



2018

Westfield

**National Youth Championships
for Girls**

**Official
Championship Regulations**

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CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

NATIONAL YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR GIRLS 2018 (U14S AND U15S)

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1. JURISDICTION

The Championships are played under the jurisdiction of Football Federation Australia (FFA) who shall appoint an FFA member to host and conduct the Championships in accordance with these Regulations.

2. AGE ELIGIBILITY

Determined by FFA annually and advised on or before 1 December in the year prior to the championship. For 2018 the two age groups competing at these championships will be Under 14s (born 2004, 2005) and Under 15s (born 2003, 2004). Any player who has played in NTC 2018 will be deemed ineligible for NYC 2018. Member Federations with a small playing pool may apply to send overage players. This must be approved by FFA's Technical Department prior to the Championships and notification sent to the Championship Director in writing.

Please note: All players must be Australian Citizens to compete at these Championships.

A team playing an Ineligible Player in any fixture shall be ineligible for any points associated with that fixture. In such cases, the full points associated with the fixture shall be awarded to their opponents and the score recorded according to (3) goals by the team getting the points to nil (0) by the team which has infringed the competition rules.

3. DATES

Determined by FFA annually the year prior to the championships. For 2018 these championships shall be conducted from **Monday 16th July 2017 through to Friday 20th July 2018.**

4. VENUE

The championships will be conducted at C.ex Coffs Harbour International Stadium in Coffs Harbour.

5. CHAMPIONSHIP DIRECTOR AND MANAGER

FFA shall appoint a Championship Director and Championship Manager, the latter being the nominee of the host member. The Director as the representative of FFA shall have authority to make decisions on their behalf.

6. TEAM NOMINATION

Members shall confirm in writing their intention to nominate a team(s) in the championships on or before 21st December in the year prior to the championships.

Teams competing at these championships are:

Australian Capital Territory	Queensland Metro
New South Wales Country	South Australia
New South Wales Metro (x2)	Tasmania
Northern New South Wales	Victoria Metro
Northern Territory (14s Only)	Western Australia

7. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

Under 14s Structure:

Teams in the Under 14 age group shall be placed in one of two groups at the sole discretion of FFA.

Group A shall be the teams ranked one to five. Group B shall be those ranked six to eleven for the under 14s. Teams in each Group shall play four (4) matches within the group. The team with the most points will be determined the group winner, which shall be declared the National Champions. In addition, on Friday

20th July in the under 14s age group, each team will play a group cross over game, which will be determined by each team placing after Thursday 19th July; no points are awarded for this game, Teams who finished 1st in Group A and B will play each other, 2nd place Group A and B, 3rd Place Group A and B, 4th Place Group A and B, 5th Place Group A and B. The team in Group B who finishes in 6th place will play an invitational U14 Girls Team - North Coast Team.

All matches will consist of two equal periods of thirty (30) minutes with a ten (10) minute half time break. Every team will play a total of five (5) matches

Match points are awarded on the basis of three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and nil (0) points for a loss. Match points will be awarded for all matches against teams in the same group. For the crossover matches, points will not be awarded and goals will not count towards a team's for and against record.

At the completion of the group matches, rankings in each group will be determined by the following criteria:

- a) Greatest number of match points obtained in all group matches

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their ranking shall be determined as follows:

- b) The result of the match played against each other in the group phase
- c) The team with the highest goal difference
- d) The team with the highest goals for
- e) The toss of the coin.

Under 15s Structure:

Teams in the Under 15 group shall be placed in one of two groups at the sole discretion of FFA.

Group A shall be the teams ranked one to five. Group B shall be those ranked six to ten for the under 15s. Teams in each Group shall play each other once in a round robin format to determine the group winner, which shall be declared the National Champions. In addition, in the under 15s age group, each team will play a group cross over game; no points are rewarded for this game. This opponent will be a random selection.

All matches will consist of two equal periods of twenty (30) minutes with a ten (10) minute half time break. Every team will play a total of five (5) matches.

Match points are awarded on the basis of three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and nil (0) points for a loss. Match points will be awarded for all matches against teams in the U15s competition.

At the completion of these matches, the final ladder will be determined by the following criteria:

- a) Greatest number of match points obtained in all the matches played

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their ladder position shall be determined as follows:

- b) The result of the match played against each other in the group phase
- c) The team with the highest goal difference
- d) The team with the highest goals for
- e) The toss of the coin.

8. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitution of players is only permitted during half time. Substitutions are unlimited during the half time break.

Substitutes can only be made during the game in case of serious injury or extreme fatigue. This is introduced to increase game play, equalise level of playing time amongst players and not experience delay during a game by substituting players.

Substitution laws will be applied to these Championships with each team being allowed a maximum of four (4) substitutions per match. Should a team substitute one goalkeeper for another, this will not count towards the four (4) allowed substitutions. Teams wishing to make a substitution shall inform the 4th Official of the players involved in the substitution using a duly completed substitution slip.

If the four (4) allowed substitutions are made by a team and a player is then injured, and the referee directs that the player leave the field, the use of one (1) injury interchange will be permitted. Teams wishing to make an injury interchange shall inform the 4th Official of the players involved in the interchange using a duly completed interchange slip. The interchange slip **MUST** be signed by the team physiotherapist to warrant that the interchange is required due to injury. In the event that both Goalkeepers are unavailable due to injury, teams must notify FFA National Goalkeeping Development Manager.

9. PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

In all matches for the U14s and U15s each player in a team's squad of sixteen (16) players must be on the field for at least one half of the total playing time they are eligible for.

By way of explanation, where there are five (5) matches each a total of sixty (60) minutes in duration, each of the sixteen (16) players must be on the field for a minimum of one hundred and fifty (150) minutes in total throughout the Championship.

For each instance where these participation conditions are breached, the team will be penalised one (1) competition point.

10. PLAYER INFRINGEMENTS

Any player who is served a red card during a match will be immediately replaced by a substitute to ensure the game is still 11 vs 11. The sent off player can take no further part in that game.

Specifically, for this competition, with the cooperation of match officials in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game and the National Disciplinary Regulations of the FFA, the FFA shall decide the appropriate sanctions for an offender with subsequent multiple red cards

11. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of the Championship trophy, plaques and player medallions shall be undertaken on the final day of competition after the completion of the final matches.

12. TROPHY

In the U14s the Winner of Group A shall be presented with the Championship trophy. It shall be returned to FFA one month prior to the championship in the following year.

The winners of Group A and B shall receive an FFA commemorative plaque, which is retained by the respective Member Federation.

In the U15s the Winner shall be presented with the Championship trophy. It shall be returned to the FFA one month prior to the championship in the following year.

The winners of Group A and B shall receive an FFA commemorative plaque, which is retained by the respective Member Federation.

13. TEAM COLOURS

Members are to confirm their state colours to the host, including alternate colours, within the required time frames as determined by the host.

Each team must have a main and alternative playing strip (shirt/short/sock) of contrasting colours, including goalkeepers.

The team colours to be worn by each team in each fixture of the Championships will be determined prior to the Championships and announced at the Technical Meeting.

14. TECHNICAL MEETING

FFA shall clarify any technical components of the championship on the evening prior to the first day of play at the technical meeting. The TD/Coaches and team manager of each team must be in attendance, also the referee coordinator

In addition, the FFA will conduct a meeting for all technical Staff/coaches during an evening mid-week (day to be confirmed). All technical staff of each team must attend.

15. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS AND TEAM OFFICIALS

Declaration of sixteen (16) players including two (2) goalkeepers and four (4) team officials, which needs to include: Head coach, team manager, goalkeeping coach and a physiotherapist, as per FFA requirements, must be registered online through MyFootballClub (MFC) with their respective state team as a representative player, coach or volunteer within the required timeframes as determined by the host.

Once registered online through MFC, all players must then be allocated to their respective team in SportsTG. Login details and further instruction will be provided.

Once registered online through MFC, all team officials must be confirmed via email. Once all players are registered online through MFC and allocated to a team in SportsTG, the Member Federations must notify the host that their registrations are complete.

Any changes hereafter, for injury or other reasons, will be required to be submitted by the member in writing to FFA for consideration, prior to adjustments being made in MFC and SportsTG.

No changes will be accepted subsequent to the Technical Meeting.

Where a player is injured after having been registered as a member of the team, she can be replaced. Such notification must be in writing to FFA, signed by the CEO of the member and must contain the player's full name, date of birth, and current club.

Please Note: Each team must register two (2) goalkeepers per team.

16. FIELD OF PLAY

The field will be 100m (l) x 64m (w) for the under 14s and 15s.

Standard goals will be used as per the FIFA Laws of the Game for both the U14s and the U15s age groups.

17. MATCH OFFICIALS

Each team shall include as part of their official party of twenty-one (21) persons, a referee or assistant referee. Selection shall be undertaken by the members referee coach in consultation with the FFA Referee's Representative.

Match officials must be of an age greater than the teams competing.

18. EQUALISATION

The total cost of travel by air or coach for each team (2 persons) from the capital city of the Member Federation to the host city and return, shall be divided by the number of teams in the championship to determine the cost charged to the member. The competing teams of the host member shall be included and that member will be required to pay that cost.

Match Officials flights, ground transport, accommodation and meal costs for referees are accounted for in this equalisation as well as a sports trainer/physiotherapist for the Match Officials. FFA covers the cost of the referee coaches' daily allowance, travel accommodation, and uniform's.

FFA will inform members of the expected cost approximately one (1) month prior to the Championships.

19. TRAVEL

FFA will determine and declare the mode of travel for each Member Federation from their capital city to their accommodation at the host city. These costs will be equalised and charged to each competing Member Federation.

FFA will determine and declare the mode of internal travel for each Member Federation, to and from Championships fixtures. These costs will be equalised and charged to each competing Member Federation.

Any additional transport requirements will be the sole responsibility of the Member Federation and at the expense of the member.

FFA will be responsible for the cost of local transport for the match officials.

The travel agent appointed by FFA shall book travel for 21 persons per team. These twenty (20) persons shall consist of sixteen (16) players, four (4) team officials and one (1) referee. Additional persons are the responsibility of the member in terms of booking and cost.

20. ACCOMMODATION

The booking of accommodation is the responsibility of the member, for all travelling persons, excluding the match officials.

The National Elite Referees Instructor shall arrange, in consultation with the host, the accommodation arrangements for all match officials. The cost of accommodation and meals for match officials will be equalised and charged to competing Member Federations.

21. TRAINING VENUES

The host will provide, if requested, sufficient training venues for competing teams. Each venue (if required) shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game and will have goals and nets in place. Venues are to be provided from the day prior to the first day of the Championships until the completion of the Championships.

22. FFA REGULATIONS

Other FFA Regulations that will apply to the Championships are the National Disciplinary Regulations, Grievance Procedure and Code of Conduct.

23. INSURANCE

Insurance of the players and officials, their personal equipment and the equipment of the member, is the responsibility of the member in terms of arrangement and cost.

Each FFA Member Federation agrees not to bring any claim or proceeding against FFA for any damage, loss, injury or liability it or its team may suffer in participating the championships except for liability that by law cannot be excluded. FFA excludes all liability to each member in tort (including negligence), contract or bailment for acts of omission of FFA, its employees and contractors, arising out of or in relation to the championships.

Where the team manager of the member's team requests medical attention over and above that provided by the member's team physiotherapist, that shall be coordinated by the host but at the cost of the member, where such cost applies.

24. IMAGE RELEASE

Participants grant FFA the non-exclusive right to use their image and likeness in any form or medium, as part of any broadcast or recording of the match and for any other commercial purposes (including in advertising and promotional materials).

25. LAUNDRY

The host will provide Members with the options available for the laundry of playing strips, training strips and personal clothing. The cost of laundry remains the responsibility of the member.

26. FOOTBALLS

FFA will provide the match balls for the championships. The storage and issuing of the match balls will be the responsibility of the championship manager in association with the FFA national elite referees instructor. Size five (5) balls will be utilised in these championships for the under 14 and under 15 matches. FFA technical study group.

27. FFA Technical Study Group

FFA will appoint a Technical Study Group of qualified technical personnel to observe all matches. Travel and accommodation for the group shall be the responsibility of FFA in terms of arrangement and cost. The technical study group will aim to identify and report on talented players from the championship.

28. VENUE SIGNAGE

FFA, in association with the host, shall be responsible for preparation and placement of their commercial partner's signage at the match venue where applicable.

29. ICE

FFA, through the host member, will be responsible for the provision and cost of one bag of ice per team per match. Additional bags will be available at the cost of the member.

30. TEAM SHEETS

FFA will provide team sheets for each match. These forms are to be signed by the coach of each team. All sixteen (16) players of each competing team shall be listed on the team sheet. Players shall be listed as either a member of the starting eleven (11) or a reserve player or listed as ineligible if suspended or injured and therefore unable to take the field.

The Championship Manager or his/her nominee, shall make the team sheet available to the teams one (1) hour prior to kick off. The team sheet is to be completed and signed off by the team coach no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to kick off.

Completed team sheets are copied and distributed to the match officials, public address announcer, team managers, Technical Study Group members and media in attendance, with the originals retained by the Championship Manager.

31. MATCH EVENT SUMMARY

FFA will provide the referee with a match event summary form to be completed by him/her at the completion of the match. The completed form shall be handed to the FFA National Elite Referees Instructor or his nominee, who is responsible for passing that form to the Championship Manager.

32. JERSEY NUMBERS

Each team shall number the jerseys of the field players 2-15 inclusive with goalkeepers being numbered 1 and 16. If a goalkeeper also plays as a field player, then a field player's strip with the goalkeeper's number must also be included in the kit.

33. SPONSOR LOGOS ON PLAYING STRIP

Approval must be granted for teams to display sponsor logos on playing strips. Please request approval from FFA to use any sponsor's logo which may conflict with an existing FFA sponsor. For avoidance of doubt, FFA sponsors are:

- Qantas
- Nike
- Westfield
- Hyundai
- NAB

Front of Playing Shirt: The major sponsor name or logo will be a maximum of 400cm² with a maximum length of 25cms and positioned on the front of shirt. The name or logo must be at least 3cm below the Member Federation logo and manufacturer's logo.

Back of Playing Shirt: The back of shirt sponsor name or logo will be a maximum of 250cm², with the width not to exceed 20cms positioned below the Player's number.

Sleeve of Playing Shirt: The sponsor name or logo will be no greater than 100cm² with a maximum width of 15cm.

Playing Short (Front and Back): The sponsor name or logo will be a maximum of 15cm (w) x 7cm (h) with an area not exceeding 100cm².

34. MATCH REFRESHMENTS

Each Member Federation is responsible for their own refreshments for the duration of The Championships. Refreshments are the responsibility of the member in terms of arrangement and cost.

35. NIGHT MATCHES

FFA at its discretion may schedule matches at night if it deems it necessary to complete the fixture program in the prescribed time.

36. FORFEITS

A team that forfeits a match shall be required to show cause to FFA for failing to meet their obligation. The other team shall be awarded the match and subsequent points with the goals recorded as 3-0.

37. NON-COMPLETION OF MATCH

Should a match fail to be completed for whatever reason, FFA at its sole discretion shall determine the outcome or future action to be taken with respect to the fixture.

38. COACH ACCREDITATION

Effective from January 1, 2010, FFA requires personnel nominated as a Head Coach of a FFA Member's team to hold a current FFA B Licence, Assistant Coach a current FFA C Licence, Goalkeeping Coach a minimum Level 1 Goalkeeping Certificate.

39. OTHER MATTERS

On any other matters, FFA shall decide and inform members of their decision in a formal and timely manner.

OFFICIAL