



**2024**

**COMPETITION RULES OF THE  
COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE  
INCORPORATED**

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# SECTION A: RULES OF THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE (CSL)

The Collegiate Soccer League (CSL) shall run an organised competition each year in accordance with the following rules:

## 1) THE LAWS OF THE GAME

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- a) All football (soccer) matches organised or authorised by the CSL and all matches played by any CSL Club shall be played under and in accordance with:
  - i) The Laws of the Game as laid down by the Federation Internationale de Football Association [FIFA] and all additions, alterations and amendments thereto contained in this document or otherwise determined by the CSL Executive Committee from time to time of which notice is given by the CSL Executive Committee to CSL Clubs.
  - ii) The CSL Competition Rules and related policies and/or guidelines of the CSL; and
  - iii) Any other rules, regulations, policies, or guidelines as the CSL Executive Committee see fit to adopt or apply from time-to-time, including but not limited to rules, regulations, policies, or guidelines of Football South Australia.

## 2) REGISTRATION OF TEAMS

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- a) By a date stipulated by the CSL Executive Committee each year, each CSL Club shall provide the following information to the CSL:
  - i) The name of the CSL Club and any 'nickname' that may be associated with that CSL Club.
  - ii) The name and contact details of the CSL Club Delegate(s) for the season.
  - iii) The number of teams that the CSL Club wishes to nominate for the CSL that season.
  - iv) The name and location of the home ground of each team nominated by the CSL Club; and
  - v) The colour(s) of each CSL Club team's playing uniform.
- b) The CSL Club will advise the CSL of any changes to the information provided in accordance with sub rule b), d) or e) as soon as possible and at the latest within 7 days.

## 3) PROCEDURES FOR NEW CLUBS JOINING THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE

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- a) The CSL may admit any new applicant Club, in accordance with the CSL Constitution, on any terms and conditions that the CSL sees fit and may refuse any application in its absolute discretion.
- b) Any Club wishing to join the CSL must apply to the CSL. Such application will include:
  - i) The information required in rule 2.
  - ii) Any other information requested by the CSL.
  - iii) And must be signed by a Club official and either the head of the body controlling sport or the principal at the relevant tertiary education institution or secondary school, respectively.

- c) The CSL may inform itself about any applicant in any manner it sees fit and may request any person to appear before it to give information about the applicant.
- d) When considering the application for a new Club, the CSL shall consider the information provided in accordance with this rule and any other matters that it may consider relevant.
- e) An application will only be approved at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- f) Approval may be granted with or without conditions.

#### **4) PROCEDURES FOR SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF CLUBS FROM THE CSL**

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- a) It is the expectation of the CSL that all clubs will abide by the rules set out herein.
- b) The CSL Executive may suspend or expel a club from the CSL, in accordance with the CSL Constitution, if:
  - i) there is a serious incident or breach of these rules; or
  - ii) ongoing breaches of these rules; or
  - iii) a failure to abide by any ruling of the CSL Executive; or
  - iv) for any other reason that the CSL Executive sees fit.
- c) If a club is expelled, they may apply to rejoin the CSL in accordance with rule 3 above.

#### **5) REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

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- a) Each person must be properly registered on PlayFootball and approved as a player before being permitted to play in any match organized by the CSL.
- b) The minimum age for registration as a CSL player is 15 years old.
- c) A person shall be deemed to be registered with the CSL from the time that person registers on the PlayFootball website as a player for the club for which they intend to play.
- d) If a player is having difficulties registering on the PlayFootball website, they can seek an exemption for a maximum of one week from the Chairman of the CSL to allow for the difficulties to be resolved. Such an exemption must be sought and approved prior to the player being named on a CSL match sheet and participating in a CSL match.
- e) All CSL registration shall expire at the end of each CSL season.
- f) A person that has been registered for a club in another Australian football (soccer) competition in a given year is eligible to become registered for a CSL Club on or before 30 June of the same year, or any other date as may be determined by the CSL Executive Committee from time to time, provided that the player has not already played in the same year (whether for one club or cumulatively for two or more clubs):
- g) If a player wishes to transfer after 30 June or any other date as may be determined by the CSL Executive Committee from time to time, they must seek special dispensation from the CSL Executive Committee.
- h) A player who has played for a CSL registered club's FSA team must abide by the Player Movement Rules in Appendix 3 to be eligible to play for the club's CSL team. If a Senior team or Reserve team

player has not played any CSL matches on or before 30 June, they are ineligible to play in the CSL for the remainder of the season. No such restriction applies in respect of U18 team players who have not played any Senior team or Reserve team games that season.

i) Players shall not register with a new Club unless their financial obligations with their previous Clubs have been met. Clubs that determine that a player is not financial must notify the CSL in writing should they wish to rely on this sub rule.

## **6) PLAYER ID PHOTOS**

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a) No player shall play in any competition conducted by the CSL or in any match authorised by the CSL (other than a pre-season friendly) unless a suitable ID photo for that player has been uploaded to PlayFootball and visible the DRIBL system.

b) Any club found to have played a player in breach of rule 5A(a) will be subject to a fine as outlined in the table in rule 51. For any subsequent breach of rule 5A(a) that season, any team found to have played a player in breach of rule 5A(a) will have one point deducted from their league points tally and their club will be subject to a fine as outlined in the table in rule 51.

## **7) UNREGISTERED, INELIGIBLE AND SUSPENDED PLAYERS**

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a) No player shall play in any competition conducted by the CSL or in any match authorised by the CSL (other than a pre-season friendly) unless he is registered with the CSL in accordance with rule 4.

b) If, in any match, a Club plays a player who is not registered with it or a player who is ineligible or suspended for a particular match or period, or a player whose registration has been suspended:

(i) the Club shall forfeit the match to its opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three goals to nil.

(ii) if the match was played in the league competition, any points that were awarded to the Club that played an unregistered, ineligible, or suspended player will be deducted, and the forfeit result will be applied.

(iii) the Club shall be fined in accordance with Section D for each unregistered, ineligible, or suspended player who played in the match; and

(iv) if the player is a registered player, the CSL may suspend or cancel the player's registration.

## **8) PLAYING PLAYERS UNDER ASSUMED OR FALSE NAME**

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a) If a Club knowingly or willingly plays a player in any match under a false or assumed name:

(i) the Club shall be deemed guilty of serious misconduct.

(ii) the Club shall forfeit the match to its opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three goals to nil.

(iii) if the match was played in the league competition, the points awarded to the Club in the competition shall be reduced by the number of points awarded for a win in the competition; and

(iv) the Club shall be liable to such further penalty as the CSL, or the committee it appoints to hear the matter, may determine.

b) The player and any Club official or Club who knowingly or willingly authorised a player to play in a match under a false or assumed name shall be liable to such penalty as the CSL, or the committee it appoints to hear the matter, may determine.

## **9) MATCH SHEETS & DRIBL**

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a) It is the responsibility of Clubs to ensure that CSL match sheets associated with their Club's matches are completed in DRIBL.

\*Match sheets will be accepted where technical issues occur with DRIBL, or extenuating circumstances exist.

Some discretion will be given in the learning phase of using the new game management system where the CSL believes honest admin or technical error has occurred.

## **10) UNIFORM**

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a) At the commencement of the season all Clubs will nominate their respective team(s)'s colours by listing on their club profile page on the website.

b) All Clubs must notify the CSL of any changes to their already nominated team colours.

c) All Clubs will be required to wear a badge or patch on their playing strip displaying the CSL logo.

d) Should the playing colours of competing teams clash at a CSL match, it shall be the responsibility of the "away" ("visiting") team to use an alternative strip unless otherwise agreed between the competing teams. The match official shall determine whether there is a clash of colours. Shirt and socks must be visually different.

e) If a Club does not comply with rule 9(d), they will be subject to the punishment outlined in the table in rule 51.

f) The CSL will not enforce the 'undergarments not matching uniform' rule in FIFA Rules.

## **11) MATCH BALLS**

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a) All Clubs shall use the official match ball approved by the CSL Executive Committee. The 2024 match ball will be "Stealth" by Deploy Football.

b) Each team shall provide two CSL approved match balls for each fixture.

## **12) INSURANCE**

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a) All Clubs shall always ensure they take out and maintain policies of insurance providing benefits for their players and officials who are injured and such other policy or policies of insurance as the FSA may from time to time prescribe or approve. Failure to comply may result in the Club's deregistration.

b) Each Club secretary or delegate shall act as coordinator with the FSA and/or the Insurance provider on any related claims lodged or queries with the policy cover.

### **13) RULES OF THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE**

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a) In fielding a team in a CSL Competition, the team and Club agree to abide by the CSL Rules and the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations, the National Code of Conduct, the Grievance Resolution Regulations and all the related FSA Rules.

## **SECTION B: RULES OF THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE (CSL) LEAGUE COMPETITION**

### **14) THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE (CSL) LEAGUE COMPETITION ADMINISTRATOR**

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a) The CSL Executive Committee will appoint a CSL League Competition Administrator to be responsible for all matters relating to CSL League matches.

### **15) ENTRY INTO COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE COMPETITION**

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a) Only CSL Clubs will be permitted to field teams in the CSL League competition.

b) The CSL Executive Committee reserves the right to limit the number of teams any CSL Club may field, yet each CSL Club must be represented and submit at least one team per season.

### **16) COMPETITION FIXTURES & DIVISIONS**

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a) For CSL Clubs that field more than one team, reasonable efforts will be made by the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee) to allow the Club to have as many teams as possible playing at the same venue on the same day. However, no guarantees can be offered in this regard and CSL Clubs must be prepared to have some or all their teams playing at separate venues where necessary.

### **17) MATCH DAY**

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a) CSL matches will be played on Friday evenings after 6.30pm or Saturdays at kick off times 11am/1pm/3pm unless indicated otherwise by the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee).

### **18) MATCH VENUE**

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a) Matches will be played at the ground of the nominated home team or at a ground nominated by the CSL.

b) Match venues may not be changed without the permission of the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee).

c) Each Club shall keep and maintain its ground in a reasonable condition.



d) The Club on whose ground a match is to be played shall mark and equip the field of play in accordance with the laws of the game and any by-laws or directions of the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee).

e) A correctly CSL vested ground steward will be assigned by both home and away teams. The referee will have the right to not start a game until this is achieved. Penalties apply, see table.

## **19) KICK-OFF TIMES**

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a) CSL matches will be played on Friday evenings after 6.30pm and Saturdays at kick off times 11am/1pm/3pm unless indicated otherwise by the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee). Any games outside of these times must be negotiated between clubs and approved by the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee).

## **20) MATCH DURATION**

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a) All CSL matches shall be of 90 minutes in duration (with injury time added by the appointed referee at his discretion), 45 minutes each way with a 10-minute interval at half time.

## **21) ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

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- a) All players competing in the CSL for their respective CSL Club's teams must be registered before the scheduled CSL match.
- b) No player shall be permitted to play for more than one Club in the CSL League Competition in any one season unless the player transfers under Section A.
- c) A player named as a substitute on the match sheet shall be deemed to be a player taking part in the match.
- d) A player who plays in the starting 11 for their division 1A, 2A, 3A or 3C team is not eligible to participate in any matches for their club's third team or lower during the same week, including any mid-week and/or catch-up games. An exception will be made for players who are playing as a goalkeeper in one grade but as an outfield player in another grade. Further, clubs may seek a prior exemption from the CSL Executive Committee if they believe there are exceptional circumstances as to why a goalkeeper should be permitted to start in goals for their first team and start in goals for their third or lower team in the same week.
- e) In a match week where first/reserve games are played on different days, a player who plays in the starting 11 for their division 1A, 2A, 3A or 3C will not be eligible to play in the reserves for that match week.
- f) A player who plays in the starting 11 for a team, or who plays in only one game but as a substitute, is not eligible to play their next game on a subsequent match day that season for a team that is more than one grade lower. An exception will be made for players who are playing as a goalkeeper in one grade but as an outfield player in another grade. Further, clubs may seek a prior exemption from the CSL Executive Committee if they believe there are exceptional circumstances as to why a player should be permitted to play for a team that is more than one grade lower than the previous team they played for and/or they can demonstrate that the player's usual team is more than one grade lower than the previous team they played for. For the avoidance of doubt:

- there is no restriction on players moving up more than one grade for their next game on a subsequent match day. Restrictions only apply when moving down to a lower grade;
- if, for example, a player starts for a division 1B team and is a substitute for their division 1A team on the same day, the following week that player is not eligible to play any lower than division 4 (their club's 3<sup>rd</sup> team); and
- there is no intention to prevent players from returning to play for their usual team in situations where they were required to play for a higher team on the previous match day due to exceptional circumstances.

g) If the CSL is satisfied that the above eligibility rules have been breached and/or that players are dropping down to a level that compromises the integrity of that division, based on an assessment of player ability, team selections, observations, and feedback, the CSL Executive Committee reserve the right to apply sanctions including but not limited to:

- (i) Player Suspension
- (ii) Fines
- (iii) Forfeit and/or Points Deduction.

## **22) SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS**

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### SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

- a) Substitutions will be used in Division 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, and 3A.
- b) A team may only use substitutes that are named on the team sheet.
- c) A team can name up to six (6) substitutes on their team sheets. Of the six (6) substitutes, a team may only use a maximum of five (5) in any match.
- d) To reduce disruption to the match, the "three plus half time" rule limits teams to have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game.
- e) Substitutions may also be made at half-time that do not count towards the three (3) opportunities.
- f) If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team.
- g) Unused substitutions and opportunities are carried forward into extra time.
- h) Where competition rules allow an additional substitution in extra time, teams will each have one (1) additional substitution opportunity.
- i) Substitutions may also be made before the start of extra time and at half-time in extra time that do not count towards the three (3) opportunities.

### INTERCHANGE

- a) Interchange will be used in Divisions 3B, 3C, 4, 5, 6, and 7.
- b) Divisions that allow interchange will be allowed to name and play up to six (6) substitutes.

## **23) PLAYER SUSPENSIONS**

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a) When a player is suspended pursuant to sub-rule 49 above, the suspension must be served on the subsequent match day(s) on which the team in which the suspension was incurred plays. For example, if a player is suspended for one match playing for team X, they are ineligible to play for the entire day that team X plays their next game.

b) Suspensions not served at the completion of a season shall carry over to the following CSL season (and shall apply to Cup or League matches) unless otherwise determined by the CSL Executive Committee.

## **24) MATCH OFFICIALS (REFEREES, GROUND STEWARDS & ASSISTANT REFEREES)**

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- a) Match officials shall be appointed to CSL matches by FSA to the best of their endeavours.
- b) The CSL shall also appoint CSL Club Referees to the best of their endeavours.
- c) Assistant referees may be appointed by the FSA upon the competing Clubs' mutual request, subject to availability.
- d) A match official shall be entitled to be paid an amount per CSL match as stipulated by the Executive Committee prior to the start of each CSL season.
- e) Home Teams shall pay for the match officials' fees for CSL Cup matches unless otherwise stipulated by the CSL Executive Committee. The CSL encourages away teams to offer to pay half of any applicable fees and split AR costs.
- f) In the event that a match official is not present at the scheduled start of a CSL Cup match, the two (2) competing teams shall nominate a match official for the match.
- g) If the two (2) teams cannot agree on a suitable match official then it is the responsibility of the home team to provide a match official for the CSL Cup match.
- h) Clubs must appoint a visible ground steward (appropriate CSL allocated vest) for all teams for all matches. Fines and further punishments apply.

## **25) MATCH SHEETS**

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- a) Before the start of any match, each Club shall ensure that the Referee acknowledged the team is in DRIBL and submitted ready for KO:
    - (i) all information entered correctly.
    - (ii) the registered numbers and shirt numbers of the Clubs' players taking part in the match.
    - (iii) the Clubs' nominated substitutes for the match; and
    - (iv) the name of the coach and ground steward for each team.
- No game is to commence prior to the Referee receiving a completed match sheet or approving submissions in DRIBL.
- b) A team shall not play in any match a player who is not named on the match sheet for the match. If a team plays a player who is not named on the match sheet the game will be deemed a forfeit against the team fielding the non-named player.
  - c) The Referee shall enter the relevant information into DRIBL or on the CSL match sheet then dispatch them to the CSL Executive Committee (or its nominee) as soon as practicable. At the completion of each match, an official from each competing Club shall confer with the Referee to:
    - (i) record on the match sheet any injuries to players of his Club.
    - (ii) note any cautions or dismissals of players from their Club.

- (iii) receive any reports of players of his Club; and
- (iv) acknowledge and record the match sheet where needed

## **26) NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS AND UPLOADING TEAM INFORMATION**

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- a) Results shall be communicated by the home team to the designated person nominated by the CSL Executive Committee, or else otherwise as directed by the CSL Executive Committee from time-to-time.
- b) A breach of rule 25(a) will result in the CSL Executive Committee issuing a fine to the home team as stated in Section D.
- c) Clubs must ensure scores are entered into DRIBL by 7pm on Saturday, also all other team match day data and any other information determined from time to time by the CSL Executive is updated in DRIBL by no later than 7pm on the Monday immediately following a match played on a weekend, or else otherwise as directed by the CSL Executive from time-to-time. For midweek matches, clubs must upload to the CSL website team line-ups and any other information determined from time to time by the CSL Executive within 24 hours of the match finishing.
- d) Any club that fails to upload the information required in Rule 25(c) will be subject to a fine as outlined in the table in rule 51. For any subsequent breach that season by the same club, its team(s) in breach of rule 25(c) will have one point deducted from their league points tally and their club will be subject to a fine as outlined in the table in rule 51.

## **27) LEAGUE POINTS**

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- a) The winners of the CSL League Competition shall be determined by a table. Points shall be awarded to the teams on the following basis:
  - (i) for a win – three (3) points,
  - (ii) for a draw - one (1) point, and
  - (iii) for a loss - nil (0) points.
- b) Where two or more teams in a division have the same number of points:
  - (i) the team with the higher positive goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference.
  - (ii) where goal differences are the same, the team which scored the greater number of goals shall be deemed to have the better goal difference.
  - (iii) where goal differences are equal and the teams scored the same number of goals, positions will be considered equal. However, where the position of the teams may determine the winner of a league championship, promotion, or relegation, the CSL may direct the teams to play off on a neutral ground to decide which of the teams will be placed in the higher position.
- c) Goal difference shall be determined by subtracting the number of goals scored against a team in the competition from the number of goals scored by the team in the competition.

## **28) POSTPONED MATCHES**

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- a) If a match is postponed because of the weather or any other cause over which the Clubs have no control, or the teams are ordered to re-play a match, the match shall be played within 14 days of the date of the original fixture unless the CSL Executive Committee decides that it would not be practicable to re-play the match within that time frame.
- b) The match shall be re-played at a time and place as directed by the CSL Executive Committee, or else as agreed and proposed by the Clubs with the approval of the CSL Executive Committee.
- c) If the match has not been re-played within 14 days of the original fixture, the CSL Executive Committee may:
  - (i) direct that the match be played at a time and place fixed by the CSL Executive Committee; or
  - (ii) cancel the match and give any directions it may consider to be appropriate, regarding the result of the match and the allocation of points for the match.
- e) If match officials are present at the ground when the match is postponed, they are entitled to receive an inconvenience fee of 50% of their normal match fee.

## **29) LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

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- a) The CSL Executive Committee shall determine the number of teams to play in each division in any season.
- b) Divisions 1A/1B though 3A/3B will be considered the main draw where Promotion (2 clubs) and relegations on first team performance will see clubs move up and down. These divisions require clubs to field a first team and reserve team. Divisions below will be made up of social teams at the discretion of the CSL Executive Committee. Division 3C will be used at the discretion of the CSL Executive Committee.

## **30) NUMBER OF TEAMS TO BE PROMOTED AND RELEGATED**

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- a) The CSL Executive Committee shall determine the manner and the number of teams to be promoted and relegated for any season. There will be 2 up and 2 down from divisions 1-3 based on the first team ladder position (but excluding 3C).
- b) Clubs will only be relegated from division 3A/3B if any new or 3C clubs are wanting to enter 3A/3B and have met all obligations and approved by the CSL Executive Committee.

## **31) QUALIFICATION FOR PROMOTION AND RELEGATION**

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- a) When a team or teams are to be relegated from a division, the team or teams which were lowest in the league table of that division at the end of the season shall be relegated.
- b) When a team or teams are to be promoted to a higher league, the team or teams which were highest in the next lowest League at the end of the season shall be eligible for promotion to the next highest League.
- c) The CSL Executive has ultimate discretion in determining which teams are promoted and relegated and the make-up of each division at the commencement of each season.

# SECTION C: RULES OF THE COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE (CSL) COLLEGIATE CUP COMPETITION

## **32) COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION ADMINISTRATOR**

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a) The CSL Executive Committee may appoint a CSL Cup Competition Administrator responsible for all matters relating to the CSL Cup competition(s).

## **33) ENTRY INTO COLLEGIATE SOCCER LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION(S)**

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a) Only CSL Clubs will be permitted to field teams in the CSL Cup competition(s).

b) The CSL Executive Committee reserves the right to limit the number of teams any CSL Club may field.

## **34) COMPETITION DRAW**

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a) Each round draw shall take place via random selection as chosen by the CSL Cup Competition Administrator.

b) The team names of participating CSL Clubs shall be randomly drawn each round.

c) Reserves teams will be linked to the first team draw regardless of who wins the opening round in the Reserve cup competition.

## **35) MATCH DAY**

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a) CSL Cup matches will be played on Saturdays unless indicated otherwise by the CSL Cup Competition Administrator.

## **36) MATCH VENUE**

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a) CSL Cup competition matches shall be held at the ground of the team which is drawn first (home team) for each scheduled CSL Cup Rounds.

b) Where the drawn home team is not able to host the match, the opposition team has the first option to host the match.

c) Where both teams are unable to host the CSL Cup match a neutral venue will be chosen by the CSL Cup Competition Administrator selected from available venues of CSL Clubs.

d) The Semi Finals and Grand Finals shall be held at a neutral venue where possible unless otherwise notified by the CSL Cup Competition Administrator.

## **37) KICK-OFF TIMES**

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a) Kick off times shall be as determined by the CSL Executive

### **38) MATCH DURATION**

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- a) All CSL Cup matches shall be of 90 minutes in duration (with injury time added by the appointed referee at his discretion), 45 minutes each way with a 10-minute interval at half time.
- b) In the event of a match being drawn at the end of normal time, 2 periods of extra time (2 x 15 minutes) with a 2-minute interval will be played.
- c) Should the match still be a draw, penalty kicks from the penalty spot shall be taken to determine a winner in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

### **39) ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS & CUP-TIE RULES**

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- a) All players competing in the CSL Cup competition for their respective Club teams must be registered before the scheduled CSL Cup match.
- b) No player shall be permitted to play for more than one Club in the CSL Cup competition(s) in any one season.
- c) From the quarter-finals of the CSL Cup competition onwards, players must have already played in at least 2 matches for their CSL Club in any competition that season to be eligible to play. A club may apply to the CSL Executive Committee for an exemption from this rule prior to the commencement of the CSL cup match in question but such an exemption may only be granted in exceptional circumstances and at the sole discretion of the CSL Executive Committee.
- d) For the CSL First Team Cup clubs will enter their first team for this cup competition. All CSL registered players to that CSL club are eligible to play in the CSL First Team Cup, unless they are suspended, or ineligible under rule 39(c) or the Player Movement Rules.
- e) A player may not participate in the CSL Reserves Cup if they have already represented their club in the CSL First Team Cup that season. The definition of represented in this case will be if the player is used, being named on a match sheet as an unused substitute will not be considered a cup tie event.
- f) A player may not participate in the CSL Reserves Cup from the quarter-final stage onwards if they have already started in 8 or more league first team games that season.

In the event that a team lists on their match sheet and fields, for a CSL Cup match a player who was ineligible to play in that match by reason of rules 39 (a-f) the offending team will be deemed to have forfeited the match and a 3-0 win will be recorded for the opposing team (who will progress to the next round).

### **40) SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS**

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- a) A team may only use substitutes named on the match sheet.
- b) A team shall not nominate more than 6 substitutes on their match sheet.
- c) All cup games will be played with the same substitution rules of Division 1A.

### **41) MATCH OFFICIALS (REFEREES, GROUND STEWARDS & ASSISTANT REFEREES)**

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- a) Match officials shall be appointed to CSL matches by FSA to the best of their endeavours.

- b) The CSL shall also appoint CSL Club Referees to the best of their endeavours.
- c) Assistant referees may be appointed by the FSA upon the competing Clubs' mutual request, subject to availability.
- d) A match official shall be entitled to be paid an amount per CSL match as stipulated by the Executive Committee prior to the start of each CSL season.
- e) Home Teams shall pay for the match officials' fees for CSL Cup matches unless otherwise stipulated by the CSL Executive Committee. The CSL encourages away teams to offer to pay half of any applicable fees.
- f) In the event that a match official is not present at the scheduled start of a CSL Cup match, the two (2) competing teams shall nominate a match official for the match.
- g) If the two (2) teams cannot agree on a suitable match official then it is the responsibility of the home team to provide a match official for the CSL Cup match.
- h) Clubs must appoint a visible ground steward (appropriate CSL allocated vest) for all teams for all matches. Fines and further punishments apply.

#### **44) FORFEITURE OF MATCH(ES)**

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- a) It is expected that CSL Clubs will make every reasonable effort to avoid forfeiting a match involving any of their teams. In some instances, this may necessitate players from a CSL Club participating in more than one match for that Club on a given day.
- b) In accordance with the Laws of the Game, a CSL Club cannot forfeit unless it is unable to field 7 players in a match.
- c) In the event that a CSL Club considers that it has no option but to forfeit a match involving any of its teams, the Club must notify the CSL Executive Committee as soon as possible and show just cause as to why a forfeit is unavoidable
- d) Should the CSL Executive Committee agree that a forfeit is unavoidable:
  - i) The forfeiting Club shall be issued with a fine as stated in Section D:
  - ii) If the forfeiting Club failed to contact the CSL Executive Committee no later than 48 hours before the scheduled match, the CSL Executive Committee shall consider at its absolute discretion whether an additional penalty is also warranted and/or whether any compensation should be paid by the forfeiting Club to the opposing Club.
  - iii) The result of the forfeited match shall be a 3-0 loss to the team which has forfeited.
  - iv) Where the forfeiting Club has more than one team still competing in the CSL Cup that Club shall forfeit its lowest competing team(s) and shall be required to reorganize its players to field its team(s) from higher competing divisions which are still competing in the CSL Cup. If that cannot be done, then all teams from the forfeiting Club shall be required to forfeit and a fine shall apply in respect of each match which is forfeited.



## **45) ABANDONED MATCHES, DISTURBANCES AND WALK OFFS**

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- a) All Clubs shall be responsible for the behaviour of their players and officials.
- b) Each Club shall be responsible for taking all practical measures to ensure the orderly behaviour of their own supporters and the safety of the Referees, players, and the officials of the participating teams regardless of the venue at which a match is taking place.
- c) No Club shall walk off or refuse to allow play to continue for the full duration of the time specified in the Laws of the Game.
- d) If any fixture is abandoned or terminated before the completion of the time specified in the Laws of the Game for any reason whatsoever (other than the weather), the referee and the Clubs whose teams took part in the fixture shall within 48 hours submit a report to the CSL Executive Committee.
- e) If any match is abandoned or terminated before the completion of the time specified in the Laws of the Game because of a disturbance involving players, officials or spectators, or because a team walks off or refuses to allow play to continue or commence, the case shall be referred to the CSL Disciplinary Tribunal for determination
- f) The CSL Disciplinary Tribunal will review the reports and may convene a hearing.
- g) The CSL Disciplinary Tribunal will determine:
  - (i) Whether it was appropriate for the match to be abandoned.
  - (ii) What was the cause of the match being abandoned.
  - (iii) The outcome of the match (which may involve allowing the score to stand, awarding a forfeit to one side, ordering a replay of the match or any other outcome that the Tribunal deems appropriate); and
  - (iv) Any penalties to be applied against the competing clubs, players, officials, or any other people who were involved. The CSL reserves the right to increase these or apply additional penalties for repeat offenders.
- h) If a match is abandoned, all match officials are entitled to receive 100% of their normal match fee.

## SECTION D: THE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL, DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND PENALTIES

### 46) THE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

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- a) The CSL Executive Committee shall appoint a Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal to act on behalf of the CSL in all disciplinary matters.
- b) The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal may from time to time convene a Disciplinary Tribunal to deal with disciplinary matters.
- c) In any disputes or matters that are unable to be concluded the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal will have the deciding vote.

### 47) DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

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- a) The CSL shall deal with any infringements of the Laws of the Game in accordance with the rules enacted by FIFA.
- b) Where a serious disturbance occurs or there are allegations of racial vilification or in any other circumstances deemed appropriate, the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal will convene a Disciplinary Tribunal to consider sanctions against the player(s) and/or club(s) involved.
- c) Red cards will be issued in accordance with the Offences Code attached at Appendix A:
- d) The CSL shall keep a record of all red and yellow cards issued by match officials throughout the CSL season.
- e) If a player receives a red card during the CSL season, the following shall apply:
  - (i) the CSL Club for whom the player plays shall be fined in accordance with Section 51.
  - (ii) the player shall be automatically suspended for the following round of matches (whether cup or league) and will be ineligible to play in any further matches for the remainder of the day on which the red card was received.
  - (iii) the relevant competition administrator will review any report provided to it by the relevant match official(s).
  - (iv) if the offence is categorized as a serious infringement the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal may apply the automatic sanction applicable in accordance with the Recommended Sanctions for Serious Infringement in Appendix 2, they may also escalate and issue a different penalty or convene a Disciplinary Tribunal to deal with the matter.
  - (v) the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal may undertake any further investigations that they deem appropriate before deciding to suspend the player for additional matches.
  - (vi) if the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal decides to automatically suspend the player for additional matches in accordance with the Recommended Sanctions for Serious Infringement in Appendix B, the player is entitled to appeal the imposition of the additional matches only via the CSL Club for whom the player plays.

(vi) A fee of \$250 will need to be paid by the club for an appeal to be heard. This will be refunded or partly refunded at the discretion of the CSL board if the appeal is successful.

(vii) an appeal by a player referred to in rule 49(e)(vi) shall be heard by the Disciplinary Tribunal.

(viii) in considering an appeal by a player referred to in rule 49(e)(v), the Disciplinary Tribunal may undertake any further investigations that they deem appropriate, including scheduling a hearing.

(ix) when an appeal referred to in rule 49(e)(vi) is lodged the player involved shall have the additional suspension lifted until the appeal has been heard and determined.

(x) if the Disciplinary Tribunal finds the player guilty of the serious infringement that they are appealing against, the player will receive a minimum of one additional match suspension over and above the automatic sanction they are appealing against.

(xi) An appeal from a determination of the Disciplinary Tribunal will lie to the Chairman of the CSL and will only be considered in extraordinary circumstances.

f) A player who accumulates five (5) yellow cards in a season shall be automatically suspended for the following round of matches.

g) The monetary penalties for red and yellow card offences are specified in Section 51. The CSL reserves the right to increase these or apply additional penalties for repeat offenders.

h) All Clubs and players must abide by these Rules, the laws of football (soccer) as specified by FIFA, and any other rules that may be imposed by the Executive Committee from time to time. Failure to comply with these Rules may result in a sanction being applied against either or both the offending Club and the offending player(s).

i) The Executive Committee has sole discretion in relation to the enforcement of the penalties specified in section 51 and may waive or reduce such penalties where the CSL Executive Committee is of the opinion that the circumstances of a case warrant such action.

## **48) PLAYER SUSPENSIONS**

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a) When a player is suspended pursuant to sub-rule 49 above, the suspension must be served on the subsequent match day(s) on which the team in which the suspension was incurred plays. For example, if a player is suspended for one match playing for team X, they are ineligible to play for the entire day that team X plays their next game.

b) Suspensions not served at the completion of a season shall carry over to the following CSL season (and shall apply to Cup or League matches) unless otherwise determined by the CSL Executive Committee.

## **49) PENALTIES**

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a) The following minimum mandatory penalties and fines shall apply for the corresponding disciplinary offences or breaches of the CSL League Competition, CSL Cup Competition and CSL Pre Season Competition Rules.

b) In each case, the CSL Disciplinary Committee and/or the CSL Executive Committee have the discretion to impose a greater penalty or fine should it consider that the circumstances warrant it.

BREACH	PLAYER AND/OR CLUB PENALTY	FINE
Red card (whether two (2) yellow cards or a straight red card).	Mandatory 1 week suspension and the player is unable to participate in any further matches on the day the red card is received	\$50
Red card (whether two (2) yellow cards or a straight red card) with report of abuse to a match official	Minimum additional 1 week suspension	\$100
Second or subsequent red card in a season for the same player (whether two (2) yellow cards or a straight red card).	Mandatory 2-week suspension and the player is unable to participate in any further matches on the day the red card is received	\$100
Five (5) yellow cards accumulated by a player in a season.	1 week suspension	\$50
Eight (8) yellow cards accumulated by a player in a season.	1 week suspension	\$100
Eleven (11) yellow cards or more accumulated by a player in a season.	2-week suspension	\$100
Fourteen (14) yellow cards or more accumulated by a player in a season	2-week suspension	\$100
Seventeen (17) yellow cards or more accumulated by a player in a season	3-week suspension	\$150
Failure to attend the Disciplinary Tribunal if summoned		\$50
Failure to pay the CSL Affiliation Fee by a Nominated Date.	Deduction of three (3) points, with a further three (3) points deducted each fortnight until payment is made	\$200
Forfeiture of a match with more than 48 hours' notice provided to the CSL and the opposing team.		\$200 per match
Forfeiture of a match within forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled start of the match.		\$250 per match plus any additional penalty as determined by the CSL Executive Committee
Failure to appoint a visible Ground Steward		\$50
Secondary Failure to appoint a visible Ground Steward		\$100
Failure to attend the CSL Annual General Meeting.		\$50
First failure to attend a General Meeting during the CSL season.		\$50

Second or subsequent failure to attend a General Meeting during the CSL season.		\$100 per meeting
Failure to provide match results as nominated by the CSL Executive Committee.		\$20 per team
Failure to upload teams by the nominated date and time (after warning in accordance with rule 26)	Loss of one league point for each offending team for 3rd or subsequent failure	\$50 per team
Fielding a player for whom there is no ID photo on the CSL website	Loss of one league point for each offending team for 2nd or subsequent offence	\$50 per player
Failure to respond to a request from the CSL Chairman or any member of the CSL Executive Committee by the stipulated time.		\$50
Failure to provide the CSL Club Registration Form by the stipulated time.		\$100
Failure to provide the CSL Club Directory details by the stipulated time.		\$50
Fielding a Player that is not registered with the CSL.	A 0-3 loss is recorded against the offending team (i.e. the opposing team is awarded a 3-0 win and three (3) League Championship points), <b>AND</b> the offending the CSL team loses three (3) League Championship points	\$250 per player
Fielding an unregistered, Cup-tied, ineligible, or suspended player under a false or assumed name.	A 0-3 loss is recorded against the offending team (i.e. the opposing team is awarded a 3-0 win and, for a league match, three (3) League Championship points) <b>AND</b> the offending the CSL team loses three (3) League Championship points	\$250 per player
Failure to supply an away strip when there is a colour clash (without prior agreement)		\$100
Playing a player not named on the match sheet in a CSL league game (rule 25)	A 0-3 loss is recorded against the offending team (i.e. the opposing team is awarded a 3-0 win and three (3) League Championship points), <b>AND</b> the offending the	

	CSL team loses three (3) League Championship points	
Playing a player not named on the match sheet in a CSL cup game (rule 24)	A 0-3 loss is recorded against the offending team (i.e. the opposing team is awarded a 3-0 win and will progress to the next round of the cup)	

# APPENDIX 1: OFFENCE CODES

## Minor Infringements - Yellow Card (Caution) Codes

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Y1 is guilty of unsporting behaviour.

Y2 shows dissent by word or action.

Y3 persistently infringes the laws of the game.

Y4 delays the restart of play.

Y5 fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw in.

Y6 enters or re-enters the field of play without the Referee's permission.

Y7 deliberately leaves the field of play without the Referee's permission.

Y1, Y2 & Y4 offences shall also relate to a substitute or substituted player who is cautioned and shown the yellow card.

## Serious Infringements - Red Card (Expulsion) Codes

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R1 is guilty of serious foul play. Including but not limited to: A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

R2 is guilty of violent conduct. Including but not limited to any violent contact, endangerment, or brutality against another player (or spectator, team official) when not making an honest challenge for the ball.

R3 spits at an opponent or any other person

R4 denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his penalty area)

R5 denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.

R6 uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and /or gestures.

R7 receives a second caution in the same match.

A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off and shown the red card must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area, or as specified by the referee.

## APPENDIX 2: RECOMMENDED SANCTIONS FOR SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS

**In accordance with the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations & Table of Offences for Players**

Offence No.	Offence	Automatic Sanction
1 (R4 or R5 for Players)	Denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity	Minimum Mandatory Match Suspension
2 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	Minimum Mandatory Match Suspension
3 (R1 for Players)	Serious Foul Play (e.g. when challenging for the ball)	Minimum One (1) additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
4 (R2 for Players)	Assault on a Player (e.g. violent conduct when not challenging for the ball)	Minimum Two (2) additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
5 (R6 for Players)	Serious Unsporting Conduct	Minimum One (1) additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
6 (R6 for Players)	Use of discriminatory language and/or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic, or sexist	Minimum Two (2) additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
7 (R3 for Players)	Spitting at a player	Minimum Five (5) additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
8 (R2 or R6 for Players)	Inciting a brawl	Minimum Five (5) additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
<b>Specific Offences Against a Match Official</b>		
9 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures against a match official	Minimum One (1) additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
10 (R6 for Players)	Unsporting conduct toward a match official	Minimum Four (4) additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
11	Assault of a match official	Minimum 12 months Including the



(R2 for Players)		Mandatory Match Suspension
12 (R3 for Players)	Spitting at a match official	Minimum 12 months Including the Mandatory Match Suspension

## APPENDIX 3: PLAYER MOVEMENT RULES

### Rules and guidelines for player movement between Football SA and CSL divisions

#### Definitions:

“**CSL**” means the Collegiate Soccer League

“**CSL team**” means an amateur team participating in the CSL.

“**Football SA Competition(s)**” means all senior men’s competitions administered by FFA and includes reference to NPL competitions and State League 1 or 2 competitions (or equivalent) in any Australian State or Territory

“**NPL**” means the National Premier League

“**Participates**” means that the player played in the game. If a player is named as a substitute but did not play in the game, the player is not deemed to have participated.

“**Reserve team**” means a team participating in the NPL reserves, State League 1 reserves or State League 2 reserves.

“**Senior team**” means a team participating in the NPL, State League 1 or State League 2

“**U18 team**” means a team participating in the NPL under 18s, State League 1 under 18s or State League 2 under 18s

#### Rules & Guidelines:

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1. A player who plays in a Senior team match is not permitted to play their next match in a CSL team. Such a player must play a Reserve team or U18 team match before they are eligible to play in a CSL team.
2. A player who has played in a Senior team or a Reserve team and is dropped to a CSL team within the same season is only eligible to play for a CSL team competing in divisions 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B or 3C of the CSL.
3. A maximum of three (3) players on any given round may move from a Reserve team to a CSL team for their club, subject to compliance with all other rules stated herein.
4. If a player participates in the number of games as outlined below (or more) in one season (whether for one club or cumulatively for two or more clubs), the player is not permitted to play in any further CSL games for the remainder of the season.
  - i) National Premier League – Five (5) matches.
  - ii) State League 1 and 2 – Seven (7) matches
  - iii) Reserve team - Twelve (12) matches
  - iv) Combination of Senior team and Reserve team – Twelve (12) matches
  - v) U18’s unlimited (but must fulfil all other prerequisites)
5. A player that participates in a Senior team or Reserve team on any given weekend is not permitted to play in the CSL on the same weekend.

6. Notwithstanding rules 3, 4 and 5, a goalkeeper who plays in a Reserve team or Under 18 team is permitted to play in a CSL match on the same day as a goalkeeper or reserve goalkeeper. However, under that scenario, a Reserve team goalkeeper will be included in the three (3) players referred to in Rule 3 and the notification requirements under Rule 7 will also be applicable.
7. A club must notify the CSL Executive Committee and Football SA no later than 5pm the day before the CSL match(es) of the names and registration numbers of those players that are moving between Football SA and CSL Competition in accordance with Rules 3,4 and 5.
8. Notwithstanding rule 4, if a Senior team or Reserve team player has not played any CSL matches on or before 30 June, they are ineligible to play in the CSL for the remainder of the season. No such restriction applies in respect of U18 team players who have not played any Senior team or Reserve team games that season.
9. The 3-player limit referred to in Rule 3 also applies to mid-week CSL matches. Where a player has been dropped from the Reserve team to a CSL team for a mid-week CSL match, those players will still be considered Reserve team players the following weekend. In other words, a club cannot drop 3 Reserve team players to a CSL team for a mid-week match and then select those 3 players plus an additional 3 Reserve team players for following weekend's CSL matches.
10. The 3-player limit referred to in Rule 3 also applies to any CSL matches played after the Reserve team's last game of the season (league or finals). In other words, only 3 players per week who played in the Reserve team's last game of the season will be eligible to play in any subsequent CSL matches that season. Subject to rules 3 and 4, it does not have to be the same 3 players from the Reserve team's last game who play in each remaining CSL week that season.
11. A player who has participated in the Football Australia Cup for a Senior team, Reserve team or U18 team is not eligible to play in any subsequent CSL Cup matches that season.
12. A player who is suspended from playing in a Senior team, Reserve team or U18 team match is also suspended from playing in a CSL team for the duration of the suspension, and vice versa. This applies in respect of suspensions for both red card offences and an accumulation of yellow card offences.
13. Yellow cards received by a player in Senior team, Reserve team or U18 team matches do not count towards a player's yellow card tally in the CSL, and vice versa.
14. There is no restriction upon players being promoted from a CSL team to a Senior team or Reserve team.
15. A club may apply for an exemption from any of the above rules where they believe exceptional circumstances exist to warrant doing so. An application must be made to the CSL Executive Committee no later than 48 hours prior to the CSL matches for which an exemption is sought, explaining the grounds upon which an exemption is sought. The CSL Executive Committee (in conjunction with Football SA) shall then decide whether to grant an exemption in their sole and absolute discretion.

\*Any player that participates must be registered on PlayFootball with their team prior to participating in any fixture.

### **Rules and guidelines for player movement between divisions within a CSL team**

For the 2024 season, CSL teams must assign each of their players to a team within their club at the beginning of each season. If no specific allocation is clear, the CSL will look at which team the player has had most involvement in at the discretion of the CSL.

Once assigned, players cannot play down more than one division.

For example, a player who plays in the starting 11 for their division 1A, 2A, 3A or 3C team is not eligible to participate in any matches for their club's third team or lower during the same week, including any mid-week and/or catch-up games. Similarly, a reserve player cannot play for the club's fourth team or lower (if applicable).

Further to this, it is a common occurrence of a first team and reserve team playing on different days, the starting 11 for the first team is not eligible for the reserves for that round's games, unless specific permission is granted from the CSL Executive Board.

An exception can be made for players who are playing as a goalkeeper in one grade but as an outfield player in another grade.

These rules also apply to Goalkeepers, however clubs may seek a prior exemption from the CSL Executive Committee if they believe there are exceptional circumstances as to why a goalkeeper should be permitted to play in goals for their first team and also play in goals for their third or lower team in the same week.

If the CSL can prove that players are dropping down to a level that compromises the integrity of that division, based on an assessment of player ability, team selections, observations, and feedback, the CSL Executive Committee reserve the right to apply sanctions including but not limited to:

- Player Suspension
- Fines
- Forfeit and/or Points Deduction.

It should be noted that where clubs have teams participating on the same round it may call for players to play in a higher grade. However, once a player has played in that higher grade on that round, the player shall become ineligible to play in a lower grade for their club in the same round of matches.

This applies even where the same round of games is played on different weekends.

## APPENDIX 4: 2024 COVID19 SEASON STATEMENT

The CSL asks all players, coaches, club members and spectators to do their best to abide by all SA Health directives regarding COVID quarantine or isolation rules, as well as show an abundance of caution and common sense when deciding whether to attend a CSL game, club training sessions or events.

The CSL will require all clubs to do their best to ensure all scheduled games proceed as planned. If a club believes that due to exceptional circumstances it is not possible to fulfil all its fixtures in a given week due to unavailable players from COVID quarantine or isolation, the club must contact the CSL as soon as possible. The CSL will assess each case on its individual merits and consider whether re-scheduling one or more games is appropriate and viable.

The CSL will prioritise first team games to be played as scheduled; reserve and lower grade games will more likely be granted permission to reschedule if genuine exceptional circumstances exist. The CSL asks such requests only to be made in truly exceptional circumstances.

The CSL will continue to follow any further direction issued from SA Health and Football SA in response to the changing COVID-19 situation.

### REVIEWED AND ISSUED BY

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