FERNTREE GULLY & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION (Inc)

http:// www.ftgdca.com.au/

Founded 25/8/1947
Patron – Mr Norm Reeves

(AFFILIATED VICTORIAN COUNTRY CRICKET LEAGUE)

PREMIERS VCCL COUNTRY WEEK

1962 " C" Group, 1972 " C" Group, 1980 " A" Group, 1993 Division 6, 1995 Division 4, 1997 Division 6, 1998 Division 5, 1999 Division 4 & Division 3, 2005 Division 3, 2006 Division 2, 2018 Division 2, 2023 Provincial. 2024 Provincial, 2025 Provincial

PREMIERS BENDIGO COUNTRY WEEK

2008 Division 3 2010 Division 2 2013 Division 1

LIFE MEMBERS

Alec Aplin 1951
Frank Pickett 1952
Lindsay Ewart 1953
Wally Tew (MBE) 1954
Aldo Adjani 1955
Jim Noonan 1957
Bill Bowen Snr 1958
Ron Lomax 1960
Jack Feaver 1961
Lil Grogan 1962
Ken Fleming 1965
Alec Ingwersen 1968
Bob Decoite (ASM) 1971
Edna Feaver 1971
Stan Hanger 1973
John Barry (ASM) 1976
Barry Lockett 1981
Keith Hill 1984
Don Claringbould 1985
Alan Bailey 1986
Arthur Bailey (ASM) 1987
Norm Reeves (ASM) # 1988
Ossie Garner 1991
Ron Neville (ASM) 1992
Sandra Berry 1995
Bryan Mitchell 1999
Allan Gottliebsen 2000
Steve Brown 2001 ##
Peter Fahy 2005
Sharon Connolly 2010
Craig Wilkinson 2011
Arnie Walters 2013
Ian Harley 2015
Colin Capon 2025

ASM – Australian Sports Medal 2000
 # - R.F. Merriman Medal 2004
- R.F. Merriman Medal 2021

OFFICE BEARERS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Gary Saultry
Email: president@ftgdca.com.au

SECRETARY: Ian Harley
Email: secretary@ftgdca.com.au

TREASURER: Matthew Anderson
Email: treasurer@ftgdca.com.au

VICE PRESIDENT: Arnie Walters

MATCH CO- ORDINATOR: James Irvine
Email: snrmatch@ftgdca.com.au

JUNIOR ADMINISTRATOR: Joe Stroud
Email: jnradmin@ftgdca.com.au

DIRECTOR WOMENS CRICKET: Belinda Cunningham
Email: womenscricket@ftgdca.com.au

DIRECTOR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT: Steve Brown

DIRECTOR EVENTS & APPAREL: Kelly Sheehan

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE/ADMIN OFFICER: Colin Capon
Email: assistantsecretary@ftgdca.com.au

SUB COMMITTEES

TRANSFERS & PERMITS: COMPETITION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM James Irvine
Email: snrmatch@ftgdca.com.au

TRIBUNAL SECRETARY: Keith Thompson

UMPIRE'S ADMINISTRATOR:
Rohan Young – umpires@ftgdca.com.au

UMPIRE'S APPOINTMENTS:
Craig Wilkinson

MATCH COMMITTEES:
Senior – James Irvine, Gary Saultry, Ian Harley, Joe Stroud, Arnie Waltersn

Junior – Joe Stroud, Matthew Anderson, Kelly Sheehan, Belinda Cunningham

Women's – Belinda Cunningham, Kelly Sheehan, Nicola Hurst, Elaine Kos

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ADMINISTRATION

1.1 THE ASSOCIATION

The Association to be called the FERNTREE GULLY & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED is hereby constituted, hereafter called the Association. In these rules, unless the contrary intention appears words importing a gender include other genders.

1.2 EXECUTIVE

1.2.1 Executive to administer the Association will consist of an Executive Committee, one delegate from each affiliated club and honorary life members.

1.2.2 The Executive Committee Nominations for the Executive Committee to be put in writing 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and sent to the Secretary.

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Junior Administrator
- Match Co-ordinator
- General Committee Members

1.2.3 Only club delegates may vote on Association matters. Life Members and Executive Members shall not vote.

1.2.4 The Chairman of an Executive Meeting may have a casting vote. Any person appointed to a Sub- Committee will be entitled to vote at such Sub Committee Meetings.

1.2.5 No delegate may be elected to an Executive position unless present at the Annual General Meeting, or his written consent is in the hands of the Secretary.

1.2.6 The Executive Committee may appoint the following officers to assist the Association.

- Umpires Adviser/Umpires Advocate
- Selection panels to select representative teams.
- Tribunal Secretary
- IT Manager, Social media and website
- And any other Officer the Executive may deem necessary.

1.3 HONORARIUMS (Expenses)

Honorariums (Expenses) shall be paid to the members of the executive that are deemed necessary at the first meeting of the Executive following the Annual General Meeting. The total amount of the honorariums is to be determined at the Annual General Meeting Each year.

Any other appointments outside of the Executive that require any form of compensation, payment or expense reimbursement will be budgeted for and presented as separate line items on the FTGDCA Profit and Loss Sheet each year.

1.4 MEETINGS

At all general meetings of the Association clubs must be represented by at least one delegate; such delegate must hold the position of President, Secretary or a senior executive member of the club.

1.4.1 The Executive must convene an **Annual General Meeting** to be held within 2 months of the end of each financial year. (31st May)

1.4.2 The Senior and or Junior Rules Meeting will be held (if required) within 2 months of the end of each financial year. (31st May) Any proposed alterations to the rules must be submitted in the rule change template which is to be provided to the clubs by the Executive to the Secretary by the 1st of April. All clubs shall be notified of such alterations fourteen days prior to the Senior & Junior rules meetings. No alterations to the rules can be made except at the Annual Rules Meeting with a two thirds majority of clubs present.

1.4.3 Senior delegates meetings will be held in September and February/March prior to finals commencing on dates advised by the Secretary as required or at any other time that the Executive deems necessary. All junior Coaches/Managers and/or Co-ordinators will meet at Association level during the months of September and February/March or any other time that the Executive deem necessary.

1.4.4 More than half of the affiliated clubs shall be required to form a quorum.

1.4.5 Clubs not represented at meetings shall incur a fine of $100. Non-attendance at two consecutive meetings will incur a loss of four match points in all senior grades plus fines. The Association Presentation night will also constitute an official meeting

1.4.6 Executive meetings at which all fixtures, finals, finance and inter-association matches shall be arranged together with any other business required to be dealt with by the Association will be held as required. Minutes of all decisions arising from such meetings shall be recorded and will be made available to any member upon written request to the Secretary.

1.4.7 All senior clubs must nominate an Administration Officer, who shall be responsible for any inwards or outwards correspondence to the association. The administration officer shall be the sole contact to the association for all senior matters and must supply an email address, postal address and contact phone number. The administration officer can be any member of the club's senior committee and not necessarily the president or secretary. Should the admin officer be away, another may be nominated at any time.

1.5 EXECUTIVE DUTIES

1.5.1 The Secretary shall be responsible for the recording and distribution of minutes at all Association meetings, receiving and answering all correspondence pertaining to Association matters and to ensure that clubs are notified of all matters of importance. Information

circulars emanating from the FTGDCA must be consecutively numbered to ensure that clubs are aware that all correspondence has been received. The Secretary shall also be responsible for the organisation of all Association and Inter-Association matches.

1.5.2 The Treasurer shall receive all money for the Association and deposit same at a nominated bank. The Treasurer shall prepare a financial statement for each Association meeting and Executive meetings if required. At the Annual General Meeting, a statement of receipts and expenditure must be submitted with a bank statement attached. The Treasurer shall determine an affiliation fee which shall be payable by all clubs as per the terms listed on the invoice.

Should a club not make an affiliation payment by the terms listed on the invoice, a fine of $100 will be levied.

The Treasurer will invoice clubs for any other outstanding items such as fines or other expenses and costs to be incurred by a club at regular intervals and may elect to include such items on affiliation invoices. Any club unfinancial with the Association prior to the Finals series (both Senior and Junior) shall be ineligible to participate in such finals.

1.5.3 The Match Co-ordinator shall monitor all registered players in Competition Management System to ensure that they eligible and meet the playing qualifications for their respective clubs, as stipulated herein. The onus shall be upon the club registering a new player to ensure that the player is eligible to play for the club and that the correct registration requirements have been met. The Match Co-ordinator shall manage competition results through Competition Management System, confirming, altering and updating where necessary. This role can be split between juniors and senior functions. The fixture shall include both one day and two day matches.

1.5.4 The Executive may deal with all disputes and protests involving players, officials, or clubs in accordance with the principles of tribunal procedures and penalties or awards as it sees fit.

1.5.5 The Executive shall form junior and senior Match Committees to handle basic management associated with playing of matches with the general Executive only having to deal with areas of major concern.

1.5.6 The Junior Administrator shall be responsible for the organisation of all junior teams and liaise with the Secretary in arrangement of inter-association matches.

1.6 AFFILIATION

Affiliations - Clubs must notify the Secretary of their proposed senior teams, in writing by July 14 with final confirmation of teams by August 14. Any proposed affiliation must be accompanied by a proposed venue for that affiliation.

Any club wishing to leave the Association must advise the Secretary, in writing prior to this date, must be financial and return all shields in their possession.

A club having two or more teams, and withdrawing a team during the season, must withdraw the lowest grade team in the respective competition i.e. Two Day or One Day competition. In the event of a team withdrawing from the competition during the season, the unplayed matches will be reviewed and managed by the Match Coordinator.

1.6.1 No club will be permitted to affiliate or field (via promotion or relegation reasons) more than 1 team in each of the top 4 grades.

1.6.2 No club will be permitted to affiliate or field teams in the FTGDCA if that club refuses to comply with the FTGDCA Child Safety Policy including Child Safety Integrity declaration required by Cricket Victoria (or any other mandated government or ruling bodies) and other policies issued by the FTGDCA

GENERAL RULES

1.7 TRIBUNAL

The Executive shall appoint an Independent Tribunal of at least five (5) members, with any three (3) to sit as the Tribunal at one time. One of the three (3) Tribunal members is to act as Chairman. The Tribunal shall deal with matters put to it as it deems fit and its decision shall be final, except where appeal may be allowed as per section 6 of these rules.

1.8 PENNANTS

Premiership pennants shall be competed for each season and shall be held by the premier club in each grade. The Association shall award miniature pennants each year in all grades.

1.9 TROPHIES & QUALIFICATIONS

1.9.1 To be eligible for these trophies, batsmen shall bat in more than half the matches the team played in the H & A season and make at least 350 runs in Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions and at least 300 runs in all other grades. Bowlers shall bowl in more than half the matches the team played, bowl not less than 300 balls and take at least 25 wickets in all grades. In Community Cricket Divisions and below the bowling qualifications will drop to ~~20~~ 15 wickets and 250 balls and bowl in more than half the matches the team played. Where abnormal circumstances, inclement weather, forfeits or byes adversely affect a season, the executive committee reserves the right to modify qualification on a grade-by-grade basis.

1.9.2 To be eligible for trophies, player scores must be ratified in Competition Management System and confirmed by the Match Coordinator by a date specified by him/her.

Players in the Premier Divisions shall compete for the best cricketer awards based on Umpires' votes (3-2-1) throughout the H & A matches. Such medals shall be called the "Jack Feaver Medal" (Reeves Shield) and the "Ron Lomax Medal" (DeCoite Shield) and “The Best Player” for the Alan Bailey Shield. Any player having been found guilty by the tribunal and/or an Executive hearing following any report shall be ineligible to win any Medal. Any officially appointed umpire (named first) who is responsible for the forwarding of best & fairest votes.

Votes shall be awarded in an incomplete round at the discretion of the senior executive committee.

1.10 REGISTRATION

1.10.1 When registered at a club on Competition Management System, the applicant shall be deemed a member of the club mentioned on such application for a period of 3 seasons, from the date of his last match. **Registration with the Competition Management System** must occur by **8pm on the Sunday** following the conclusion of the match, or 8.00 pm on the Monday following the conclusion of the match if played on Sunday. Any player registration (or team sheet including such player) lodged after 8:00 p.m. Sunday (or 8:00 p.m. Monday where applicable) will be deemed unregistered and any resulting Match Points will be forfeited, and the match WILL NOT count toward any player qualification with respect to Club or Finals matches – Refer 1.10.9

1.10.2 No player shall be eligible to play unless registered and no player shall be registered unless eligible to play. Any player who is currently under suspension from any other Cricket Association/League is ineligible to be registered until his suspension is completed.

1.10.3 Applications for **Transfer and Permits close on January 31** in each season unless the permit is internal to the club (e.g. Junior and Senior). Applications for registrations close at the commencement of the last H & A match except for Premier Divisions which shall close at the commencement of the third last scheduled fixture of the season. Applications re- open after the Annual General Meeting each year.

1.10.4 Any player, who has been transferred by a club during a season and returns to that club, must be re- registered and to play in finals series must comply with rule 1.11.1.

1.10.5 Any player who makes himself available for Association, Zone or Region Representative teams and fails to appear when selected or withdraws without a satisfactory explanation shall incur a penalty of two weeks suspension.

1.10.6 Any Junior or Veteran player playing senior cricket must be registered as a Senior player.

1.10.7 Any club playing an unregistered player shall be fined $50 and forfeit match points, (such points to be awarded to the opposing team, percentage and/or bonus points remain unaffected) in each match in which he/she participates. In the event of two opposing playing teams playing unregistered players in the same game, no points shall be awarded. Games played by such an unregistered player do not count towards finals’ qualification. **Any club playing an unregistered player or unqualified player in any finals match shall forfeit in the game concerned.**

1.10.8 All players found guilty and suspended by the independent tribunal and/or an Executive hearing shall be de-registered for the term of the penalty imposed. The player must apply in writing to the association Secretary on a club letter head and signed by the club President for re-registration by 8.00 pm Thursday prior to commencing to play again in the Association.

1.10.9 Any de-registered or suspended player shall be ineligible to represent the FTGDCA in any representative game during this period.

1.10.10 Any player that transfers from a club affiliated in an external association to a FTGDCA club and the external club provides the FTGDCA Executive sufficient evidence to prove that the player is unfinancial is not permitted to play in the FTGDCA until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the FTGDCA Executive. On reviewing the submission from the external club, the FTGDCA Executive will advise the FTGDCA club that the player is not permitted to play. Should that player then participate in a match after being advised by the association rule 1.12.8 shall then be applied.

1.11 QUALIFICATION - PLAYER & FINALS

1.11.1 Only commenced matches where the player is listed in the scoresheet shall count for qualifications. Cancelled rounds shall not count where the match has not commenced. . Games Played in a fixtured FTGDCA competition do NOT count for qualification in another FTGDCA competition (Junior, Women’s, Veterans and Senior grade qualification remain separate). Where abnormal circumstances,

inclement weather, or byes adversely affect a season the executive committee reserve the right to modify the qualification on a grade-by-grade basis.

Where a team **receives** a FORFEIT, other than a complete cancelled round, it shall count towards Finals qualification, provided the team is named by 8:00 p.m. on the Monday following the match in competition management system.

(a) Two Day Grades - A minimum of 4 matches must have been played within the club to qualify for finals inclusive of those played in one Day Grades. (One day grade matches will count as half a match for qualification purposes in Two day grades) Matches played in lower senior grades qualify for higher grades. Any player playing more than half their total matches in higher grades is ineligible to play lower grades unless rule 1.11.2 applies.

(b) **One- Day Grades** – A player must be **named on a match report a minimum of 6 playing days** in that grade and the player must have **actually participated** in those matches in that grade to qualify for finals.

(c) **Qualification for T20 Finals.**

Only players that are registered and play within the season can qualify to play T20 games. This is a stand-alone competition, and a player must have played one third of fixtured games in the T20 competition to qualify for T20 finals. T20 matches do not count towards qualifications in any other grades. Rule 1.11.2 does not apply to this grade

1.11.2 An interchange of players between **successive grades** shall be granted to clubs when **successive teams** in that club are participating in finals' matches, under this rule, a player may only play one grade lower than the grade he/she qualified for under rule 1.11.1. Rule 1.12.13 will also apply based on where the player played his last home & away game. Any player who plays in a recognized final (i.e. Qualifying, Elimination, Semi or Preliminary Final) is eligible to participate in that grade's Grand Final.

1.11.3 Juniors playing in senior grades must comply with rule 1.11.1. Any player having turned thirteen (13) years of age, wishing to play senior grades cricket will need to apply for a season permit or register as a senior player by the club Competition Management System Coordinator. Players under thirteen years of age cannot play or substitute in Senior grades without being granted permission by the Junior Administrator. The parent / guardian of such player must send via the clubs' secretary or junior coordinator an email to the Junior Administrator granting permission for their child to play senior cricket for their club and to what grade they are happy for them to play in and this must be submitted by no later than 7pm on the Wednesday prior to the requested game. NO junior under the age of 12 will be allowed to play senior cricket.

1.12 PERMITS / TRANSFERS

1.12.1 No application for a permission to play will be dealt with by the Executive unless application is lodged with the Match Co-ordinator before 10:30pm on a Friday preceding each match.

1.12.2 Clubs may submit Transfers to the Competition Management System at any time following the Annual General Meeting when the Match Secretary will open the season for registrations and transfers to occur.

1.12.3 Any player being refused a transfer from their club has the right to appeal to the Executive whose decision shall be final. No further appeal may be lodged by that player for the remainder of that season. No appeal will be heard unless both clubs concerned have been given 7 days notice from the Association Secretary.

1.12.4 A club receiving an application for a Transfer must deal with same within 5 days of receiving such application. Any player whose Transfer application is not dealt with within the time specified has the right of appeal to the Match Coordinator who reserves the right to grant the Transfer request if the ceding club has not replied or provided a reason for not addressing the Transfer request Refusal of a Transfer by the ceding club must be conducted via Competition Management System and if required supporting information around the refusal sent to the Match Coordinator. Clubs have the right to refuse a Transfer of an unfinancial player.

1.12.5 A player who has transferred to any other Association (or not played) must, on returning to this Association, return to the club from which they originally transferred (or not played) or obtain a transfer from that club, except after an absence of three seasons when they may transfer to any club of their choice.

1.12.6 Any player who transfers to any Region 8 (VCCL) affiliated Association or adjoining Association must have his/her registration renewed by the Executive of this Association on his/her return. At least 7 days notice is to be given to the Match Coordinator.

1.12.7 A club playing a player contrary to the rules shall lose the match or matches in which such player took part. Any such Match Points earned from any such match or matches shall be awarded to the opponent. (Percentage and/or bonus points remain unaffected) The Executive may impose any other penalty as it sees fit.

1.12.8 Any clubs with Premier or Sub District teams have free interchange of players up till the last four rounds when permission is required. These clubs shall not drop a player more than one club grade in his consecutive matches to the FTGDCA.

Any player who has played in any other Association in the current season may return to his/her former club in the same season with permission of the Executive.

Any player who has played in any other Association in the current season and has not previously been registered to play in the

FTGDCA will not be given permission to commence playing after the Christmas break unless approved by the Executive. The PlayHq request will form the basis for notification to the Association.

Any player who has played in any other Association/League on a Saturday shall be ineligible for selection to play any match within the FTGDCA which is scheduled or re-scheduled for any Sunday on the same weekend.

1.12.9 A junior player, having transferred to Premier Cricket, is still a member of the club from which they left until transferred in accordance with Rule 1.12.

1.12.11 A junior player is a player who is under 17 years of age on the 1st September.

1.12.12 The Association may grant an interchange of players within affiliated clubs with both this Association and any other Association. Players of the club must qualify under rule 1.11.1 for finals' matches in this Association. The club must give the Match Coordinator at least 3 days notice before interchanging a player.

1.12.13 A player may not be dropped more than one (1) club grade in their consecutive commenced matches (forfeits byes & cancelled games do not count) in the same season. Should a player be dropped more than (1) club grade in consecutive matches a fine of

$200 and a loss of match points (such points to be awarded to the opposing team, percentage and or bonus points remain unaffected). In the event of both teams playing a player contrary to this rule, no match points shall be awarded.

1.13 CLUB and PLAYER Points

a. Each player registered to a Club, will be assessed according to the point system set out below.
b. Each Club is awarded points as shown in the Table of Points below and shall be known as the "Club Points". The total club points and individual player points are to be reviewed by the Executive each season. These points shall apply to a Club's First Eleven Players **only** in each and every match.
c. The Club points are based on the total number of points for every player assigned to that team and must not exceed 18 points in any individual match.
d. Any Club/Team exceeding the total number of Club points in any match will be considered to have played an illegal player and shall be subject to the following:
    i. If the offending club had won the match it will be deemed a forfeit, and the offending club/team shall lose their match points and the match points awarded to the opposition club/team
    ii. If the offending club had lost the match the offending club/team will have 6 match points deducted from them.
    iii. If both clubs in the match have exceeded the total number of Club Points, no match points will be awarded.
e. In addition, any offending club will be fined $250 per instance of offending.
f. Each Player registered to a club as of and from 1st April 2023 shall receive one point; this shall be the "Base Point".
g. The Player's Senior "Home" Club shall be the FTGDCA Club to which the player was last registered as of and from 1st April 2023. The Player's last Junior Club shall be the Club the player was last registered with before becoming a senior player and no longer eligible to play Junior Cricket.
h. Any Player returning to their last registered Junior, or the last registered "home" Senior Club shall revert to one base point regardless of the level of Cricket they may have played in current or previous seasons.
i. Any points newly accrued after the commencement of the 2023/24 by a Player shall be reduced by one point after the first two full seasons (where a full season is determined as the player had played sufficient games in the FTGDCA to be qualified) at that club and one point ever season thereafter until the base Point is reached.
j. It is incumbent upon each club to provide information to the Match Secretary of the playing history of all new senior players being registering to the club (excluding juniors that had played at the club in the previous season) detailing the playing history of the new player from which the club has determined their point allocation and must be done so prior to their first match for the club. Failure to provide this information prior to the first match of the player may incur penalties as deemed appropriate. Should a player be identified as requiring extra points and has played in a game where the team had more than the allowable points shall be dealt with as per 1.13 (d)
k. If a Club ceases to exist, all players shall become free agents and may be registered with another club and shall be recognised as the player's new "Home" club and shall retain such points as previously held.
l. The FTGDCA Senior Match committee under direction of the Executive shall control the administration of the points system.
m. Should any dispute of the Player points to be allocated/accrued by a player in any season occur, the decision of the FTGDCA Senior Match Committee will be final.

Table of Points

Total Club Points Allowed - 18	Points
Any overseas player who has played international/state (or equivalent of state as deemed by the executive) in the current or previous 3 years	3
Any player who has played international/state cricket in Australia in the current or previous 3 years	3
Any player who has played County/Minor County, Premier 1st XI cricket or its international equivalent in the current of previous 3 years. Where a player has not actually played at that level for a period of 2 years a point deduction of 1 point will be applied	3
Any player who has played 1st XI Premier Cricket (Australia only) all states in the current or previous 3 years, Where a player has not actually played at that level for a period of 2 years a point deduction of 1 point will be applied	3
Any player who has played 2nd XI Premier Cricket (Australia Only) all states in current or previous 3 years. Where a player has not actually played at that level for a period of 2 years a point deduction of 1 point will be applied	2
Any player who has played VSDCA 1st XI cricket in the current of previous 3 years. Where a player has not actually played at that level for a period of 2 years a point deduction of 1 point will be applied	2
Any player who plays VCCL Country Week Provincial Grade 1st XI in the current or previous 1 year	2
Any player who has played Australian Country Cricket 1st XI in the current or previous 1 year	2
Any player who has played VSDCA 2nd XI or below in the current of previous 3 years.	1
Any FTGDCA registered player upon transfer to another club within the FTGDCA where that player has played five 1st XI cricket matches for their current club in the previous season	2
Any FTGDCA registered player upon transfer to another club within the FTGDCA where that player is 23 years of age or under and has not played 1st Xi cricket for the club he is currently registered to but has been a registered player at their existing club as a Junior Home Club	2
Any other player from another league where none of the above applies	1

1.14 GROUNDS AND MATERIAL (Cricket Balls)

All grounds must be approved by the Executive, and all matches shall be played on approved synthetic turf 1.8 metres wide, or any other material approved by the Executive. The space between the synthetic turf sections in the centre must not exceed 1.8 metres. A club seeking to replace its synthetic turf pitch surface and /or undertake major repairs to damaged sections of the pitch must formally notify the FTGDCA Executive prior to doing so and satisfy the Executive that they are using a FTGDCA approved replacement surface. Emergency repairs (i.e. vandalised pitches) must be carried out with a replacement material of the same type as the existing pitch surface as soon as practical to do so. Boundaries must be properly defined and agreed upon for the conditions of play. Stumps as adopted by Cricket Victoria as approved by the Executive, shall be used in all matches. Scoreboards must be available at all Premier Divisions. Such scoreboards must show the number of overs. In every match a new leather cricket ball shall be provided by each team for its use.

The cricket balls used by this Association (senior & junior) shall be approved by the Executive at the Annual General Meeting and are to be stamped FTGDCA and purchased directly from the association and any club failing to adhere to this requirement will be dealt with by the executive as it sees fit

1.14.1 Affiliated clubs must assure the Association that their grounds are available from the 1st available Saturday in October until the last Saturday in March which constitutes the playing season of the Association.

1.14.2 All ovals are to have the boundary marked by cones or flags and all main ovals (#1 ground) are also to have the boundary line to be marked on the oval

1.15 STANDARD ORDERS - MEETINGS

1.15.1 At all meetings of the Association, the President shall take the chair and shall have a casting vote. In his absence, the Vice President shall take the chair. The chairman shall have the casting vote only. A properly constituted meeting of the association will be held when a minimum of 3 members of the Executive meet in the company of a recognized quorum (Rule 1.4.4).

1.15.2 Any member wishing to move a motion shall rise and address the chair respectfully, avoid personality and unbecoming language, and shall take his or her seat if called to order by the chairman. The motion must be seconded before it is debated and shall not then be withdrawn without the consent of the seconder.

1.15.3 No member shall speak more than once to any motion or amendment, except the mover of the original motion, who shall have the right to reply.

1.15.4 A motion or an amendment having been moved and seconded, debate may ensue but no more than two other speakers shall follow successively on the same side of the question. If two speakers having so spoken, there be no speaker to take the opposite view, the question shall be put forthwith.

1.15.5 On any member rising to a point of order during a discussion, the speaker shall resume his seat while the chairman shall rule thereon, which ruling may be reviewed by the meeting.

1.15.6 When two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the chairman shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

1.15.7 The nominated club Administration Officers (as per 1.4.7) are to receive copies of the minutes of both senior & junior delegates meetings. The names of the following positions are to be submitted in writing to Secretary and Junior Administrator at the start of the season.

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Junior Coordinator

Any change to the advised office bearers must be submitted to the Association Secretary and Junior Administrator as soon as possible.

1.16 AFFILIATED REGULATIONS (Previous Rule Books)

All previous rules and regulations of the FTGDCA Inc. are hereby cancelled and these rules shall come into operation and shall be operative from their acceptance and publication. This constitution shall be deemed to incorporate the model rules for an incorporated association, pursuant to Association Incorporation reform Act 2012 (Schedule 4) save to the extent of any inconsistency in which case this constitution shall prevail.

PLAYING RULES - SENIOR XI COMPETITIONS

2.1. COMPETITIONS

2.1.1 The competitions arranged by the Association shall be played on the points system. Clubs may continue to play until the time fixed by the Association for the closing of the competition. The Executive shall grade teams taking part in the competition under the following structure:

- Premier Division
  - Norm Reeves Shield
  - Bob DeCoite Shield
  - Alan Bailey Shield
- Premier Division Reserves
  - Norm Reeves Shield Reserve
  - Bob DeCoite Shield Reserves
  - Alan Bailey Shield Reserves
- Community Cricket
- Community Cricket (Veterans)
- Community Cricket (Ladies)

The Executive Reserves the right to schedule the Alan Bailey Shield Reserve Division as a Split Innings format and as such the Alan Bailey Shield Reserve Division will play that season under the Community Cricket playing rules.

Club promotion and relegation for Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions will be applied as per 2.1.9

All other gradings of community cricket will be graded by the Executive.

2.1.2 The matches shall commence on the first available Saturday in October of each year unless delayed by circumstances outside of the control of the FTGDCA

2.1.3 **MATCH POINTS** - The following premiership points shall be awarded:

Outright win in winning team leads on first innings	10 points
Outright win where first innings tied	8 points
Win outright – winning team behind on first innings	6 points
Outright Tie if teams lead on first innings	5 points
Outright Tie if team leads on first innings	7 points
Outright Tie if team is behind on first innings	3 points
Outright loss if tied on first innings	2 points
First innings lead points retained in beaten outright	4 points
First Innings	6 points
Bye	6 points
Tie on First Innings	3 points
Cancelled game each team (includes teams fixtured with a bye)	3 points
Drawn game each team	3 points
Cancelled game	0 points
Winning match under protest	6 points
T20 (Saturday comp) First Innings	6 points
T20 (Saturday comp) tie	3 points

Win by Forfeit - Points awarded shall be equal to the maximum number of points scored by any other team in the same grade in that round.

Final Ladder Placing

The final placing's in each grade shall be decided by the total of the match points won during the program of matches. Teams equal in match points (refer Rule 2.1.6 re percentage system)

In any grade where Byes or draw changes have an uneven impact on the ladder Rule 2.1.3 be impacted by the following:

a) Match Ratio shall be utilised to determine initial ladder placings and then Percentage/Quotient as outlined in rule 2.1.6

b) Byes shall attract 0 points

Match Ratio – as calculated in PlayHQ

A team's position on the ladder is determined by its percentage of games won against the total number of games they have played - otherwise known as their 'Match Ratio'. That is, the Totals points assigned for matches won and no results divided by the total number of matches played.

Byes are not included in the match ratio calculation to ensure that, when there is an uneven number of byes in a division, no team is disadvantaged.

2.1.4 Where play is unable to start due to either damage to wicket, playing area or unsuitable surface then the Executive has the power to move the match to another venue or play on the second day under rule 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 (as required).

2.1.5 Should any club receive points due to a match being forfeited by the opposing team, the club shall lodge within Competition Management System a match report for that match in compliance with rule 3.1.3. As per Rule 1.11.1 the game shall count for player qualification and consecutive matches in Rule 1.12.13.

2.1.6 If any teams are equal in premiership points and percentage (to 4 decimal places) gained at the end of the home and away games, the relative positions of such teams shall be determined by averages as follows:

a) The batting average for a team shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored by the number of wickets lost.

b) The batting average against each other shall be obtained by dividing the total number of runs scored against it by the number of wickets taken.

c) The former shall be divided by the latter, the team having the higher quotient shall be considered to have the better performance.

d) In an innings declared or compulsorily closed or match cancelled, only the wickets lost shall be counted. In an innings completed, ten (10) wickets shall be considered lost, except where a batsman (or batsmen) has been compulsorily retired in the One Day Grade they shall be deemed retired not out and **not count as a wicket lost**.

e) In the case that 2 teams have equal premiership pints and percentages and identical batting averages as determined via 2.1.6 clauses (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)premiership points and percentage, the team that has the highest total of runs for the season out of the teams tied is judged to be the higher placed team. Where both tied teams have identical premiership points, percentage, averages and total runs then the team that has taken the most wickets is judged to be the higher placed team.

2.1.7 In all games where umpires officiate, the umpire shall be the sole judge of the fitness of the ground, weather and light for play.

2.1.8 The Executive have the authority to re-schedule cancelled rounds or games as it deems fit in the Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions, but no games shall be re-scheduled for the Sunday of a holiday long weekend or on the same ground as an already scheduled women's match.

2.1.8.1. Home and Away Games

a) The result of completed games shall stand, and these shall not be replayed.

b) At the first delegates meeting following the AGM (usually September), the playing dates and proposed reserve dates which will have been circulated to clubs in advance for review shall be proposed and ratified by all clubs. A maximum of 5 Sundays may be set aside for re-scheduled games. Once the agreed number of reserve days have expired there shall be no further re-scheduling of rounds or games.

2.1.8.2 Finals Games

(a) At the first delegates meeting following the AGM (usually September), the proposed reserve playing dates for finals which will have been circulated to clubs in advance for review shall be proposed and ratified by all clubs. The Executive shall advise all clubs and umpires of the scheduled finals and reserve days as the current competition management system does not facilitate the display of a finals series.

2.1.9 PROMOTION & RELEGATION

Promotion and Relegation rules will only apply to Premier Divisions and Premier Reserve Divisions which includes the following:

- Norm Reeves Shield
- DeCoite Shield
- Alan Bailey Shield
- Norm Reeves Shield Reserves
- Decoite Shield Reserves
- Alan Bailey Shield Reserves

All other gradings will be as per 2.1.1

(a) The club winning the premiership in DeCoite Shield will be promoted to Norm Reeves Shield for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive.

(b) The club winning the premiership in Alan Bailey Shield will be promoted to DeCoite Shield for the ensuing season unless otherwise determined by the Executive.

(c) The club finishing last in Norm Reeves Shield will be relegated to DeCoite Shield for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive,

(d) The club finishing last in DeCoite Shield will be relegated to Alan Bailey Shield Grade for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive.

(b) The club winning the premiership in DeCoite Shield Reserve will be promoted to Norm Reeves Shield Reserve for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive.

(c) The club winning the premiership in Alan Bailey Shield Reserve will be promoted to DeCoite Shield Reserve for the ensuing season unless otherwise determined by the Executive.

(d) The club finishing last in Norm Reeves Shield Reserve will be relegated to DeCoite Shield Reserve for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive,

(e) The club finishing last in DeCoite Shield Reserve will be relegated to Alan Bailey Shield Reserve for the ensuing season unless determined otherwise by the Executive.

2.1.10 FINALS GROUNDS

Where play is unable to start in a finals game due to damage to the wicket, playing area or unsuitable surface or in the event of wet weather where it is deemed that the ground will remain unfit for play for the entirety of the schedule final, the game may be moved to a suitable alternate venue subject to availability. A decision must be made no later than 60 minutes before the scheduled start of play and must be agreed to by no less than 3 members of the executive.

2.2 MATCHES

Split into multiple competition formats Premier and Premier Reserve formats and Community Cricket formats (split innings, Ladies and Veterans)

Match Start Times

	PREMIER AND PREMIER RESERVE			
	1 day game Premier Division	**1 day Premier Division tea break**	**2 day Game Premier Divisions**	**2 day game Premier Division tea break**
Pre Daylight Savings	12:15pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 3:20pm	12:15pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 3:20pm
Daylight Savings	12:15pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 3:20pm	12:15pm - 6:00pm	3:00pm - 3:20pm

	COMMUNITY CRICKET			
	1 day games Community Divisions	**1 day games Community Division Tea break**	**2 Day Games Community Division**	**2 day games Community Division Tea break**
Pre Daylight Savings	12:30pm - 6:00pm	3:00 - 3:20	12:30pm	3:00 - 3:20
Daylight Savings	12:30pm - 6:00pm	3:00 - 3:20	12:30pm	3:00 - 3:20

2.2.1 40 OVER GAME - ONE DAY SINGLE INNINGS MATCH – Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions

a) Bowlers are allowed a maximum 8 overs. Wickets lost by compulsory retirement deemed retired not out. **All grades <u>without</u> official FTGDCA umpires -** The team bowling first has until 2.30 pm (3.00 pm daylight savings time) to complete 40 overs and, if not completed by this time, the number of overs completed by 2.30 pm (3.00 pm daylight savings time) shall be bowled to the team batting second.

Grades <u>with</u> Official FTGDCA Umpires – Where the team bowling first has not commenced its 40th over by 2:30 pm (3.00) pm daylight savings time) they will automatically forfeit the match.

b) The team batting second shall receive the same number of overs. Where this scenario occurs and the team bowling second has not commenced its 40th over by 6:00pm (non day light Savings time) or 6:30pm (daylight savings time) they will automatically forfeit the match.

c) Results of matches shall be first innings only.

d) However, if bad weather causes stoppages in play or a team is dismissed prior to 40 overs the following variations shall be observed:

a) If a total of 15 minutes is lost in either innings and no decision is reached by 6.30 pm, the game shall be drawn. Umpires need to be in place by 6:30pm for the last over to be bowled

b) The team batting first, if not dismissed, shall have its innings compulsorily closed after 40 overs have been bowled. c) Tea to be taken at the completion of the first innings.

c) NOTE - No reduction of overs due to adverse weather but play may continue until 6.30 pm.

e) If the team batting first is dismissed prior to 40 overs tea shall be taken and the side batting second shall be compulsorily closed when having received 40 overs. No further play shall take place.

f) Scorers to notify the umpire after 36 overs have been completed and the umpire shall notify the fielding captain.

g) Should there be no play permitted in Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions due to inclement weather in one day games by 2.00 pm tea will be taken and a **T20 match** (under T20 rules in this handbook) shall **commence no later than 3.00 pm.** These matches will replace the one day game and count for match points and any decision to do so will be made by the Senior Executive Committee on the day. **White cricket balls and full coloured clothing to be utilised in Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions** whilst red cricket balls are to be used in all other grades.

h) **FIELDING RESTRICTIONS Premier Divisions Only** –

- First 10 overs – Only 2 players outside circle
- Second 10 overs – Only 3 players outside circle
- Third 10 overs – Only 4 players outside circle
- Last 10 overs – Only 5 players outside circle

i) FIELDING RESTRICTIONS Premier Reserve Divisions – only 5 players allowed the outside circle for the entire game

j) All balls that are bowled down the leg side will be called a WIDE BALL. (No free hit for a wide ball) Premier Divisions ONLY

k) In Premier divisions where an official umpire is officiating, a FREE HIT will apply when a bowler has bowled a NO Ball (Wides not applicable)

2.2.3 TWO DAY GAMES

For Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions is to commence at 12:15pm with a tea break from 3:00pm to 3:305pm

For all Community Cricket Divisions play is to commence at 12:30pm with a tea break from 3:00pm to 3:20pm

a) In such games the result shall be decided by the number of runs scored regardless of wickets lost provided that both teams have completed their innings.

b) The batting team on either day is entitled to bat for 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs for all other grades, after which the innings shall be compulsorily closed and the days play concluded. On any day play must conclude no later than 6.00 pm. In an uninterrupted days play, a team failing to bowl 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs (All Other Grades) by 6.00 pm shall forfeit.

c) If twenty minutes or more is lost on the first day, play may continue until **6.30 pm (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions)** or **6.15 pm (All Other Grades)** and the batting team can bat into the second day for a maximum of 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs (all other grades) in the innings. If the side batting second receives 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs (all other grades) by 6.30 pm (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 6.15 pm (All Other Grades) then a result will be achieved. If no decision is reached the result shall be a drawn game. If more than twenty minutes are lost on the second day, no declaration applies, however play can continue until 6.30 pm (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions or 6.15 pm (All Other Grades) until a result has been achieved, whichever occurs first.

d) If twenty minutes or more is lost on the first day, in an uninterrupted second day, a maximum of 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs (all other grades) shall be bowled.

e) Balance of Overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) Rain affected.
Where rain interrupts play on the first day and the team batting on the first day has not been dismissed, they are entitled to bat on the second day to complete the balance of their overs unless otherwise dismissed. The side batting second is then entitled to receive their 80 overs on the second day, and play can continue until no later than 6:30pm in order for those overs to be faced. When this scenario arises, this rule supersedes 2.2.3(d) and 2.2.3(m).

f) Balance of overs – (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions)
Where the team batting first is dismissed on the first day **with no more** than seven **(7) overs remaining,** *(e.g. 73 overs completed)*, the team batting second then has the **option** to either, conclude the days play or commence the first innings, the team batting second on the first day must at 5.30 pm make the decision to either use the balance of overs to 80 after 5.30 pm or the days play shall conclude. There will be a 10-minute period between change of innings.
Example:

Overs Completed	Result
Less than 72.1	Team batting second bats until 6.00pm or the balance of overs are completed
72.1 or more	Team batting second chooses whether to bat or conclude the days play

g) **Balance of Overs** – (**All Other Grades)** Where the team batting first is dismissed on the first day **with no more** than seven **(7) overs remaining,** *(e.g. 64 overs bowled)*, the team batting second then has the **option** to either, conclude the days play, play time through to 5.15 pm or the balance of the days overs. The team batting second on the first day must at 5.45 pm make the decision to either use the balance of overs to 70 after 5.45 pm or the days play shall conclude. There will be a 10-minute period between change of innings.

Example - 66 *overs team dismissed 4 overs to be bowled for full days play. (70 overs). Batting side has option at 6.00 pm whether to continue. If the side batting is dismissed with greater than 7 overs remaining, the full 70 overs must be played in a day.* ***3 overs for change of innings does not apply. 75 overs in total must be played in a days play unless there is a result or the team batting second uses the option of not batting. (see above)***

h) Should both teams be dismissed prior to 5.45 pm on the second day, play will cease no later than 5.45 pm or a when a full days allotment of overs have been bowled, whatever come first. The match shall not exceed 160 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 140 overs (Community Divisions).

i) If less than 20 overs are achieved on the first day the game shall be cancelled. The match shall be played under one-day match conditions.

j) If a declaration is made during a break in play the opposing captain must be notified ten minutes before the time allotted for play to recommence.

k) Follow On - A team may enforce a follow on provided that they lead by more than 80 runs.

l) A new ball may be taken at the commencement of each innings and after 80 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 70 overs (Community Cricket Divisions) in home and away matches.

m) For the purposes of rule 2.2.3 should there be an interruption to play for any reason and that interruption remains in force at 6.00 pm, play is allowed to resume after interruption of rain until 6:30pm or the overs are completed for the day. Umpires need to be in place by 6:30pm for the last over to be bowled.

n) **Early First Innings Results – (All Divisions and Grades)** Should a first innings result be achieved prior to the full quota of overs bowled on day two, play may be cancelled upon **agreement of both captains** otherwise a full days play must take place.

o) Premier Reserve Divisions may name 12 players in 2-day games. Whilst only 11 players may bat or bowl, all 12 players may be freely substituted in the field with no waiting time to bowl if off the field for an extended period. Once named in that grade, the player cannot play in any other grade in that round

2.2.4 SPLIT INNINGS (2 day game) Community Cricket Divisions

Games will be over two days (other than a one day fixture) with each team receiving 72 overs unless dismissed. The game will be divided into 4 phases with the first team batting for 36 overs unless dismissed, when tea will be taken. The second team will then bat for 36 overs unless dismissed.

On day 2 the first team will bat again for 36 overs unless dismissed, when tea will be taken and the second team will bat for 36 overs unless dismissed or a result obtained.

Each day both sides will bat and bowl. In the event of a second innings occurring the 36 over restriction is removed along with the associated bowling restrictions. The remaining overs for the day (maximum 72) are available although play will cease at 6.00 pm regardless of the number of overs bowled.

Maximum outright points will be awarded should an outright result be achieved.

Batting Restrictions – batsmen must retire upon conclusion of the scoring shot that they score their 100th run.

Bowling Restrictions –a maximum 7 overs per bowler per phase.

Interchange of bowlers/fielders named on the team sheet as defined above without restriction is permitted, provided that no playing time is wasted. Law 2.5 of the Laws of Cricket does not apply.

Eg – bowlers may bowl immediately once returning to the field of play without restriction.

Team Sheets – 13 players can be named on the team sheet and on Competition Management System however only 11 are permitted to bat in each innings. All players named are permitted to bowl.

Semi Final & Final to be played in the same manner as Rule 2.2.4

Game is played bowling 6 consecutive overs from each end until the 36 overs are completed, or a team is dismissed within the allotted 36 overs.

Follow On – A team may enforce a follow on provided that they lead by more than 80 runs

2.2.4.1 **SPLIT INNINGS (1 day game) Community Cricket Divisions**

One day games will be over one day with each team receiving 36 overs unless dismissed. The game will be divided into two innings with the first team batting for a maximum of 36 overs unless dismissed, then tea will be taken. The second team will then bat for a maximum of 36 overs unless dismissed or a result obtained.

- **Batting Restrictions** – Batsmen must retire upon the conclusion of the scoring shot that they scored their 100th run.
- **Bowling Restrictions** – a maximum of 7 overs per bowler per day.

Interchange of bowlers / fieldsmen and team sheets remain the same as rule 2.2.4

Game is played bowling 6 consecutive overs from each end until the 36 overs are completed, or a team is dismissed within the allotted 36 overs.

2.2.5 T20 OVER GAME – 20 Over Single Innings Match (With Official Umpires) Starting times:

(Midweek) 5.30pm (Saturday) Premier Reserve Divisions – 12.00 pm Premier Divisions – 3:30 pm

(Or after approval of Executive Committee's decision to play T20)

Change of inning after 20 over's - 15 minutes Bowlers are allowed a maximum of 4 overs Five overs are to be bowled from each end until 20 over have been bowled.

A FREE HIT will apply when a bowler that has bowled a **NO BALL** (Wides not applicable) All balls bowled down the leg side will be called a WIDE BALL. (No free hit for a wide ball) Batsman will change ends at the end of every over (during 5 over allotments).

Umpire fees apply within the 20 overs

Penalty for breach of fielding restriction, NO BALL & a FREE HIT

At the most, five fielders can be on the leg side, at any given point of time

First 6 overs	Only 2 players outside the circle
After 6 overs	Only 5 players outside the circle

A 27-metre painted mark or dot is too be marked around the playing pitch from the centre stump at each end of the wicket and joined with a straight line adjacent from the bowling crease. **FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT**

(Midweek Games) The team bowling first has until 6.30pm to complete 20 overs (Weekend Games) The team bowling first has 75 minutes to complete 20 overs.

Results of the match shall be first innings only.

The team batting second shall receive the same number of overs. There will be no drawn matches in a T20.

In case of a drawn game after 20 overs have been completed by both sides.

There will be one over each and the side with the most runs after that over will be the winner.

In case of a second draw there will be one more over each with the side with the most runs will be the winner but at the fall of a wicket the over will be completed.

However, if bad weather causes stoppages in play or a team is dismissed prior to 20 over's, the following variations shall be observed.

If a total of 15 minutes is lost in either innings and no decision is reached by 8.15pm (Midweek) or 7.00 pm (Weekends) the game shall be drawn.

The team batting first, if not dismissed, shall have its innings compulsorily closed after 20 overs has been bowled . Change of innings to be taken at the completion of the first innings.

(Midweek Games – Inclement Weather) However if inclement weather delays the start of play and there is no play up till 6.30pm then the game can be changed to a ten over each innings match. No play past 6.30pm then game shall be drawn. Fielding restriction as the last ten overs in a 20 over innings.

(Games Without Official Umpires) All rules remain the same as per 2.2.5 **except a Free Hit is NOT awarded** for a front foot no ball or a breach of fielding restrictions.

NOTE: No reduction of overs once a T20 game has commenced, due to adverse weather but play may continue until 8.15pm.

If the innings of the team batting first is dismissed prior to 20 overs, change of innings will take place and the innings of the team batting second shall be compulsorily closed when having received 20 overs or the match has been won or lost. No further play shall take place. Scorers to notify the umpire after every 5 overs have been completed and the umpire shall notify the fielding captain.

NOTE: Full Colour tops must be worn (approved by the FTGDCA executive) NOTE: A

FTGDCA approved **White Ball** is to be used **(midweek)** and **(weekends)**

T20 FINALS – Qualification – No qualification required, however player must be registered.
FINALS FIXTURE – The T20 finals will be played off between the top ranked 8 teams and structured as follows - **Quarter Final** – (Match 1) 1 vs 8 (Match 2) 2 vs 7 (Match 3) 3 vs 6 & (Match 4) 4 vs 5.
Semi Final – (Match 5) winners of matches 1 & 4. (Match 6) winners of matches 2 & 3.
Final – Winners of matches 5 & 6.
The finals for all T20 matches shall be played on grounds of the team finishing higher on the ladder where the ground meets the playing standard as determined by the Executive. If any ground does not meet the playing standard, an alternative ground will be selected by the Executive. Finals to played as per H & A series.

2.2.6 SEMI FINALS Premier Reserve and Community Cricket Divisions

a) Semi Finals in Premier Reserve and two day Community Cricket Divisions shall be played between the first and fourth, second and third teams at the completion of the home and away matches. Top two teams in these grades to host semi-finals subject to Executive approval of the playing venue and finals match arrangements. Matches shall be played per normal two day home & away games. (Refer Rule 2.2.3).

b) The semi-finals shall be played on a Saturday and Sunday with scheduled reserve days assigned as per rule 2.1.8.2(a). The match shall not exceed a total of 160 overs (Premier Reserve Divisions) or 144 overs (Community Cricket divisions). Where a match has experienced significant delays, play may continue to a third day using scheduled reserve days assigned as per rule 2.1.8.2(a) only to achieve a first innings result.

c) The result shall be decided by the number of runs scored regardless of wickets lost provided that both teams have completed their innings.

d) A new ball may be taken at the commencement of each innings or after completion of 80 overs (Premier Reserve Divisions) or 72 overs (Community Cricket Divisions).

e) In the event of the match not achieving a result by the completion second day's play, being cancelled or not being able to commence or be completed for any reasons as deemed by the Executive, Governing body or Government direction, the winner shall be the team finishing higher on the ladder at the completion of the home and away matches.

f) Where available, two umpires will officiate as appointed by the Umpires Appointment Officer.

g) Any scheduled reserve day for any 2-day grade shall only be utilised to complete the match where it has already commenced (20 overs being bowled on either the first or the second day of the match). The scheduled reserve day will not be used for any 2-day grade match to commence

2.2.7 ELIMINATION, QUALIFYING & PRELIMINARY FINALS Premier Cricket Divisions

a) Elimination Finals in Premier Divisions shall be played between the third and fourth teams at the completion of the home and away matches. The side finishing third will host the elimination Final subject to Executive approval of the playing venue and finals match arrangements. Matches shall be played per normal two-day home & away games. (Refer Rule 2.2.3) Home side to provide afternoon tea on both days subject to FTGDCA Covid-19 policy.

b) Qualifying Finals in Premier Cricket Divisions shall be played between the first and second teams at the completion of the home and away matches. The side finishing first will host the Qualifying Final subject to Executive approval of the playing venue and finals match arrangements. Matches shall be played per normal two-day home & away games. (Refer Rule 2.2.3) Home side to provide afternoon tea on both days subject to Covid-19 policies.

c) Elimination, Qualifying and Preliminary finals shall be played on a Saturday and Sunday with scheduled reserve days assigned as per rule 2.1.8.2(a). The match shall not exceed a total of 160 overs.

d) The result shall be decided by the number of runs scored regardless of wickets lost provided that both teams have completed their innings.

e) A new ball may be taken at the commencement of each innings or after completion of 80 overs.

f) In the event of any elimination, qualifying or Preliminary final where the match does not achieve a result by the completion of the second day's play, being cancelled or not being able to commence or be completed for any reason as deemed by the Executive, Governing body or Government direction, the winner shall be the team finishing higher on the ladder at the completion of the home and away matches.

g) Where available, two umpires will officiate as appointed by the Umpires Appointment Officer.

h) Any scheduled reserve day for any 2 day grade shall only be utilised to complete the match where it has already commenced (20 overs being bowled on either the first or the second day of the match). The scheduled reserve day will not be used for any 2-day grade match to commence

2.2.7.1 Elimination & Qualifying Final format

a) Qualifying Final - 1st vs 2nd – Winner progresses to the Grand Final and Loser to the Preliminary Final
b) Elimination Final 3rd vs 4th – Winner progresses to Preliminary Final and Loser eliminated.
c) Preliminary Final – Winner progresses to the Grand Final and Loser eliminated.

2.2.8 GRAND FINALS

a) The Grand finals for all grades shall be played on grounds of the team that won the qualifying final where their ground meets playing standard as determined by the Executive. The Grand finals for Community Cricket Divisions shall be played on the grounds of the team finishing higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season where their ground meets playing standards as determined by the Executive. If any ground does not meet the playing standard an alternative ground will be selected by the Executive. **Matches shall be played as per normal two day home & away games. (Refer Rule 2.2.3)**

b) Grand Final to be played on the fixtured Saturday and Sunday and play may continue on a third scheduled reserve day as per 2.1.8.2(a) only if necessary to achieve a first innings result at which time, play will be concluded and the match not to exceed 160 overs (Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions) or 144 overs (Community Cricket Divisions). Where a match has experienced significant delays, play may continue to a third day using scheduled reserve days assigned as per rule 2.1.8.2(a) only to achieve a first innings result.

c) In Community Cricket Divisions In the event of a result not being achieved by the completion of the play, being cancelled or not being able to commence or be completed for any reason including any scheduled reserve day as per 2.1.8.2 as deemed by the Executive, Governing body or Government direction, the match shall be considered drawn and the premiership awarded to the team (in this match) which finished higher on the ladder at the completion of the home and away matches. Should they be equal a dual or tied premiership is to be awarded.

d) In Premier Divisions in the event of a result not being achieved by the completion play, being cancelled or not being able to commence or be completed for any reason as deemed by the Executive, Governing body or Government direction, the match shall be considered drawn, and the premiership awarded to the winning team in the Qualifying final.

e) In Premier Reserve Division in the event of a result not being achieved by the completion play, being cancelled or not being able to commence or be completed for any reason as deemed by the Executive, Governing body or Government direction, the match shall be considered drawn, and the premiership awarded to the team (in this match) which finished higher on the ladder at the completion of the home and away matches as per rule 2.1.6. Should they be equal or dual on the ladder as per rule 2.1.6 a shared premiership is to be awarded.

f) Where available two umpires will officiate as appointed by the Umpires Appointment Officer.

g) Any scheduled reserve day for any 2-day grade shall only be utilised to complete the match where it has already commenced (20 overs being bowled on either the first or the second day of the match). The scheduled reserve day will not be used for any 2-day grade match to commence.

	Saturday	Sunday	Reserve Day	Result	
Scenario 1	No Play at all	No Play at all	Match cancelled	Draw - team highest as per rules wins	
Scenario 2	No Play at all	Full days play	Full days play	Normal result scenario	Fairly straight forward and once play commences (being 20 overs has been bowled normal rules appply as to who wins even if further rained out on the reserve day
Scenario 3	Full days play	No Play at all	Full days play	Normal result scenario	
Scenario 4	Min 20 overs bowled but full day not achieved	Team 1 continues batting for their allocated overs (unless all out). Second team do not receive their full overs and are not all out	Used to complete the match (1st innings only)	Normal result scenario	This is the classic scenario where we get interruptions and use the resevre day to complete the match. Remember 20 overs constitutes a match having started. This scenario works on the basis that one day loses overs thus we use the reserve day to complete the match
Scenario 5	Min 20 overs bowled but full day not achieved	Team 1 continues batting for their allocated overs (unless all out). Match interruped again on day 2 and team 2 does not get their allocated overs.	Used to complete the match (1st innings only)	Normal result scenario	
Scenrio 6	No Play at all	Min 20 overs bowled but full day not achieved	Used to complete the match (1st innings only)	Normal result scenario	

Premier Divisions Format –

1st Vs 2nd – Winner progresses to the Final and Loser to the Preliminary Final

3rd Vs 4th – Winner progresses to Preliminary Final and Loser eliminated.

Winner of Preliminary Final progresses to Final and Loser eliminated.

GENERAL RULES

3.1 GENERAL MATCH CONDITIONS

3.1.1 The last over must be completed on each day's play irrespective of wickets lost.

3.1.2 Six balls constitute an over, wides and no balls EXCLUDED.

3.1.3 On the first day of play in all matches the Captain must confirm with the umpires that the team is as per named in PlayHQ. for such match, prior to the toss of the coin. Where no official umpires officiate, Captains are to exchange a list of the team by sms at the time stated.

3.1.2 Match Reports

a. Both teams (Senior & Junior) must complete a match report on the competition management system after each match in which the club participated. Complete player details, individual scores and statistics, match results and extras must be entered by both teams by 8:00pm Monday.

b. The Competition Management System scorecard will be locked to further amendment from 8.00 pm Monday following the completion of the match. Late match reports will incur a **$50 fine after 8.00 pm Monday.** For matches scheduled on Sunday add 24 hours to these time limitations.

c. Any requests to unlock a match for further amendment may incur a $20 fine per match unlocked. Such request must include an image of the scorecard that is to be updated for validation once the update is complete. Any club causing a lockout will be fined $20.

d. In the case of a match being a FORFEIT then the winning team shall submit the match report by 8pm on the Monday following the game. The winning teams in the appropriate matches must submit Semi Final & Grand Final match reports.

e. Players cannot be named on more than one match report in any one round. Score books shall have the names of all players playing in the match, filled out in full in ink - i.e. not just players who have batted and bowled.

f. Should a disagreement occur during a match, an Executive Member of the Association can be contacted to adjudicate. Any decisions shall be acknowledged and adhered to by the participating sides.

g. Where a dispute occurs over the eligibility of players the Executive shall have the power to call up any evidence needed to settle the dispute. The Executive or Match Co-ordinator shall have the power to deduct match points or reverse the result should any irregularity be found. (Percentage and/or bonus points remain unaffected).

h. In the case of e, f or g, The Executive or Match Co-ordinator shall have the power to deduct match points or reverse the result should any irregularity be found. (Percentage and/or bonus points remain unaffected).

3.1.4 SUBSTITUTES

a) Substitutes shall be allowed by right to field for any player who during the match is incapacitated by illness or injury. **The consent of the umpire must be obtained** for the use of a substitute before any player is prevented from fielding for any other reason. A substitute must be a player registered with the association for the club.

b) **The opposing captain must be informed** of any intention to use a substitute at the time.

c) The opposing captain **shall have no right of objection** to any player acting as a substitute in the field, nor as to where they shall field, although the Captain may object to the substitute acting as wicketkeeper.

d) A substitute shall not be allowed to bat or bowl unless they qualify under the following guidelines:

(i) Any player who is injured whilst representing the FTGDCA, Region 8, Melba or any other match under the guidelines of the VCCL or pathways and is currently participating in an uncompleted match within the FTGDCA may be replaced by a substitute from within his club. Any player representing the VCCL at National Championships may also receive substitute rights with the approval of the match secretary. The substitute player may act as substitute even if participating in an uncompleted match and will have full batting, bowling and wicket keeping rights. If a player substitutes from another team within his club, thus creating a vacancy, further substitutes are permitted down the appropriate grades and they shall have full batting, bowling and wicket keeping rights. The captain of any team using a substitute under this rule must notify the applicable Match Co-ordinator by the Thursday prior to the days play and the umpire and opposing captain prior to commencement of the day's play. All players (including substitutes) shall be included on the match report.

3.1.5 At the conclusion of play the respective captains shall exchange scorebooks and endorse therein, the result of the day's play in circumstances where live scoring is not being conducted on the competition management system.

3.1.6 Should play on the **first day of any home & away match** be entirely prevented by adverse weather conditions, **any toss taken on the first day is void** and captain's shall toss again prior to commencement of play on the second day, however in finals matches the toss does not have to re-occur.

3.1.7 All players and officials to be off the playing area five minutes before the allocated time to start.

3.1.8 When opposing scorebooks do not agree, the umpire is to impound both scorebooks and hand to the Match Secretary of the Association. Where an umpire is not present for the match, the Captains are to notify the Match Secretary or President and follow the instructions provided to them to surrender the scorebooks. If both scorebooks agree on bowling and both scorebooks agree on batting but bowling and batting differ, **batting totals are to be agreed to.**

3.1.9 The Executive Committee shall have the power to alter the start and finish of any match it thinks fit and to vary the time to which the aforementioned penalties apply to accord with such altered times. Teams not ready to commence at the appointed time shall incur such penalties as the Executive may think fit, any fine not to exceed $25.00.

3.1.10 The toss of the coin to determine the batting and bowling sides must take place at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play. If a captain is not present by this time the other captain shall have the choice. (Laws of Cricket 12.4)

3.1.11 Teams not at fault in late starts shall have the option of requiring the offending team to make up lost time on that day. This decision is to be communicated to the opposing captain prior to the commencement of play following the tea break. No more than 15 minutes of lost time to be made up.

3.1.12 REFUSAL OR INABILITY TO PLAY

a) If play does not commence within 15 minutes of appointed times and the delay is due to the refusal or inability of one of the competing teams then the umpire shall, on appeal, declare the match lost by that team.

b) Teams forfeiting - Any club which is forced to forfeit a match for whatever reason shall do so in their lowest grade of (2 day grades) or (1 day grades).

c) Any club that fails to notify the Match Co-ordinator and the opposing club in accordance with the times defined below will be subject to the related fines and loss of match points:

Scenario	Notification Times	Fine	Loss of Premiership points
1	By Thursday 10:00pm	No fine	None
2	By Friday 9:00pm	$100	None
3	1 hour before play commences	$200	3
4	No notification and no show	$300	3

d) Should any club forfeit within a grade on 3 occasions, that club will be requested by the Match Coordinator to submit in writing within 3 days of the 3rd forfeit reasons why that team should not be removed from the grade.

e) Should any club that is hosting a game where the opposing club fails to advise of a forfeit as per scenario 3 and/or 4 as per the above table, the hosting club will be reimbursed an amount of 50% of the fine imposed from the association upon collection of the fine from the forfeiting club.

3.1.13 BOUNDARY CATCHES

A fieldsman in taking a catch near the boundary line must have both feet inside the boundary.

3.1.14 BATTING CREASE

On synthetic surfaces, the line forms the crease. Some part of the batsman must be grounded behind the line i.e. On the line is out. Clubs shall ensure correct marking of lines on the playing surfaces.

3.1.15 NO BALLS & WIDES (Either umpire may call a wide or no ball)

a) On synthetic surfaces a ball passing outside of the lines marked on the pitch shall be called a wide. The lines to be marked are a 100mm x 40mm white line on the batting crease 900mm from the centre stump to the outside of the line for off side wides.

Also mark a white line on the batting crease 600mm from the centre stump to the outside of the line for leg stump wides. A ball passes outside the lines (NOT OVER) on either side of the wicket shall be called a WIDE. This is to be adopted in all senior & junior grades.

b) On matting surfaces a ball pitched outside the width of matting or striking the space between the two mats or the adjacent bindings shall be called and signalled "no ball" by either umpire.

c) Wides and no balls to be included against the bowlers score.

The striker may hit a no ball and whatever runs result shall be added to his score.

Runs made otherwise from a no ball shall be scored as no balls.

d) The number of **leg side fieldsmen shall be restricted to five**, of which no more than two are to be behind the line of the popping crease at the instant of delivery by the bowler under penalty of "no ball."

e) Waist high No Balls – Umpires shall call a no ball to any ball delivered by a bowler and adjudicated to be above waist height. Should the umpire deem the ball to be dangerous (i.e. when a ball would have hit **ANY** part of the batsman above waist height), they shall further issue the bowler with a warning. Should a further dangerous delivery be delivered, the bowler shall receive a second and final warning and be removed from bowling in the innings immediately.

f) Short Balls – A maximum of two legal deliveries may be bowled in an over where the ball passes above the shoulder of the batsman standing upright at the popping crease. Any delivery which completely passes above the batsman standing upright at the popping crease will be called a wide. If a bowler bowls a third delivery that goes above shoulder height in the same over, the umpire shall call a No Ball.

3.1.16 ATTIRE - PLAYERS & UMPIRES

a) All players in competition matches must appear in correct cricketing attire. Any item of dress that may be deemed as inappropriate or offensive may be referred to the Executive. Spiked footwear is not to be worn.

b) Premier and Premier Reserve divisions/grades are to wear whites/creams in 2 day matches and use a red cricket ball

c) Coloured clothing must be used in Premier and Premier Reserve divisions/grades in one day matches and all players in the team must wear the same clothing (i.e. uniform). Coloured batting pads or coloured batting sleeves (covers) must be worn in one day matches and be the same colour of the pants being worn

d) Community Cricket divisions are to play all matches with a red ball and as such all players are to be attired in full whites/creams or coloured tops that have been approved by The Executive. White/cream batting pads must be worn. Where a team elects to play in coloured tops the entire team must wear the coloured top

e) Any clubs failing to adhere to 3.1.16 (a), (b), (c) and (d) will be fined $50 per instance.

f) The Executive Committee must approve all coloured clothing.

g) Wicket Keepers with external leg guards/pads must comply similarly with 3.1.16 (iii)

Any player officiating as an umpire **must be dressed in a** distinguishing garment worn above or below the waist**. Closed-toe footwear is compulsory - shorts may be worn.** A player must be 15 years and older in order to **officiate as a square leg umpire ONLY**.

h) Any player officiating as an umpire **must be dressed in a** distinguishing garment worn above or below the waist**. Closed-toe footwear is compulsory - shorts may be worn.** A player must be 15 years and older in order to **officiate as a square leg umpire ONLY**

3.1.17 SCORERS

Each team in Premier Divisions must provide a competent scorer for the entire match. The appointed umpire/s for that match are to confirm with the Captains prior to the match commencing that scorers are available.

3.1.18 Should a scorer not be available as per rule 3.1.17 a fine of $50 will be levied for each day of the match that a scorer was not made available. Umpires to notify the Secretary of breaches.

3.1.19 Validity of a Round

For a scheduled round to be declared valid in a particular grade, results (win, loss or tie) must be achieved in at least 50% of matches scheduled in that grade.

If results are achieved in fewer than 50% of matches in a grade, the entire round for that grade will be deemed cancelled and no match points will be awarded to any team.

Notwithstanding the above, where a result is achieved on the first day of a two-day match, that result will stand and the match will count towards the calculation of the 50% threshold.

Where a match has completed at least 20 overs, all team and player statistics from that match will be included in relevant averages, percentages and other statistical calculations, regardless of whether the round is subsequently declared cancelled.

3.2 PROTESTS – RESULT OF MATCHES

3.2.1 **All protests** must be **lodged** with the Secretary **via email by 8.00 pm on the Tuesday** following completion of the match**. Protests will not be received after this deadline. (Email – Secretary@ftgdca.com.au)**

3.2.2 Any penalty incurred by a club through a protest lodged during the final round shall apply to match on which the protest is lodged.

3.3 WET WEATHER & E X T R E M E W E A T H E R –

All updates regarding wet weather or extreme weather will be advised via the FTGDCA Facebook page

3.3.1 Senior Match wet weather sub committee

Each season a sub-committee will be appointed to monitor and manage wet weather conditions and make a determination on a match day if a round is to proceed or be called off.

The sub committee will be comprised of the Senior Match Secretary and 6 members from clubs affiliated in the FTGDCA

Each season the executive will appoint the 6 clubs that are required to fill a position on the sub committee

Each club appointed to be on the sub committee is required to nominate a person who will be serving in an executive role for that club in the coming season in one of the following roles:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- A 1st XI Captain or Club Coach may also be considered

The FTGDCA Executive cannot appoint any club to the sub-committee in consecutive years

The Senior Match wet weather sub-committee is responsible to work with and report to the Senior Match Coordinator and to assist in the following:

- Determining the availability of grounds where wet weather is a concern
- Determine the likelihood of grounds and games being able to commence due to the weather
- Where necessary and possible inspect grounds on the day of a match to determine their suitability for play to continue

As a sub-committee, make a decision on whether a round is to be called off due to wet weather or players are to report to grounds to play.

3.3.2 GROUNDS NOT FIT FOR PLAY

Any ground unfit for play due to any other reason other than wet weather i.e. Council works which involves first eleven match scheduling for this ground may be transferred to another venue and played on the same day. Notification of ground being unfit for play – Match Secretary to be advised by 8.00 pm Thursday prior to the game, failure to adhere to this rule, home club to forfeit in match concerned

3.3.3 Match Co-ordinator has the power to transfer any other match to a Sunday or other agreed day as required.

3.4 UMPIRES

3.4.1 Umpires appointed by the FTGDCA will be paid a fee decided at the FTGDCA AGM. Fee to be paid by the completion of afternoon tea each day.

	Payment per umpire		
Grades	Overs	1 umpire	2 umpires
Premier Divisions	80	220	180
Premier Reserve	80	220	180
Community Cricket	70	200	160
Womens T20	40	140	100
Womens One Day	50	160	120
Womens One Day	60	180	140
Womens One Day	70	200	160
Junior	50	110	100
Junior	40	90	80

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3.4.2 Umpires appointed to a game shall be paid a fee of $50 if less than 20 overs are bowled in a day or if a no play decision is given before 3.30pm. If a decision is to be made after 3:30 pm, the fee shall be increased to $100. If it has determined that a game is be commenced or continue after 3:30pm, the umpire fees will be the full fees as per 2.4.1. In Premier and Premier Reserve divisions where a one-day match has been approved to be played as a T20 match as per 2.2.1 (xi) then a full payment is to be made to the umpire.

3.4.3 Umpires appointed by the FTGDCA shall have the power to decide on conditions of play. Where no appointed umpire officiates, either captain may request a decision by an independent member of the Executive, whose decision shall be final

3.4.4 Any member of the Senior Executive may officiate at any game at any time they choose, provided they are not a member of either club.

3.4.5 Captains of all grades with an official umpire must complete a Captain's Report on umpires performance via the OfficialsHQ System. Such forms to be submitted by 8.00 pm on the Tuesday following the completion of each match. Failure to complete umpire reports on time will incur a fine of $25 per team.

3.4.6 All umpires are required to sign a conduct/performance agreement at the commencement of the season or prior to their first match umpiring. Any umpire that does not sign the agreement will not be eligible to be appointed to umpire a match.

3.4.7 Any umpire that is **proven** by the appointed Umpires Advisor/Executive **to have breached 3.4.6 shall either be** cautioned or removed from the umpire roster until corrective actions determined by the **Umpires Advisor**/Executive are executed.

3.5 CONDUCT

3.5.1 Consumption of intoxicating liquor in the vicinity of the ground during the hours of play and smoking on the field are strictly prohibited and offending players shall be dealt with by the Executive.

3.5.2 All club **Presidents and Captains of all grades must sign a Code of Conduct** agreement on their **club letterhead by 1st November** each year to acknowledge their understanding and compliance thereof. Failure to do so shall incur a fine of $200. The Captain may only be reported if they have either condoned or taken part in unruly behaviour by his/her players. If they have made all reasonable attempts to control his/her players it is the player or players who is liable for report.

3.6 CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

It is expected that all games be conducted in the true **spirit of the game of cricket**. Cricket is a game of skill associated with knowledge of the rules however skills and knowledge are only part of the pleasure to be derived from playing the game. Attitude and sportsmanship are vital ingredients. To achieve this, coaches, managers and captains are to adopt and enforce the following code of Behaviour.

a) That in-going and out-going batsmen cross on the field of play.
b) That bowlers return to the start of their run up quickly and are ready to bowl without wasting time.
c) Players are to maintain a standard of dress, commensurate with the game's traditions and team and individual equipment is to be serviceable and well maintained.
d) Players are to be encouraged to respect the umpires by accepting decisions without dissent, and if possible, to honestly assist umpires in the making of difficult decisions.

e) Co-operation with the opposing captain and both umpires in the "running" of the game, which includes preparation of the pitch and surrounds for play.

f) Thoroughly briefing their teams, spelling out what is expected of them in terms of behaviour, on and off the field.

g) All fieldsmen are to move quickly between overs and when required to change positions

h) The setting or changing of the field is to be undertaken without unnecessary time wasting

i) Courtesy is to be shown at all times to the umpires. Players must not dispute or react in a disapproving manner, either towards an umpire, his decision, or generally, after an umpiring decision is given. When given out a player must walk quickly from the crease, not indulge in ill-mannered tantrums.

j) Avoid making unnecessary and uncomplimentary remarks to opponents.

k) Remember that the visiting team and umpires are guests and should be treated such.

l) In making his report to the Association on umpires, the captain should be constructive, not influenced by a win or loss or a bad decision.

GOOD CRICKET IS AN ATTITUDE OF MIND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IS PART OF THE GAME OF CRICKET

3.7 FIRST AID

Each club shall have in their clubrooms each playing day a first aid kit for use by both teams.

3.7.1 HYGIENE

Drinks to be either served in cups/glasses or to be poured from the container by using the tap. No dipping of the hand with the glass/cup into the container to get a drink.

3.8 LAWS OF CRICKET

3.8.1 Except where inconsistent with the foregoing, all matches shall be played under the laws of cricket, as adopted by Cricket Victoria.

3.8.2 INTERPRETATION OF RULES

If any question arises which is not specifically provided for us in these rules, or if any question arises as to the interpretation of any rule, the option of the Executive Committee shall be taken and acted upon, and its decision shall be final.

3.8.3 APPROVAL BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules all players shall be and remain at all times subject to approval of the Executive Committee.

3.9 FTGDCA SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

All players, members and officials of clubs Affiliated with Ferntree Gully and District Cricket Association, along with the members of the FTGDCA executive, or those performing in a representative role with the association are expected to abide by the following policy.

Our Commitment

Using the internet and electronic or digital communication is essential for communicating with clubs, members [i]and the general public. We are committed to communication being appropriate and related to relevant business.

What We Will Do

When using technology we will ensure that volunteers/committee personnel' privacy is protected, clear boundaries are maintained and bullying and harassment does not occur.

Website, SMS, Emails, Facebook / Twitter /Instagram or other Social media platforms

Information on competitions, social events, committees, policies, constitution, rules and by-laws will be placed on our website.

- No offensive content or photos will be uploaded to our website, especially about social activities and events.
- The Media Officer will provide accountability and control over what goes onto our website and monitor Facebook and other social media pages.
- May be used to communicate business and sanctioned events and or promotions.
- Text communication should be short and about relevant matters
- No statements will be made that are misleading, false or likely to injure the reputation of another person.
- No statements will be made that might bring our sport into disrepute.

What We Ask Members to Do

All members are expected to use the internet and electronic communication appropriately, so think about what you want to say before you write it.

Remember, an Email, Facebook or Twitter (and any other form of electronic or digital media) is a written record of your thoughts on a matter and can be used against you later.

Communication (including photos, audio and video):

- Must not offend, intimidate, humiliate or bully any member/clubs/association
- Must not be misleading, false or injure the reputation of members/clubs/association
- Should seek to protect the privacy of members
- Must not bring the sport, member, club or association into disrepute

Non- Compliance

Any member or club found to have sent inappropriate electronic communication, uploaded inappropriate website content or engaged in blogs or discussions that harass, offend, intimidate or humiliate another member or club, may face disciplinary action as outlined in our rules and by-laws.

Cyber bullying (e.g., bullying that is carried out through an internet service such as email, a chat room, discussion group, instant messaging or web pages) under certain circumstances is a criminal offence that can be reported by victims to the police.

The Association, Member or Club can also initiate separate action where there has been a breach of this Policy.

Members publishing false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain (e.g. Facebook or websites) may be liable for defamation. “Member” means any Club, Official, Coach or Individual.

ADMINISTRATION - VETERANS COMPETITION

4.1 MANAGEMENT

4.1.1 A Chairman, a Match Secretary and four committee members shall be elected to form the FTGDCA subcommittee of the Veterans Section.

4.1.2 The Annual Meeting shall be held prior to the end of August. Clubs must notify the Match Secretary of their affiliation for the forth coming season 14 days prior to the meeting.

4.1.3 The Executive shall be responsible for all activities of the Veterans Section – the draw, match reports, ladders, registrations, publicity, disputes, finals and Inter-Association games.

4.1.4 Proposed rule changes for the Veterans Section must be notified to the Match Secretary 21 days prior to the Annual Meeting for circulation to all clubs. i.e. – by July 1st.

When any player is reported in the Veterans competition by an umpire or Executive Member (Senior or Veterans) such report is to be heard by the Senior Independent Tribunal under tribunal guidelines. Any player found guilty under these conditions shall be ineligible to play in any other FTGDCA affiliated grade and shall be de-registered for the term of the penalty imposed by the tribunal. To apply for re-registration a player must do so in accordance with rule **2.10.11** of the Senior Handbook.

4.2 QUALIFICATIONS & REGISTRATIONS

4.2.1 To be eligible to play in the FTGDCA Veterans competition a player must be over 40 years of age by the 1st March in the current playing season.

4.2.2 All players must be registered in Competition Management System before the current match results are entered as per Rule 4.4.

4.3 MEETINGS

Any club failing to attend Veterans Delegates Meetings shall incur a fine of $25.

4.4 MATCH REPORTS

All match reports (both teams) Must be entered and confirmed into Competition Management System by 9pm on the Tuesday evening following the game. Failure to forward such forms on time will incur a fine of $50.

4.5 GROUNDS

Grounds to be used and wicket surfaces must be approved by the delegates of the Veterans Section. In the event of a scheduled ground being unavailable for play, the two clubs or captains have the right to transfer the game to an alternative venue as approved by the Veterans Executive.

4.6 ATTIRE

In all matches players must wear white cricket attire consisting of white trousers with a white shirt or approved club playing shirt.

4.7 TRANSFERS

4.7.1 Players transferring from a club prior to the commencement of the season must be noted on the block registration of the NEW club.

4.7.2 A player seeking a Transfer during the season must complete a standard association Transfer form. Such Transfer shall be endorsed by the Veterans Executive.

4.8 PLAYING RULES

4.8.1 Play to start at 12.30 pm.

4.8.2 A maximum of 36 overs shall be bowled by either team

4.8.3 Afternoon tea shall be taken for a period of 20 minutes at the completion of the 36th over or the batting team being dismissed

4.8.4 The match is concluded when a first innings result is achieved.

4.8.5 **HEAT POLICY -** On the playing day of all Veterans matches – **to reflect the FTGDCA Heat Policy**

4.8.6 **Playing Rules** – Shortened formats

- 4.8.6.1 Play to start at 12:30pm or earlier if both teams agree
- 4.8.6.2 A maximum of 24 overs shall be bowled by either team
- 4.8.6.3 Afternoon tea shall be taken for a period of 20 minutes at the completion of the 24th over or the batting team being dismissed
- 4.8.6.4 The match is concluded when a first innings result is achieved

4.8.7 Team Sheets – 13 players can be named on the team sheet and on Competition Management System however only 11 are permitted to bat in each innings. All players named are permitted to bowl.

4.9 RESTRICTIONS

4.9.1 Bowlers will be restricted to six (6) overs each. A ball rising above shoulder height at the batsman's normal stance is deemed a no-ball. The bowler will receive a first and final warning. Any further deliveries of this nature will see the bowler removed from bowling for the remainder of the game. The over to be completed by another player if required.

4.9.2 Batsmen are to retire when they reach their 50th run and cannot bat again. Wickets lost by compulsory retirement deemed retired not out.

4.9.3 If more than 15 minutes is lost due to inclement weather during either innings and no decision by 7.00 pm, the game shall be drawn.

4.9.4 Restrictions – shortened format

4.9.4.1 Bowlers will be restricted to four (4) overs each. A ball rising above shoulder height at the batsman's normal stance is deemed a no-ball. The bowler will receive a first and final warning. Any further deliveries of this nature will see the bowler removed from bowling for the remainder of the game. The over to be completed by another player if required.

4.9.4.2 Batsmen are to retire when they reach their 30th run and cannot bat again. Wickets lost by compulsory retirement deemed retired not out.

4.9.4.3 If more than 15 minutes is lost due to inclement weather during either innings and no decision by 7.00 pm, the game shall be drawn.

4.10 MATCH POINTS

4.10.1 Match points to be awarded as follows

Innings Win	6 points
Cancelled Game	3 points
Tied or Drawn Game	3 points
Team with Bye	2 points
Team receiving forfeit or second bye	Maximum points achieved that round

4.10.2 Any team withdrawing after commencement of the season will create a bye. In the event of an existing bye, a match shall be scheduled between the two remaining teams

4.10.3 Any team receiving a forfeit must submit a match report listing twelve players which shall be accepted as a qualifying game.

4.11 QUALIFICATION – PLAYER & FINALS

4.11.1 To qualify for a final a player must have played in three (3) matches of the Veterans Competition in which his club has participated during the home and away matches. In the event of a player participating with another club, that game shall count as a qualifying match. Such player's name and club to be listed on the match report form. In the event of a club having two teams in the Veterans Section a player having played in more than half the games in a higher grade in which the club has participated shall not be allowed to transfer to the lower grade unless such transfer is approved by the Executive.

NOTE: Games played in lower grades qualify for higher grade finals.

Players who have been suspended by the FTGDCA or another competition are ineligible to participate until their suspension has been completed.

4.12 UMPIRES

Each team must provide a senior person to umpire for the duration of the game

5 Women's Cricket Administration

The Laws of Cricket and the FTGDCA Senior Rules and Playing Arrangements, except as varied herein, will apply.

5.1 Players

5.1.1 Number of players

To strengthen participation a team may consist of fourteen (14) players in any match.

a) All fourteen (14) may play as batters and bowlers. Only eleven (11) players may take to the field at any one time. Providing there is no earlier termination the loss of ten (10) wickets will constitute the end of an innings.
b) Fielding: All players can be rotated on and off the field.
c) Free interchange of players between the 2 teams playing each other is permitted
INTERCHANGE PLAYERS MUST BE REGISTERED AT ONE OF THE 2 CLUBS PLAYING EACH OTHER

5.1.2 Cricket Attire

All players must appear on the field in proper cricket attire which for women should be approved coloured clothing, with matching-coloured pads, and use a white ball. Thigh pads must be worn inside the players pants. White pants cannot be worn while using a white ball. Black leggings may be worn in lieu of cricket trousers.

Where a grade is designated as "Entry Level" by the executive; white pads can be used in this grade only when no better options available.

Shorts are not permitted in any grade.

Umpires will advise the Executive of players contravening this rule as stated above, who will, on a first occasion, be warned and, if a further breach of this rule occurs, will be dealt with by the Executive, which may impose a fine or penalty.

No player will wear boots or shoes equipped with studs, spikes, sprigs, or projections made of metal or hard plastic which could damage the surface when playing on synthetic wickets. The penalty for non-compliance with this rule will be the offending player will not be permitted to participate in the match until this rule has been complied with.

5.1.3 Helmets:

a) Players under the age of 18 must wear a helmet when batting at all times.
b) Players under the age of 16 must wear a helmet when wicket keeping at all times.

5.2 QUALIFICATION - PLAYER & FINALS

5.2.1 Qualifications for Finals in the Women's competition will be as per rule 1.11 with the following exception:

a) A Player must play a 3rd of fixtured games in the FTGDCA Women's competition in a season.
b) Permission for interchange players in the final's series, must be applied for to the Women's Coordinator prior to 8.00pm on the Friday before the match.

5.3 Game formats

5.3.1 20/20 (T20) Matches

Women's T20 matches will be played under the same conditions as rule 2.2.5. with the following modifications:

a) Start times will be as published in the Competition Management System.
b) There will not be a free hit for a no ball.
c) There will be an interval of 20 minutes between each innings.
d) A drinks interval will be permitted after 10 overs of each innings for no more than 5 minutes.
e) An individual player may be given a drink either on the boundary edge or at the fall of a wicket, on the field, provided that no playing time is wasted. No other drinks will be taken onto the field without the permission of the umpires.
f) Batters retire as soon as they make 50 runs (not the end of the over). RETIRED NOT OUT is the scorebook entry. A batter shall compulsorily retire immediately upon the ball becoming dead, after the scoring shot when their individual score reached or passes 50 runs.
g) When all available players in the team have batted, RETIRED NOT OUT batters may return if all other wickets have fallen in order of retirement and bat until dismissed or until the close of the innings.

5.3.2 One day Matches

Women's One day matches will be played under the same conditions as 2.2.4.1 with the following modifications:

a) Five (5) overs to be bowled at each end before changing ends, batters change ends at the end of each over except every fifth over as bowling will commence from the opposite end. Umpires may change positions at the same time as the bowler.
b) Matches may be scheduled for less than 35 overs (Eg 30 or 25 overs) in this case:
    1) 30 over matches – bowlers may not bowl more than 6 overs
    2) 25 over matches - Bowlers may not Bowl more than 5 overs
    3) Other formats – bowlers may not bowl more than one 5th of the scheduled overs for the innings
c) If a team is dismissed in less than their allotted overs, the opposition is only entitled to bat a maximum of overs scheduled for an innings.
d) There is no compulsory retirement of batters in the top Grade in One-day matches.
(e) In all other grades a batter must retire upon reaching a score of 100 runs. The retired batter will be considered 'not out'. If all named team members present at the ground and able to bat have batted, retired batters may return. A batter shall compulsorily retire immediately upon the ball becoming dead, after the scoring shot when their individual score reached or passes 100 runs.
(f) When all available players in the team have batted, RETIRED NOT OUT batters may return if all other wickets have fallen in order of retirement and bat until dismissed or until the close of the innings.

5.4 Playing Conditions

5.4.1 Grounds

Grounds with a permanent boundary feature (i.e. fence, gutter etc.) must have the boundary marking defined inside of such feature not less than 2.74m from the inside edge. The Boundary for Women's Cricket should not exceed 50m measured from the position of the middle of the stumps.

No player is permitted to field within 10 meters of the Batter unless fielding in Slips, Gully or Wicket keeping.

5.4.2 Extreme Weather

FTGDCA Senior extreme weather policy applies

5.4.3 Number of balls per over

In any format of women's cricket a maximum of 8 balls in total can be bowled in any one over except for the last over of the innings where 6 legal balls must be bowled.

6. CONDUCT, REPORTING, CAUTIONS AND TRIBUNAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

The Principles of Natural Justice

(Also called Procedural Fairness):

The respondent/s should receive notice of and know the nature of the accusation made against him or her.

The respondent should be given sufficient opportunity to prepare their case.

The respondent should be given the opportunity to state their case.

The body hearing the case should act in good faith and without bias.

A respondent therefore is entitled to a full and fair notification of the charge and a reasonable opportunity to prepare and present a defence to an independent unbiased tribunal.

CONDUCT OF PLAYERS, OFFICIALS AND CLUB MEMBERS

6.1 Reports

6.1.1 The Tribunal shall adjudicate upon all matters of misbehaviour reported to it by Officials of the Association, Umpires, or club officials, that arise out of Association matches or events.

6.1.2 The Tribunal shall also adjudicate upon matters brought before it by the Association Executive Board or Investigation Officer, such matters shall not be subject to part (6.1.3) of this rule.

6.1.3 Any report of players, officials or club members shall be made in writing on the prescribed form (Report Form). The Association Secretary must be advised of the report by the person bringing the report – by phone, text message or email - within 4 hours of the end of days play in which the incident took place. The original is to then be forwarded to the Association Secretary to reach them within 24 hours of the day of the event from which the report came.

6.1.4 A copy of the report must be provided to the secretary or other official of the players reported club by the Association Secretary within 24 hours of receipt of the original being received by the Association Secretary.

6.1.5 The association secretary or association tribunal secretary shall then arrange a tribunal hearing as soon as possible and advise all persons or clubs of such hearing that they may be required to attend. The club of the player/person reported is then required to lodge a $500 bond with the association. If the reported player/person is found not guilty then the bond will be refunded in full.

6.1.6 Unless an appeal is lodged under rule 6.4, the decision of the Tribunal is final.

6.2 Minor Misbehaviour (Cautions)

6.2.1 Umpires May Caution. -
Where an Umpire has occasion to speak to a person/player about their behaviour but does not consider the persons behaviour to warrant a report the Umpire shall caution the person.

6.2.2 Umpires Advice of and Lodgement of Record of a Caution.
Where an Umpire cautions a person/player, the Umpire shall inform the cautioned person and Captain at the time of such caution and advise that the caution will be officially recorded with the Association. An Umpire shall note a caution on a 'Caution Form 'and forward it to the Association Secretary to reach them no later than 48 hours following the act/incident from which the caution came.

6.2.3 Person/player Three Times Cautioned to be Charged.
Should a Person/player have three (3) accumulated cautions recorded with the Association, then the Association Secretary shall:

(a) cause the Association to lay a charge against the cautioned person for misbehaviour or bringing the game of cricket and/or the Association into disrepute.

(b) cause the Club of the reported person to be notified that a charge has been laid against the reported person.

(c) advise the Club as in (ii) above of the hearing of the charge as in rule 6.1.5.

6.2.4 Cautioned Player/Person May Elect to Forego Hearing and Accept Suspension.
A player/person against whom a charge has been brought as the result of being cautioned three times may elect to have the charge determined without a hearing by the FTGDCA Tribunal and accept a penalty of suspension from playing in one FTGDCA match.

6.2.5 Election of Suspension Procedure.
If the one FTGDCA match penalty is accepted, the Association Secretary must be notified in writing by the offending players club not later than 4.00pm on the day after the Association has notified the cautioned player or club that the charge has been laid.

6.2.6 Umpire/s or Association or Association Secretary May Disallow Election of Suspension.
If any of the cautioning Umpires or the Association or Association Secretary consider that the circumstances of the caution or cautions warrant a hearing of the charge, the Association Secretary shall disallow an election by a charged person to accept suspension under Rule 6.2.4

6.2.7 Hearing of the Charge if Election Disallowed or Election Not Lodged in Time.
If the Election of suspension is disallowed or Election of suspension is not lodged in time the FTGDCA Tribunal shall hear and determine the charge as if it had been laid pursuant to Rule 6.1 Reports.

6.2.8 Where the word Umpire appears in this rule 6.2 items 6.2.1 to 6.2.8 inclusive it may be replaced with any Association Officials who may make Cautions like an Umpire.

6.3 Tribunal Procedures

Disciplinary hearings should be based on the principles of natural justice which stipulate that an accused party is entitled to a full and fair notification of the charge, and a reasonable opportunity to prepare and present a defence to an unbiased tribunal.

(a) Well in advance of the hearing, all Complainant and Defending Party(s) should receive a copy of this Order of Proceedings, together with a copy of the report/charge as it will be presented at the hearing, and notification of the date and time of the hearing.

(b) The Complainant and Defending Party(s) should each be entitled to one advocate.

(c) Tribunals are not bound by the rules of evidence but should endeavour to ensure that all relevant evidence is heard and that all irrelevant evidence is not acted upon.

(d) The Tribunal shall sit at such venue as is arranged by the Association or Tribunal Secretary and the obligation to ascertain the venue shall be on the charged player or official.

(e) The Tribunal Secretary shall be permitted to sit with the Tribunal; however, they shall not constitute or be deemed to be a member of the Tribunal.

(f) This order of proceedings is indicative only. The Tribunal (Chairman) may decide to modify the order to suit the circumstances of the case, provided that the natural justice principles are preserved.

(g)

(i) Any person, player or official charged shall be entitled to be represented by an advocate. Such advocate must be either a delegate or official of the club to which the charged party is a member but shall in no case be an active or serving Barrister, Solicitor or Member of the legal profession or a police officer.

(ii) Any umpire or official bringing a charge shall be entitled to be represented by an advocate who shall not be an acting or serving Barrister, Solicitor or Member of the legal profession or a police officer.

(iii) The advocate shall be permitted all privileges afforded to the umpire/official in the course of a Tribunal hearing.

6.3.1 Order of Proceedings:

(a) Confirm report/charge details and that Complainant and Defending Party are present.

(b) Explain the procedure and confirm that all parties have received a copy of this Order of Proceedings.

(c) State expectation of integrity/truth of evidence.

(d) Ask if there is any objection to the hearing now proceeding. If an objection is received then the Tribunal must determine it first and decide upon the appropriate course of action (e.g.: continuation, adjournment etc.). The objection and the determination must be recorded.

(e) Read report/charge.

(f) Ask the Defending Party whether they were fully aware of the details of the charge/ report, and whether he/they considered that they had sufficient opportunity to prepare.

(g) Ask Defending Party whether report/charge is admitted or denied.

(h) Ask Complainant whether they propose to call witnesses, and if so, the names of the witnesses.

(i) Ask the Defending Party whether he/they propose to call witnesses, and if so, the names of the witnesses.

(j) Ask all witnesses to leave the room.

(k) Ask Complainant to give an account of the circumstances of the charge/report .

(l) Invite Defending Party to question Complainant about the account.

(m) All Tribunal members interview Complainant.

(n) Any witnesses (except character witnesses) supporting the Complainant are admitted and interviewed one-by-one. The Complainant may lead the witness by using questions. Once admitted, a witness is permitted to remain.

(o) Invite the Defending Party to ask questions of any witness.

(p) Ask the Defending Party to give an account of the circumstances of the charge/report.

(q) Invite Complainant to question Defending Party about the account.

(r) All Tribunal members interview Defending Party.

(s) Any witnesses supporting the Defending Party are admitted and interviewed one-by- one.

- The Defending Party may lead the witness by using questions.
- Once admitted, a witness is permitted to remain.

(t) Invite Complainant to ask questions of any witness.

(u) Chairman addresses all present along the following lines: “In order to satisfy the principles of natural justice at this hearing, and to assist the Tribunal, each party must have the opportunity to present any relevant evidence and to ask questions of any party or witness.”

(v) Invite each party in turn to ask any additional questions or present any additional evidence.

(w) Invite Complainant to summarize the case.

(x) Invite Defending Party to summarize the case.

6.3.2 SIGNING OF DOCUMENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF A FAIR HEARING.

(a) Each party in turn is asked if they are satisfied that the Tribunal has been conducted in accordance with the appropriate Association rules, and that they have been given a fair and reasonable opportunity to present their case.

- All parties may be asked to sign a document attesting to their satisfaction with the above points.
- Such a document should be countersigned by the Chairman and Minute Secretary.
- Should any party refuse to sign, such party must declare in writing on the form why this is the case.

(b) All persons except Tribunal members leave the room.

(c) Tribunal members determine whether the charge/report is proved. At any stage the Tribunal may re-summon all parties to ask any additional questions or to clarify any points.

(d) If the charge/report is found proved, the Minute Secretary provides the Tribunal members with details of any previous penalties incurred by the Defending Party.

(e) The Complainant and Defending Party are asked to return to the room, and the decision is announced.

(f) If the charge/report has been found proved, the Defending Party may plea with respect to penalty and may call any character witnesses.

(g) All persons except Tribunal members and Minute Secretary leave the room.

6.3.4 RECORDING OF DETERMINATION AND PENALTY

(a) Tribunal members determine the penalty. Such findings and penalties shall be recorded and signed by all members of the Tribunal.

- Any penalty/s imposed shall be defined by a date/s as to when such penalty/s shall cease.
- If a fine is part of a penalty or is the penalty such fine shall be paid to the Association within twenty-eight (28) days unless the tribunal places a lesser period of time upon any imposed penalty.

(b) The Complainant and Defending Party are asked to return to the room, and the penalty is announced.

(c) All persons except Tribunal members and Minute Secretary leave.

(d) The Minute Secretary records the formal finding of the Tribunal.

(e) The Minute Secretary conveys the findings to the Convening Authority.

6.3.5 UNSATISFACTORY EVIDENCE

Any witness who in the opinion of the Tribunal gives unsatisfactory evidence may be charged by the Chairman of the Tribunal and informed that he may be dealt with by them, then and there or they may have the opportunity of an adjournment to the next sitting of the tribunal to prepare a defence.

6.3.6 INABILITY TO ATTEND TRIBUNAL

If a player or official has been reported, and such person is unable to attend the Tribunal for any reason which shall be in the opinion of the Association Secretary sufficient grounds to postpone the sitting of the Tribunal, such player or official shall notify the Association Secretary of his inability to attend, not later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled hearing time. Such player or official shall be de-registered and shall be ineligible to play in any game or participate in any official capacity until such time as he does appear before the Tribunal. Postponement shall be until the next normal sitting of the Tribunal. If he fails to appear at the next sitting, the following action may take place: -

(a) The Tribunal may apply any penalty it may decide regarding the reported person's nonattendance; this may include a fine upon the club to whom such reported player is registered.

(b) The Tribunal shall also be entitled to hear the charge in his absence and upon him being proven guilty shall be entitled to apply such penalty as they deem warranted.

(c) If for any reason whatsoever the tribunal is unable to sit, the next sitting shall be determined by the Tribunal Secretary or Association Secretary. Any player charged and who would have been required to appear before the tribunal shall be eligible to play any games that commence prior to the sitting of the reconstituted tribunal.

6.4 APPEALS

The FTGDCA shall, through the VCCL Region 8 appeals, allow for an appeal against decisions of the Tribunal and/or Executive Committee decision. Any appeal against a decision of the Tribunal and/or Executive Committee must: -

6.4.1 Be in writing (email), stating the reasons for appeal and be signed by the appealing individual or if club, then club President or Secretary.

6.4.2 Be forwarded to both the Association Secretary and VCCL Region 8 Secretary within 48 hours of the date of the event from which the appeal arises.

6.4.3 Be lodged with a declaration that the appealing party shall accept the decision of the appeal hearing and shall take no further action.

6.4.4 Be accompanied by an appeal fee of $1,000.00 by way of direct bank deposit to the FTGDCA. $500.00 is a non-refundable fee for the lodgement of the appeal, and $500.00 is held as a bond, refundable only if the appealing player/person is successful in their appeal.

6.4.5 The appeal shall be heard at a time and place as advised by the VCCL Region 8 Secretary through the Association Secretary within fourteen (14) days of lodgement.

6.4.6 On lodgement of an appeal and only following advice from the Association any player/s who lodged an appeal shall be allowed to participate in any match/es that commence after lodging the appeal, but before it has been determined. Should the appeal then be lost/dismissed/withdrawn, or the player/s/person/s or club not attend the appeal hearing then any match/es in which the player/s participates shall be forfeited by that club, as shall the total appeal fee.

6.4.7 Should for whatever reason/s the appeal fee does not cover the cost incurred of any appeal hearing such costs, these costs must be borne by the appealing club and must be paid prior to any further match participation by that club.

6.4.8 The decision of the appeal hearing shall be final.

6.5 Conduct

Any registered player or official of a club disputing the decision of an umpire or using abusive, threatening or insulting language during the progress of the game or within or without the enclosure on the day of the match shall be dealt with as the Executive shall think fit.

6.5.1 In the event where a club elects to report an incident, the initial notification of the complaint from an executive member of the club needs to provide a brief outline of the incident and a specific request for an investigation to be conducted. The notification must be received by the Association Secretary by no later than 8pm on the Monday following the incident. A further 5 days will be provided to the club lodging the complaint to produce sufficient and detailed evidence/statements to support their complaint.

(a) Any club lodging a complaint and requesting an Association investigation to occur, must also lodge a $250 bond to be paid by bank transfer to the Association. No investigation will be conducted prior to the bond payment being made.

(b) Upon receipt of the bond the Executive will notify the club requesting the investigation and the Secretary of any other club named in the request that an investigation will be occurring and provide the nature of the complaint lodged

(c) Upon receipt of the bond and any supporting evidence by the club making the incident report, the Association Tribunal Secretary will appoint an Investigation Officer and direct that person to conduct the investigation. The Tribunal Secretary will also advise officials of any club involved in the complaint of the name of the Investigations Officer who has been appointed.

(d) The Investigations Officer is to conclude the investigation and report back to the Executive within a 21-day time frame commencing from the date of their appointment as per 6.5.1(c)

(e) Should the complaint not be upheld the club lodging the complaint will not have their bond refunded. Should the complaint be upheld the club lodging the complaint will have the bond refunded.

6.5.2 In the event where the Executive decides that an incident that is not as a result of a club complaint should be investigated, the Association Secretary will notify the club/s involved via email.

(a) The Association Tribunal Secretary will appoint an Investigation Officer and direct that person to conduct the investigation. The Tribunal Secretary will also advise officials of any club involved in the complaint of the name of the Investigations Officer who has been appointed.

(b) The Investigations Officer is to conclude the investigation and report back to the Executive within a 21-day time frame commencing from the date of their appointment as per 6.5.2(a)

(c) Should additional time be required to complete the investigation, the Secretary shall consult 3 independent club Presidents in order to obtain a further 14 days (maximum) to complete the investigation. Majority vote from the Presidents is required for extension of time.

6.5.3 In the event of any investigation conducted under the rules of 6.5.1 or 6.5.2, the Investigation Officer will provide a report back to the Executive and may elect to:

- Recommend a fine or good behaviour bond on a club/s or player/s
- Recommend penalising e a club by removing match points from that club or a specific team involved in the investigation.
- Recommend reporting any player/official and send the matter to a Tribunal as per rule 6.1
- Recommend that no further action is possible or be taken
- Any other recommendation that the Investigations Officer sees fit

6.6 Role of the investigation officer

Any person or persons appointed by the Association Executive to fulfil the role as an Investigation Officer, has the authority of the Executive to:

- Interview Players, Coaches, Club Officials or Witnesses to an incident
- Interview any match officials (Umpires and Scorers)
- Call any/all parties to an interview to deal with the matter.
- Request written statements for any Player, Coach, Club Official or witness.
- Request an affidavit from any Player, Coach, Club Official or witness.
- Request access to any digital media that may be available that will assist in investigating the matter
- Request any other evidence that would be relevant to the investigation.

6.6.1 Failure to Comply with an Investigation Officer

Should any party fail or refuse to comply or cooperate with the appointed Investigations Officer/s, the Investigation Officer/s will notify the Tribunal Secretary. At this stage the Executive will be notified by the Tribunal Secretary.

The Executive will then seek an explanation from the individual and their club as to the reasons why they are not complying or co-operating. Should the explanation not be satisfactory the Executive reserves the right to suspend the investigation and refer the matter directly to a tribunal.