



SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC.

Player Points System Policy

Women's Divisions 1,2 & 3 2023

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Responsible Person	Competition Manager	Scheduled Review Date	

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1. OBJECTIVES

The SFL Player Points System Policy delivers equalisation within community football competitions which is vital for the growth and development of community football.

Even and fair competitions lead to interest, which leads to bigger crowds, which leads to stronger clubs and competitions. Even competitions allow supporters and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain, and that their team is a chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provides rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the field.

The philosophy of competition equalisation is accepted in sports all around the world. Professional sporting bodies have accepted practices such as drafts, salary caps, FIFA Fair Play, and the like, to help competition's, ensure competitiveness and club sustainability.

The objectives of the SFL PPS Policy are as follows, to:

- (a) support equalisation of community football Competitions.
- (b) ensure teams fielded in the Competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible.
- (c) provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills.
- (d) provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system.
- (e) enable team spirit and public support.
- (f) encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs.
- (g) reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to assist clubs survive financially and reduce financial burden/stress on Clubs.
- (h) promote player loyalty and junior development.
- (i) support the role volunteers undertake in managing their Clubs by
 - I. minimising the need to fundraise for player payments
 - II. providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at Club level
 - III. providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of football, a welcoming Club environment and growing the game within the local community.

This PPS Policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system to achieve the above objectives.

2. DEFINITIONS

Adjusted Total Team Points Allocation	A SFLW Team's Total Team Points allocation after any adjustments approved by the SFL Executive (refer to Appendix A)
AFL	Australian Football League.
AFLW	Australian Football League Women's competition.
Category	The player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player.
Community Club or 'Club'	An Australian football club which participates within a community football competition that does not include State Leagues (i.e. the Tasmanian State League, Victorian Football League, Western Australia Football League, South Australian National Football League, North East Australia Football League, Northern Territory Football League etc.).
Competition	An Australian football competition in which the Community Clubs participate in official fixtured matches.
Competition Manager	The person responsible for the administration of the football Competition.
Competitive Football	Any formally organised football competition excluding AFL 9s and school football.
First Home & Away Match	The first official competition match for the home and away season of a Competition.
Play HQ	The online competition management system implemented by football competitions across Australia. (Play HQ) Southern Football League.
Match	An official competition game for the home and away season of a Competition.
Match Team Points	The total number of points for a SFLW Team for a particular match. Calculated by adding the Player Points Allocation for each player on the team sheet for that match.
National Player Transfer Regulations	The AFL's national policy for player transfers as updated by the AFL from time to time.
NEAFL	North East Australia Football League.
NTFL	Northern Territory Football League.
Player membership details	A player's individual details provided for on the Play HQ System.
Player Points Allocation	The total number of points allocated to an individual player in the SFL Senior Men's or Women's Team taking into consideration the Player Points Category that applies to each player and any additional points or deducted points in accordance with this PPS Policy.
PPS Policy	The Community Club player points policy as amended by the SFL from time to time.

PPSC	Player Points System Committee
Premier Competition	The Competitions outlined in clause 6.2 of this PPS Policy.
Season	Community Football season between 1 April and 30 September each year (or such other agreed dates).
Season of Service	A Season where a player has played a minimum of five (5) SFLW games in one Season for a particular Community Club.
TSL	The Tasmanian State League.
Total Team Points	The total amount of points allocated to a specific SFLW Team by the SFL for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.
SFL	Southern Football League Tasmania
SFL Executive	
SFLW	Southern Football League Tasmania Women's
SFLW Team	SFLW Member means a club that fields a team/s in the SFLW competition annually.

3. INTERPRETATION

A reference to:

“**Transferred**” refers to the formal transfer authorised under the National Player Transfer Regulations.

“**Unique local conditions**” refers to the conditions, environment or circumstances which are unique to a Community Club or a region of Community Clubs which may give grounds for a reassessment of a Club’s Total Team Points as determined by the SFL Executive.

4. TOTAL TEAM POINTS

- 4.1. The Total Team Points will be capped subject to the conditions of this clause 4.
- 4.2. The starting point is that Total Team Points will be capped at 38 points and should only vary for legitimate circumstances necessary to achieve the objectives of this PPS Policy.
- 4.3. The SFL Executive will assess and allocate Total Team Points to each SFLW Team in accordance with PPS Policy prior to 31 March each year (See Appendix A for the Total Team Points allocations).
- 4.4. Any decision to alter the Total Team Points must be approved by the SFL Executive.
- 4.5. The SFL Executive will vary Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy, to manage unique local conditions and to meet the needs of local Community Clubs and the relevant Competitions. For example:
 - (a) Additional Total Team Points may be allocated to a Community Club which is in a region with a low population base.
 - (b) Additional Total Team Points may be allocated if a Community Club who have finished in the last three positions on the ladder for two consecutive Seasons or can prove special dispensation to the League on a case-by-case basis.
 - (c) Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess, or is a recently merged or restructured entity.
 - (d) Total Team Points may be reduced for multiple premierships and sustained success over previous Seasons.
- 4.6. If any team has received a variance to the 35-point Total Team Points, points will be varied at the end of each season by the following means:
 - (a) A deduction of one point per year until the team reaches the Total Team Points allocation in clause 4.1.
 - (b) If a team makes finals, two points will be deducted from the Total Team Points allocation until it reaches the allocation in 4.1.
 - (c) If a team which has received additional Total Team Points finishes in last position on the ladder in a Season, the Total Team Points will remain the same for the next Season.
- 4.7. Community Clubs may apply to the SFL Executive for the allocation of additional Total Team Points or salary cap extensions in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. applications based on unique local conditions).

4.8. Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points under clause 4.7 or for any other reason must be approved by SFL Executive.

4.9. For each Match, a Club must ensure that the Match Team Points is calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate in a Match for that Competition.

For example, if the maximum number of players allowed on match day for Division 2 and 3 is 22 and Division 1 is 20, a Club cannot submit a team sheet of 21 players for Division 2/3 or 19 players for Division 1 to meet the Total Team Points cap.

For the avoidance of doubt, a Club must list the maximum number of players allowed on its team sheet in calculating its Match Team Points, other than as set out in clause 4.10.

4.10. Where fewer than the maximum allowed players are available, the Total Team Points allocation for that match will be decreased by 2 points per player not listed.

For the avoidance of doubt, a Club listing 21 or 19 out of a possible maximum of 22 or 20 players, must not exceed their Total Team Points allocation minus 2 points.

5. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION

5.1. The SFL will liaise with Community Clubs to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via the Play HQ prior to any player's First Home and Away Match of each Season.

5.2. As part of the player point allocation process, the SFL Executive may provide the opportunity for Clubs to contest any player's Player Point Allocation.

An appeal against a Player Point Allocation should be made no later than 1 day before the player's First Home and Away Match of the Season.

5.3. A player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that player's playing history and achievements.

5.4. Where a player qualifies for more than one Category based on their playing history in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply.

5.5. Each player will be allocated a category and a Player Points Allocation as per Appendix C.

5.6. Once the process in clauses 5.1 and 5.2 has been finalised, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed unless the SFL Executive is of the view that there are exceptional circumstances relevant to a player that warrant an amendment of the Player Point Allocation.

5.7. A player's Player Points Allocation, as determined in accordance with clause 5, remains that player's Player Point Allocation for the duration of their tenure at that club. Clause 8.1 – Reduction of One Point, applies to the player's Player Point Allocation.

- 5.8. A players Player Points Allocation will be reviewed in accordance with clause 5, and amended, when that player moves clubs. This is to promote player retention and loyalty.
- 5.9. Where a club has more than one team in the SFLW, players may move between teams with no effect on their Player Points Allocation. (Note: Rules and Regs around eligibility).
- 5.10. A player that moves from their home club to a NAB League, AFLW, or under local interchange agreements, and returns to their home club, will not have their Player Points Allocation amended.
- 5.11. A player that moves from their home club to a NAB League, AFLW, or under local interchange agreements, and DOES NOT return to their home club, will have their Player Points Allocation will be amended in accordance with clause 5.
- 5.12. The SFL Competition Manager will determine each player's Player Points Allocation. This determination may include any additions or deductions applicable to each player in accordance with this PPS Policy.

See clauses 7 and 8 and appendices for applicable PPS table and flow chart to assist with this process.
- 5.13. The SFL Competition Manager will enter Player Points Allocations into each relevant player's membership details using Play HQ prior to the relevant Community Club's First Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 5.14. The Club may need to consult with the Competition Manager to ensure this process is up to date as it cannot be updated until players have completed online registration for the season.
- 5.15. Players that have transferred clubs must have completed the online registration via the email link generated through Play HQ transfer approval process.
- 5.16. Clubs that do not follow this procedure and decide to play a player in a Match in a Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and entered into Play HQ, may receive an enforcement penalty as determined by the SFL Executive in accordance with this PPS Policy.

6. ALIGNMENT TO A JUNIOR CLUB

- 6.1. SFLW Clubs must have one (or more) single junior football club as their aligned junior club and this nomination must be accepted by the nominated junior club. Any Club that does not nominate an aligned junior club or does not have their nominated junior club accept the nomination by the due date, will be deemed to have no aligned junior club.
- 6.2. The SFL Executive will deal with the issue/allocation of non-aligned junior clubs (i.e. which SFL clubs can access any surplus, and how many points per player will be involved) at their total discretion.
- 6.3. A junior player recruited into any Division team, from a junior club other than their aligned junior club, will be 1 pt.
- 6.4. A junior player, recruited into a Division team, from their aligned junior club will be 1 pt.

See Appendix B: Details of community club and junior club alignment.

7. ADDITIONAL PLAYER POINT ALLOCATIONS:

- 7.1. If a player has transferred to three (3) or more different Community Clubs in the previous 36 months, one additional point will be applied to that player's Player Points Allocation.

8. DEDUCTIONS TO PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION:

- 8.1. Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one point will apply for each Season of Service to that player's Community Club (minimum 5 games per Season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches not less than 1 point (this is the minimum number of points a player can have).
- 8.2. The SFL Executive may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances.

Community Clubs will need to make an application prior to the First Home and Away Match detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to the SFL Executive. The application for reassessment may be based upon one or more of the following:

- (a) the age of the player, especially if the player is looking to play at a higher level;
 - (b) the injury history of the player;
 - (c) the recent playing history of the player;
 - (d) the living, schooling, and work arrangements of the player; or
 - (e) any other relevant consideration.
- 8.3. Subject to the considerations which the SFL Executive should consider under clause 8.2, the determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the SFL Executive.
- 8.4. Should a player be recruited from a Tasmanian affiliate Community Club which participates in a community Competition which has not adopted a PPS Policy, that player will have a value of one point to a Community Club which has adopted the PPS Policy.

The SFL Executive, at their discretion may review this one-point allocation particularly where the playing history of that player includes prior participation in Competitions that have adopted a PPS Policy, or the player is of exceptional ability, i.e. an ex AFLW player as an example.

- 8.5. Upon changing clubs, a player over the age of 35, as at the start of the calendar year, shall receive a one-point reduction to their Player Points Allocation.

9. IMPLEMENTATION

- 9.1. The SFL Executive are free to publicise Total Team Points to Clubs for the following year at their own discretion once approved.

- 9.2. The implementation of the PPS Policy in 2019 may have resulted in unintentional errors with the player points allocation or in other administrative activities, as the association familiarises itself with the new system.

The SFL Executive will have the discretion to either address any of these breaches in the PPS Policy through education and training, or they may decide to apply the enforcement provisions listed below. In 2019 and beyond, all enforcement provisions should be implemented and applied.

10. ENFORCEMENT

- 10.1. Given Player Points Allocations will be managed via the Play HQ, if correct procedure is applied, with Players Points Allocation entered into the system prior to the start of the Season, there will be minimal issues in the management of the Player Points Allocations.

Errors are less likely given that Play HQ will not permit a club to complete a SFLW Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Club's permitted points cap.

- 10.2. As detailed in clause 9.2 it will be at the discretion of SFL Executive as to the enforcement provisions they apply to Clubs. Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised in line with the penalties set out in clause 10.3.

- 10.3. Penalties may include (without limitation):
- (a) club fines;
 - (b) loss of premiership points – current or future Season;
 - (c) suspension from finals – current or future Season;
 - (d) player/official suspensions – for those players/officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club or the SFL Executive; and
 - (e) any other penalty determined by the SFL Executive from time to time, such as a reduction in total Team Player Points.

11. APPEAL AND REVIEW

- 11.1. Where a Community Club is of the view that a player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy, any appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be heard by the SFL Executive under their own appeals process as per s58 of the SFL Rules and Regulations.
- 11.2. Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points or Total Team Cap allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy, any appeal against that Total Team Points allocation must be heard by the SFL Executive under their own appeals process as per the National Football Community Handbook for the appeal of a decision.
- 11.3. An appeal against a decision to enforce an enforcement provision under this PPS Policy should be made via the SFL Executive.
- 11.4. The SFL Executive will review the PPS Policy from time to time and amendments and variations may be made by the SFL Executive.

13. APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A ADJUSTED TOTAL TEAM POINTS ALLOCATIONS

TEAM	DIV	TTPA	NOTES
Brighton	2	38	
Claremont	2	38	
Clarence	1	42	
The Port	2	38	
Glenorchy	1	42	
Huonville Lions	2	38	
Hutchins	2	38	
Kingborough	1	42	
Lauderdale	2	38	
OHA	2	38	
Lindisfarne	2	38	
New Norfolk	3	38	
North Hobart	1	42	
North Hobart	3	38	
South East Suns	2	38	
St Virgils	3	38	
University	2	38	

TEAM	DIV	TTPA	NOTES
Clarence	1	42	
Glenorchy	1	42	
Kingborough	1	42	
North Hobart	1	42	
Brighton	2	38	
Claremont	2	38	
Huonville Lions	2	38	
Hutchins	2	38	
Lauderdale	2	38	
New Norfolk	2	38	
South East Suns	2	38	
The Port	2	38	
University	2	38	
Dodges Ferry	3	38	
Lauderdale	3	38	
Lindisfarne	3	38	
North Hobart	3	38	
St Virgils	3	38	

APPENDIX B COMMUNITY CLUB AND JUNIOR CLUB ALIGNMENT

SFL Club	Junior Club
Brighton	Brighton
Claremont	Claremont
Clarence	Clarence
Cygnet	Southern Storm Juniors/ Channel Football Club
Dodges Ferry	Dodges Ferry
Glenorchy	Glenorchy
Hobart	Hobart / Sandy Bay
Hutchins	Sandy Bay
Huonville Lions	Huonville Lions
Kingborough	Kingborough
Lauderdale	Lauderdale
Lindisfarne	Lindisfarne
New Norfolk	New Norfolk
North Hobart	North Hobart, Sandy Bay
Sorell	Sorell
South East Suns	South East Suns
St Virgils	
University	Sandy Bay

APPENDIX C

PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES WOMEN

Category 6	6 points	AFLW Listed Player	Player who has been listed with an AFLW team in any of the prior three (3) seasons, including the current season.
Category 5	5 points	Interstate Player	Player who has played 1 game or more with an interstate club in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons.
Category 5	5 points	Premium Player	A Div 1 player who has achieved a top 10 league B&F in the preceding year.
Category 4	4 points	State League Tier 2 TSLW	A player that has played 5 or more games at TSLW in any of the last 3 seasons, including the current season.
Category 4	4 points	NAB League	NAB League player - who has played a minimum 4 NAB League games in the current Season or previous 3 seasons.
Category 4	3 points	Community Player	Any player that has played 5 or more SFLW games in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons.
Category 3	3 points	Promotional Player	An ex-AFLW player who is engaged as a Marquee Player for a promotional game. (refer 13.3.(c))
Category 3	3 points	Senior Premium Player	A Div 1 player, over the age of 35 as at 1 January, that has played 5 or more games in Div 1 in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons and is transferred into Div 2 or 3.
Category 3	3 points	Senior Community Player	Any player that has played 5 or more games in Division 2 or 3 in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons.
Category 2	2 points	Development Community Player	Any player that has played (4) or less games in any division in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons
Category 1	1 point	Home Player / New Player	Player who has only played at that club or has reduced their points by being there for a period of years. Player new to the game. Player recruited from clubs aligned junior club.

EXAMPLE EXEMPTIONS.

- i. If a player returns to an SFLW club **directly from** the NAB League, or AFLW after leaving an ‘aligned junior Club’ or acknowledged ‘junior feeder Club’ of the same SFLW club to go **directly to** the NAB League, they will be classed as a Home Player = 1 point.
- ii. If a registered player of a SFLW Club gets drafted to AFLW or NAB their PPV will only change (increase) if they transfer from one SFL club to another SFL club.