

Zone Football League Criteria

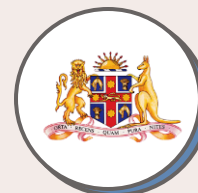
- Updated October 2024



zone
football league



Abbreviations of relevant bodies in this document



Zone Administration

Joint Zone authorities as directed by Newcastle Football, Macquarie Football and Hunter Valley Football

Federation

Northern New South Wales Football (NNSWF)

FA

Football Australia (otherwise found as FFA)

FIFA

Football Internationale de Football Association

AFC

Asian Football Confederation

NSW

New South Wales

SPORTING



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
S.02/03/04/05	Registrations, Child Protection, Welfare	See Comments	See Comments	All players must be registered under instruction from Zone Administration. Child Protection legislation to be adhered to. ALL Clubs must appoint a Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO). Coaches, Managers/Officials to complete voluntary Working with Children Checks and the MPIO is responsible to record and share if required.
5.07	Youth Teams	See Comments	See Comments	Not mandatory but it is recommended that Clubs develop a pathway within their Interdistrict Club or establish collaborative relationships with Premier Clubs. Appointment of Technical Directors recommended as Youth Players progress.
5.08	Medical Care	See Comments	See Comments	Recommended that all players are encouraged to undertake annual medical exams prior to the season.

SPORTING



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
5.09	Diversity and Inclusion Policy, Racial Equality Policy	See Comments	See Comments	Recommended that Clubs establish a policy that addresses diversity, inclusion and Racial Equality and all Members are aware.
5.13	Educational Programs	See Comments	See Comments	ALL Players and Coaches/Managers must attend a session of sports integrity matters, FIFA Laws of the Game, doping control and other topics as directed by the Zone Administration.

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.01, 1.02, 1.03	Ground for games to be played Dimensions/Surface	See Comments	See Comments	<p>Clubs to provide evidence to Council lease and usage terms. They will be guided by Council around management.</p> <p>Dimensions within scope 96m-110m x 60m-75m. The surface should be free of potholes and hazards. Zone Administration have absolute discretion to suitability. Grounds to be marked by FIFA standards in white or black paint.</p>
1.04	Goals and Corner Flags	See Comments	See Comments	<p>Goals to be round aluminium. 2.44m height, 7.32m wide. Nets to be properly attached at the discretion of Zone Officials or Match Officials.</p> <p>Corner Flags compulsory, no less than 1.5m high.</p> <p>At least 2 spare nets and 6 corner flags must be available.</p>
1.05	Pitch Perimeter Fence	See Comments	Not Required	<p>In ZL1 where a perimeter fence is not in place, a barrier/rope or safely secured signage barriers needs to surround the ground at least 2m from the field of play and be at least 900mm in height.</p> <p>At all times Zone Administration has sole discretion to what Clubs use.</p>

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.07	Emergency Services	See Comments	See Comments	<p>There must be direct access to the ground for emergency vehicles.</p> <p>First Aid facilities and a defibrillator are mandatory.</p>
1.08	Dressing Rooms	See Comments	See Comments	<p>Separate dressing rooms near the field of play for the home and visiting teams. Dressing rooms should be well ventilated and lockable. They should include; seating for 16 people, 1 lockable toilet, 1 wash basin, 2 showers, hot and cold water, 1 power point.</p>
1.09	Referee Change Room	See Comments	See Comments	<p>A dressing room near the field of play for Match Officials is required. It must be well ventilated and lockable. It should include; seating for 3 people, 1 lockable toilet or access to toilets nearby, 1 wash basin or access to, 1 lockable shower, hot cold water, 1 table, 1 power point.</p>

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.10	Warm Up Area	See Comments	See Comments	A warmup area must be in close proximity to player dressing rooms and field of play. Or the field of play may be used.
1.11	Ground Lighting	See Comments	See Comments	Lights must be at minimum luminance 100 lux to allow games played at night. Clubs should have this confirmed within Council lease. Otherwise, night games cannot be played.
1.12	Disabled Seating	See Comments	See Comments	The ground must have a dedicated area for disabled spectators with easy access for parking and toilets.

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.13	Toilets	See Comments	See Comments	The ground must have sufficient toilets that are maintained in good and clean condition.
1.14	Canteen/Alcohol	See Comments	See Comments	The ground must have a canteen in good condition that meets local government standards and health regulations. If Alcohol is sold, the Club must have a Licence, and it must be presented to the Zone Administration if requested.
1.18	Stretcher	See Comments	See Comments	The ground must have at least 1 first aid stretcher that meets applicable standards. It must be visible and accessible.

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.19	Fire Protection	See Comments	See Comments	The ground and amenities/canteen must have a properly maintained fire prevention device to meet Australian standards. Local Councils will direct this and evidence to compliance is to be provided to the Zone Administrators if requested.
1.33	Ground Rules	See Comments	See Comments	The stadium should have all relevant codes of conduct and behaviour displayed by suitable signage. Ground rules detailing smoking, alcohol, fireworks, flares restrictions should also be displayed.
1.34	Training Facilities	See Comments	See Comments	Training facilities must be available and if the ground is leased access during training times is mandatory.

INFRASTRUCTURE



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
1.35	Training facilities - infrastructure	See Comments	See Comments	Dressing rooms, access to toilets. An area with access to first aid, ice and a defibrillator. At times, access may be limited to weather or usage restrictions, at all times Clubs should engage their Zone administration to seek assistance, noting that booking external private venues are available at the expense of the Club.

PERSONNEL



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
P.01	Club Contacts and Organisation structure	See Comments	See Comments	Clubs must have a monitored email address, phone contact and mailing address. Clubs must provide an organisational chart that outlines its personnel and their functional responsibilities.
P.02/07/08	President/Secretary /Treasurer	See Comments	See Comments	Clubs must have a President, Secretary, Treasurer to be responsible for the daily running of the business. Clubs must provide evidence of the appointment via an AGM Minutes.
P.04	Head Coach First team	See Comments	See Comments	Whilst Licencing is not mandated at Zone Level, it is recommended that Head Coaches have at least Senior Level or C Licence qualifications or working towards same.

PERSONNEL



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
P.14	Duty of Replacement	See Comments	See Comments	If a function defined in these regulations becomes vacant, Clubs must ensure that a replacement is appointed within 60 days and an interim provided prior. Zone Administration is to be advised, and the Zone has discretion to extension of time limits. The occurrence of a vacancy must be advised to the Zones within 7 days.

LEGAL



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
L.01	Declaration	See Comments	See Comments	<p>ALL Clubs; a) recognise as legally binding the statutes, rules and regulations, and decisions of FIFA, the AFC, FA, the Member Federation and Zone Administration, b) recognises the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport, (domiciled in Lausanne Switzerland), for any dispute of international dimension, in particular involving FIFA and the AFC, c) recognises the prohibition on recourse to ordinary courts under the FIFA statutes, AFC statutes and FA statutes. d)) In Australia, Clubs will only play in competitions that are recognised and endorsed by FA, e) Clubs will abide by and observe the provisions of Club Licensing Regulations and all submitted documents to Zone Administration are complete and correct. h) Clubs authorise the Zone Administrators, to examine documents and seek information.</p>
L.04	Annual General Meeting	See Comments	See Comments	<p>In accordance with applicable legislation, the Licence Applicant must hold an Annual General Meeting at which all members shall attend and be entitled to participate in line with the Constitution of the Club.</p>

LEGAL



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
L.02	Legal Documents	See Comments	See Comments	ALL Clubs should meet the minimum legislative requirements of NSW and provide confirmation of this upon request.
L.07	Disciplinary Procedure and Code of Conduct	See Comments	See Comments	ALL Clubs must abide by the FA National Code of Conduct and the Grievance Resolution Regulations plus all Disciplinary procedures directed by the Federation and the Zone Administrators.

FINANCIAL



FA Standard	Standard	ZFL 1 & 2	ZFL 3	Comments
F.02	Financial Records	See Comments	See Comments	ALL Clubs must maintain financial records in the form and nature required under Australian Law.
F.07	No overdue payments	See Comments	See Comments	ALL Clubs must meet all payments as required by law to employees, Member Federations/Zones, Tax Obligations any event that cast significant doubt upon the Clubs ability to continue as a going concern, until at least the end of the season. Clubs who are unsure of their ongoing viability should immediately advise the Zone Administration.
F.10	Duty to Notify of Subsequent Events	See Comments	See Comments	Clubs must notify Zone Administration of any subsequent events that may cast a significant doubt on the Clubs ability to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the season.