixtures	4
5	Interchange of Players	4
6	Grading of Players	4
7	Borrowing Players	4
8	Eligibility/Non-Eligibility of Players	
8.1	Eligible Players	4
9	Club Responsibilities	
9.1	Facilities/Ground Arrangements	4
9.2	Wet Weather Procedure	5
9.3	Match Sheets	5
9.4	Match Balls	5
9.5	Team Officials	5
10	Match Official's Information	
10.1	Extreme Weather Conditions	5
10.2	Blood Rule	5
11	Disciplinary	6

RULES OF PARTICIPATION – Small Sided Football

1 STRUCTURE

1.1 Age Groupings

Football Brisbane will arrange age restricted Small Side Football (SSF) 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 9	Players attaining the age of 9 years in registration year
Under 8	Players attaining the age of 8 years in registration year
Under 7	Players attaining the age of 7 years in registration year
Under 6	Players attaining the age of 6 years in registration year

All age groups 6 to 9 years must play under SSF Rules as listed in Appendix A

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

Small Sided Football a modified version of football for children 5 to 9 years old, played on smaller fields with less players, fewer rules and modified equipment.

In SSF there are no premiership points or final series and therefore no results or tables are recorded. The games are designed to allow the frequent interchange of players so that all players get equal time on the field. This 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 In House Divisions

Football Brisbane promotes the concept of in-house fixtures in the 6, 7, 8 and 9 years age groups, dependent on individual club registration numbers. Clubs must have a minimum of 36 players in the 6 year age group nominated, 42 players in each of the 7 year and 8 year age groups and 54 players for the 9 year age group.

1.3 Hubs/Grouping Structure

Where clubs are unable to meet the In House conditions, Football Brisbane will arrange the formation of 'hubs' or organise grouping structures to facilitate matches. These will be arranged giving maximum consideration to travel considerations.

2 FIXTURES

2.1 Scheduling

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

Clubs running in-house competitions must submit a copy of the matches for each age group to Football Brisbane prior to commencement of the season.

2.2 Duration

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

Age Group	Duration	Interval
Under 9	2 x 25 mins	5 mins
Under 8	2 x 20 mins	5 mins
Under 7	2 x 20 mins	5 mins
Under 6	2 x 15 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 Small Sided Games, unlimited interchange will be permitted.

6 GRADING OF PLAYERS

Players and teams in the Under 6, 7 and 8 age group are not to be graded and should play in teams as of equal standard wherever possible as decided by the club.

The Under 9 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 complied with the Player Age Policy.

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, Football Queensland 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 goals nets, safely fastened or pegged to the ground;
- 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, the fixture will not be rescheduled.

9.3 Match Sheets

On match day, both teams participating in a Small Sided Game 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 group, division, date, fixture number, participating teams, venue, players' full names and corresponding numbers);
- 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 Game Leader/Instructing 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. These ages shall play with a size three (3) 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 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 Game Leader. Any complaints should be resolved as per the Football Brisbane Procedures for Complaints process.
4. A team official can only enter the field of play when the Game Leader indicates to do so.

10 MATCH OFFICIALS INFORMATION

10.1 Extreme Weather Conditions

In extreme weather conditions, Football Brisbane or the appointed Game Leader reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture. If the appointed Game Leader 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 Game Leader, 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 Game Leader 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 Game Leader 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 Game Leader 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.
