



AFL Northern Territory Rules & Regulations

2020-2021 Edition

This edition is valid from October 2020 and shall continue to be current until a new edition is released by AFL Northern Territory.

Preamble

AFL Northern Territory (AFLNT) is responsible for the conduct of all competitions within the Northern Territory.

These Rules & Regulations are drafted and designed to provide direction for the administration of all competitions within the Northern Territory and should be read in conjunction with the most recent version of the Laws of Australian Football and the AFL’s Member Protection Policy. Where there is any inconsistency between these Rules & Regulations and the Laws of Australia Football, this document shall prevail.

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1 Operation of Rules & Regulations

1.1 Application

These Rules and Regulations specify the rules and regulations applicable for the conduct of the Competitions in the Northern Territory and for the administration of the playing, participating, coaching and officiating in Australian Football within the Northern Territory.

1.2 Member Protection Policy

The AFL Member Protection Policy will apply to these Rules & Regulations provided that if there is any conflict between these Rules and Regulations and the AFL Member Protection Policy, these Rules & Regulations will prevail.

1.3 Amendments to 2020-21 Edition of AFLNT Rules & Regulations

The following Rules & Regulations have been amended:

- (a) AFLNT Rules & Regs 3.14 - Competition – Consequence of Forfeiture;
- (b) AFLNT Rules & Regs 3.9 - Competition – Playing Numbers;
- (c) AFLNT Rules & Regs 4.1 - Nominations – Teams;
- (d) AFLNT Rules & Regs 4.2 - Nominations – Club Coaches;
- (e) AFLNT Rules & Regs 5.3 - Playing Up (Juniors);
- (f) AFLNT Rules & Regs 5.4 - Age Dispensation;
- (g) AFLNT Rules & Regs 5.5 - Junior Core Lists;
- (h) AFLNT Rules & Regs 9.5 - Notifiable Conduct;
- (i) AFLNT Rules & Regs 10.9 - Fines & Penalties;
- (j) AFLNT Rules & Regs Appendix 7; AFLNT Forms;
- (k) AFLNT Rules & Regs Appendix 10 - Reporting Process Flow-Chart;
- (l) AFLNT Rules & Regs Appendix 11 - Roles of Match Review Panel, Tribunal & Appeals Board; and
- (m) AFLNT Rules & Regs Appendix 12 - Fines & Penalties.

2 Definitions

In these Rules & Regulations, unless a contrary meaning is required by the context, the following words have the meanings indicated:

Administrator:	Any person who holds any office in or performs any duty for that Club whether as President, Vice President, Chairman, Director, General Manager, Executive Director member of any committee, Club Development Manager, Coach, Team Manager, trainer, official runner, water carrier, steward, tribunal advocate, or otherwise.
Affiliate League:	A competition that is administered by AFLNT under licence.
AFL:	Australian Football League.
AFLNT:	AFL Northern Territory Ltd.
Appeals Board:	The Independent body appointed by AFLNT to hear matters brought before it in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football or these Rules & Regulations.
Approved Uniform:	Uniform approval under these Rules & Regulations, including guernsey, logos, shorts & socks.
Away Games:	Matches conducted on Licence with the AFLNT.
Board:	AFLNT Board of Directors.
CEO:	The Chief Executive Officer appointed by AFLNT.
Club:	A football club which has entered a Licence Agreement with AFLNT.
Club Official:	An official of a Club.
Competition:	A football competition administered by the AFLNT under these Rules & Regulations, including Major and Minor Rounds, a pre-season competition and any additional competition.
Competition Manager:	The person appointed by AFLNT to the position of Competitions Manager, or their delegate.
Divisions:	The divisions within a grade, ranked according to level of ability.
Forfeit:	When a team is unable to take the field in a scheduled match for any reason or is otherwise deemed to have forfeited a match in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

Grade:	A grade in a competition is determined by the age and gender qualifications.
Major Round:	The final series in each grade of Competition.
Match Manager:	The person nominated by a Club or the AFLNT to facilitate the matches played at a specific venue.
Match Review Panel:	The Match Review Panel is an independent panel that assesses all reports and referrals lodged in respect of potential Reportable Offences.
Minor Round:	The series of fixtured home and away matches in each Grade of Competition leading to qualification for participation in Major Rounds.
National Player Transfer Regulations:	The AFL Regulations governing the transfer of Players between States and Territories set out in Schedule 5 of the AFL Member Protection Policy.
Notifiable Conduct:	Conduct which may constitute an offence for which the prescribed maximum penalty is a term of imprisonment.
NTFL:	The competition known as Northern Territory Football League, conducted by AFLNT.
Premier League:	The Premier League competitions of the NTFL.
NT Footballers:	Players who reside in the Northern Territory permanently or who have played in the Northern Territory for a period of 5 years or more but currently reside elsewhere.
Official:	Any member of a football body who holds an official capacity within an Affiliate League, Club or team participating in a Competition.
Player:	For the purpose of these Rules & Regulations, any eligible person selected to play in a match is considered to be a player of that Grade. For the avoidance of doubt, a player can be considered a player of more than one Grade at any one time.
Premiership Ladder:	The ranking of teams during the Minor Round of a Competition by premiership points for the purpose of determining participation in the major round.
Senior Grades:	Senior Men's and Women's Competitions (including Premier League).

- Tier 1 League:** All Senior Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 18 teams directly comprising clubs of the following: South Australian National Football League; Victorian Football League; NAB League; West Australian Football League; North East Australian Football League; and Tasmanian State League.
- Tier 2 League:** All other teams directly comprising clubs within an Australian football competition, other than the AFL, Tier 1 or Unaffiliated Leagues.
- Tribunal:** An independent body appointed by AFLNT to hear matters brought before it in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.

3 Football Operations

3.1 Laws of Australian Football

Except to the extent inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations, all matches played in a Competition will be played in accordance with the current Laws of Australian Football as determined by the Australian Football League.

3.2 Match Management

- 3.2.1 AFLNT, Affiliated Leagues and Clubs are bound by these Rules & Regulations.
- 3.2.2 AFLNT must nominate a Match Manager by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to hosting matches scheduled to be played at any venue managed by AFLNT.
- 3.2.3 Clubs must nominate an AFLNT accredited official to act as Match Manager by 5pm on the Wednesday prior to hosting matches scheduled to be played at that Club's venue.
- 3.2.4 Club nominated Match Managers must carry out the prescribed duties of a Match Manager and be visible on match day, identifiable by AFLNT approved apparel.

[Base Penalty - \$50]

3.3 Match – Match Day Checklist (Insurance Requirements)

- 3.3.1 A Marsh Match Day Checklist must be completed by the first two teams to compete on any oval at any venue scheduled for Competition matches (including Affiliate League matches), prior to the commencement of that match.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

- 3.3.2 The Marsh Match Day Checklist may:

- (a) be completed by using the Marsh 'App', in which case the completed checklist must be sent to nffooty@afilnt.com.au, or
- (b) be completed by using the Marsh 'book', in which case the completed checklist must be submitted with the match day paperwork for that venue.

3.4 Match - Team Sheets

3.4.1 Each team must submit a signed team sheet to the Match Manager, field umpire, time keepers and opposition team manager prior to the commencement of that team's match.

[Base Penalty - \$150]

3.4.2 The timing requirements for submission are as follows:

- (a) Premier League team sheets must be submitted at least sixty (60) minutes prior to the commencement of the match they are participating in. Premier League team sheets must be derived from the team list submitted in accordance with that Affiliated Club's Licence Agreement.
- (b) All team sheets (other than Premier League) must be submitted fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of the match they are participating in.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.4.3 The team sheet must include:

- (a) The name (as registered on FootyWeb) and playing number of each player participating in that match;
- (b) The name (as registered on FootyWeb) of the coach, all assistant coaches, runners, sports trainers, team manager (also known as steward) and water carriers participating in that match; and
- (c) the selected captains. Captains must be selected on team sheets via SportsTG when completing the team sheet and a "(c)" following a player's name denotes a captain on the team sheet.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.4.4 The team manager may amend a team sheet prior to the commencement of a match if a player listed on the team sheet becomes injured or is medically unfit to play, provided;

- (a) The player who is being replaced on a team sheet leaves the playing arena and is not permitted to sit on the interchange bench during that match;
- (b) The team sheet cannot be amended after the sounding of the first warning siren for that match;
- (c) The team manager must notify the Match Manager of any change(s) to the team sheet;
- (d) Team sheets are not to be changed once submitted other than a change of player number in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football;
- (e) If it is necessary to change a player's number during the course of a match, the team manager of that team must notify the Match Manager immediately; and

- (f) All persons entitled to a copy of the team sheet must be notified immediately of any changes.

3.5 Match - Time Keepers

3.5.1 Each Affiliated Club must appoint a time keeper for all matches in which it has a team participating unless notified that AFLNT has appointed official time keepers.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.5.2 All time keepers must abide by the time keeper's instructions as listed in these Rules & Regulations.

3.6 Competitions

3.6.1 AFLNT shall arrange and conduct competitions in the following grades:

- (a) Senior Grade;
- (b) Under 18 Grade;
- (c) Under 16 Grade;
- (d) Under 14 Grade; and
- (e) Under 12 Grade.

3.6.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

3.6.3 AFLNT may arrange and conduct additional Competitions subject to these Rules & Regulations and to such other conditions as AFLNT determines from time to time.

(a) In the event that an additional Competition(s) is arranged and conditions are not determined in advance by AFLNT, or do not adequately cover a range of unforeseen occurrences, the Competition(s) will be subject to the NTFL By-Laws irrespective of the location and administration of the Competition.

(b) Additional Competitions arranged by AFLNT must be entered on FootyWeb with team sheets and scores recorded on FootyWeb for each match played in that Competition.

3.7 Competition – Regrading

3.7.1 The AFLNT Football Operations Department may regrade Competitions at any time up to round 6 of any given season where it is deemed necessary.

3.8 Competition - Footballs

3.8.1 Only AFLNT approved footballs are to be used for Competition matches (including Club home games).

- 3.8.2 Red footballs will be used for day matches and yellow footballs will be used for night matches. The AFLNT Football Operations Department will determine the colour of footballs for twilight matches.
- 3.8.3 A minimum of two (2) footballs in good condition are to be available at the commencement of all Competition matches.
- 3.8.4 The following leather footballs are to be used in Competition matches:
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Senior Men's grade: | Size 5 Football |
| (b) Under 16 & 18 Boy's Grade: | Size 5 Football |
| (c) Senior Women's Grade: | Size 4 Football |
| (d) Under 16 & 18 Girl's Grade: | Size 4 Football |
| (e) Under 14 Boy's Grade: | Size 4 Football |
| (f) Under 14 Girl's Grade: | Size 3 Football |
| (g) Under 12 Grade*: | Size 3 Football |

*During adverse weather conditions Under 12 Grade may use synthetic footballs.

3.9 Competition - Playing Numbers

- 3.9.1 Teams competing in any Competition shall have no more than the following maximum number of Players per team - unless otherwise specified in the Competition By-Laws;
- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| (a) Men's Premier league: | 22 (18 on field + 4 interchange) |
| (b) Senior Men (other than Premier League): | 22 (18 on field + 4 interchange) |
| (c) Senior Women (including Premier League): | 22 (16 on field + 6 interchange) |
| (d) Youth Boys (U14 to U18): | 22 (18 on field + 4 interchange) |
| (e) Youth Girls (U14 to U18): | 22 (16 on field + 6 interchange) |
| (f) Junior (Under 12): | 20 (15 on field + 5 interchange) |
- 3.9.2 If a team submits a team sheet that does not accurately represent the team that took the field during that match, the following will apply:
- | | |
|--|------------|
| (a) The Club will incur the following fee: | |
| (i) Premier League: | \$1000; |
| (ii) All other senior grades: | \$750; |
| (iii) Under 18 grade: | \$500; |
| (iv) Under 14 to 16 grade: | \$250; |
| (v) Under 12 grade: | \$100; and |

(b) An investigation will be conducted in to the breach, the findings of which may determine a further sanction for the Club including but not limited to, the team being deemed to have forfeited the match, or the deduction of premiership points.

[Base Penalty – As listed]

3.9.3 If a team commences a match, or at any time during a match, has more than the prescribed number of Players on the interchange bench, that team will have four premiership points deducted and the team sheet removed from the system for the purpose of qualification along with umpire votes and goal kicker tallies.

[Base Penalty – As listed]

3.9.4 For the avoidance of doubt, any team that has more than the prescribed number of interchange Players but does not exceed the total maximum playing numbers for that grade will not be considered to have breached these Rules & Regulations.

3.9.5 If a junior team is unable to field eighteen (18) Players for a match, the umpire(s) may commence the match as scheduled if each team has at least fourteen (14) Players provided each team has equal playing numbers on the playing arena during the course of the match. If such a match commences the following will apply:

- (a) If a player is sent from the field under the send-off rule, the other team is not required to remove Players from the field of play to maintain equal playing numbers for the duration of that send off period.
- (b) If a player is removed from the field due to injury, the other team is not required to remove Players from the field of play to maintain equal playing numbers for the period of time that the player is unable to participate due to that injury.
- (c) If a junior match commences with one or both teams fielding less than the prescribed number of Players for that competition, the Match Manager has discretionary authority to:
 - i. Allow the match to commence with the minimum number of Players allowable for that Competition and having two (2) of those Players on the interchange to suit the weather conditions that the match is being played in; and
 - ii. Allow the match to be played on a reduced size field to suit the weather conditions when playing a match with a reduced number of Players.

3.9.6 If a match cannot commence because insufficient Players are available, the team that cannot field the required number of Players for that Competition will be deemed to have forfeited that match.

[Base Penalty – As per 3.13.1]

3.9.7 If during a match playing numbers for either team (except Under 12 and Youth Girls) fall below 14, for any reason, the provisions of clause 22.7 of the Laws of Australian Football shall apply.

- 3.9.8 If during a match playing numbers for any Under 12 or Youth Girls Team fall below 12 for any reason, the provisions of clause 22.7 of the Laws of Australian Football shall apply.
- 3.9.9 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary playing numbers for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

3.10 Competition - Premiership Points

Premiership points for all Minor Round matches will be awarded as follows:

(a) Win	Four Points
(b) Draw	Two Points
(c) Tie	Two Points
(d) Washout	Two Points
(e) Loss	Zero Points
(f) Bye	Zero Points

3.11 Competition - Match Ratio

If the Minor Round does not provide each participating team with an equal number of Minor Round matches, positions on the premiership ladder will be determined using the following match ratio formula:

- (a) Number of games won divided by the number of games played.
- (b) When calculating the match ratio, a draw will be calculated as 0.5 of a win.

3.12 Competition - Percentage

- 3.12.1 Percentage for all Minor Round matches will be calculated by dividing the total points scored by a team during the Minor Round by the points scored against that team during the Minor Round and multiplying that result by 100.
- 3.12.2 Where two or more teams are equal on premiership points or match ratio, their respective positions on the premiership ladder will be determined by percentage.

3.13 Competition - Forfeitures

- 3.13.1 A Club must notify the AFLNT Football Operations Department by 9am on the Friday of a scheduled round if that Club is unable to field a team in any relevant Competition and wishes to forfeit that match.
- 3.13.2 Where a Club fails to notify the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per these Rules & Regulations, that Club will incur the following match fee:

(a) Premier League:	\$2000
(b) All other senior grades:	\$750
(c) Under 18 grade:	\$500
(d) Under 14 to 16 grade:	\$250
(e) Under 12 grade:	\$100

[Base Penalty – As listed]

3.13.3 Where a Club forfeits a senior match in a specific grade, that Club cannot participate in a match in a lower division of that same grade in the same round of matches.

3.13.4 For the avoidance of doubt, clause 3.13.3 does not apply to junior grades.

3.14 Competition - Consequence of Forfeiture

3.14.1 Where a team forfeits a match the following shall apply:

- (a) The team receiving the forfeit is entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.
 - i. If a team sheet is submitted by a team receiving a forfeit, all Players listed on that team sheet will be deemed to have played in that match for the purpose of finals eligibility.
 - ii. Once a player is deemed to have played in a match under this provision, that player is deemed ineligible to play in another match in that same round of matches.
- (b) The team giving the forfeit is not entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match.
- (c) Where a team is deemed to have forfeited a match under player eligibility rules or playing number rules the following shall apply:
 - i. Where the player eligibility rules were breached the player(s) deemed to be ineligible to play in that match will be removed from the team sheet and will be deemed not to have played in that match.
 - ii. Where the playing number rules were breached the entire team will be removed from the team sheet and all Players will be deemed not to have played in that match.
- (d) The team receiving the forfeit shall receive four (4) premiership points and the team giving the forfeit shall receive zero (0) premiership points.
- (e) The percentage for the match being forfeited shall be calculated by assuming the winning team has scored sixty (60) points and the losing team has scored zero (0) points.

3.14.2 Where any team forfeits a total of three (3) Minor Round matches in any one season, that team will be removed from the Competition in which it is participating. In such circumstances, the following will apply:

- (a) Minor Round matches deemed to be forfeited matches due to player eligibility rules or exceeding the playing number rules will not be considered when calculating forfeited matches under this rule.
- (b) All matches that a team removed from a Competition at any time during the season pursuant to this Rule is scheduled to participate in shall be reflected as a forfeit for the remaining rounds of the season.

- (c) The team receiving the forfeit is entitled to submit a team sheet for the forfeited match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.
- (d) If a team sheet is submitted by a team receiving a forfeit, all Players listed on that team sheet will be deemed to have played in that match for the purpose of finals eligibility.
- (e) Once a player is deemed to have played in a match under this provision, that player is deemed ineligible to play in another match in that same round of matches.
- (f) Where a bye already exists within the Senior and/or Under 18s fixture and a team is then removed from the Competition, the matches will not be re-fixtured for the purpose of premiership points, however teams are encouraged to participate in a scratch match.

3.15 Competition – Consequence of Washed Out Matches

3.15.1 Where a match is deemed to be washed out the following shall apply:

- (a) Each team will receive two (2) premiership points; and
- (b) Each team involved in the washed-out match is entitled to submit a team sheet for the match naming Players that are eligible to play in that team.

3.16 Competition - Finals

3.16.1 At the conclusion of the Minor Round in any Competition, the finals matches will be scheduled using the Finals Schedule as listed in Appendix 1 of these Rules & Regulations.

3.16.2 The finals format for all Competitions are to be confirmed prior to round 8 of each season.

3.17 Competition - Drawn Finals Matches

3.17.1 In any finals match where the scores are tied at the end of full time the following rules apply:

- (c) At the conclusion of full time there will be a five (5) minute interval during which time the coaching staff may address the Players.
- (d) At the conclusion of the five (5) minute interval, the teams will change ends and play until a score is registered at which time the game will end and the team with the highest score will be declared the winner.

3.15.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary drawn finals match rules for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

3.18 Scheduling

3.18.1 AFLNT will determine the schedule and fixture for all matches and reserve the right to reschedule matches as required.

3.19 Scheduling - Match Times and Duration

3.19.1 The duration of any match in which a team participates shall be:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| (a) Men's Premier League: | 4 quarters of 20 minutes with time on. |
| (b) Women's Premier League: | 4 quarters of 15 minutes with time on. |
| (c) Senior Men's Division 1: | 4 quarters of 20 minutes with no time on. |
| (d) Senior Men's Division 2: | 4 quarters of 20 minutes with no time on. |
| (e) Women's Division 2: | 4 quarters of 12 minutes with no time on. |
| (f) Under 18 Boys grade: | 4 quarters of 18 minutes with no time on. |
| (g) Under 18 Girls grade: | 4 quarters of 15 minutes with no time on. |
| (h) Under 14 to 16 grades: | 4 quarters of 15 minutes with no time on. |
| (i) Under 12 grade: | 4 quarters of 12 minutes with no time on. |
| (j) Under 10 grade: | 4 quarters of 10 minutes with no time on. |

3.19.2 The AFLNT appointed Match Manager has discretionary authority to adjust match times (other than Premier League matches) to ensure Premier League matches and other matches of interest commence on time.

3.19.3 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary match times and durations for one or more Competitions subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

3.20 Scheduling - Run on Times

3.20.1 The AFLNT Football Operations Department may allocate specific run on times where it deems necessary.

- (a) Allocated run on times are subject to that Competition's By-Laws.
- (b) Where a team is unable to run on at the allocated run on time due to the previous match not being cleared in time, the impacted teams are to enter the playing area at the earliest possible opportunity.

3.20.2 Teams that are participating in matches that are not allocated specific run on times are to enter the playing arena not less than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time for that match.

[Base Penalty - \$100]

3.21 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations

3.21.1 Change rooms will be allocated to teams for AFLNT administered competitions by the AFLNT Football Operations Department when necessary.

3.21.2 Change rooms are to be vacated by teams at quarter time of the match they are scheduled to participate in.

3.21.3 Change rooms are to be left in a clean and tidy state when vacated by the team they have been allocated to.

[Base Penalty - \$100]

3.21.4 When allocated a change room by AFLNT, Clubs are allowed access to that change room at half time of the match immediately preceding the match they are scheduled to participate in.

- (a) This rule will not be applicable to Gardens Ovals until such time as additional change rooms are available.

3.21.5 AFLNT takes no responsibility for the security of Club or individually owned property.

3.22 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations for Grand Finals

3.22.1 The first team to qualify for the Men's and Women's Premier League Grand Finals will be offered the opportunity to choose which change room they would prefer for their respective grand finals.

3.23 Scheduling - Warm Ups

3.23.1 No Club or members of a Club are permitted to warm up on any oval that they are scheduled to play, prior to their allocated run on time.

3.23.2 No Club or members of a Club are permitted to warm up on any oval where other matches are scheduled to be played on that same day.

3.23.3 Warm up areas will be allocated to clubs when available.

[Base Penalty – \$50]

3.24 Scheduling - Matches not Commenced or Incomplete

3.24.1 If a match cannot be commenced at the scheduled start time or having already commenced is unable to be completed within the time scheduled for that match for reasons other than a forfeit, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) If a match cannot be commenced with thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled start time, that match will be deemed a wash-out.
- (b) If a match has commenced but is stopped for any reason before the half time interval and is unable to recommence within thirty (30) minutes, that match will be deemed a wash-out.
 - i. Premier League finals matches must be rescheduled for the next available opportunity immediately following the washed-out match.
 - ii. AFLNT reserves the right to reschedule washed out finals matches for all other grades and divisions where practical.
 - iii. Where it is not practical to reschedule a finals match or circumstances do not allow a rescheduled match to proceed;
 - a. the highest ranked team will proceed through to the next round as if they had won that match.
 - b. The lowest ranked team will either be eliminated or proceed through to the next round as if they had lost that match.
- (c) If a match has commenced but is stopped for any reason during or after the half time interval and is unable to recommence within a period of thirty

(30) minutes, that match will be deemed to have been completed and the scores at the time the match was stopped will be deemed to be the final scores for that match.

3.24.2 If circumstances permit, any match that is to be rescheduled may be rescheduled to a new time at the same venue on the same day.

3.24.3 AFLNT reserves the right to reschedule matches at times other than those prescribed within these Rules & Regulations where unusual or extreme circumstances apply.

3.25 Support Staff

3.25.1 On field support staff must be at least 15 years of age when participating in an Under 18 or senior grade match.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.2 On field support staff must be at least 12 years of age when participating in matches other than Under 18 and senior grade matches.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.3 Support staff must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.4 Teams may appoint up to four (4) water carriers that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.

(a) Water carriers are not to enter the field of play for any purpose other than providing water to players and umpires.

(b) Water carriers are not to carry more than two (2) squirt bottles or chin sipper bottles

(c) Water carriers may not carry water bottles larger than squirt bottles or chin sipper bottles.

(d) Water carriers must wear the AFLNT approved 'Water Carrier' apparel.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.5 Teams must appoint at least one (1) qualified sports trainer to attend the ground for the duration of a match that they are participating in.

[Base Penalty - \$100]

3.25.6 Teams may appoint up to two (2) qualified sports trainers (including First Aid Officers and Physiotherapists) that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.

(a) Sports trainers are not to enter the field of play for any purpose other than attending to injured players or umpires.

(b) Sports trainers must wear the AFLNT approved 'Trainer' apparel.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.7 Teams may appoint up to two (2) team runners that can enter the field of play during a match that they are participating in.

- (a) If a team chooses to appoint two runners for a match, only one (1) runner is allowed to enter the field of play at any time.
- (b) If a team chooses to appoint two runners for a match, the runners are to use the interchange gate when entering and leaving the field of play.
- (c) Team runners must not enter the field of play for any purpose other than to deliver a message from the coach to a player and must leave the field of play once that message has been delivered.
- (d) Team runners are not to carry a radio or any other communication equipment whilst on the field of play.
- (e) Team runners must wear the AFLNT approved 'Runner' apparel.
 - i. Senior team runners must wear matching shorts.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.25.8 On field support staff are not to communicate with an umpire, opposition player or official other than to provide medical assistance and provided that a team runner may communicate with an umpire in accordance with rule 5.5 of the Laws of Australian Football.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.26 Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers & Stewards

3.26.1 Coaching staff, team managers and stewards must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.

3.26.2 Junior coaches must wear the AFLNT approved apparel.

3.26.3 Senior coaches must wear their club polo shirt.

3.26.4 Senior assistant coaches must wear their club polo shirt and the AFLNT approved assistant coach arm band.

3.26.5 Team managers and stewards must wear the AFLNT approved 'Support Staff' apparel

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.27 Support Staff - Personnel Entering the Playing Arena

3.27.1 All support staff other than runners, trainers (including First Aid Officers and Doctors) and water carriers must remain in the coach's box or within the perimeter lines surrounding the coach's box for the duration of the match they are participating in.

3.27.2 Unauthorised persons may be ordered from the field of play by an umpire or AFLNT official.

3.27.3 Any individual that breaches this Rule and can be considered a member of a Club as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy will be deemed the responsibility of that Club and as such, that Club will be deemed to be in breach of this Rule.

[Base Penalty - \$50]

3.28 Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials

3.28.1 A Player registered with a Club may act as a team official for their own Club or for another Club with written permission from their Club.

[Base Penalty - \$50]

3.28.2 Players contracted to an AFL club are not permitted to act as a team official for any Club.

[Base Penalty - \$200]

3.29 Umpires – Escorts

3.29.1 Clubs must provide an AFLNT accredited official to act as umpire escort for every match that Club is participating in other than Under 12 Matches.

(a) The escort is required to escort the umpires from the door of the door of the umpire's changeroom onto the ground at the beginning of the match and the beginning of the third quarter.

(b) The escort is required to escort the umpires from the ground to the door of the umpire's changeroom at the end of the second quarter and at the end of the match.

(c) The escort's responsibility is to ensure members of their own Club do not approach the umpires or attempt to engage the umpires in conversation.

(d) Umpires will not enter the field of play to start the match until the umpire escorts are present.

[Base Penalty – \$25]

3.30 Umpires – Umpire Reports / Auditory Offences

3.30.1 At the conclusion of each match, the team manager or another accredited official from each club is required to check with the umpires to confirm whether there have been any reports on Players and/or Officials.

3.30.2 Where written acceptance of an early guilty plea or intent to challenge the charge is not received by AFLNT by 9pm on the day that the Notice of Charge is issued (unless otherwise agreed to by the Tribunal secretary), the player and/or official will be deemed to have accepted the base penalty.

- 3.30.3 The Tribunal will be conducted in accordance with the procedure set out in the document titled State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines, as amended from time to time and set out in Appendix 8.
- 3.30.4 In addition to grading classifiable offences in accordance with the State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines, in the case of Auditory Offences (as that term is defined in Appendix 9), the umpire must grade the offence in accordance with the matrix set out in Appendix 9.

3.31 Umpires - Club Umpires

- 3.31.1 Where notified by the AFLNT Football Operations Department, Clubs must supply one Club field and/or boundary and/or goal umpire to umpire matches.
- 3.31.2 Other than in the case of unforeseen circumstances, Clubs must be notified by 12 pm on the Thursday prior to any scheduled match if that Club is required to provide umpires for a match.
- 3.31.3 Where a Club cannot supply a field umpire, the match may go ahead with one volunteer field umpire supplied by the other club as per the Laws of Australian Football.
- 3.31.4 Where neither Club can supply a field umpire the match is not be played and will be deemed a draw.
- 3.31.5 Club field umpires must be accredited by completing the Basic Umpires Course.
- 3.31.6 Club umpires must wear closed in footwear when participating in a match.
- 3.31.7 Club umpires must wear the AFLNT approved purple club umpire's bib.
- (a) Club umpires may choose to wear the purple club umpire shirt as previously supplied by AFLNT in lieu of the purple club umpire bib, if available.

[Base Penalty - \$100]

3.32 Umpires - Interchange Steward

- 3.32.1 AFLNT may appoint an Interchange Steward for any match that it deems fit.

3.33 Rules – Under 12 & Under 14 Modified Rules

- 3.33.1 In acknowledgement of the Under 12 and Under 14 Competitions being skill development grades the following special rules shall apply:
- (a) The ball must be thrown up at all ruck contests.
- (b) The umpire must identify one player from each opposing side to contest the ruck and only those nominated can contest the throw-up.
- (c) Players are allowed to bounce the ball twice before they must dispose to another player.
- (d) Handballing to themselves or taking a third bounce must be penalised as "holding the ball".

- (e) Players may not deliberately kick the ball off the ground at any time.
- (f) An accidental kick off the ground will not be penalised and a “play on” call will result.
- (g) When the ball goes out of bounds, the field umpire will conduct a “ball up” 15 metres inside the boundary line.
- (h) Where the 50 metre rule applied under offences within the Laws of Australian Football a distance of 25 metres will be substituted.
- (i) No player shall be deliberately slung, dumped or thrown to the ground in any tackle. A free kick shall be awarded against the player who contravenes this rule.

3.33.2 Recording of best players and goal kickers in Under 12 Competitions administered by AFLNT is not permitted.

3.34 Rules – Send Off Rule

3.34.1 AFLNT adopts the ‘Order Off Law’ as outlined in Law 22 of the Laws of Australian Football.

- (a) Any player ordered off the field under Law 22 of the Laws of Australian Football during a Premier League Match can be replaced immediately by another player listed on that team’s team sheet.

3.34.2 In addition to that outlined in Law 22 of the Laws of Australian Football:

- (a) A Player sent off for a red card offence:
 - i. Cannot return to the field of play for the remainder of the match;
 - ii. Cannot be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
 - iii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the timekeepers;
 - iv. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a red card; and
 - v. The timekeepers are to acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching red card for the umpire to see.
- (b) A Player sent off for a yellow card offence:
 - i. Cannot return to the field of play or be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
 - ii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the Timekeepers;
 - iii. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a yellow card; and
 - iv. The timekeepers will acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching yellow card for the umpire to see.
- (c) A player sent off for a second yellow card offence in the same match is automatically deemed to have received a red card and:
 - i. Cannot return to the field of play for the remainder of the match;

- ii. Cannot be replaced until ten (10) minutes of playing time has elapsed;
 - iii. The ten (10) minutes of playing time is to be determined by the timekeepers;
 - iv. The umpires are to signal to the timekeepers that the player is sent off by holding up a yellow card and then a red card; and
 - v. The timekeeper will acknowledge the umpires send off instruction with a matching yellow card and then a red card.
- (d) Any player who receives three (3) yellow cards in any one season shall automatically be suspended for one (1) match.
- (e) Any player who receives more than three (3) yellow cards in any one season shall automatically be suspended for one (1) match with each additional yellow card.
- (f) Any player suspended after receiving three (3) or more yellow cards in the same season shall be ineligible to win any League Best and Fairest award.

3.35 Rules – Female Grades Modified Rule

3.35.1 All female Grades in a Competition shall have a centre bounce set up of 5-6-5.

4 Club Requirements

4.1 Nominations - Teams

- 4.1.1 Clubs are required to nominate all teams they intend to enter into AFLNT administered competitions each season.
- 4.1.2 Team nominations are to be submitted in writing, to the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per deadlines specified in the Competition By-Laws
- (a) Clubs may nominate a maximum of one (1) team to compete in each Competition (one team per division).
- 4.1.3 Clubs may be asked to provide supporting evidence to confirm their capacity to field a team in a Competition.
- 4.1.4 A withdrawal of a team in a Competition will be dealt with in accordance with that club's licence agreement.

4.2 Nominations – Club Coaches

- 4.2.1 Clubs are required to nominate all coaches (including assistant coaches) for all teams entered into any Competition each season.
- 4.2.2 Coach nominations are to be submitted to the AFLNT Football Operations Department as per deadlines specified in the Competition By-Laws

- 4.2.3 Clubs may be asked to provide supporting evidence to confirm their coaches are correctly accredited.

4.3 Nominations - Club Complaints Officer

- 4.3.1 Clubs shall appoint one or more Complaints Officers who will be responsible for the following:
- (a) The Club Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for ensuring that any breach of any guidelines, (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and polices) that have been adopted by AFLNT, are responded to in an equitable and prompt manner.
 - (b) The Club Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for liaising between AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) in the case of an Inter-Club or Intra-Club Complaint, in an attempt to achieve informal resolution of the complaint.
 - (c) The Club Complaints Officer and the AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) shall liaise directly over incidents which in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer or AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) are contrary to any guidelines that have been adopted by AFLNT.
- 4.3.2 Club Complaints Officers must be registered using the AFLNT approved on-line database known as FootyWeb.
- 4.3.3 Club Complaints Officers may also act as Club Tribunal Advocates.

4.4 Nominations - Club Tribunal Advocate

- 4.4.1 Clubs are required to nominate a minimum of one Club Tribunal Advocate to represent Players and Officials who are brought before an AFLNT tribunal or any other AFLNT organised committee or panel for any reason including as a witness.
- 4.4.2 Club Tribunal Advocates must be registered using the AFLNT approved on-line database known as FootyWeb.
- 4.4.3 Club Tribunal Advocates may also act as Club Complaints Officers

4.5 Accreditation – Club Officials

- 4.5.1 No person may participate in an official capacity for a Club until accredited by AFLNT.
- 4.5.2 Prior to receiving AFLNT accreditation, Club officials must be registered using the AFLNT approved online registration database known as FootyWeb.
- 4.5.3 Clubs are required to apply for accreditation of all Club officials using the form prescribed in these Rules & Regulations prior to the 1st of September each year and must be accompanied by:
- (a) A signed copy of the applicable AFLNT code of conduct; and
 - (b) A copy of a current working with children (ochre) card.

- 4.5.4 Clubs may attach all listed documentation on the official's FootyWeb profile with the consent of that official.
- 4.5.5 Any team that submits a team sheet which includes a person that is in breach of these Rules & Regulations will be deemed to have forfeited that match.

4.6 Accreditation – Club Coaches

- 4.6.1 Coaches and assistant coaches who are not accredited at the commencement of a season are not permitted to coach a team in a Competition.
 - (a) Coaches and assistant coaches will not be accredited if they do not hold a current working with children (ochre) card.
 - (b) Accredited coaches must maintain their accreditation by attending an AFLNT approved coaching courses or seminars, or supply AFLNT with records of accreditation upgrades obtained through other means.
 - (c) Lapse of accreditation will deem the coach an unaccredited official and will be dealt with in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.
[Base Penalty – \$50]

4.7 Player Registrations

- 4.7.1 Player registration is the sole responsibility of the Club.
- 4.7.2 A player may only be registered to one Club at any one time.
- 4.7.3 A person wishing to be registered as a player in an Competition must complete the FootyWeb online registration process.
- 4.7.4 Any player who transfers to a Competition must be registered with the destination Club prior to participating in a match for that Club.
- 4.7.5 Any player who registers to play in a Competition must provide their Club with proof of age in the form of:
 - (a) Passport,
 - (b) Birth Certificate,
 - (c) Current and Valid Driver's Licence,
 - (d) Current and Valid Student Photo ID, or
 - (e) Community Health Care Declaration.

Where a dispute is raised over the validity of proof of age documentation, the above list should be considered the priority order in which these documents will be accepted by AFLNT.

- 4.7.6 Any player who registers to play in a Competition must sign the applicable AFLNT code of conduct. AFLNT codes of conduct must be signed each season.

- 4.7.7 Any player who registers to play in a Competition must sign the AFLNT registration or AFLNT application for transfer form.
- 4.7.8 A person is deemed to be a registered player once the online registration process is complete. The registration process is not deemed to be complete until the final approval is granted by the player in question where required.
- 4.7.9 Clubs are responsible for ensuring the player registration process is followed in its entirety.
- 4.7.10 Clubs are required to provide copies of all listed documentation within 24 hours of receiving a request from the AFLNT Football Operations Department.
- 4.7.11 Clubs may attach all listed documentation on the players FootyWeb profile with the consent of that player.
- 4.7.12 Any dispute regarding the player registration process will only be addressed once a complaint has been lodged in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.
- 4.7.13 The AFLNT Permit Committee will be responsible for any complaints received regarding the player registration process.

4.8 Player & Club Cooperation

- 4.8.1 Players and officials must abide by the directions of the Tribunal or Tribunal secretary.
- 4.8.2 For the purpose of these Rules & Regulations, the Tribunal may include any committee, panel, board or investigator(s) appointed by AFLNT.
- 4.8.3 Where a player or official has not appeared before the Tribunal as directed, that player or official may be deemed by the chairman of that tribunal as being ineligible to participate in any Competition or match and may be suspended, with that suspension placed on FootyWeb until such time as he/she has appeared before that tribunal.

4.9 Player & Club Officials - Change of Details

- 4.9.1 Clubs are able to change the details of a player or official by completing the form prescribed in these Rules & Regulations and lodging the form with the AFLNT Football Operations Department.
- 4.9.2 Change of Details forms must be accompanied with supporting documentation that is in line with these Rules & Regulations.

4.10 Player & Club Relations

- 4.10.1 Each Club shall have and make available to all Club members a copy of that Club's constitution and any rules regulations, codes of conduct, policies and guidelines adopted by the Club, the league that Club is affiliated too and AFLNT.

4.11 Club Attendance - Meetings and Training

- 4.11.1 AFLNT will schedule volunteer education sessions and meeting from time to time.
- 4.11.2 Clubs must ensure that they are represented at any such education session or meeting.

4.12 Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos

- 4.12.1 Each Club must submit for AFLNT approval, the proposed design (including colours) of their playing uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.
 - (a) Each Club that has an approved uniform that is considered to clash with the playing uniform of another Club must provide an alternate or clash uniform at the request of the AFLNT Football Operations Department.
- 4.12.2 Each Club must submit for AFLNT approval, their proposed design (including colours) of any 'special event' or 'recognition round' playing uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.
- 4.12.3 Each Club must submit for AFLNT approval, the proposed design (including logos) of their playing uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.
- 4.12.4 All Premier League Men's and Women's teams must provide a clash uniform for each season. It is preferable that one of these uniforms has an emphasis on a lighter colour and the other has an emphasis on a darker colour within that Club's normal playing colours.
 - (a) AFLNT reserved the right to direct Clubs with teams in Grades or Divisions other than Men's and Women's Premier League to provide a clash uniform.
- 4.12.5 Each Club requested to provide a clash uniform must submit for AFLNT approval, the proposed design (including colours and logos) of their clash uniform at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.
- 4.12.6 All Premier League Men's & Women's teams must wear white playing shorts for all away games. For season 2020/21 only, white shorts will not be compulsory for Division 1, Division 2 Men's/Women's and all junior teams. The away team shall be the second listed team on the AFLNT approved database known as FootyWeb.
 - (a) Alternative coloured away shorts must be approved by AFLNT at least two (2) months prior to the commencement of each season.
 - (b) AFLNT reserves the right to determine that a Club may be required to wear white (or approved alternatively coloured shorts) under circumstances other than those prescribed in these Rules & Regulations.
- 4.12.7 AFLNT will determine when a Club is required to wear their clash uniform.

4.12.8 No Player shall wear gloves during the course of a match unless approved by the AFLNT Football Operations Department.

(a) Approval for gloves will only be granted on the receipt of medical advice.

4.12.9 No Player shall wear a hat or cap during the course of a match.

4.12.10 No Player shall wear any apparel attached to their boots during the course of a match unless approved by the Competition Manager.

(a) Approval for apparel attached to boots will only be granted on the receipt of medical advice.

4.12.11 Undershorts may be worn by a player provided that the material is of a neutral beige colour and does not contain any sponsor advertising.

[Base Penalty – \$100]

5 Player Eligibility

5.1 Playing a Match

5.1.1 In determining how many matches a Player has played for a Club, a Player on the team list and who is on the ground (including the interchange bench), in uniform, is deemed to have played that match.

5.2 Age and Gender Qualifications

5.2.1 Each participating Player in Senior Men's Grade must be:

- (a) at least 15 years of age at the time of playing; and
- (b) male,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.2 Each participating Player in Senior Women's Grade must be:

- (a) at least 16 years of age at the time of playing; and
- (b) female,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.3 Each participating Player in Under 18 Grade must be:

- (a) at least 15 years of age at the time of playing;
- (b) less than 18 years of age on 30 June in the year the Competition commences;
- (c) male (to participate in Under 18 Boys); and
- (d) female (to participate in Under 18 Girls),

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.4 Each participating Player in Under 16 Grade must be:

- (a) turning 14 or 15 years of age in the year the competition commences;
- (b) less than 16 years of age on 31 December in the year the competition commences;
- (c) male to participate in Under 16 Boys; and
- (d) female to participate in Under 16 Girls,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.5 Each participating Player in Under 14 Grade must be:

- (a) turning 12 or 13 years of age in the year the competition commences;
- (b) less than 14 years of age on 31 December in the year the competition commences;
- (c) male to participate in Under 14 Boys; and
- (d) female to participate in Under 14 Girls,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.6 Each participating Player in Under 12 Grade must be:

- (a) Turning 10 or 11 years of age in the year the competition commences;
- (b) Less than 12 years of age on 31 December in the year the competition commences;
- (c) male to participate in Under 12 Boys; and
- (d) female to participate in Under 12 Girls,

unless determined otherwise in accordance with applicable AFL or AFLNT policies.

5.2.7 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary age and gender qualifications subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

[Base Penalty – \$500]

5.3 Playing Up (Juniors)

5.3.1 Players are permitted to play up, as long as they are not displacing a Registered Age Group player in the higher age group or depleting numbers in their age group to the extent that the team can no longer participate.

5.3.2 A Player is only permitted to play up one age group, i.e. an U12s playing can only play up in to U14s

5.3.3 Any Player wishing to play up an age group will be required to complete a 'Playing Up Consent' form (Appendix 7) which must be sent to the Competition Manager prior to the player playing their first match for the age group.

5.3.4 The responsibility for the decision to play players above their registered age group rests with the players' club. The decision is to be made after

discussions between the club, coaches, player involved, his/her parent/s or guardian/s and is to be made solely based on what is best for that player.

- 5.3.5 The Competition Manager may review and overturn any decision to play players above their registered age if they deem it necessary.

[Base Penalty – \$500]

5.4 Age Dispensation

- 5.4.1 Players may be provided dispensation to play in a Competition below their applicable age group in accordance with the 'AFL National Age Dispensation Policy'.
- 5.4.2 Applications for dispensation must be submitted to the Competition Manager on an 'Age Dispensation Application' form (Appendix 7) and accompanied by relevant documentary evidence.
- 5.4.3 The Competition Manager will assess an age dispensation application as they see fit in full consideration of the circumstances presented, and in accordance with the 'National Age Dispensation Policy'.
- 5.4.4 In addition to the effects of an approved application under Section 5 of the 'National Age Dispensation Policy', the following conditions will apply;
- (a) A player with an approved age dispensation application will be eligible to play finals, provided they meet the Competition's finals eligibility rules.
 - (b) A player with an approved age dispensation application will be eligible to win any Competition Award.

[Base Penalty – \$500]

5.5 Junior Core Lists

- 5.5.1 For the avoidance of doubt, this section 5.5 will only apply to the following junior grades:
- (a) Under 12;
 - (b) Under 14, and 16 Boys; and
 - (c) Under 15 Girls.
- 5.5.2 Clubs fielding multiple teams across different divisions in the same age group must provide a list of Core Players to the Competition Manager for each higher division team(s) (**Core List**) prior to the first round following the regrading process, identifying the following number of Core Players:
- (a) Under 14, 16 Boys = 14 Core Players
 - (b) Under 15 Girls = 12 Core Players
 - (c) Under 12 = 11 Core Players
- 5.5.3 Clubs must classify the best and most skilled players within each higher division team(s) as 'Core Players' for that team.

- 5.5.4 Representative players must be added to the Core List for the corresponding representative age group for the highest division team. This includes any player who is a member of the NT Thunder Academy.
- 5.5.5 The Competition Manager reserves the right, following consultation with a Club, to direct a player (or players) to be included/excluded in the Core List.
- 5.5.6 Deliberate attempts to exclude players from a Core List to gain advantage will incur penalties at the discretion of the Competition Manager.
- 5.5.7 Where a Club wishes to make any change to a Core List other than under section 5.5.8, a written submission must be made to the Competition Manager seeking their approval to such change, which may be granted by the Competition Manager at their absolute discretion.
- 5.5.8 A Core Player must be a current registered player. Where a Core Player transfers or is de-registered the Club must update their Core List and submit it to the Competition Manager immediately following the player's transfer or de-registration.
- 5.5.9 If a Core Player suffers a long-term injury (greater than 6 weeks) the Club may make application in writing to the Competition Manager for the player to resume in a lower division team during the Minor Round only. The application must contain a medical report stating the injury as well as a medical clearance to resume playing. If the application is approved the player may play in the lower division as follows:
- (a) 6 to 10-week injury, maximum 1 match in lower division (or such other period approved by the Competition Manager at their absolute discretion);
 - (b) greater than 10-week injury, maximum 2 matches in lower division (or such other period approved by the Competition Manager at their absolute discretion).
- 5.5.10 A Core Player must not play in a lower division in the same age group without the approval of the Competition Manager in accordance with this section 5.5.

[Base Penalty – \$100]

5.6 Player Eligibility - All Matches

- 5.6.1 Player eligibility is the sole responsibility of the Club.
- 5.6.2 A Player is eligible to play in a match for the club with which they are registered subject to the age and gender qualifications and providing that player has met all requirements to transfer
- 5.6.3 A Player who has played in a match for a Club is ineligible to play in another match in that same round of matches with the following exceptions:
- (a) A Player who is required to play a match in a higher Division or Grade after having commenced a match in a lower Division or Grade can only

participate in the higher Division or Grade if that Player is removed from the lower Division or Grade match prior to half time;

- i. A Player who is required to be removed from a team to play in a higher Division or Grade match can only do so with the approval of the AFLNT approved Match Manager; and
- ii. If a Player is removed from a team to play in a higher Division or Grade match, that Player will remain on the team sheet for both teams and both matches will count towards finals eligibility.

[Base Penalty – \$250]

5.6.4 Where a Club has a bye in any Grade, a Player who has played three (3) matches in the impacted Grade is eligible to play a match in a lower division of that same Grade provided that Player has played a minimum of three (3) matches in that same lower division.

5.6.5 A Player who has played in a match for a Club is ineligible to play in any match two Divisions lower in that same Grade for the remainder of that season.

[Base Penalty – \$250]

5.6.6 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary player eligibility rules subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

5.7 Player Eligibility - Finals Matches

5.7.1 A Player is eligible to play in a finals match for a team provided that Player has played a minimum of three (3) Minor Round matches for that same team.

5.7.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary player eligibility rules subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

5.8 Unregistered, Overage or Ineligible Player

5.8.1 A Club which permits an unregistered, overage or ineligible Player to participate in a match will be deemed to have forfeited that match.

5.9 Player Eligibility Disputes

5.9.1 Disputes regarding Player eligibility are not to be addressed by Match Managers on match day.

5.9.2 Any dispute regarding Player eligibility will only be addressed once a complaint has been lodged in accordance with these Rules & Regulations with the following exception:

- (a) Player eligibility complaints may be made without the accompaniment of a fee.

5.9.3 The AFLNT Permit Committee will be responsible for any complaints received regarding player eligibility.

6 Transfers and Permits

6.1 Transfers

6.1.1 A Player that is registered with another Club (or has played for another Club immediately prior to registering with the destination Club) must complete a transfer application to the destination Club in accordance with the National Transfer Regulations before registering and/or playing with the destination Club.

(a) Incorrect details (such as incorrect spelling or date of birth), in a Player's FootyWeb profile, whether it be with the original Club or the destination Club, do not absolve that Player and/or the destination Club of their responsibility to complete a transfer application for that Player.

(b) Any Player that is registered incorrectly due to an error in registration details and participates in a match for the destination Club will be considered an ineligible Player.

6.2 Transfer Refusals

6.2.1 Transfer refusals must be in accordance with the AFL National Transfer Regulations.

6.2.2 Player registration fees, reasonable cost of travel and accommodation required to fulfil playing commitments will not be considered as valid reasons to refuse a transfer.

6.3 Match Day Permits

6.3.1 Match Day Permits are only available for Under 12 Competitions.

6.3.2 Match Day Permits are only to be used by teams scheduled to play against each other on the day the permit is requested.

6.3.3 The Match Day Permit must be initiated by the destination Club by logging onto FootyWeb and submitting a Type 1 Match Day Permit Application when moving a Player from Club to Club.

6.3.4 The Match Day Permit must be completed within 24 hours of the match being completed.

6.3.5 Any Club found to have breached these Rules & Regulations will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and will be dealt with in accordance with these Rules & Regulations.

6.3.6 Match Day Permits are only available for the movement of Players between Clubs that are affiliated to the same Competition.

[Base Penalty – \$100]

6.4 Student Permits

6.4.1 Where a Player normally resides in the Northern Territory and is temporarily residing away from the Northern Territory for the purpose of education such as boarding school or university, that Player may be permitted to play in Northern Territory competitions for the duration of the school/university holidays, provided:

- (a) That Player is registered with the Club;
- (b) That Player is playing under an approved Type 3 Temporary Transfer; and
- (c) That Player does not commence playing for the Club before the school holidays commence or after the school holidays end.

6.4.2 AFLNT Affiliate Leagues may vary transfer and permit requirements subject to that Competition's By-Laws.

7 Representative Teams & The Northern Territory Football Club

7.1 Representative Team Officials Selection

7.1.1 AFLNT may appoint from time to time:

- (a) A Representative Coach.
- (b) A Representative Team Selection Committee.
- (c) A Representative Team Manager.

7.2 Representative Team Selection

7.2.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in any contract or agreement to the contrary all Players not under suspension are obliged to make themselves available for selection in teams representing AFLNT.

7.2.2 If a Player is selected in a team representing AFLNT, AFLNT will assume the responsibility and liability in accordance with AFLNT's insurance policies.

7.2.3 Any Player who fails to make himself available for selection in any representative team or to comply with any reasonable directions regarding training or any other activity associated with the preparation of the team except for reason of injury, illness or such other reason as may be accepted by AFLNT, will be liable to the following penalty;

- (a) Two match suspension per offence.

7.3 Player Awards

7.3.1 Representative team awards such as best player awards will be determined by a panel appointed by AFLNT.

8 National Policies and Guidelines

8.1 AFL Member Protection Policy

8.1.1 AFLNT have adopted and implemented the AFL Member Protection Policy which includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Schedule 1: The National Child Protection Policy
- (b) Schedule 2: The National Social Media Policy
- (c) Schedule 3: The National Privacy Policy
- (d) Schedule 4: The National Vilification & Discrimination Policy
- (e) Schedule 5: The National Player Transfer Regulations
- (f) Schedule 6: The National Anti-Doping Code
- (g) Schedule 7: The National Extreme Weather Policy
- (h) Schedule 8: The National Gambling Policy
- (i) Schedule 9: The National Sexuality & Pregnancy Guidelines
- (j) Schedule 10: The National Complaint & Investigation Guidelines
- (k) Schedule 11: The State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines
- (l) Schedule 12: The National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines;

8.2 Guidelines

8.2.1 AFLNT may from time to time adopt and implement regulations, codes of conduct, policies and guidelines for use in interpreting these Rules & Regulations or any other matter to do with the operation of a Competition or for any other purpose as it deems necessary.

8.2.2 AFLNT have adopted the sanctions for classifiable and low-level offences in accordance with those listed for the North-East Australian Football League in Appendix 2 of the State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines.

9 Appeals, Complaints and Deferrals

9.1 Appeals

9.1.1 Unless otherwise stated, a Club may appeal a decision made under these Rules & Regulations or any other rules, regulations or guidelines recognised within these Rules & Regulations by lodging a notice of appeal in writing with the AFLNT Football Operations Department together with payment of \$2,500 (inclusive of GST) to AFLNT (or sufficient evidence of such payment) by no later than 5:00pm on the first business day following the relevant decision.

- 9.1.2 The \$2500 lodged with the appeal will be dealt with in the following manner:
- (a) The sum of \$500 (inclusive of GST) towards the costs of the appeal, which sum shall not be refundable in any circumstances; and
 - (b) The further sum of \$2000 (inclusive of GST), which shall be dealt with:
 - i. Where the appeal is upheld, the payment made under this section shall be refunded on receipt of an appropriate tax invoice.
 - ii. Where the appeal is dismissed, the payment made under this section shall not be refunded, unless the matter involves a monetary sanction and the Appeals Board determines that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to refund the whole or part of such payment.
 - (c) If no appeal has been received within the specified time lines above, it will be deemed that the decision has been accepted and no further avenue for appeal will be available.
- 9.1.3 No decision made by the Tribunal can be appealed if the intended appellant did not appear before the tribunal as directed without the leave of that tribunal.
- (a) For the purpose of this Rule, the Tribunal may include any committee, panel, board or investigators appointed by AFLNT for the purpose of match or disciplinary hearings or investigations.

9.2 Complaints

- 9.2.1 A Club may make a complaint by lodging a formal or informal complaint in writing with an AFLNT Complaints Officer together with payment of \$250 (inclusive of GST) to AFLNT (or sufficient evidence of such payment) by no later than 5:00pm on the second business day following the relevant incident and the following will apply:
- (a) AFLNT Competition Managers are deemed to be AFLNT Complaints Officers; and
 - (b) Upon receipt of a formal or informal complaint, the AFLNT Complaints Officer must record the complaint using the AFLNT Record of Complaint Template.
- 9.2.2 For the avoidance of doubt this clause 9.2 does not apply to a 'vilification' related complaint.
- 9.2.3 The sum of \$250 (inclusive of GST) may be refunded if AFLNT determine in its absolute discretion, that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to refund the whole or part of such payment.

9.3 Referral of Incident

- 9.3.1 The officiating Umpires, Umpires' Observers, Umpire Manager, relevant Competition Manager, Manager of Community Football & Club Development, AFLNT CEO, or, the Club Complaints Officer or Club President may refer an

on-field incident by lodging a referral of incident in writing to the AFLNT Football Operations Department using the incident referral form (Appendix 7) by no later than 12:00pm on the first business day following the incident.

9.3.2 Any referral by a Club under clause 9.3.1 must be submitted together with payment of \$250 (inclusive of GST) to AFLNT (or sufficient evidence of such payment).

9.3.3 The \$250 lodged with the referral will be dealt with in the following manner:

(a) The sum of \$250 (inclusive of GST) will be refunded by AFLNT if a charge is laid as a result of the referral of incident.

9.4 Deferral of Tribunal Hearing

9.4.1 A Player or Official may apply for a deferral of a tribunal hearing by lodging a deferral of tribunal hearing in writing with the AFLNT Football Operations Department together with payment of \$500 (inclusive of GST) to AFLNT (or sufficient evidence of such payment) by no later than 12:00pm on the first business day following the relevant incident.

9.4.2 The \$500 lodged with the request for a deferral will be dealt with in the following manner:

(a) The sum of \$500 (inclusive of GST) may be refunded if AFLNT determines in its absolute discretion, that it would be manifestly unjust and unfair not to refund the whole or part of such payment.

9.4.3 In the case of a tribunal hearing having been deferred, any Player or Official against whom a charge has been laid and then deferred is not eligible to play or officiate in a Competition until such time as the tribunal has adjudicated over the charge.

9.4.4 AFLNT have no discretionary authority to allow a Player or Official to participate in any AFLNT managed competition until such time as the tribunal has adjudicated over the charge.

9.5 Notifiable Conduct

9.5.1 A Player or Official must immediately notify their Club Chief Executive Officer or other senior administrator if they are interviewed as a suspect, charged, arrested or given an infringement notice by police in respect of any Notifiable Conduct.

9.5.2 A Club must immediately notify the relevant Competition Manager and forthwith provide to the relevant Competition Manager all relevant information known to the Club if:

- (a) the Club is aware of any matter referred to in section 9.5.1; or
- (b) the Club has received a complaint in respect of alleged Notifiable Conduct on the part of a relevant Player or Official, unless the Club has reliable information that the complaint is not credible.

- 9.5.3 Any person or Club that does not fully and strictly comply with the provisions of this section shall be dealt with in such manner as the AFLNT or relevant Competition Manager in their absolute discretion think fit.

10 Special Provision

10.1 Other Matters

- 10.1.1 Any matter of any kind whatsoever not dealt with or provided for in these Rules & Regulations may be dealt in such a manner as AFLNT deems fit.
- 10.1.2 In accordance with the Laws of Australian Football, AFLNT appointed Match Managers have the authority to report any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence.

10.2 Media Attendance in Tribunal

- 10.2.1 Media outlets will be permitted to have one staff member (per media outlet) attend AFLNT senior grade tribunal hearings, providing the AFLNT Media Department have been advised of the name of the media outlet and their representative intended to attend the hearing by 10:00am on the day of the hearing.
- (a) Media personnel will not be permitted to enter the tribunal hearing once proceedings have commenced.
 - (b) Media personnel may be asked to leave the tribunal hearing at any time, at the discretion of the tribunal chair.
- 10.2.2 A Club may request that media be denied access to a tribunal hearing, provided that such a request is submitted to the AFL in writing by no later than 10:00am on the day after notification of the charge or matter and contains compelling reasons for the media to be denied access.
- (a) Only in compelling and exceptional circumstances, as determined by the AFL in its absolute discretion, will media be refused access to the tribunal.
- 10.2.3 Media personal that are granted access to a tribunal hearing (other than AFL and AFLNT Media Personnel) will not be permitted to take recording equipment of any kind, into the tribunal hearing under any circumstances.
- (a) Mobile phones will be permitted but are not to be used to record and must be set on silent during the hearing.
- 10.2.4 A breach of these rules may result in the media outlet and/or the individual responsible for the breach being denied access to future tribunal hearings.

10.3 Authority to Investigate

- 10.3.1 Without limiting any other rule, the AFL or AFLNT may investigate any breach or possible breach of these Rules & Regulations or Competition By-Laws and may delegate such authority to investigate to the AFL's Integrity Department.

10.3.2 Without limiting the AFLNT's or the AFL's authority to investigate, AFLNT has the discretionary authority to suspend (by way of temporary deregistration) any Player, coach or Official for an act of vilification or discrimination until such time as an investigation into the matter has been finalised, or that Player, coach or Official has attended a tribunal hearing, or any other request made by AFLNT of that Player, coach or Official in regard to the matter has been completed to the satisfaction of AFLNT.

10.3.3 For the avoidance of doubt, all persons (including any Club, Club Official, Player, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, medical officer, employee, independent contractor or volunteer of a Club or any other person within the purview of these Rules and Regulations) must cooperate with any investigation conducted by the AFL, AFLNT or a delegate of AFL or AFLNT.

10.4 Venue Accreditation

10.4.1 For the management of security, official accreditation will be required for access to defined areas within AFLNT managed venues.

10.4.2 Defined areas will include, but will not be limited to:

- (a) Changerooms,
- (b) Umpires rooms,
- (c) Medical rooms, and
- (d) TIO stadium tunnel.

10.4.3 Access will be provided where necessary in accordance with each Club's licence agreement.

10.5 AFLNT Complaints Officer

10.5.1 AFLNT shall appoint one or more Complaints Officers who will be responsible for the following:

- (a) The AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for ensuring that any breach of any guidelines, (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and polices) that have been adopted by AFLNT, are responded to in an equitable and prompt manner.
- (b) The AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) is responsible for liaising between Club Complaints Officers in the case of an Inter-Club Complaint, or with a single Club Complaints Officer, in the case of an Intra-Club Complaint, in an attempt to achieve informal resolution of the complaint.
- (c) The Club Complaints Officer and the AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) shall liaise directly over incidents which in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer or AFLNT Complaints Officer(s) are contrary to any guidelines that have been adopted by AFLNT.

10.6 AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee

10.6.1 An Audit & Permit Committee comprising a minimum of three (3) members shall be appointed by the Chief Executive Officer or his/her nominee and shall hold office until replaced.

10.6.2 The Chief Executive Officer or his/her nominee may revoke Audit Committee appointments at any time.

10.6.3 The AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee shall be responsible for matters relating to AFLNT affiliate club and league compliance issues, including but not limited to;

- (a) Registrations;
- (b) Transfers;
- (c) Permits;
- (d) Fly-ins;
- (e) Player Points; and
- (f) Player Eligibility

10.6.4 The AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee shall hold the following powers and responsibilities:

- (a) Mediate Club and AFLNT Affiliate League disputes as they arise and provide final judgement where required.
- (b) Consider and determine inter league (AFLNT Affiliated Leagues only) transfer applications lodged by underage players.
- (c) Consult with AFLNT on any proposed amendments to guidelines (including but not limited to rules, regulations, by-laws and policies) relating to compliance issues.
- (d) Make recommendations to the AFLNT Community Football Department for amendments to these Rules and Regulations and any Competition By-Laws and policies relating to compliance issues.

10.6.5 Clubs may be asked to provide the AFLNT Audit & Permit Committee with documentation which may include but will not be limited to a Club's financial records, audited financial report and evidence to support the valid registration and/or transfer of Players.

10.7 AFLNT Laws Committee

10.7.1 A Laws Committee comprising a minimum of five (5) members shall be appointed by the AFLNT Football Operations Manager or his or her nominee and shall hold office until replaced.

10.7.2 The AFLNT Football Operations Manager or his or her nominee may revoke Laws Committee appointments at any time.

10.7.3 The AFLNT Laws Committee shall be responsible for disputes, appeals and recommendations relating to these Rules & Regulations other than:

- (a) Registrations,
- (b) Transfers,
- (c) Permits, and
- (d) Player Eligibility

10.7.4 The AFLNT Laws Committee shall hold the following powers and responsibilities:

- (a) Consult with AFLNT Football Operations Department for amendments to these Rules & Regulations.
- (b) Make such recommendations, consistent with AFL Rules, Regulations and Guidelines and AFLNT strategic objectives, to the AFLNT Football Operations Department for amendments to these Rules & Regulations other than:
 - i. Registrations,
 - ii. Transfers,
 - iii. Permits, and
 - iv. Player Eligibility.

10.8 Show Cause Notices

10.8.1 AFLNT may issue a Show Cause Notice to a Club or Club member where AFLNT believes there may be a requirement to take further action over any incident and/or matter of concern that AFLNT deems necessary.

- (a) The AFLNT Football Operations Department must issue Clubs and/or Club members with a Show Cause Notice within five (5) business days of the incident or matter of concern.
- (b) Clubs and/or Club members must respond in writing within five (5) business days of receiving a Show Cause Notice.
- (c) The AFLNT Football Operations Department must notify Clubs and/or Club members of the intended course of action within five (5) business days of receiving a written response from the Club and/or Club member.
 - i. If a Club and/or Club member does not respond within five (5) business days, AFLNT reserves the right to pursue the matter in any manner it deems necessary without time constraints.

10.9 Fines & Penalties

10.9.1 Any Club found to be in breach of these Rules & Regulations or any Affiliate League By-Laws, unless otherwise stated, will be liable to a penalty as specified in Appendix 12 of these Rules & Regulations or otherwise as determined by the Tribunal.

10.9.2 AFLNT reserves the right to refer breaches of these Rules & Regulations or any Competition by-laws, to the Tribunal.

10.10 Black Arm Bands

10.10.1 Clubs may arrange for the Players of a team(s) to wear black arm bands as a mark of respect for the passing of Persons associated with their Club.

10.10.2 Where a Club intends to wear black arm band, the AFLNT Football Operations Department must be advised by 5pm on the Friday prior to the match they are participating in.

Note: The process of advising the AFLNT Football Operations Department is not to receive approval, however this does provide operational staff with the opportunity to pay the appropriate respect.

10.11 Minutes Silence

10.11.1 A mark of respect in the form of a minute's silence prior to the commencement of any given match on the passing of the following:

- (a) AFLNT Life Members,
- (b) Nichols Medallists, or
- (c) Other distinguished persons.

10.11.2 A minute's silence must be approved by the AFLNT Executive Committee.

10.11.3 A minute's silence will only be undertaken prior to the matches approved by the AFLNT Executive Committee.

10.12 Sponsorship Display Provision

10.12.1 All Club and Umpire Association banners must be approved by AFLNT before being displayed at any AFLNT sanctioned match or event.

10.12.2 No spikes or pegs are to be used to anchor banners to the ground.

10.12.3 Banners must be removed (in their entirety) from the playing arena at any time that matches are in progress.

10.12.4 Banners are not to be displayed at any time that matches are in progress, whether on the playing arena or otherwise.

10.13 Food Preparation

10.13.1 The cooking and/or preparation of food at an AFLNT match or event must be pre-approved by the manager of that venue.

11 Appendices

1. AFLNT Finals Schedule
2. AFLNT Code of Conduct & Conditions of Entry
3. AFLNT Time Keepers Instructions
4. AFLNT Extreme Weather Policy
5. AFLNT Player and Support Staff Uniform Guide
6. AFLNT Standard Player Contract
7. AFLNT Forms
8. State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines
9. Auditory Offences
10. Reporting Process Flow-Chart
11. Role of the Match Review Panel, Tribunal & Appeals Board
12. Fines & Penalties Summary

Appendix 1 AFLNT Finals Schedule

AFLNT Final Four (3 Weeks)

Week 1	Semi Final 1		3	v	4
	Semi Final 2		1	v	2
Week 2	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi Final 2		v	Winner Semi Final 1
Week 3	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 2		v	Winner Prelim Final

AFLNT Final Five (3 Weeks)

Week 1	Semi Final 1		4	v	5
	Semi Final 2		2	v	3
Week 2	Prelim Final 1		1	v	Winner Semi Final 2
	Prelim Final 2	Winner Semi Final 1		v	Loser Semi Final 2
Week 3	Grand Final	Winner Prelim Final 1		v	Winner Prelim Final 2

AFLNT Final Five (4 Weeks)

Week 1	Qualifying Final		2	v	3
	Elimination Final		4	v	5
Week 2	Semi Final 1	Loser Qual Final		v	Winner Elim Final
	Semi Final 2		1	v	Winner Qual Final
Week 3	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi Final 2		v	Winner Semi Final 1
Week 4	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 2		v	Winner Prelim Final

AFLNT Final Six (3 Weeks)

Week 1	Elimination Final 1		4	v	5
	Elimination Final 2		3	v	6
	Qualifying Final		1	v	2
Week 2	Semi Final 1	Winner Qual Final		v	Winner Elim Final 1
	Semi Final 2	Loser Qual Final		v	Winner Elim Final 2
Week 3	Grand Final	Winner Semi Final 1		v	Winner Semi Final 2

Other than Premier League all other Grades and Divisions are to be identified for a finals format at the commencement of the season once team participation numbers have been finalised.

Appendix 2 AFLNT Code of Conduct & Conditions of Entry

This Code of Conduct applies to all members as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy and any other person visiting an AFLNT venue or attending an AFLNT event.

For the purpose of this Code of Conduct, any gathering sanctioned by AFLNT will be considered an AFLNT event, including but not limited to functions, football matches, training sessions and education sessions.

This Code of Conduct further applies to all members and any other person who causes any act of misconduct that is detrimental to the best interest of the AFL, AFLNT or any individual or organisation affiliated to the AFL or AFLNT including but not limited to Sponsors and Funding Partners of the AFL or AFLNT.

Category 1 Offences:

1. Act in conflict with the AFL Member Protection Policy;
2. Act in conflict with Government Legislation (for the purpose of this Code of Conduct Government includes Federal and State Government and Local Councils); or
3. Enter an AFLNT venue without paying an entrance fee (where applicable).

Category 2 Offences:

1. Use offensive or abusive language (malicious, threatening or otherwise);
2. Cause any act of misconduct that is detrimental to the best interest of AFL/AFLNT; or
3. Make public comment that is detrimental to the best interest of AFL/AFLNT without first advising AFLNT of the content of that public comment.

Category 3 Offences:

1. Push, bite or strike (including attempt to strike) another person;
2. Spit at another person; or
3. Threaten or bully another person (including but not limited to cyber bullying);

When AFLNT become aware that a breach of this Code of Conduct has been committed the following will occur:

Eviction:

In the event that a security officer or an AFLNT official determines that an individual(s) has breached this Code of Conduct and should be removed from the venue, such person shall be asked to leave and should that person refuse to leave, they will be evicted from the venue by security or police.

Penalties:

In the event that an alleged offender(s) is a member of a club (or umpires association), AFLNT may notify the club that a penalty as prescribed in this Code of Conduct is to be imposed on that member(s). It is the responsibility of that club to ensure that the member is notified of the penalty being imposed.

In the event that the alleged offender(s) is not a member of a club, AFLNT may notify the individual(s) that a penalty as prescribed in this Code of Conduct is to be imposed on that individual(s).

The individual (or the club on behalf of the individual) must respond within five (5) business days of receiving notification of this penalty.

1. If AFLNT has not received a response by 5pm on the fifth business day, it will be deemed that the penalty has been accepted and no further avenue for appeal will be available to that individual,

2. If an individual (or the club on behalf of the individual) would like to challenge the charge, the matter may be sent directly to a Match or Disciplinary Tribunal (whichever is appropriate), for determination.

In the event that an individual that is not a member of a club is not able to be contacted, the offence must be sent to an independent tribunal to adjudicate over the matter.

Tribunal:

In the event that AFLNT believes that the alleged offence is so severe that the penalties listed in this Code of Conduct do not reflect the severity of the offence, the matter may be sent to a Match or Disciplinary Tribunal.

In the event that an individual is unable to be contacted and the matter is sent to a Match or Disciplinary Tribunal, the tribunal may hear and determine the matter in the absence of the alleged offender.

In the event that an offence under this Code of Conduct is sent to a Match or Disciplinary Tribunal and the alleged offender is found guilty of that offence, the Tribunal has discretionary authority to hand down a penalty the same or greater (but not less) than the penalties listed in this Code of Conduct.

Category 1 Offence Penalties:

First Offence:	Suspension of five (5) weeks from all AFLNT Events.
Second Offence	Suspension of ten (10) weeks from all AFLNT Events.
Third Offence:	Suspension of fifteen (15) weeks from all AFLNT Events and deregistration as a player or official at the completion of that fifteen (15) week suspension.

Category 2 Offence Penalties:

First Offence:	Suspension of ten (10) weeks from all AFLNT Events.
Second Offence:	Suspension of fifteen (15) weeks from all AFLNT Events and deregistration as a player or official at the completion of that fifteen (15) week suspension.

Category 3 Offence Penalties:

First Offence:	Suspension of fifteen (15) weeks from all AFLNT Events and deregistration as a player or official at the completion of that fifteen (15) week suspension.
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Any player or official that is found guilty of a third offence as listed in this Code of Conduct, regardless of which category, will be deregistered at the completion of the suspension received for that third offence.

Any player or official that is deregistered under this Code of Conduct must follow the National Deregistration Policy when appealing their deregistration.

Any individual that is not a player or official and is found guilty of a third offence as listed in the Code of Conduct regardless of which category, will receive a life ban from all AFLNT events at the completion of the suspension received for that third offence.

The AFLNT Executive Committee reserve the right to amend any penalty at its discretion.

1. Time Cards

- 1.1 Timekeepers are required to record the start and end times of each quarter.
- 1.2 Timekeepers are to complete and sign the time cards at the completion of each game.

2. Score Cards

- 2.1 Timekeepers are required to record the time that red and yellow cards are issued on the FootyWeb Team Sheet.
- 2.2 The times for any red or yellow cards issued during any AFLNT Matches are to be recorded in the appropriate field on the Team Sheet.

3. Time Clock

- 3.1 The time clock(s) is to remain in a neutral position and remain visible to both timekeepers at all times.

4. Siren

- 4.1 The siren is to remain in a neutral position and remain visible to both timekeepers at all times and is to be sounded as follows:
- 4.2 Start of first Quarter
 - a) As umpires enter the arena 1 blast
 - b) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
 - c) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
 - d) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
 - e) Quarter time interval 1 blast
- 4.3 Start of second quarter
 - a) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
 - b) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
 - c) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
 - d) Half time interval 1 blast
- 4.4 Start of third quarter
 - a) As umpires enter the arena 1 blast
 - b) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
 - c) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
 - d) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
 - e) Three quarter time interval 1 blast
- 4.5 Start of fourth quarter
 - a) 2 minutes prior to scheduled starting time 2 blasts
 - b) 1 minute prior to scheduled starting time 1 blast
 - c) Scheduled starting time (when umpire holds up the ball) 1 blast
 - d) End of match 1 blast
- 4.6 Where a match is stopped for Extreme Weather 5 blasts

5. Teams returning to the field

- 5.1 If the siren has been utilized to indicate the scheduled starting time and only one team is in position ready to commence, the umpires will:

- a) Blow the whistle and instruct the offending team that they have 30 seconds to get into position. Specifically, the person given this instruction should be the coach, team captain or a club official.
- b) After a further 30 seconds, the umpire will signal to the timekeepers to blow the siren, and the umpires will then signal the commencement of play and immediately bounce the ball regardless of whether the teams are in position.

6 Match Timings:

6.1 Under 10s (mixed)

- a) 10 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 3 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.2 Under 12s (mixed)

- a) 12 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 4 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 4 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.3 Under 14 & 16 Boys, Under 15 & 18 Girls

- a) 15 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 4 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 8 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 4 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.4 Under 18s Boys

- a) 18 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 10 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 5 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.5 Senior Women (other than Premier League)

- a) 15 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 10 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 5 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.6 Senior Men (other than Premier League)

- a) 20 minute quarters with no time on
- b) 5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 15 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 5 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.7 Women's Premier League

- a) 15 minute quarters WITH time on
- b) 5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- c) 15 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break
- d) 5 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

6.8 Men's Premier League

- e) 20 minute quarters WITH time on
- f) 5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ time break
- g) 20 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ time break

- h) 5 minute $\frac{3}{4}$ time break

7 Lightning

- 7.1 In the case of lightning strikes, the time keeper is to sound five (5) blasts of the siren to signal that the match is being suspended in accordance with National Guidelines.

8 Stretcher

- 8.1 In the case of a stretcher entering the playing arena, the field umpire will stop play at the first appropriate opportunity after he has been advised that the stretcher is on the playing ground.
 - a) Premier League:
 - i. As directed by the Field Umpires
 - b) All other grades
 - i. Timekeepers are to allow a maximum of five (5) consecutive minutes only before re-starting the clock.
 - ii. If the quarter is completed whilst the player is still being treated, the siren must be sounded and the normal quarter breaks take place
 - iii. The siren must be sounded for the start and finish of each quarter and quarter break up until the end of the match, irrespective of whether the game itself can be recommenced.

9 Time On – Premier League Only

- a) Time keepers are to add 'time on' after goals, major injuries or major delays as directed by the field umpire(s).
- b) Where the field umpire(s) fails to direct time to recommence, the time keepers are to recommence time when play recommences.

10 Blood Rule

- 10.1 AFLNT umpires shall enforce the Infectious Diseases Law.

11 Score Confirmation

- 11.1 Timekeepers are to remain in their position until the scores have been finalised.
- 11.2 Scores are not considered 'final' until the goal umpires confirm the scores.
- 11.3 At the end of each quarter, goal umpires will confirm the scores by 'waving off' the scores as being true and correct.
- 11.4 At the end of each match, goal umpires will confirm the scores by 'waving off' the scores as being true and correct.

Appendix 4 AFLNT Extreme Weather Policy

AFLNT adopts the National Extreme Weather Policy and as such AFLNT has the authority, in its absolute discretion, to postpone or abandon a match where it considers conditions to be, or potentially be unsafe.

AFLNT also provides the following range of options that can be implemented in the case of extreme weather:

Heat

1. Increased number of Interchange Players,
2. Increased number of Water Carriers,
3. Match Day Permits are available for prescribed competitions allowing for equal playing numbers and interchange players on match days,
4. Club Interchange Agreements are available for prescribed competitions allowing for equal playing numbers and interchange players for the duration of a season,
5. Minimum playing numbers are prescribed for all competitions to ensure players are not placed under undue heat stress.
6. Match Managers are provided with discretionary power to allow games to be played with fewer players ensuring interchange players are available for rotation.
7. Match Managers are provided with discretionary power to allow games to be played on a reduced size field ensuring players are not placed under additional stress when playing with fewer players.

Teams scheduled to play at TIO Stadium are also provided with the opportunity to utilize air-conditioned player boxes during intervals of matches played in extreme heat.

Cyclone

1. When a cyclone watch is declared, matches may continue at the discretion of AFLNT
2. When a cyclone warning is declared, all matches for the duration of that warning must be abandoned immediately, including any match that is in progress at the time of the declaration.
3. If a match is abandoned under the AFLNT Extreme Weather policy the provisions of these Rules & Regulations shall apply.

The AFLNT Player Uniform Guide is binding to all AFLNT affiliated leagues, clubs and members as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy.

Sponsors logos placed on competition clubs on field attire must abide to the following, including the visual reference on page 5:

1. Front of On-Field Uniform (Runners Shirt and Player Guernsey)

- 1.1 AFLNT logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT Commercial Operations Department, placement right chest pocket area of the uniform.
- 1.2 Competition Logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT Commercial Operations Department, placement right chest pocket area of the uniform immediately underneath the AFLNT logo. In the event of no Competition logo, the AFLNT logo will be the sole logo in this area.
- 1.3 Manufacturer's logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT Commercial Operations Department, placement centre at the bottom of the neck line of the uniform.
 - 1.3.1 Recommended width 6 cm
 - 1.3.2 Recommended height 4 cm
 - 1.3.3 Must not exceed 16 sq cm
- 1.4 A sponsor logo can be placed on the left chest pocket area of the uniform directly opposite the Competition logo;
 - 1.4.1 Recommended width 14cm
 - 1.4.2 Recommended height 6.5cm
 - 1.4.3 Must not exceed 91 sq cm
- 1.5 A club logo or a second sponsor logo can be placed on the left chest pocket area of the uniform, either 2cm above the sponsors logo or 5cm below the sponsors logo;
 - 1.5.1 Recommended width 8cm
 - 1.5.2 Recommended height 7.5cm
 - 1.5.3 Must not exceed 60 sq cm
- 1.6 Alternatively, if a club logo is not used on the front of the uniform, the entire space provided can be utilized for one sponsor logo in which case;
 - 1.6.1 Total area must not exceed 151 sq cm
- 1.7 A sponsor logo can be placed on the front of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred underneath the AFLNT logo with a minimum of 10cm clear space between the AFLNT logo and the sponsor's logo.
 - 1.7.1 Recommended width 17cm

1.7.2 Recommended height 10cm

1.7.3 Must not exceed 170 sq cm

2. Rear of Player Guernsey

2.1 A sponsor logo can be placed on the back of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred underneath the player number with a minimum of 1cm clear space between the number and the logo;

2.1.1 Recommended width 30cm

2.1.2 Recommended height 8cm

2.1.3 Must not exceed 240 sq cm

2.2 Club logo/text pertaining directly to the club, it's origins or history can be placed on the back of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred above the player number with a minimum of 2cm clear space between the number and the club logo/text;

2.2.1 Width must not exceed 6cm

2.2.2 Height must not exceed 4cm

2.3 Manufacturer logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT Commercial Operations Department, placement centre at the top middle of the uniform under the neckline.

2.3.1 Recommended width 6 cm

2.3.2 Recommended height 4 cm

2.3.3 Must not exceed 24 sq cm

3. Front of Player Shorts

3.1 AFLNT logo, size and design as approved by AFLNT Commercial Operations Department, placement right hand side (hip region) of the shorts

3.2 A club logo may be placed on the left hand side (hip region) of the shorts;

3.2.1 Recommended width 8cm

3.2.2 Recommended height 7.5cm

3.2.3 Must not exceed 60 sq cm

3.3 A Sponsors Logo may be worn on the front of each leg of the shorts;

3.3.1 Recommended width 10cm

3.3.2 Recommended height 6cm

3.3.3 Must not exceed 60 sq cm

4. Back of Players Shorts

4.1 A manufacturer's logo can be placed on the back of the shorts.

4.1.1 Recommended width 4 cm

4.1.2 Recommended height 4 cm

4.1.3 Must not exceed 24 sq cm

5. Runners Uniforms

5.1 Premier League Men's & Women's runners and support staff uniforms (t-shirts and shorts) will be provided by AFLNT

5.2 All other divisions and leagues need to follow the guidelines for 1. Front of Player Guernsey, for the front of the runners shirts and 3. Front of Player Shorts for the runners shorts. The following guidelines apply for the **rear of the runners shirts:**

5.2.1 The word 'Runner' must be emblazoned across the back of the runner's shirt in Black Calibri 40point Font.

5.2.2 A sponsor logo can be placed on the back of the uniform. The logo must be positioned and centred underneath the word 'Runner' with a minimum of 1cm clear space between the word and the logo;

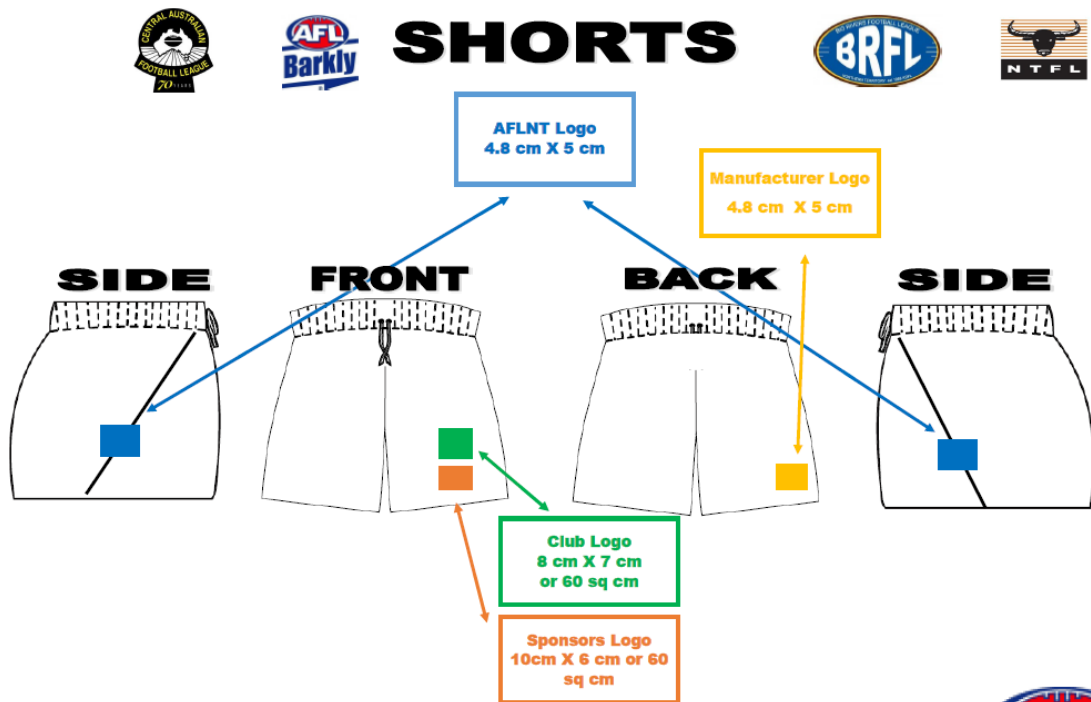
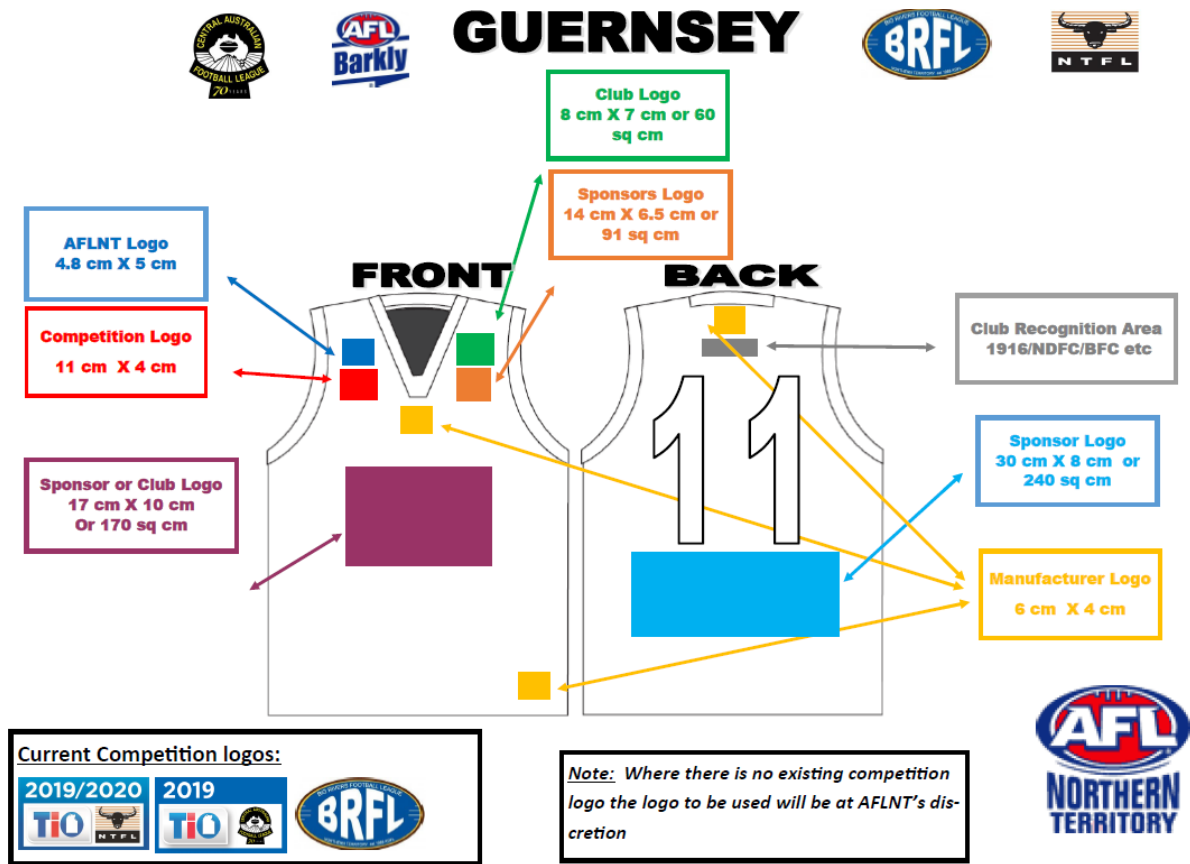
5.2.2.1 Recommended width 30cm

5.2.2.2 Recommended height 8cm

5.2.2.3 Must not exceed 240 sq cm

6. A logo or other badge cannot be placed on a playing uniform unless the design and location of that logo or badge has been approved by AFLNT.

7. Visual of logo



Appendix 6 AFLNT Standard Player Contract

1. The AFLNT Standard Player Contract is the player contract recommended to be used by all clubs and players affiliated to AFLNT.
2. The AFLNT Standard Player Contract has been drawn up by the AFL Legal Department and as such no changes are to be made to this document without the approval of the AFLNT.
3. If an AFLNT affiliated league, club or player wishes to use a separate player contract, it is highly recommended that the league, club or player seek approval from AFLNT prior to signing said document.
4. If an AFLNT affiliated league, club or player signs an AFLNT Standard Player Contract or any other Player Contract, that contract must be lodged with AFLNT within fourteen (14) days of the contract being signed.
5. The AFLNT Standard Player Contract can be found at:

<https://www.aflnt.com.au/competitions-clubs/aflnt-policies-rules-forms-feedback>

Appendix 7 AFLNT Forms

The AFLNT Forms are binding to all AFLNT affiliated leagues, clubs and members as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy and can be found at:

<https://www.aflnt.com.au/competitions-clubs/aflnt-policies-rules-forms-feedback>

The AFLNT Forms are to be used in accordance with these Rules & Regulations and the appropriate National Rules, Regulations and Guidelines.

FORM NUMBER	FORM TITLE
AFLNT-01	Age Dispensation Application Form
AFLNT-02	Incident Referral Form
AFLNT-03	Match Manager Incident Report Form
AFLNT-04	Playing Up Consent Form
AFLNT-05	Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form
AFLNT-06	Standard Player Contract

Appendix 8 State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines

1. The document titled 'State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines' is binding to all AFLNT affiliated leagues, clubs and members as defined in the AFL Member Protection Policy and can be found at:

<https://www.aflnt.com.au/competitions-clubs/aflnt-policies-rules-forms-feedback>

Appendix 9 Auditory Offences

Comments Were	Comments Directed	Conduct	Base Sanction	Early Plea
Loud (Could be heard more than 50 metres away)	At Umpire	Threat	Tribunal	N/A
		Abusive/Obscene	4 matches	3 matches
		Insulting	3 matches	2 matches
	At Another Person	Threat	Tribunal	N/A
		Abusive/Obscene	3 matches	2 matches
		Insulting	2 matches	1 match
Medium (Could be heard 10 to 50 metres away)	At Umpire	Threat	Tribunal	N/A
		Abusive/Obscene	3 matches	3 matches
		Insulting	2 matches	1 match
	At Another Person	Threat	3 matches	2 matches
		Abusive/Obscene	2 matches	1 match
		Insulting	1 match	Reprimand
Low (Could be heard less than 10 metres away)	At Umpire	Threat	Tribunal	N/A
		Abusive/Obscene	3 matches	2 matches
		Insulting	2 matches	1 match
	At Another Person	Threat	3 matches	2 matches
		Abusive/Obscene	2 matches	1 match
		Insulting	1 match	Reprimand

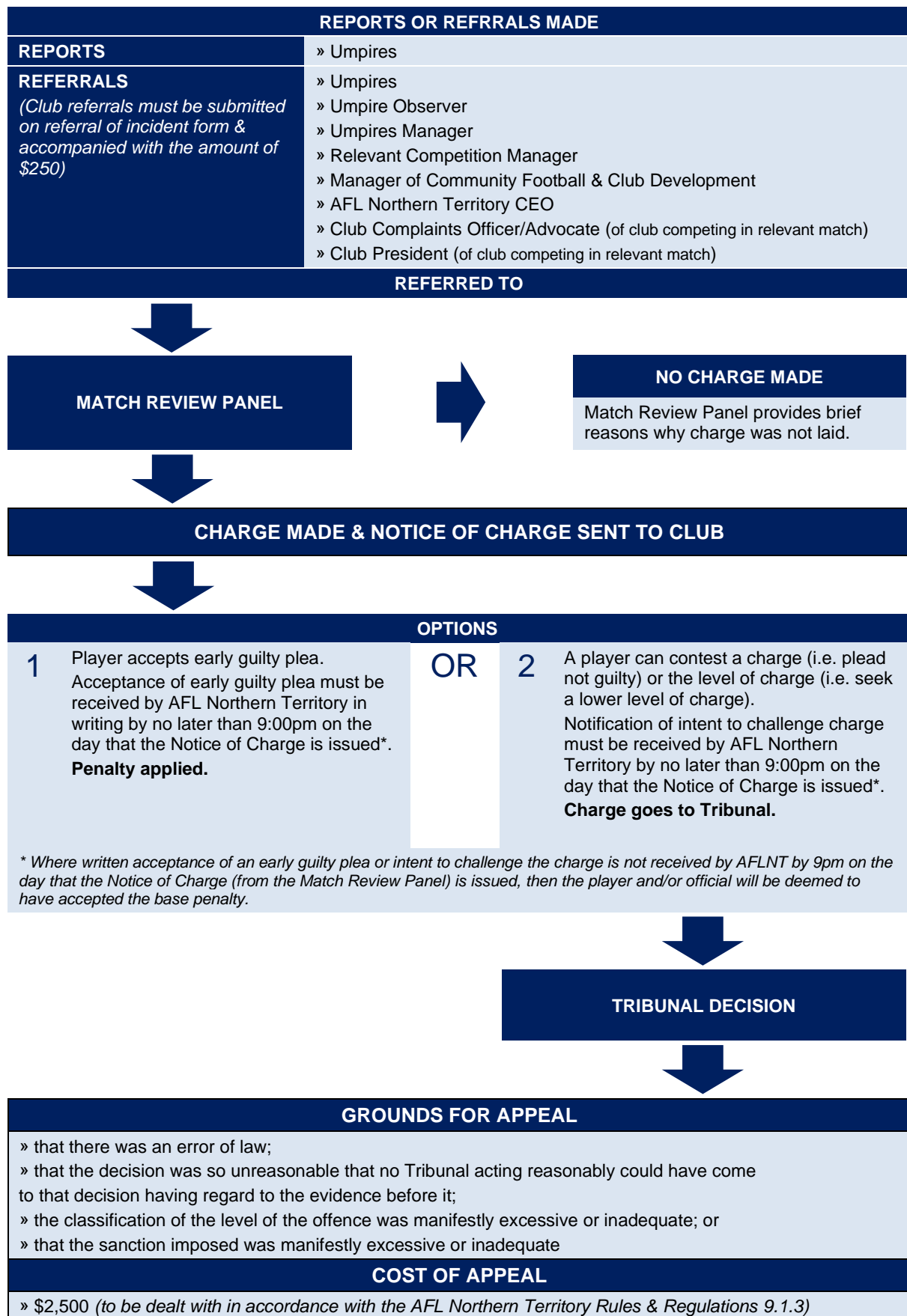
Threat/Obscene: If player unrepentant add 1 match to Base Sanction and Early Plea

Auditory Definitions:

Threatening: displaying an intention to cause bodily harm or causing someone to feel vulnerable or at risk.

Obscene/Abusive: extremely offensive, foul or disgusting

Insulting: disrespectful or scornfully abusive



The Match Review Panel, Tribunal Panel & Appeals Board are all independent of AFL Northern Territory.

Role of the Match Review Panel

- » Review reports or referrals lodged by Umpires and other designated officials
- » Analyse available video in relation to reports or referrals lodged
- » Make charges when satisfied that a Reportable Offence has occurred
- » Determine the appropriate classification of Classifiable Offences
- » Refer relevant offences to the Tribunal where applicable
- » Advise Players of any charges and the corresponding sanction for that charge (which a Player may accept or contest at the Tribunal)
- » Provide reasons in respect of any reports or referrals which do not progress to a charge.

Role of the Tribunal

- » The Tribunal convenes to hear contested Reportable Offences, Direct Tribunal Offences and those Classifiable Offences which are sufficiently serious to be referred to the Tribunal.
- » The Tribunal shall consist of:
 - a. A Chairperson; and
 - b. A panel of persons who in the opinion of the Controlling Body possess a sufficient knowledge of Australian Football (Tribunal Panel)
- » The Chairperson manages process and decides on points of law.
- » The Tribunal may determine any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit in accordance with the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines

Role of the Appeal Board

- » The Appeal Board convenes to hear appeals of matters from the Tribunal.
- » The Appeal Board shall consist of:
 - a. a Chairperson (Chairperson of the Appeal Board); and
 - b. at the discretion of the Controlling Body, a panel of not more than six (6) persons who in the opinion of the Controlling Body possess a sufficient knowledge of Australian Football (Appeal Board Panel).
- » The Chairperson manages the process of the appeal.
- » The Appeal Board determines whether the ground(s) of appeal is successful.
- » Members of the Appeal Board for a hearing cannot be the same members that sat on the matter at the Tribunal.

Appendix 12 Fines & Penalties Table

The following is a summary of the fines & penalties applied under these rules and regulations.

Any Club found to be in breach of these Rules & Regulations or any AFLNT affiliated competition by-laws, unless otherwise stated, will be liable to a penalty as specified by the relevant law breached.

Law/Breach (Rules & Regulations)	Base Penalty	Third Offence & Thereafter
3.2 Match Management		
<i>Failure by Match Manager to carry out prescribe duties as per 3.2.4</i>	\$50	\$100
3.3 Match – Match Day Checklist (Insurance Requirements)		
<i>Failure to complete the Marsh Match Day Checklist as per 3.3.1</i>	\$25	\$50
3.4 Match - Team Sheets		
<i>Failure to submit team sheet as per 3.4</i>	\$150	\$300
<i>Late submission of team sheet as per 3.4.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to include all required elements of the team sheet as per 3.4.3</i>	\$25	\$50
3.5 Match - Time Keepers		
<i>Failure to provide a time keeper for a match as per 3.5.1</i>	\$25	\$50
3.9 Competition - Playing Numbers		
<i>Submission of a team sheet that does not accurately represent the team that took the field during that match as per 3.9.2</i>	(a) Premier League: \$1000	(a) Premier League: \$2000
	(b) All other senior grades: \$750	(b) All other senior grades: \$1500
	(c) Under 18 grade: \$500	(c) Under 18 grade: \$1000
	(d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$250	(d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$500
	(e) Under 12 grade: \$100	(e) Under 12 grade: \$200
	An investigation will also occur	
<i>Team exceeds number of prescribed number of Players on the interchange bench as per 3.9.3, with consideration of 3.9.4</i>	Deduction of 4 premiership points	Deduction of 4 premiership points
<i>Insufficient number of players to commence match as per 3.9.6</i>	Forfeiture (as per 3.13.2)	
3.13 Competition - Forfeitures		
<i>Failure to notify AFLNT of forfeiture before deadline as per 3.13.1</i>	a) Premier League: \$2000	
	b) All other senior grades: \$750	
	c) Under 18 grade: \$500	
	d) Under 14 to 16 grade: \$250	
	e) Under 12 grade: \$100	
3.14 Competition - Consequence of Forfeiture		
<i>Team forfeits a total of three (3) Minor Round matches in any season as per 3.14.2</i>	Removal from competition (as per 3.14.2)	
3.20 Scheduling - Run on Times		
<i>Failure to meet scheduled run on time (Premier League)</i>	\$100	\$200
3.21 Scheduling - Change Room Allocations		
<i>Change rooms not left in a clean and tidy state as per 3.21.3</i>	\$100	\$200
3.25 Support Staff		
<i>On field support staff don't meet minimum age requirement under 3.25.1 & 3.25.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Support staff not wearing enclosed footwear as per 3.25.3</i>	\$25	\$50

<i>Failure to comply to any of the rules set out around water carriers as per 3.25.4</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Sports trainer not in attendance as per 3.25.5</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to comply to any of the rules set out around sports trainers as per 3.25.6</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Failure to comply to any of the rules set out around runners as per 3.25.7</i>	\$25	\$50
3.26 Support Staff - Coaches, Team Managers & Stewards		
<i>Any officials not wearing enclosed footwear as per 3.26.1</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Junior coaches not wearing AFLNT approved coaches apparel as per 3.26.2</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Senior coach not wearing club polo shirt as per 3.26.3</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Senior assistant coaches not wearing club polo shirt and/or assistant coaches armband as per 3.26.4</i>	\$25	\$50
<i>Team manager and/or stewards not wearing AFLNT approved support apparel as per 3.26.5</i>	\$25	\$50
3.27 Support Staff - Personnel Entering the Playing Arena		
<i>Unauthorized entry to the playing arena by a support staff or individual considered a member of a club as per 3.27.1 & 3.27.3</i>	\$50	\$100
3.28 Support Staff - Registered Players Acting as Team Officials		
<i>Player acting as a team official for another club (other than their registered club), without written permission from their club as per 3.28.1</i>	\$50	\$100
<i>Contracted AFL player acting as a team official as per 3.28.2</i>	\$200	\$400
3.29 Umpires – Escorts		
<i>Failure to provide an umpire escort, or failure by the umpire escort to carry out their prescribed duties as per 3.29</i>	\$25	\$50
3.31 Umpires - Club Umpires		
<i>Failure to provide an accredited club umpire when required as per 3.31</i>	\$100	\$200
4.5 Accreditation – Club Officials		
<i>Any team that submits a team sheet which includes a person that is in breach of 4.5 Accreditation - Club Officials</i>	Forfeiture	
4.6 Accreditation – Club Coaches		
<i>Coach or assistant coach does not comply with accreditation requirements</i>	\$50	\$100
<i>Incorrect coach listed on team sheet</i>	\$50	\$100
4.7 Player Registrations		
<i>Playing an unregistered player</i>	Forfeiture	
4.12 Club Colours, Uniforms and Logos		
<i>Failure to provide uniform designs for approval</i>	Dealt with in accordance with license agreement	
<i>Incorrect uniform worn by a team</i>	\$100	\$200
5.2 Age and Gender Qualifications		
<i>Club found to have played a player in breach of the age and gender qualifications for a particular age group</i>	\$500	\$1,000
5.3 Player Eligibility - All Matches		
<i>Player has played more than the maximum allowable matches in any given round</i>	\$250	\$250
<i>Club has been found in breach of 5.3.5, having played a player in a match two divisions lower</i>	\$250	\$250
5.4 Player Eligibility - Finals Matches		
<i>Player plays in a finals match in breach of the eligibility requirements for that grade</i>	\$1,000	\$1,000

5.5 Unregistered, Overage or Ineligible Player		
<i>A Club which permits an unregistered, overage or ineligible Player to participate in a match will be deemed to have forfeited that match.</i>	Forfeiture	
6.3 Match Day Permits		
<i>Failure to submit a match day permit in compliance with the Rules & Regulations</i>	\$100	\$200
6.4 Student Permits		
<i>Player in breach of the student permit requirements</i>	\$500	\$1,000