



FOOTBALL
NSW

AUSTRALIA CUP SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS
2024 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS



**AUSTRALIA
CUP**

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SECTION 1: AUSTRALIA CUP ORGANISATION & ADMISSION

1. Scope and Application

- a) All Clubs participating in the Australia Cup are bound by the Australia Cup Competition Regulations as promulgated by Football Australia from time to time.
- b) These Supplementary Competition Regulations (Regulations) shall apply to all Australia Cup Preliminary Round matches administered by FNSW and may be amended by FNSW at any time.
- c) Where these regulations are silent on any particular aspect, then all Clubs, affiliated bodies and organisations shall first have regard to the Constitution, By-Laws, FA Rules and Regulations and where applicable rules and regulations of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and FIFA
- d) Terms defined in the Australia Cup Competition Regulations and Football NSW (FNSW) Rules of Competition shall have the same meaning in these Regulations unless otherwise stated.

2. Control of Competitions

- a) The administrative control and conduct of the Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds by FNSW is vested in the Executive subject to any resolution by the Board to the contrary in accordance with Football Australia's Competition Regulations.

3. Consequences for Breach

- a) Any breach of these Regulations or failure to comply with any direction therein may result in a fine issued by FNSW or other sanction pursuant to the FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

4. Outstanding Debts

- a) Treatment of outstanding debts will be as per the FNSW By-laws.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, failure to comply with outstanding debts in accordance with the FNSW By- Laws may result in ineligibility to participate in Australia Cup Matches or forfeiture of completed Australia Cup Matches.
- c) This article applies to all Australia Cup Matches conducted by FNSW.

5. Special Consideration

- a) The Executive will have the power to consider individual circumstances outside the prescribed limits of the Regulations should it be clear those special considerations are in the interests of the game.
- b) The decision by the Executive to review and consider individual circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.

6. Disciplinary Sanctions and Proceedings

- a) All Clubs, Players, Team Officials, Match Officials, spectators or any person participating in any manner at an Australia Cup Match during the Preliminary Rounds, or any associated event, will submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of the Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations and the Australia Cup Competition Regulations as applicable.
- b) The Disciplinary Committee will be convened by the Competitions Manager in accordance with the FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

7. Unforeseeable Circumstance

- a) Nothing in these Regulations will prevent the Board from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations.

8. Cup Format and Information

- a) National Premier League (NPL), Football NSW League Men's One and Football NSW League Men's Two Clubs are required to register and participate in the Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds.
- b) The Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds will follow a gradual Australia Cup at the following stages:
- I. Association Clubs will enter the Australia Cup in Round 2; and
 - II. All Clubs in Football NSW League Men's One and Football NSW League Men's Two will enter the Australia cup in Round 3; and
 - III. All Clubs in NPL Men's will enter the Australia Cup in Round 4.
- c) FNSW may amend the seeding of any Club within the draw as it deems necessary.
- d) All Round winners will proceed to the next Round.
- e) All Round draws will be random with no separation of seeds within each round.
- f) Where required, a bye round will fill any vacant slots in the draw process.
- g) FNSW may alter fixture kickoff times and dates as it deems necessary.
- h) The competition progression of the Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds for FNSW will be as follows:

| Round Number | Participant | Progression |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Round 2 | All Clubs outlined in Section 1 art. 8 b) i | All winners progress to Round 3 |
| Round 3 | All Clubs outlined in Section 1 art. 8 b) ii and winning teams from Round 2 | All winners progress to Round 4 |
| Round 4 | All Clubs outlined in Section 1 art. 8 b) ii and winning teams from Round 3 | All winners progress to Round 5 |
| Round 5 | All winning Clubs from Round 4 matches | All winners progress through to Round 6 |
| Round 6 | All winning Clubs from Round 5 matches | All winners progress through to Round 7 |
| Round 7 | All winning Clubs from Round 6 matches | All winners progress through to the Round of 32 (Final Rounds) |

SECTION 2: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

1. Matches Played in Accordance with the Laws of the Game

- a) All Fixtures will be played in compliance with the Australia Cup Competition Regulations and these Regulations in force at the time and in accordance with Football Australia and FNSW By-Laws, regulations, codes and directives, and under the FIFA laws of the game.

2. Match Balls

- a) The Home Club shall provide the Match Official with three (3) match balls (size 5) no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the Australia Cup Match.
- b) Only licensed balls approved by FNSW may be used as match balls for Australia Cup Matches and warming-up.
- c) Where directed by Football Australia or FNSW, Clubs must use the Official Australia Cup Match Ball.
- d) Failure to supply match balls will result in a fine of \$100 per match they are not supplied.

3. Duration of Match

- a) Each Australia Cup Match must consist of two (2) equal halves of forty-five (45) minutes to total a "full" regular period Australia Cup Match time of ninety (90) minutes, excluding any injury time played as determined by the Referee.
- b) The half-time break for each Australia Cup Match will be fifteen (15) minutes.

4. Extra Time and Penalties

- a) If at the conclusion of the regular period in any Australia Cup Match (including injury time), the scores between the two (2) Clubs are tied, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes will be played. The conditions of Law 8 of the FIFA Laws of the Game will apply.

5. Substitution Rules

- a) For Preliminary Round Matches, Each team will be permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes:
 - I. For Preliminary Round Matches, a Club may select up to five (5) Players as substitutes on the Starting List; and may select one (1) further Player on the Starting List, where that Player is a nominated goalkeeper (i.e. a maximum of six (6) substitutes if a nominated goalkeeper is selected)
 - II. If a Team does not have a substitute goalkeeper, that Team will be capped at 16 Players on the digital team sheet
 - III. To reduce disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the match; substitutions may also be made at half time (do not count as one (1) of the three (3));
 - IV. If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team;
 - V. Unused substitutions and opportunities are carried forward into extra time
 - VI. each team will have one (1) additional substitution opportunity during Extra Time of a match up until the conclusion of Extra Time (whether or not the team has already used the full number of permitted substitution opportunities in normal time.

- b) A substitution can be made upon a Match Official being notified. A substitute Player must only enter the field of play:
 - I. after the Player being replaced has left the field of play
 - II. after he receives a signal from the Referee; and
 - III. at the half-way line and during a stoppage in the Australia Cup Match.
- c) The Player leaving the field must leave the field at the nearest point on the boundary line, unless otherwise directed by the referee

6. Lighting

- a) For Preliminary Round Matches, Clubs that wish to play under lights must ensure that the facility lighting complies with the following:

| Fixture | Average Horizontal illumination |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Association V Association | 50 LUX |
| Association v Football NSW League One, Two | 100 Lux |
| Football NSW League One, Two V Football NSW League One, Two | 100 Lux |
| Association v NPL | 200 Lux |
| Football NSW League One, Two v NPL | 200 Lux |

- b) Portable lighting will not be permitted to bring the LUX rating up to 200

7. Colours

- a) Where colours clash in the opinion of the referee, The Away team must change.
- b) The Away team is second team indicated in draw unless otherwise advised by FNSW.
- c) All teams must wear numbered strip with no duplication of numbers.
- d) All teams must have with them at each match a complete official and reserve playing strip.

8. Postponed Matches and Fixtures

- a) If an Australia Cup Match is abandoned due to adverse weather conditions or a cause outside the reasonable control of either club (including its Players and Officials) at or after sixty (60) minutes of the regular period being played and where, at the time of the Australia Cup Match being abandoned, the scores are not level, the result at the time of abandonment will be declared the final result.
- b) If an Australia Cup Match is abandoned due to adverse weather conditions or a cause outside the reasonable control of either club (including its Players and Officials) either:
 - a. at the time of the Australia Cup Match being abandoned, the scores are level; or
 - b. prior to sixty (60) minutes of the regular period having been played,

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- c. The Australia Cup Match must be rescheduled by FNSW. Such rescheduling will require the Australia Cup Match to either restart from the beginning or recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted (to be determined at the sole and absolute discretion of FNSW. The following principles will apply to the recommencement of the Australia Cup Match:
 - I. The Match will recommence with the same Players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the Australia Cup Match was initially postponed unless a player has received a suspension in matches conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match.
 - II. Should a player have received a suspension in a match conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match that player:
 - a. Will not be eligible to participate in the rescheduled match
 - b. Will not be able to count the match as a stand down in relation to any fixture suspension
 - c. The club will not be permitted to replace the player on the team sheet
 - d. If the player was on the field of play at the time of the postponement the player may be replaced by a substitute listed on the team sheet as long as the team has available substitutions as per the Regulations
 - e. If the Player was a substitute the number of available Players to substitute will decrease as they player cannot be replaced
 - III. No additional substitutes may be added to the list of Players on the team sheet
 - IV. The Teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was postponed
 - V. Players sent off during the abandoned Match cannot be replaced
 - VI. FNSW will endeavour to appoint the same Match Officials to the completion of the Match, however may appoint replacements should any or all of the Match Officials be unavailable
 - VII. The referee is the sole arbiter of elapsed time, and no protest may be lodged against the actual elapsed time as recorded by the referee
 - VIII. Should a Match be abandoned due to the fault of one (1) Team, or should it be determined by FNSW that one (1) Team / Club is responsible for the delay to the Match, the remaining minutes will not be rescheduled for completion, and the Match will be determined as a forfeit against the Team / Club that is deemed guilty of the abandonment or responsible for the delay
 - IX. Where a fixture is incorrectly reported as abandoned by the Referee where circumstances show clearly that the match was actually postponed, FNSW will treat the Match as postponed

9. Forfeits

- a) Should an Australia Cup Match not commence within 10 minutes of the start time in the match schedule or amended by FNSW, the Australia Cup Match will be forfeited by the team that has caused the delay to the start of the Australia Cup Match.
- b) Forfeits prior to the scheduled match day will result in a fine of \$500.
- c) Forfeits on the day of the scheduled match or without notice will result in a fine of \$500 per forfeited match plus relevant match official's fees.

10. Match Schedule and Kick-Off Times

- a) Football NSW will communicate the official Match schedule for all Competitions
- b) Football NSW will determine the Stadiums of all Premiership, Championship and Cup Matches
- c) Final match dates and kick-off times for all Matches will be determined by the Executive
- d) All Matches must be conducted on the scheduled day and commence at the stipulated kick-off time.
- e) Failure to do so may result in a fine of \$200
- f) Football NSW, in setting down kick-off times, may start Matches at 8:00 am for any daytime Fixture which may include Saturday, Sunday or any Public Holiday
- g) Football NSW may also schedule midweek evening Matches to accommodate Premiership washed out or deferred Fixtures as well as Cup Competitions
- h) Should serious delays be experienced in Matches scheduled prior to a 1st grade Match, any number of Matches will be reduced in time, whilst retaining the principle of equal halves, to ensure that the 1st Grade Match commences on time
- j) Clubs will not arrange other Matches or Fixtures until after the official Matches and Fixtures are settled
- k) Clubs will not arrange other Matches or Fixtures that improperly interfere with other Clubs' home Competition Matches or Fixtures
- l) Any disputes between two (2) or more Clubs as to the arrangement of Fixtures will be referred to and decided by the Executive
- m) Notwithstanding any other Regulation on the same subject matter, the Executive reserves the right to alter or amend any Fixture after it has been nominated in the official Match schedule. The alterations could be to the date, Stadium, kick-off times or a combination of all providing the Clubs involved are given seven (7) days prior notice
- n) Changes to the official Match schedule for all Leagues will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Any application for a change of Stadium, Fixture and/or Match must be submitted to Football NSW, along with reasoning documentary proof of the "exceptional circumstance" validating the requirements for a Stadium change, Fixture and or Match change along with details of the rescheduled Stadium, Fixture and or Match, no later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled Match
- o) Any application for a change to the official Match schedule within seven (7) days will only be considered by the Executive if in its absolute discretion it is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist, including if a Stadium has become unavailable at no fault of the Club. Details of the rescheduled Stadium, Fixture and or Match, must be submitted at the time of the request for a change to the official Match schedule.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY & DISCIPLINARY

1. Player Eligibility

a) Eligible Players:

- I) An eligible Player is one who has completed an online registration through National Registration System, either direct with a FNSW or with a FNSW Member Association.
- II) No player shall be permitted to play for more than one Club in the Australia Cup and can only represent the Club to which he is currently registered.

b) Ineligible Players:

An Ineligible Players is;

- I) Unregistered Players.
 - II) Suspended Players.
 - III) Football NSW may decide, in its absolute discretion, whether a Suspension or part thereof may be served in an abandon, cancelled or forfeited Match and any such decision is final and not subject to any challenge or appeal.
 - IV) A Player that has been expelled from a Match on the day/s prior to an Australia Cup Match but after the regular Disciplinary Committee hearing date.
 - V) A Player that has been expelled from a Match on the same day as the Australia Cup Match but played early in the day.
 - VI) A Player that is deemed ineligible due to any article of these Regulations or pursuant to the Australia Cup Competition Regulations, these Regulations and/or FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.
- c) Any Team that fields an ineligible Player will automatically lose that Australia Cup Match on forfeit and be fined \$250.
- d) Additionally, the Club, Team Official/s and / or Player may further sanctioned in accordance with the Australia Cup Competition Regulations and/or FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.
- e) For clarity, it is the Clubs absolute responsibility to ensure that it fields eligible players in any Australia Cup Match

2. Player and Team Registrations

- a) All teams must be registered online for their FNSW Association or FNSW Competition using the National Online Registration system, Play Football or in a system as approved by Football NSW
- b) For Clubs that participate in FNSW Associations or FNSW Competitions using the Dribl Competition Management system, Players will need to be allocated to the Australia Cup specific team, as provided for in the circulated guidelines for players to be deemed as registered for the Australia Cup and therefore eligible to participate.
- c) For FNSW Associations not using the Dribl Competition Management system, Players will need to be allocated to the Australia Cup specific team in Play Football or in a system as approved by Football NSW as provided in the circulated guidelines, to be deemed as registered for the Australia Cup and therefore eligible to participate.

3. Player Roster

- a) All Clubs participating in the FNSW Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds must nominate a max of 40 players registered in Play Football or in a system as approved by Football NSW.
- b) Dribl Associations must nominate players via Dribl

- c) Non Dribl associations must allocate players to FNSW Australia Cup team on Play Football or in an approved system by FNSW, no less than 48 hours prior to the day scheduled for the Club's FNSW Australia Cup Match. Contained in the table are the maximum players permissible for registration in the Preliminary Rounds of the Australia Cup:

| Squad Total | Team Sheet |
|-----------------------|--|
| Maximum of 40 players | A maximum of sixteen (17) Players only may be listed on the team sheet, in accordance with section 4 art. 1 f) |

- d) A Club may add players to the squad total however a Club may not remove a player from the submitted squad total.

4. Disciplinary Matters

- a) Yellow Cards:

- I. For the Preliminary Rounds, three (3) yellow cards equates to a one match suspension. Suspensions incurred due to the accumulation of Yellow Cards from the Preliminary Rounds will apply to the next Australia Cup Match in which the suspended Player's Club competes in.
- II. If a Club is eliminated from the Australia Cup and a player has received his third yellow card in the match that the Club was eliminated, the suspension will apply for the players next Australia Cup Match in which the player competes in. Yellow Card suspensions are Australia Cup specific and are required to be served in the Australia Cup.

- b) Red Cards:

- I. For the Preliminary Rounds, the Minimum Sanctions set out in the Table of Offences (as outlined in Schedule B of the Australia Cup Regulations) must be applied by FNSW to Red Card Offences and to Expulsion Offences.
- II. Red Card suspensions incurred in an Australia Cup Match are to be served in the Club's next competitive fixture(s) Red Card suspensions incurred in a Local Competition fixture will apply to the next Match in which the suspended Player's club competes in, including the Australia Cup.

SECTION 4: TEAM SHEETS, RESULTS, MATCH OFFICIALS & VENUE ENTRY

1. Team Sheets

- a) All digital team sheets for all Matches are to be completed online via Dribl
- b) Clubs are required to note the shirt number of each Player in Dribl. This information appears automatically next to the Player's name on the digital team sheet.
- c) The Home and Away Club must make their Player selection in Dribl and click on Submit team (at this point you can still make changes after submitting your team if need be) no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled Fixture.
- d) No later than 10 minutes before kickoff – Click on Confirm team (no more changes can be made to match sheet. If you do need to make any last minute change to the match sheet this must be communicated to the referee)
 - I. Should a listed starting Player be removed from the starting line-up, that Player may only be replaced by a Player listed as a substitute on the digital team sheet. The former starting Player may then be listed as a replacement. However, no other Player may be added to the digital team sheet to replace the former substitute Player.
 - II. Should a listed substitute Player be removed from the digital team sheet, the Team will not be permitted to name another Player in his/her place, and the number of available substitutes will be decreased by one (1)
- e) The numbers on the back of the Players' jerseys will correspond to the numbers on the digital team sheet handed to the Referee before the commencement of a Match. There must be no change of numbers from ten (10) minutes prior to or during a Match (this includes goalkeepers)
- f) A maximum of sixteen (17) Players only may be listed on the team sheet.
- g) At the completion of the Match, the Match Official is to enter the match data, which includes: the half time and full time scores, cautions, send offs, substitutions and any other Match incident that is deemed worthy of inclusion in the post-Match reporting
- h) The Home Club and Away Club must, within thirty (30) minutes of the Match, validate the Match Official data to ensure all records are accurate. If a discrepancy is identified by either Club that cannot be resolved on the day of the Match, notification must be issued to Football NSW: matchreports@footballnsw.com.au within 24 hours of the Match taking place. Football NSW will review and adjudicate on the alleged discrepancy within a workable time frame.

2. Results of Matches

- a) For all Australia Cup Matches FNSW will enter the results into Dribl.

3. Match Official Appointments

- a) The appointment of all Match Officials will be made by FNSW, who may utilise such other persons as deemed necessary to assist in the carrying out of this responsibility

4. Referee's Fees

- a) The home club is responsible for paying the Match Official Fees in accordance with the Australia Cup Match Official Fees determined by FA, via Football NSW Payments Page– [click Here](#)

| AUSTRALIA CUP PRELIMINARY ROUNDS - MATCH OFFICIAL FEES | | | | | |
|---|----------------|------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Round | Referee | AR1 | AR2 | 4th Official | Total |
| 2 | \$110 | \$55 | \$55 | N/A | \$220 |
| 3 | \$120 | \$60 | \$60 | N/A | \$240 |
| 4 | \$140 | \$70 | \$70 | N/A | \$280 |
| 5 | \$150 | \$75 | \$75 | N/A | \$300 |
| 6 | \$160 | \$80 | \$80 | N/A | \$320 |
| 7 | \$180 | \$90 | \$90 | \$90 | \$450 |

5. Admittance to Preliminary Round Fixtures

a) Admittance prices for the Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds shall be up to the following maximums:

| | Adult | Student or Concession | Child Under 16 |
|-------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Round 2 - 3 | \$5 | \$3 | Free |
| Round 4 - 7 | \$10 | \$5 | |

b) FNSW's and FA's conditions of entry to venues apply to all matches in the Preliminary Rounds. Each hosting Club shall display those conditions at each entry point to the venue.



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