



SIX A SIDE SUMMER FOOTBALL

COMPETITION RULES 2024 – 2025

This competition aims to emphasize the values of enjoyment, fitness, relaxation, and fun. We expect all participants to engage in the true spirit of sportsmanship and prioritize safety. Given that many players have jobs to return to, preventing serious injuries and upholding a safe playing atmosphere is of utmost importance and is a shared responsibility. Any reckless or dangerous behaviour will not be tolerated.

The referees play a crucial role in maintaining fairness and equality in the competition, so please treat them with the respect they always deserve.

General

1. Each team must register a minimum of six and a maximum of ten players.
2. A team's registration status is considered complete only when both payment and a fully filled-out team sheet are received and approved by the committee.
3. Each player is allowed to register in only one grade, with the exception being for those participating in the mixed competition.
4. Players must be at least 15 years old or older in the year of registration to participate in a senior division.
5. A minimum of four teams must be registered in each division for a competition to proceed.
6. A maximum of six players per team are allowed on the field at any one time.
7. A minimum of four players must be present for a team to commence a game; otherwise, the game and any associated points are forfeited.
8. If a team has at least four but fewer than six of its registered players available at the scheduled start time of a game, they may borrow one registered player from the same grade or lower. The borrowed player must assume the role of goalkeeper and is ineligible to score. The borrowed player must immediately exit the game once a registered player arrives to play.
9. Players must wear soft-shoe footwear, including moulded sole football boots.
10. Shin pads are compulsory for Mini World Cup and recommended in all other grades.
11. Jewellery or glasses that constitute a hazard to player safety must not be worn.
12. Caps and hats are not permitted to be worn by any on-field players, except for goalkeepers.
13. FIFA laws apply with the following exceptions:



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- a) There is no **offside**.
- b) All **free kicks** are direct.
- c) **Throw-ins** are to be taken at the point where the ball left the playing area.
- d) Free **interchange** of players is allowed without advising the referee. The departing player must leave the field before the replacement comes on. The substitute player must come on from the halfway line.
- e) Goalkeepers may be interchanged only after notifying the referee. **Failure to notify the referee will be penalised by the awarding of a penalty kick.** Interchange of the goalkeeper cannot take place whilst a free kick or penalty kick is to be taken.
- f) Goalkeepers may only handle the ball within the goal area semi-circle.
- g) Goalkeepers cannot kick the ball once they have picked it up. It may be thrown in any manner (over-arm; under-arm).
- h) **Goal kicks** are taken from any point on the goal-line within the goal area semi-circle.
- i) **Penalty kicks** are taken from the centre point on the goal area semi-circle. All other players must be behind the kicker.
- j) All on-field players must stay on both feet when contesting the ball – no sliding.
- k) The goalkeeper is permitted to dive for the ball in a safe manner.
- l) Any player can be sent from the field by the referee for a 5-minute cooling off period if deemed necessary (Yellow Card). This player **cannot** be substituted for the 5 minutes.
- m) **Any player sent off** by a referee (**Red card**) will incur an automatic one-week suspension with a committee review of the incident which may result in further penalty. A second red card in the competition may result in deregistration from the competition. Similar penalties apply to unsporting conduct off the field of play, including abuse of officials, other players or organisers.
- n) **Players must not be intoxicated.** The committee, following notification by the referee, has the discretion to Red Card a player they believe to be intoxicated.
- o) **Acceptable language should be always used.** Foul language will not be tolerated and can incur a penalty or suspension as per Player Conduct Policy.
- p) **Points** will be awarded for results as follows:

Win (including win by forfeit)	3
Draw	1
Lose or forfeit	0

14. Team Shirts must be:



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- a. identical and distinctive.
 - b. numbered and correspond with the team registration form.
 - c. worn by all players. Teams and players not adhering to this rule will receive a warning in the first instance and subsequently have 3 competition points deducted on all subsequent occasions.
15. Games are comprised of two equal 15-minute halves with no formal half-time break. A hooter will signal the start, half-time, and conclusion of each game.
 16. Children are the responsibility of their parent or guardian and must be properly supervised at all times.
 17. Climbing on, swinging on, or damaging property belonging to the club or the Sports Council is prohibited.
 18. Fixtures postponed due to situations beyond the control of the committee (e.g., wet weather) will be replayed at a date to be decided and announced by the committee, if possible.
 19. Rounds may be abandoned at the discretion of the committee, with no points allocated.
 20. The committee reserves the right to amend the rules and/or program at any time.
 21. Any complaints or requests are to be submitted in writing to the Secretary of Woolgoolga Social Sports Club Inc. as the organisers of Summer Six-a-Side.

Rule Breaches

1. Teams found fielding ineligible players will forfeit the game and incur an additional three-point penalty.
2. Team coordinators will be held responsible for their players if found in breach of any rules or policies. Ignorance will not be accepted as an excuse.
3. Penalties for rule breaches will be applied at the discretion the committee.
4. The committee will be the final arbiter on any disciplinary action arising from a breach of the rules, and on any interpretation of these rules.
5. The committee reserves the right to impose additional sanctions and disciplinary action following a review of each incident as deemed appropriate.

Finals Fixtures

1. A registered player must be named on the team sheet to qualify to play finals fixtures. No changes are permitted to the team sheet after the half-way point of the season.
2. A player cannot be borrowed during the final's series.
3. Semi-finalists will be the four highest placed teams in each division. First will play fourth; second will play third. In the event of points being tied, first goal difference; then goals scored; then results between the tied teams on count-back; then a coin toss as last resort shall decide position on the ladder.
4. Alternatively, the committee may decide that semi-finalists be determined by quarter-final matches with higher ranked team requiring a win or draw in normal time to progress to the Semi Finals.
5. Quarter Finals, Semi Finals & Finals shall be decided by the golden goal system, with "drop-off".



Extra Time / Drop off – Quarter Finals, Semi Finals & Finals Only

1. Each side nominates six players to commence extra time. There will be no interchange.
2. Every two minutes a player from each team shall leave the field, until only two remain. The goalkeeper may be “dropped-off” but may not be replaced by another player acting as goalkeeper. The goalkeeper must be the same player during the drop-off segment. Each two-minute period restarts with the team in possession playing the ball from where play stopped. Opposing players must be at least 5 metres from the ball at the re-start of play.
3. The first team to score wins the game.

All Junior Divisions (Mini World Cup and Grommets)

1. Divisions are labelled by school year however players must be born in the corresponding years as outlined on the registration form.
2. Mini World Cup teams may borrow players as needed to ensure a minimum of four players.
3. The following competitions will be Non-Competitive, and scores will not be kept each week:
 - a. Kindy
 - b. Year 1-2
 - c. Year 3-4
4. The Kindy competition will be run using the small pop-up goals and no goal keeper.
5. Grommets Years 7-8 and 9-10 Competitions must have a minimum of THREE players registered and on the field from each gender at any one time.

Mixed Competition

1. A minimum of THREE players of each gender needs to be registered and on the field at all times per mixed team.

Ignorance of these rules or of the laws of football will not be accepted as a defence.