



FOOTBALL BY LAWS



2026

***AIC BY LAWS ARE DEVELOPED IN ADDITION TO
THOSE OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL
GOVERNING BODY, EXCEPT STATED OTHERWISE.
THE BY LAWS ARE REVISED ANNUALLY.***

AIC FOOTBALL BY LAWS 2026

RULES PERTAINING TO ALL TEAMS

Clause 1 GRADES

- (a) The Association will cater for as many grades as practically possible from years 5-Open.
- (b) The follow grades will count for the Football Aggregate competition:
1st XI, 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI, 10A, 10B, 9A, 9B, 8A, 8B, 7A, 7B.

Clause 2 COMPETITION POINTS

Win = 3 Loss = 0 Washout/Draw = 1

Clause 3: SELECTION OF TEAMS AND RESTRICTIONS ON PLAYERS

- a) Colleges shall select players of a higher graded team before selecting those of lower graded teams, whether the higher grades are engaged or not.
- b) Players selected in a team on a given day and round of fixtures may not take the field for any other team on that day. The only exception to this is if he is acting as a substituted player in the 1st XI.

Clause 4: SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) 1st XI teams shall be permitted five (5) substitutions. These substitutions are permitted in 3 'substitution windows' (per team) during play. A substitution at halftime DOES NOT count as a 'substitution window' used but the referee must still be notified. A player who has been substituted shall not take any further part in that game. Substitutions are allowed prior to the commencement of the game with notification to referee and opposing school and will not count as a 'substitution window' being used.
- b) 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI and all teams within Years 5-10, unlimited interchange shall be permitted.

Clause 5: MATCH TIMES

The following schedule shall apply where possible**

Home Football Schedule

Time	Field 1	Time	Field 2	Field 3
7:30am/8:00am	9A	7:30am/8:00am	10B	9C
8.40am/9:10am	10A	8:30am/9:00am	9B	9D
9.50am/10:20am	2 nd XI	9:30am/10:00am	4 th XI	10C
11.00am/11:30am	1 st XI	10:30am/11:00am	5 th XI	10D
12.45pm/1:15pm	3 rd XI	11:30am/12:00 midday	6 th XI	

**Schedules may vary pending host College facilities

Away Football Schedule

Time	Field 1	Field 2	Time	Field 3	
				3A	3B
7:30am/8:00am	7A	8B	7:30am/8:00am	5A	6A
8:30am/9:00am	8A	7B	8:20am/8:50am	5B	6B
9:30am/10:00am	8C	7C	9:10am/9:40am	5C	6C
10:30am/11:00am	8D	7D	10:00am/10:30am	5D	6D

**Schedules may vary pending host College facilities

All other lower grade matches are to be scheduled around the existing schedules above. Variations to the above schedule are only made when BOTH schools mutually agree to do so.

Clause 6: FORMAT OF MATCHES

- a) 1st XI = 40 minutes each way
- 2nd XI/3rd XI/10A/9A = 30 minutes each way
- All other Year 7-Open Fixtures = 25 minutes each way
- All Year 5 & 6 games = 20 minutes each way
- b) In all cases, half time shall be five minutes.
- c) Injury time shall be allowed for in 1st XI matches only.

Clause 7: MATCH VENUES

- i. The home schedule shall apply to the first mentioned College within the AIC draw. The away schedule will be used for all Year 5-8 matches.
- ii. Ground markings and corner flags must comply with the laws of the game. Nets must be provided. All teams from Year 7-12 will play on a full sized field or a field as close as possible to a full sized field.
- iii. Sufficient provision shall be made in all grades to keep spectators at a safe distance from touchlines or outside enclosed grounds.

Clause 8: OFFICIALS

- i. Football Queensland will appoint a referee only for the 3rd XI//10A/B, 9A/B, 8A/B, 7A/B fixtures.
- ii. Football Queensland will appoint a referee and 2 x assistant referees for the 1st XI/2nd XI.
- iii. Home Colleges shall provide qualified referees for other grades.
- iv. In the event of the nominated official referee not being in attendance ten minutes after the scheduled commencement time, Heads of Sport or Coordinators may mutually agree on the provision of a qualified referee or official. If no qualified referee or official is available, there must be a mutual agreement on the provision of an unqualified official.
- v. The host school is responsible for the payments of all referees and lines persons used for that round of matches.

Clause 9: BALLS

Both teams shall supply a regulation size ball for each match as stated below:

- a) All Year 5 & 6 teams to use a regulation size 4 ball
- b) All Year 7 teams and above shall use a regulation size 5 ball
- c) The 1st XI matches will use a "Mitre Delta Evo" match ball

Clause 10: UNIFORM

- a) In all grades, a player's dress of shorts, shirt or jersey and socks shall conform to the colours of his College. 1st XI players shall wear numbers. Wherever possible, other grades shall also wear numbers.
- b) Goalkeepers shall wear shirts or jerseys which distinguish them from the other players on both teams and the referee.
- c) When a clash of colours between team is likely, the 'away' team shall wear an alternative strip.

Clause 11: MISCONDUCT

All incidents that result in a Red Card (send-off) must be notified to the AIC EO by 3pm the following Monday. Players that are sent off will automatically receive a one week suspension, unless otherwise held up via the appeals process. Appeals are to be submitted in writing to the EO within 2 working days and cited by an independent judiciary. The independent judiciary will be made of 3 people as directed by the Management Committee.

Clause 12: HOSPITALITY

Post-match functions will be a brief on-field exchange of refreshment and speeches.

Clause 13: WEATHER

A decision regarding the possibility of play shall be made by the Head of Sport from the home College on the morning of the scheduled matches. Colleges are responsible for notifying their own players of cancelled games.

Clause 14: MEDICAL

First aid staff with a minimum qualification of Basic Life Support must be present at all fixtures. The first aid officers must be accessible and in close proximity to all ovals.

OTHER RULES PERTAINING TO YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 FOOTBALL 2026

(These rules are pursuant to FFA rules for 9-a-side)

Clause 1: SELECTION OF TEAMS AND RESTRICTIONS ON PLAYERS

Teams shall consist of nine (9) players: eight (8) outfield players and one goalkeeper.

Clause 2: SUBSTITUTIONS

A team shall consist of no more than 13 players - made up of one goalkeeper, 8 outfielders and 4 substitutions (maximum). Unlimited interchange is permitted. Changes should take place when the ball is out of play.

Clause 3: FORMAT OF MATCHES

- 1) Matches shall be played on a half size regulated field:
Length = 60m - 70m
Width = 40m - 50m

- 2) Games shall be 2 x 20 minute halves with no additional time added. All games should have a five (5) minute half time break.

Clause 4: BALLS

All games will use a size 4 regulated ball.

Clause 5: MATERIALS

- i. The goal size shall be five (5) metres wide and two (2) high.
- ii. The penalty area shall be rectangle – 10m deep x 20m wide

Clause 6: OFFICIALS AND COACHES

Only the referee is allowed to enter the field of play while the game is in progress. Coaches must remain off the pitch on the sidelines.

Clause 7: GOALKEEPERS

The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet within 6 seconds. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or drop kick the ball directly from their hands. Opponents must be at least 5m outside the penalty area and cannot move inside the penalty area until the ball is in play. The ball is in play once it moves out of the penalty area or the goalkeeper places the ball on the ground. An indirect free kick is awarded if the goalkeeper touches the ball with their hands after it has been deliberately kicked to them by a team-mate.

Clause 8: OFFSIDE

There is no offside, however, attacking players should be discouraged from permanently and/or persistently standing in blatant offside positions. The player should be warned by the referee and asked to move. If the player persists an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposition.

Clause 8: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent

- trips or attempts to trip an opponent

- jumps at an opponent; • charges at an opponent

- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent

- pushes an opponent

- tackles an opponent from behind to gain possession of the ball

- makes contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately
- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of a player

Indirect free kicks are awarded for all acts of handball or fouls and misconduct. Opponents must be at least 5 metres away from the ball when the indirect free kick is taken. (An indirect free kick is where a goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal).

For deliberate or serious acts of handball or fouls and misconduct in the penalty area, a penalty kick is awarded from an 8m penalty mark with only a goalkeeper in position. All other players must be outside the penalty area and be at least 5 metres behind the penalty mark.

Clause 9: TACKLING

Slide tackling is permitted. However, slide tackling and tackling from behind to gain possession is not permitted.

Clause 10: OTHER RULES - GENERAL

Start of play and restart after goal:

Pass in any direction to a team mate from the middle of the half way line. All players must be in their own half of the field of play. Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball until it is in play. The ball must touch a team-mate before a goal can be scored and before the kicker may touch the ball again

Ball Crossing the touch line:

Throw in: player faces the field of play; part of each foot either on or behind the touch lines uses both hands and delivers the ball from behind and over his head. The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player - a free kick is awarded if this happens. Opponents must be 5m away from the ball. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw in. Two attempts at a throw in should be permitted.

Ball Crossing the goal line after touching the defending team last:

Corner kick: a player from the attacking team places the ball inside the corner arc nearest to the point where the ball crossed the line. Opponents should be 5m away from the ball until the ball is in play. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves. A goal may be scored direct from a corner kick.

Ball Crossing the goal line after touching the attacking team last:

Goal kick from anywhere in the penalty area. Opponents remain at least 10m outside the penalty area until the ball is in play. Game leaders should not restart play until they are satisfied all opposition players are at least 10m outside the penalty area. The ball is in play once it is kicked directly out of the penalty area.