



## MEMO 79-2022

**DATE:** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
**TO:** All Premier Clubs  
**FROM:** General Manager Football Operations  
**SUBJECT:** Draft Fixtures - CONFIDENTIAL

For Information or Action	Action required	When	NNSWF Contact	Total Pages
Action	Review & provide any feedback	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December - 9am	Luke Blundell	3

Dear All,

Please see the *attached draft fixtures* for the **2024 season**; noting these fixtures are **commercial in confidence**. Again, please do not distribute beyond your club, as once we have finalised the details, we would like to work on a coordinated release of these fixtures to media for the 2024 season. The excel spreadsheet attached contains all Premier Competitions, with the exception of JDL, allowing clubs to filter for home/away/venue as necessary.

We have been able to grant most requests which were submitted by clubs this year. Whilst there are several occasions where clubs have an extended run of home games or away games, in most cases this is related either to their own ground availability, or in some cases other ground availability within the league.

The attached excel file contains a number of sheets. The master sheet contains all draws across all competitions which will allow you to filter for your own venue and your own club or venue name. We have also included sheets for each individual competition which only have those draws shown - i.e. NPLM / PYL.

### **Premier Youth League**

Now that we are into the second year of Premier Youth League, both division 1 and division 2 will be 12 team fixtures. Division 2 will now include a full suite of youth teams from Toronto Awaba, whilst NIAS have continued their growth with the entry of an under 16s team, meaning with the inclusion of Wallsend's under 18s that those clubs facing NIAS will have matches in all age groups for season 2024. As we have 23 full youth programs, division 2 will have a bye included with each team facing the bye once in phase 1.



As was the case in 2023, regional based programs will continue to have a greater share of home matches.

There are a small number of matches that are noted as TBC as we work with the clubs to confirm venues.

### **Kick Off Times**

If you would like to deviate from the standard kick off times, please note that in your feedback, we very much encourage clubs to consider a late afternoon / evening kick offs in the summer.

### **Long Weekends**

There are long weekends scheduled for Easter (29<sup>th</sup> March – 1 April) and Queens Birthday (8-10<sup>th</sup> June), should you wish to play matches on the Friday / Monday of Easter or the Monday of Queens Birthday.

### **Under 18s**

As mentioned in the Standing Committee meetings, we have endeavoured to have as many under 18 matches as possible. Whilst initially we had suggested a standalone under 18s fixture, the unintended consequence of this would be a considerable number of standalone under 18s matches not connected to either PYL or senior football. As such we opted to keep the under 18s aligned initially aligned with the remaining PYL fixtures and have put as many matches as possible with senior football.

It is important to note that whilst we take on board all the feedback on under 18s, and the matchday practicalities, in terms of priority when creating the fixture – ground closures & availability (rye seeding, capital works), clubs with multiple programs (NPLM, NPLW, PYLB, PYLG), balancing number of home and away matches and specific fixture requests for senior football were all seen as higher priority than matching under 18s with seniors in the first instance.

However, please remember that due to the nature of the PYL fixtures, with knockout cup draws and phase two matches yet to be done, that this fixture does not account for approximately 40% of your PYL 18s home fixtures as they will be fixtured at a later date. This means we will be able to add further home 18s matches to, hopefully, line up with your senior mens.

We are also open to fixture changes suggested by clubs which help add further under 18s / senior alignment.

### **Additional Considerations**

As always there a few points to consider when reviewing your fixture:

- Are there any weekends when matches are scheduled to be at home and your venue is not available?



# NORTHERN NSW FOOTBALL

- If you are playing the same club in both senior football and PYL and would like a whole club match day, please let us know.
- PYL Pre-season Cups have currently been fixtured to weekend dates, as discussed – these dates are flexible – so please ensure you let us know your preference for dates to host these matches by the dates noted below. Matches involving regional teams will remain on weekend dates.
- Special Rounds for 2024 will be confirmed in the coming days

Each senior premier competition's last round will have all matches kicking off at the same time on the same day to ensure competition integrity and to help build hype and drama running into the finals series.

## Actions

Whilst you cannot request to change your opposition in any specific round, can you please look at your **home fixtures** and provide any feedback relating to venue and kick off times etc. If your request involves a match in which you are the away team, please liaise with the home team prior to submitting any feedback. Please also let us know if you notice any mistakes within the fixture relating to your club so we can fix before the public release.

Please let us know if there are any mistakes also, this is our first time using the Squadi platform for fixturing, so again if there are any obvious errors – let us know so we can address them.

Please confirm any feedback on your fixtures and the above by no later than **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December (9:00am)**, via email to [lblundell@northernnswfootball.com.au](mailto:lblundell@northernnswfootball.com.au). NNSWF intend to officially release final draws by **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**.

Once again, please do not publish these or share them with anyone who does not require it as we have a recent incident of confidential information being shared with media outlets, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Luke or myself.

Regards,

**Liam Bentley**  
**General Manager Football Operations**  
**Northern NSW Football**