

ANZAC DAY CUP

REGULATIONS 2027

REVIEWED OCTOBER 2026

DISCLAIMER

Any aspect of these regulations that may require further scrutiny or interpretation will be assessed at the absolute discretion of Football Far North Coast. We make it known that strict compliance with the FFNC Regulations and Procedures will apply, unless FFNC has reasonable cause to determine otherwise.

1. OVERVIEW

1.1. The ANZAC Day Cup competitions will be scheduled to commence from the weekend of Friday 26th February and Sunday 28th February 2027 and proceed for most competitions over four weekends (including semi-finals where applicable), with the Final of each competition to be scheduled for a dedicated Anzac Day weekend in April (being 23/24/25 April 2027).

1.2. Scheduling of fixtures (including semi-finals) will ordinarily be for each Friday night and Sunday afternoons during the competition.

1.3. Scheduling of all fixtures (including semi-finals and FINALS) will be at the sole discretion of FFNC.

1.4. Fixtures will typically be scheduled as a 'Home and Away' format, however there is no guarantee given to delivering any team or club an equal number of such fixtures.

1.5. Each competition will be known as an ANZAC Day Cup Competition (otherwise referred to as ADC Competitions).

1.6. Fixtures that are unable to proceed and are necessarily postponed (e.g. due to adverse weather) or factors determined by FFNC to be exceptional circumstances, may be rescheduled, but at the sole discretion of FFNC.

1.7. In the event that the result of a fixture is declared (at the sole discretion of FFNC) the result will be recorded as 0-0 with each team receiving one (1) point.

1.8. The competition may be extended beyond the normal timelines if such variation is assessed by FFNC as being appropriate to complete the competitions.

1.9. The ANZAC Day Cup competitions will ordinarily proceed as follows* (*) subject to team nominations and any relevant factors.

- 1.9.1. Men's Premier League
- 1.9.2. Open A
- 1.9.3. Open B
- 1.9.4. Open C
- 1.9.5. Age 16 (mixed gender)

1.10. The ANZAC Day Cup Regulations are supplemented by the terms contained with the FFNC Competition Regulations and FFNC Disciplinary published on the FFNC website annually unless specifically disclosed to the contrary in the ADC Regulations.

1.11. Football Australia Regulations apply as applicable.

1.12. The Laws of the Game apply unless ADC Regulations specifically reference a local rule.

1.13. Players who did not participate in an FFNC winter pointscore competition in 2026 are eligible to be nominated in any one open age squad/competition or Age 16 ADC competition (subject to compliance with all components of competition regulations), unless FFNC deems that there is a legitimate reason that they should be considered as being ineligible for any specific competition/grading, or for any other reason.

1.14. Grading of teams (and players) is primarily based on the grading of individual players in 2026.

1.15. Applications for an exemption (for any reason) will not be considered.

1.16. References such as 'competition has commenced' is intended to mean 1pm Thursday 25th February 2027.

1.17. A 'junior player' is intended to mean an individual aged 14, 15 or 16 years in the 2027 calendar year.

1.18. A 'senior player' is intended to mean an individual aged 17 years or older in the 2027 calendar year.

1.19. Relevant matters linked to eligibility, are intended to mean 'not later than 1pm Thursday', prior to the immediate next round for a competition.

1.20. Reference to 'eligibility' in these Regulations, means eligibility based on all relevant criteria.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1. Clubs must register a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 20 players in any one ADC squad.

2.2. Players cannot be removed from any Squad List or replaced by another player after the Squad List has been lodged with FFNC (i.e. unless a change is requested in writing before 1pm 25th February 2027).

2.3. Additional player registrations can be made (maximum of 20 player registrations permitted per squad) not later than 1pm on the Thursday prior to the player's first game.

2.4. The final date for additional participant registrations is 1pm Thursday 11th March 2027 (i.e. prior to Round 3).

2.5. Each Men's Premier League, Open A, Open B and Open C competition is a male gender competition for players who are otherwise eligible. Note that the Callan McMillan Memorial Shield competitions otherwise exist for female players and are also gender based competitions.

2.6. The Age 16 (mixed gender) competition recognises age eligible male and female players as each being eligible to be nominated for their club Age 16 ADC squad and to subsequently participate.

2.7. FFNC will determine the number of teams and subsequent format of each competition. This will typically be in response to the number of team nominations submitted for each competition, but also consistent with the logistics of constructing and running each competition.

2.8. A competition will not proceed if there are less than four (4) eligible teams nominated for a specific ADC competition.

2.9. Electronic correspondence (including submission of JotForm's) on behalf of clubs should be sent to office@ffnc.net.au.

3. TEAM/SQUAD NOMINATIONS

3.1. General

3.1.1. Team Nominations must be submitted not later than 1pm Thursday 4th February 2027 by way of the JotForm provided by FFNC (https://form.jotform.com/212498357856875)

3.1.2. A club may ordinarily nominate one team in any one competition; however, acceptance of such nomination is at the sole discretion of FFNC.

3.1.3. Additional team nominations (i.e. second or third teams from the same club to participate in the same competition) will be considered at the sole discretion of FFNC.

3.1.4. Each Men's Premier League, Open A, Open B and Open C competition is a male gender competition for players who are otherwise eligible. Note that the Callan McMillan Memorial Shield competitions otherwise exist for female players and are also gender based competitions.

3.1.5. The Age 16 (mixed gender) competition recognises age eligible male and female players, who are eligible to participate in an Age 16 ADC competition based on all relevant criteria.

3.1.6. A player must be aged at least fourteen (14) years before being eligible to be included in a senior squad (i.e. being eligible to participate). * (*) Refer Clause 3.5.5

3.1.6.1. There will be no exemptions given for players who are younger than 14 years for the purpose of participating in a senior men's ADC competition.

3.1.7. A player who is turning 14, 15 or 16 during the 2027 calendar year (and who is otherwise eligible) may be included in an Age 16 ADC competition squad.

3.1.7.1. There will be no exemptions given for players who are older than 16 years in 2027 for the purpose of participating in the Age 16 ADC competition.

3.1.7.2. There will be no exemptions given for players who are younger than 14 years in 2027 for the purpose of participating in a Age 16 ADC competition.

3.1.8. Clubs must register a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 20 players in any one ADC squad.

3.1.9. Team nominations will be accepted in the order that they are received by FFNC with each nomination being subject to subsequent confirmation of player eligibility for such competitions.

3.1.10. Applications for an exemption (for any reason) will not be considered.

3.2. Men's Premier League

3.2.1. The competition will ordinarily consist of clubs/teams that contested the 2026 Men's Premier League Winter competition* (at the sole discretion of FFNC). (*) Plus, the club promoted to Men's Premier League in 2027 (if applicable).

3.2.2. An invitation may be extended by FFNC to a club to nominate a team, where appropriate to construct this competition if such factors exist.

3.2.3. An individual who was not a registered player in FFNC during 2026 and is aged at least 14 years when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Men's Premier League, for the one club (if otherwise eligible on all applicable criteria), regardless of where the player will be graded for the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.3. Open A

3.3.1. The competition will be constructed of clubs/teams that consist of players who were graded in either Men's Championship or League 1 (or any lower senior men's league) in the 2026 Winter competitions.

3.3.2. A player who was graded in Men's Premier League in 2026 is ineligible to participate in an Open A competition (or Open B or Open C), regardless of whether the player remains with his 2026 club or registers for a different club in 2027*. (* Refer Clause 3.3.3)

3.3.3. A player who was graded in Men's Premier League in 2026 is eligible to be nominated in Open A where the player remains with a club that has been relegated from Men's Premier League for 2027 (where relevant).

3.3.4. An individual who was not a registered player in FFNC during 2026 and is aged at least 14 years when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open A, for the one club (if otherwise eligible on all applicable criteria), regardless of where the player will be graded for the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.3.5. A junior male player who is at least 14 years not later than when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open A for the one club, subject to the player only participating in Open A and regardless of whether the player will subsequently participate as a junior (or be otherwise graded) in the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.4. Open B

3.4.1. The competition will be constructed of clubs/teams that consist of players who were graded in either Men's League 3, 4 or 5 (or any lower senior men's league) for the 2026 Winter competitions.

3.4.2. Players who were graded above League 3 in 2026, are ineligible to participate in the ADC Open B competition. This applies regardless of whether the player registers for a different club in 2027.

3.4.3. An individual who was not a registered player in FFNC during 2026 and is aged at least 14 years when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open B for the one club (if otherwise eligible on all criteria) and regardless of where the player will be graded for the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.4.4. Clubs are urged to grade new players appropriate to a reasonable spirit of competition.

3.4.5. A junior male player who is at least 14 years not later than when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open B for the one club, subject to the player only participating in Open B and regardless of whether the player will subsequently participate as a junior (or be otherwise graded) in the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.5. Open C

3.5.1. The competition will be constructed of clubs/teams that consist of players who were graded in either Men's League 6 or 7 for the 2026 Winter competitions.

3.5.2. Players who were graded above League 6 in 2026 are ineligible to participate in the ADC Open C competition. This applies regardless of whether the player registers for a different club in 2027.

3.5.3. An individual who was not a registered player in FFNC during 2026 and is aged at least 14 years when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open C for the one club (if otherwise eligible on all criteria) and regardless of where the player will be graded for the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.5.4. Clubs are urged to grade new players appropriate to a reasonable spirit of competition.

3.5.5. A junior male player who is at least 14 years not later than when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open C for the one club, subject to the following criteria;

3.5.5.1. The player not also participating in the Age 16 ADC competition.

3.5.5.2. The player will not participate in any junior team in the 2027 pointscore competition.

3.5.5.3. The player will be graded into one of either Men's League 6 or Men's League 7 in the 2027 pointscore competition* (* Contingent upon reasonable likelihood that FFNC will grade a team from the player's club into either League 6 or League 7).

3.5.5.4. The player will not participate in any higher league beyond League 6 during 2027.

3.6. Age 16 Mixed Gender

3.6.1. The competition will be constructed of clubs/teams that consist of players (male or female) who are (or will be) aged 14, 15 or 16 in the 2027 calendar year.

3.6.2. Eligibility to participate in Age 16 is based on age (i.e. player must be aged 14, 15 or 16 in the 2027 calendar year) and is not influenced by where the player was graded in 2026.

4. PLAYER NOMINATION AND ELIGIBILITY

4.1. General Terms

4.1.1. Players may only be registered with ONE club and included in any ONE squad in any ONE year of an ADC Competition, notwithstanding where they are subsequently graded during the 2027 pointscore competition.

4.1.2. A player cannot participate for more than one team.

4.1.3. Players are not permitted to transfer from one squad to another squad within the same club after being nominated in any given squad (i.e. when the player has been listed on a squad list that has been lodged with FFNC and if such competition has commenced).

4.1.4. A player who is listed on a squad list for any one ADC competition but who subsequently de-registers from one club and registers for another club is not eligible to participate in any further matches in the ADC competition (for any team/club) where the competition has commenced.

4.1.5. Clubs must register a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 20 players in any one ADC squad.

4.1.6. Applications for an exemption (for any reason) will not be considered.

4.1.7. Any *male* player aged 14 or older who is registered can be nominated as a player within any one Open C*, Open B, Open A or Premier League squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season, but subject to grading and participation criteria otherwise applicable. (*) Refer to clause 3.5.5

4.1.8. A junior male player who is age eligible (as defined in these regulations) is eligible to be nominated in any one senior men's squad (except Open C*) for the one club or alternatively for Age 16 (but not to both). (*) Refer to clause 3.5.5

4.1.9. A player who is subject to a suspension (except if a TIME sanction has been imposed) from any previous season, can be included on a squad list (where the player is otherwise eligible) and can extinguish a suspension (i.e. one match per day where applicable fixtures are played) in accordance with the terms of the FFNC Disciplinary Regulations.

4.1.10. Eligibility should *not* be assumed when a player has changed clubs.

4.1.11. FFNC reserves the right to determine participant and team eligibility in instances of dispute.

4.1.12. FFNC will consider any matters not specifically outlined in the Regulations. A decision made by FFNC will be binding.

4.2. Men's Premier League

4.2.1. Premier League players from 2026 are only eligible to register in the Premier League ANZAC Day Cup competition (unless where relevant to any club relegated from the previous season and subject to the terms outlined in these regulations).

4.2.2. Any *male* player aged 14 or older (before Round 1 of the ADC competition), can be nominated as a player within the Premier League squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season.

4.3. Open A

4.3.1. Any *male* player aged 14 or older (before Round 1 of the ADC competition) and was not graded in the Men's Premier League in 2026, can be nominated as a player within the Open A squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season.

4.4. Open B

4.4.1. Any *male* player aged 14 or older (before Round 1 of the ADC competition) who was not graded above League 3 in season 2026, can be nominated as a player within the Open B squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season.

4.5. Open C

4.5.1. Any *male* player aged 14 or older (before Round 1 of the ADC competition) and who is registered and was not graded above League 6 in season 2026, can be nominated as a player within the Open C squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season.

4.5.2. A junior male player who is at least 14 years not later than when the competition commences, is eligible to be nominated in Open C for the one club, subject to the player being specifically graded in League 6 or league 7 in the 2027 pointscore competition. * (*) Refer to clause 3.5.5

4.6. Age 16 (mixed gender)

4.6.1. Any *male or female* player aged 14, 15 or 16 (based on the age applicable to the 2027 calendar year) can register and be nominated as a player within the Age 16 (mixed gender) squad for the club that the player is registered with for the current season.

4.6.2. There will be no exemptions given for players who are younger than 14 or who are (or will be) older than 16 during the 2027 calendar year, for the purpose of participating in an Age 16 ADC competition.

5. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

5.1. Players must be registered (and approved) ONLINE in PlayFootball (as a player) for the club they wish to participate, consistent with registration regulations, BEFORE participating in a fixture.

5.2. Player eligibility is contingent upon all registration criteria being completed.

5.3. Clubs must register a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 20 players in any one ADC squad.

5.4. Eligibility to participate in any one ADC competition is determined by the grading of each individual player who participated in the 2026 FFNC Winter Competition* (*) Refer Clause 4.

5.5. Players cannot be removed from any Squad List or replaced by another player after the Squad List has been lodged with FFNC (i.e. unless a change is requested in writing before 1pm 25th February 2027).

5.6. Additional player registrations can be made (maximum of 20 player registrations permitted per squad) not later than 1pm on the Thursday prior to the player's first game.

5.7. The final date for additional participant registrations is 1pm Thursday 11th March 2027 (i.e. prior to Round 3).

6. TEAM OFFICIALS

6.1. Each team is required to have at least ONE (1) registered Team Official listed in that role on the match sheet and present in the Technical Area for each fixture in which the team participates.

6.2. Each team may have a maximum of THREE (3) registered team officials for each fixture in which the team participates.

6.3. Notwithstanding the conditions outlined in 5.1 and 5.2 there is no limit to how many registered (and otherwise eligible) Team Officials a team can have to choose from when nominating up to THREE (3) Team Officials on match day.

6.4. A Team Official must be aged at least 18 years.

6.5. Team Officials must be registered (and approved) ONLINE in PlayFootball (as a Coach/Team Official) for the club they wish to participate, consistent with registration regulations BEFORE actually participating in this role.

6.6. A registered player who is otherwise eligible to participate for the team they are listed and who is also registered as a Team Official, is also eligible to be listed on the same match sheet as being a Team Official.

6.7. Unlike the conditions of registration and eligibility that apply to a player, an individual *is permitted* to be registered as a Coach or Team Official for more than one club and for more than one team.

6.8. A Team Official who is listed on the match sheet in such a role is eligible to enter and have a role in their team's Technical Area (or immediate proximity of the playing area), subject to satisfying the terms and conditions of registration and eligibility that are outlined above and any other relevant regulations.

6.9. A Team Official must remain in the Technical Area for the duration of the fixture in which they are acting in the role, noting that they are prohibited from giving any instructions, or acting in a way that would be reasonably construed as coaching, when they are outside their team's Technical Area when play is in progress.

6.10. A caution (i.e. Yellow Card) issued to a Team Official will carry more weight of severity than a Yellow Card issued to a player.

6.11. A Team Official who is issued ONE (1) Yellow Card in a match (i.e. their FIRST caution in the ADC competition) will be suspended for at least ONE (1) match.

6.12. A Team Official who is issued TWO (2) cumulative Yellow Cards during the ADC competition, will be suspended for at least THREE (3) matches.

6.13. A send-off (i.e. Red Card) issued to a Team Official will carry more weight of severity than a Red Card issued to a player.

6.14. An individual who receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a player and who subsequently receives a caution (i.e. yellow card), while in the role of a Team Official, will be sanctioned in response to being issued a total of THREE (3) cautions (i.e. Yellow Cards). The minimum suspension imposed can be anticipated to be THREE (3) matches.

6.15. An individual who receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a Team Official and who subsequently receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a player, will be sanctioned in response to being issued a total of THREE (3) cautions (i.e. Yellow Cards). The minimum suspension imposed can be anticipated to be THREE (3) matches.

6.16. An individual who is subject to a suspension is ineligible to enter a team's technical area (or immediate proximity of the playing area), further noting that they are prohibited to give any instructions, or act in a way that would be reasonably construed as coaching, whether before (on match day) or during the fixture. Refer FFNC Disciplinary Regulations for more extensive information.

6.17. An individual who is subject to a suspension (except if a TIME sanction has been imposed) from any previous season (where the individual is otherwise eligible) can extinguish a suspension (i.e. one match per day where applicable fixtures are played) in accordance with the terms of the FFNC Disciplinary Regulations.

7. GROUND OFFICIALS

7.1. Each team is required to have at least ONE (1) registered Ground Official listed on the match sheet for each fixture in which the team participates.

7.2. Notwithstanding the conditions outlined in 6.1 there is no limit to how many registered (and otherwise eligible) Ground Officials a team can have in attendance.

7.3. The role of a Ground Official is to respond (and help manage) the behaviour of spectators aligned with your club, in addition to providing reasonable support to the match officials before, during and after the match within the vicinity of the club fields and venue.

7.4. A Ground Official must comply with the following criteria;

7.4.1. Be aged at least 18 years.

7.4.2. Be registered (and approved) ONLINE in PlayFootball (as a Volunteer) noting that an individual *is permitted* to be registered as a Volunteer for more than one club.

7.4.3. Be listed on the match sheet as the Ground Official.

7.4.4. Not also acting in other roles such as playing, coaching or working in a canteen while acting in the role of a Ground Official.

7.4.5. Be wearing an appropriate vest that identifies the individual as a Ground Official.

7.5. A Ground Official is prohibited from the following behaviours;

7.5.1. Consuming alcohol or being affected by alcohol or any illicit substance (or suspected of being so).

7.5.2. Smoking or vaping.

7.5.3. Occupying the Technical Area.

7.5.4. Acting in multiple roles such as a player, a team official or working in a canteen when being a nominated ground official.

7.5.5. Displaying behaviour that is vocal or aggressive.

7.6. An individual who is subject to a suspension is ineligible to act in the role as a Ground Official.

8. SQUAD LISTS

8.1. Player details must be submitted on a Squad List template provided by FFNC.

8.2. The initial Squad List must be submitted to FFNC not later than 1pm Thursday 18th February 2027. Electronic copies submitted will be accepted in the first instance (if legible) however the original document MUST be submitted not later than 1pm Thursday 11th March 2027.

8.3. Updated Squad Lists (where additional players are registered) must be submitted in each case and not later than 1pm on the Thursday prior to participation (up to Thursday 11th March 2027).

8.4. Clubs must register a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 20 players per squad.

8.5. Players cannot be removed from any Squad List or replaced by another player after the Squad List has been lodged with FFNC (i.e. unless a change is requested in writing before 1pm 25th February 2027).

8.6. The club is responsible for the nomination of each player (and inclusion of name on a squad list) for a competition to which the respective player is otherwise eligible.

8.7. The deadline for submitting any information (e.g. adding more players to a squad) relevant to the next scheduled weekend of fixtures is 1pm Thursday relevant to (i.e. prior to) Rounds One, Two and Three.

9. FORMAT OF COMPETITIONS

9.1. The format of competitions will be determined at the sole discretion of FFNC.

9.2. The competitions will ordinarily be played in a Pool format (unless the number of nominations mean that a round robin competition should be played).

9.3. FOUR (4) teams

9.3.1. Round-robin
9.3.2. Each team will play one (1) match against each other team in the same competition.
9.3.3. Team finishing highest on points table and team finishing second both proceed to the ADC FINAL

9.4. FIVE (5) teams

9.4.1. Round-robin
9.4.2. Each team will play one (1) match against all teams in the same competition.
9.4.3. Team finishing highest on points table and team finishing second both proceed to the ADC FINAL

9.5. SIX (6) teams

9.5.1. Two (2) pools each of three (3) teams* (*) at the sole discretion of FFNC
9.5.2. Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool
9.5.3. Each team will play one (1) cross-pool match against one other team (refer clause 9.12)
9.5.4. Team finishing highest on points table in each of Pool A and Pool B proceed to the ADC FINAL

9.6. EIGHT (8) teams

9.6.1. Two (2) pools each of four (4) teams
9.6.2. Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool
9.6.3. Team finishing highest on points table in each of Pool A and Pool B proceed to the ADC FINAL

9.7. TEN (10) teams

9.7.1. Two (2) pools each of three (3) teams and one (1) pool of four (4) teams
9.7.2. Three-team pools: Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool and one cross-pool match against one other team from the other three team pool (refer clause 9.12)
9.7.3. Four-team pool: Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool. No cross-pool matches will be played.
9.7.4. Two semi-finals (SF) then Final
9.7.5. SF1: team finishing highest on points table (Pool A) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool C)
9.7.6. SF2: team finishing highest on points table (Pool B) v best second placed team (across the three Pools)
9.7.7. Winner of Semi-Final 1 v Winner of Semi-Final 2 in the ADC FINAL

9.8. TWELVE (12) teams

9.8.1. Three (3) pools of four (4) teams
9.8.2. Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool.
9.8.3. Two semi-finals (SF) then Final
9.8.4. SF1: team finishing highest on points table (Pool A) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool C)
9.8.5. SF2: team finishing highest on points table (Pool B) v best second placed team (across the three Pools)
9.8.6. Winner of Semi-Final 1 v Winner of Semi-Final 2 in the ADC FINAL.

9.9. FOURTEEN (14) teams

9.9.1. Two (2) pools of three (3) teams and two (2) pools of four (4) teams
9.9.2. Three-team pools: Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool and one cross-pool match against one other team from the other three team pool (refer clause 9.12)
9.9.3. Four-team pools: Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool. No cross-pool matches will be played.
9.9.4. Two semi-finals (SF) then Final
9.9.5. SF1: team finishing highest on points table (Pool A) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool C)
9.9.6. SF2: team finishing highest on points table (Pool B) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool D)
9.9.7. Winner of Semi-Final 1 v Winner of Semi-Final 2 in the ADC FINAL

9.10. SIXTEEN (16) teams

9.10.1. Four (4) pools of four (4) teams
9.10.2. Each team will play one (1) match against each other team from their own pool.
9.10.3. Two semi-finals (SF) then Final
9.10.4. SF1: team finishing highest on points table (Pool A) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool C)
9.10.5. SF2: team finishing highest on points table (Pool B) v team finishing highest on points table (Pool D)
9.10.6. Winner of Semi-Final 1v Winner of Semi-Final 2 in the ADC FINAL

9.11. Pools will be based on the final points standing from the 2026 FFNC Winter Pointscore Competition, ranking teams from highest leagues and pointscore standings down to lowest leagues and pointscore standings across all relevant competitions.

9.11.1. Where a Pool Format applies, the highest ranked team will be placed into 'Pool A – Position 1' with the team ranked second into 'Pool B – Position 1' then (where applicable) the third ranked team into 'Pool C – Position 1' and the fourth ranked team in 'Pool D – Position 1'. Each subsequent team will be drawn into the next highest available position across number of pools that exist.

9.11.2. A team that played in a higher league (e.g. Men's League 3 in the 2026 FFNC Pointscore) will be ranked higher than a team that played in a lower league (e.g. Men's League 4), regardless of the final position on the ladder of each respective team in the 2026 FFNC Pointscore Competition.

9.11.3. FFNC will consider relevant geographical issues when constructing pools and further relevant to any scheduling considerations.

9.12. Pools consisting of "three (3) teams" will play one "cross-pool" game, determined per following example;

9.12.1. The highest ranked team in Pool B plays against the lowest ranked team in the Pool C

9.12.2. The 2nd ranked team in Pool B plays against the 2nd ranked team in Pool C

9.12.3. The lowest ranked team in Pool B plays against highest ranked team in Pool C

10. PLAYING CONDITIONS

10.1. Individuals occupying the technical area must be listed on the relevant match sheet and be eligible to be listed in such role as shown on the match sheet prior to kick-off.

10.2. Match Officials for each respective fixture and FFNC representatives (on behalf of the competition administrator) are also permitted to enter the technical area. Other persons are prohibited from occupying the technical area.

10.3. A maximum of 16 eligible players can be listed on any one match sheet prior to kick-off.

10.4. Each team is required to have at least ONE (1) registered Team Official for each fixture in which the team participates and must be listed on the match sheet prior to kick-off.

10.5. Each team may have a maximum of THREE (3) registered Team Officials for each fixture in which the team participates, and each must be listed on the match sheet prior to kick-off.

10.6. Notwithstanding the conditions outlined in 10.4 and 10.5 there is no limit to how many registered (and otherwise eligible) Team Officials a team can have to choose from.

10.7. Unlimited interchange applies in all ADC fixtures.

10.7.1. The referee has the authority to determine when interchanges may occur. The Referee is authorised to prevent any interchange being made if they consider that a team is doing so as a tactic to waste time.

10.8. This competition is not guaranteed to be constructed on the basis of a precise 'Home and Away' format. Every reasonable effort will however be made to deliver scheduling that recognises a Home and Away format, however there will be no reliance upon such a format.

10.9. Fixtures and scheduling is determined by FFNC.

10.10. The team that is named first in the published draw is considered the 'Home' team.

10.11. Playing Strips

10.11.1. All playing strips, including alternate playing strips, are to be approved by FFNC prior to being worn.

10.11.2. The team who is listed first in any fixture will be considered as being the 'HOME team'.

10.11.3. The HOME team will be required to supply and wear an approved Alternate Strip in the first instance when a clash of playing strips exists*. (*) Except for any ADC Final, when it is the HOME team that will be entitled to wear its primary playing strip.

10.11.4. If the HOME team is unable to wear an alternate strip in instances where a clash of playing strips exists, the AWAY team can wear an approved alternate strip if it is available.

10.11.5. If neither team is able to wear an alternate strip in instances where a clash of playing strips exists and the referee abandons the match, the recorded result of the match shall be at the sole discretion of FFNC.

10.12. Extra time and kicks from the penalty spot will only apply in Semi-Finals or Finals fixtures (when required to determine the winner of the match).

10.13. Time "added on" is not applicable.

10.14. FFNC has absolute discretion to determine 'if' any variation to normal time (i.e. time added on) in response to "serious injury or significant interruption to the game" that is deemed to substantiate an allowance being made so that "normal game time" is reasonably applied. Such assessment will be made where reasonable, in conjunction with consultation with the match referee and with each team coach/captain.

10.15. Each club that has a team participating will be liable for the cost of match officials payments and will be invoiced by FFNC accordingly.

11. SEMI-FINALS

11.1. Semi-Finals will only apply in competitions where there are *more than* two pools.

11.2. The team with the most points in each pool at the end of all pool games will progress to the Semi-Finals (except for competitions that consist of only two pools).

11.3. In the event of there being THREE (3) pools in a division, the fourth team to progress to the semi-finals shall be the next team over all pools with the most points. * (*) Also refer to Clause 11.5

11.4. In the event of there being FOUR (4) pools in a competition, Semi-finals will be: Winner Pool A v Winner Pool C and Winner B v Winner Pool D. * (*) Also refer to Clause 11.5

11.5. The criteria to determine the 'higher placed team' is outlined below.

11.5.1. If two or more teams are on equal points, the better goal difference will decide the higher placing.

11.5.2. In the event of teams on equal points also finishing equal on goal difference, the most goals "for" will decide the higher placing.

11.5.3. In the event of teams on equal points also having the same number of goals "for", the team that has the superior disciplinary record during the robin-robin/pool fixtures will decide the higher placing. The superior disciplinary record will be the team having the least number of points based on the following measure.

11.5.3.1. ONE (1) point for each accumulated yellow card issued to a player

11.5.3.2. THREE (3) points for each ONE (1) match sanction imposed against a player for a red card offence

11.5.3.3. TWO (2) points for each accumulated yellow card issued to a Team Official

11.5.3.4. FIVE (5) points for each ONE (1) match sanction imposed against a Team Official

11.5.4. In the event of the disciplinary record being the same, the team that has accumulated the least RED cards will decide the higher placing (relevant to qualification to participate in a semi-final).

11.5.5. In the event of those teams on equal points not being able to be separated using the above criteria, the higher placing will be decided by entering those teams' names into a hat and then randomly drawing a name out of the hat. The first name drawn out of the hat will be determined the highest placed team.

11.6. The Winner of each semi-final (where more than two pools exist) will proceed to the final.

11.7. Time "added on" is not applicable.

11.8. Extra time (being ten minutes each way) will apply in Semi-Finals if the score is level at the end of normal time.

11.9. Kicks from the penalty spot will apply in Semi-Finals if the score is level at the end of extra-time and continue until a winner is determined (consistent with the Laws of the Game).

11.10. Eligibility to be listed on match sheet for a ADC semi-final is based on eligibility to have been included on the applicable squad list prior to 1pm 11th March 2027.

11.11. Each club that has a team participating in a semi-final will be liable for the cost of match officials payments and will be invoiced by FFNC accordingly.

12. FINALS

12.1. For competitions with only two pools, the team with the most points in each pool at the end of all pool games will progress to the Final.

12.1.1. If two or more teams are on equal points, the better goal difference will decide the higher placing.

12.1.2. In the event of teams on equal points also finishing equal on goal difference, the most goals "for" will decide the higher placing.

12.1.3. In the event of teams on equal points also having the same number of goals "for", the team that has the superior disciplinary record during the robin-robin/pool fixtures/semi-finals will decide the higher placing. The superior disciplinary record will be the team having the least number of disciplinary points based on the following measure.

12.1.3.1. ONE (1) point for each accumulated yellow card issued to a player

12.1.3.2. THREE (3) points for each ONE (1) match sanction imposed against a player for a red card offence

12.1.3.3. TWO (2) points for each accumulated yellow card issued to a Team Official

12.1.3.4. FIVE (5) points for each ONE (1) match sanction imposed against a Team Official

12.1.4. In the event of the disciplinary record (i.e. caution/send-off points) being the same, the team that has accumulated the least RED cards will decide the higher placing (relevant to qualification to participate in a semi-final).

12.1.5. In the event of those teams on equal points not being able to be separated using the above criteria, the higher placing will be decided by entering those teams' names into a hat and then randomly drawing a name out of the hat. The first name drawn out of the hat will be determined the highest placed team.

12.2. FFNC has absolute discretion to determine 'if' any variation to normal time (i.e. time added on) in response to "serious injury or significant interruption to the game" that is deemed to substantiate an allowance being made so that "normal game time" is reasonably applied. Such assessment will be made where reasonable, in conjunction with consultation with the match referee and with each team coach/captain.

12.3. Extra time (being TEN (10) minutes each way) will apply in Finals if the score is level at the end of normal time.

12.4. Penalty kicks will apply in Finals if the score is level at the end of extra-time and continue until a winner is determined (consistent with the Laws of the Game).

12.5. Eligibility to be listed on match sheet for a ADC Final is based on eligibility to have been included on the applicable squad list prior to 1pm 11th March 2027.

12.6. FFNC will meet the cost of match officials payments for each ADC final.

13. RESULTS AND MATCH SHEETS

13.1. Results are to be recorded online (i.e. GameDay) by the HOME club not later than 11pm each Sunday or not later than 11pm on the night of a mid-week fixture or otherwise sent by email to office@ffnc.net.au within the same timelines.

13.2. Match Sheets (Home and Opposition match sheets) are to be lodged to FFNC by the *HOME* club, not later than 9am each Wednesday. Legible electronic versions are acceptable in the first instance, but original match sheets are still required and must be lodged with FFNC within ten (10) working days of respective fixtures.

14. POINTS ALLOCATED IN POOL FIXTURES

14.1.	WIN	THREE (3) points
14.2.	DRAW	ONE (1) point
14.3.	DEFEAT	NIL points
14.4.	FORFEIT	Three (3) points plus three (3) goals awarded to the team receiving the forfeit

15. FINES AND PENALTIES

15.1. Fines imposed are exempt from GST

15.2. Fines and penalties are imposed in response to any offence from those specified below.

15.2.1 Withdrawal of team from ANZAC Day Cup Competition	
• Prior to (or on) 4th February 2027	$ NIL
• After 4th February 2027	$200.00 (per team)
• After 25th February 2027	$500.00 (per team)
15.2.2 Late lodgement of Squad Lists	$100.00 (per team)
15.2.3 Participation of an ineligible (otherwise registered) player	
• Win or draw	$90.00 + loss of points & goals
• Loss	$220.00 + loss of goals
• Semi-Final	$350.00 + forfeit
• Final	$500.00 + forfeit
15.2.4 Participation of an ineligible (otherwise unregistered) player	Code of Conduct & Ethics Determination
15.2.5 Team Official not registered	First offence per club (warning) Second or subsequent offence/s $50.00 (per incident)
15.2.6 Failure to provide a registered Ground Official	First offence per club (warning) Second or subsequent offence/s $50.00 (per incident)
15.2.7 Forfeit of Round Robin/Pool Fixtures	
• Not later than 4pm each Monday	$ NIL + 3pts & 3 goals awarded to opposition team
• After 4pm each Monday (or no notification)	$220.00 + 3pts & 3 goals awarded to opposition team
15.2.8 Forfeit of Semi-Final	$350.00
15.2.9 Forfeit of Final	$500.00
15.2.10 Insufficient information/incorrect details noted on match sheet	$50.00 (per fixture)
15.2.11 Failure to lodge match sheets as specified	$75.00 (per fixture)
15.2.12 Results not entered online by nominated deadline	$50.00 (per fixture)
15.2.13 Failure to comply with match day instructions	$100.00 (per incident)
15.2.14 Home Club fails to wear alternate strip	$200.00 (per instance)
15.2.15 Ineligible occupation in a Technical Area (e.g. spectator)	$100.00 (per instance)
15.2.16 Wearing a playing strip not approved by FFNC	$200.00 (per instance)

16. CAUTIONS (YELLOW CARDS), SEND-OFFS (RED CARDS) AND SUSPENSIONS

16.1. A caution (i.e. yellow Card) issued to a Team Official will carry more weight of severity than a Yellow Card issued to a player.

16.2. A player who receives two (2) cumulative cautions (i.e. Yellow Cards) during the ADC competition will be suspended for at least ONE (1) match.

16.3. A Team Official who is issued ONE (1) Yellow Card in a match (i.e. their FIRST caution in the ADC competition) will be suspended for at least ONE (1) match.

16.4. A Team Official who is issued TWO (2) cumulative Yellow Cards during the ADC competition, will be suspended for at least THREE (3) matches.

16.5. A send-off (i.e. Red Card) issued to a Team Official will carry more weight of severity than a Red Card issued to a player.

16.6. An individual who receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a player and who subsequently receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a Team Official, will be sanctioned in response to being issued a total of THREE (3) cautions (i.e. yellow cards). The minimum suspension imposed can be anticipated to be THREE (3) matches.

16.7. An individual who receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a Team Official and who subsequently receives a caution (i.e. Yellow Card), while in the role of a player, will be sanctioned in response to being issued a total of THREE (3) cautions (i.e. Yellow Cards). The minimum suspension imposed can be anticipated to be THREE (3) matches.

16.8. Suspensions imposed in response to an offence incurred in an ADC competition, will ordinarily be served in the next ADC fixtures relevant to the participant who has been sanctioned. Consistent with Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations, a participant must 'stand-down' in the next scheduled fixture(s) that the participant is otherwise eligible to extinguish any of component of a suspension that has been imposed. This potentially means that a suspension is extinguished by a participant standing down in a fixture (or fixtures) across the ADC competition and the Pointscore competition and Australia Cup, if the order (i.e. scheduling) of relevant fixtures for the participant involves a cross-over of competitions.

16.9. FFNC Disciplinary Regulations, Procedures & Integrity Framework (disclosed annually on the FFNC website relevant to each competition) is applicable.

16.10. The Laws of the Game apply unless ADC Regulations specifically reference a local rule.

17. MATCH OFFICIAL PAYMENTS AND CLUB LIABILITY

17.1. Each respective club will be liable for the amounts paid by FFNC to match officials for the officiating of pool fixtures and semi-final fixtures.

17.2. FFNC will invoice each respective club for the amounts due and payable at the appropriate time.

17.3. FFNC will meet the cost of match official payments for each respective ADC Final.