



BFQ Incorporated 2017 Regular Season and Finals Series Rules

The regular season and finals series rules of BFQ shall apply to all affiliated clubs and teams of Baptist Football Queensland and shall be strictly adhered to.

Rules Of The Game

The rules of the game shall be as published in the available current edition of the “the Official Laws of the Game” (FFA) and as altered from time to time by the executive management committee.

Deviations from those rules currently include:

Adding Players to the Team Sheet after the Commencement of a Match

- *Normally registered players* names may be added to the match sheet up to and including the half time break. However should the manager of the particular team be accessing the borrowing of players ruling then borrowing of players rulings shall apply and players shall only be able to be added to the match sheet to make up to 11 players.

The Unlimited Substitution rule.

- Each team on a given game day shall be allowed to play a squad of up to 16 players. At any one time only a maximum of 11 players per team shall be allowed to be on the field of play. However players may be substituted on an unlimited basis. Players may only enter or leave the field with the permission of the Referee at the centre line of the field. Should the referee believe that a particular coach is utilising this system as a tactical tool the referee shall inform the manager that all future substitutions involving that team for that particular fixture shall be restricted to times when the team is in control of the ball. The referee at the conclusion of the game shall include a report on the matter as part of their match report.

“Blue Card Suspensions”

- A “Blue Card” ruling shall also apply to all fixtures played in this league.

Players shown the blue card by the referee shall immediately leave the field of play and sit in the technical area or where directed to by the referee for a period of 10 minutes.

The referee shall use the blue card where they believe that the player would benefit from a period on the sideline to cool off and regain composure.

A player may be blue carded only once in a fixture. Issued blue cards are not recorded on the team sheet by the referee. It is requested however that should the referee have to take further action during the match against the player, that the blue card offence be recorded on the team sheet as part of the match report.

Should a player commit further offences in the fixture, the referee shall view these actions as persistent infringements and shall deal with offending player accordingly.

At the first break in play after the suspension period has been served the assistant referee will signal to the referee that the time has been served and the player will then be invited by the referee to rejoin the game.

No player serving a blue card offence shall be eligible for substitution during the penalty time period.

Blue card periods shall be deemed to be 10 minutes or the balance of the game whichever is the lesser. Half time breaks are not included in the penalty time period.

A blue card may be issued in conjunction with a yellow card by the referee. Should the referee deem that a yellow card is necessary the referee shall first sanction the player with a yellow card and then show the player the blue card.

Golden Goal During Divisional Finals Series

BFQ has adopted a policy of playing golden goal during all finals series when sides competing in a finals series fixture are on equal goals scored at the end of regulation regular time as specified.

The Borrowing of players between clubs fielding only 1 side on an occasional basis.

- This rule is only available for usage by clubs up to and including the last weekend of fixtures in the regular season.
 - a. A team may only borrow a maximum of 3 players in any one game.
 - b. A team may only borrow players to make a run on side only of 11 players in total.
E.g. If 10 players then 1 can be borrowed, if 9 players then 2 may be borrowed.
 - c. Any team fielding a team in BFQ can access “The borrowed players ruling”. A team may only borrow players from teams of the same or a lower division.
 - d. On match day the following procedure shall apply when borrowing players.

Procedure for Borrowing Players:

- (1.) Advise the referee that your team is accessing the borrowed player ruling
 - (2.) Write in the Borrowed Player section of the team sheet:
 - (I) players name
 - (II) Players usual team
 - each player will sign next to his or her detail, as well as in the normal team listing on the team sheet as per normal.
 - the referee will authorise the transfer by countersigning.
- h. Once a manager has accessed the borrowed player system and the game has commenced, should a normally registered player with that team arrive, they will be allowed to replace a borrowed player. A borrowed player will no longer be eligible to take any further part in the match unless it is to make up the 11 players maximum that

are allowed to take the field at the beginning of the game and their name is added to the team sheet before they actively take part in the match.

- i. A normally registered player with the team may take the place of a borrowed player and when this occurs the borrowed player may take no further part in the fixture.
- j. The manager of the team-borrowing players is responsible for ensuring that the information supplied on the team sheet is correct. Supplying incorrect, insufficient or no information on the team sheet will be deemed as playing an unregistered player and the normal penalties for such shall apply.
- k. All yellow and red card offences committed whilst playing, as a borrowed player will be accredited to the individual borrowed player's season tally regardless of the team they are playing for at the time of the offence.

Multiple Team Clubs

Clubs that field two or more teams in any one season of BFQ sanctioned football shall be able to play as a squad. This intention shall be communicated in writing on the appropriate form to BFQ executive before the commencement of the regular season and the following regulations shall apply.

- a. The club shall register all of its players on the relevant squad form supplied by the registrar.
- b. Clubs shall only be able to access the squad system when they are fielding teams in two or more divisions. Clubs fielding teams in the same division are not eligible to play as a squad but are able to access the regular 'borrowed player' system.
- c. The squad system is available for use by clubs up to and including the last weekend of fixtures in July. At this point the club shall finalise a players list for each of its teams that it is fielding and it shall lodge this list with the registrar before the commencement of August fixtures. Failure to lodge this list with the registrar before the commencement of August fixtures will result in the loss of any competition points gained until such time as the correct forms are in the hand of the registrar.
- d. Players playing under this system shall take their individual "Player of The Year" points to the division that they are finally allocated to when their team manager lodges the finalised teams listing.
- e. The executive reserves the right to withdraw any clubs right to continue to access the squad system should it feel that evidence exists that a club is deliberately stacking lower division sides that it may be fielding.
- f. Players having already played in a lower division in a particular round of fixtures are eligible to play for their club in a higher division in that particular round of fixtures.
- g. Players having already played in a higher division in a particular round of fixtures are ineligible to play for their club in a lower division in that particular round of fixtures.
- h. Clubs playing as a squad may, after the 31st July of each season, utilise the borrowed player rules for the balance of the regular season.

Resolution of Disputes Procedure

- Any club or team belonging to BFQ who wish to protest or dispute any matter other than a referee's ruling, may do so. The matter must be addressed in writing to the secretary of BFQ executive from the management team of the particular club or team who will refer the matter in question to the relevant executive committee whose ruling on the matter shall be final. The relevant executive committee may refer the matter to the executive

management committee should it be unable to resolve the issue. Executive committees may also require a player, club or team official to present themselves for interview in order to give a direction to the party or parties concerned in some misunderstanding, controversy or hostility.

- Any club or team wishing to appeal a decision of a competition committee will be required to pay a \$50 appeal fee. At the completion of the appeal process, the executive management committee, at its discretion, will determine if the appeal fee is to be refunded. The appeal fee will be refunded if the appeal is successful.

Team Divisional Placements Procedures

- Teams shall be divided into divisions on a season-by-season basis as decided upon by the executive management committee after the completion of the Charity Shield and before the commencement of the regular playing season.
- The relevant executive committee will review the divisional status of all teams in each league competition before the end of the first rotation of fixtures and may promote or relegate teams should their playing history support either course of action. Teams that are promoted or relegated shall take any points that they have gained during the first rotation of fixtures with them to their new division.
- Should their points tally be greater than the leading team in their new division then they shall assume common points status and goal differentials with the leading team in their new division.
- Should their points tally be below the lowest placed team in their new division they shall assume the same status as the lowest placed team in their new division with regard to points and goal differences.
- Teams that are both minor premiers and championship winners will automatically be promoted to at least the next division for the following season.
- Teams that are either minor premiers or championship winners (but not both) will normally be promoted to at least the next division for the first rotation of fixtures of the season following and then their divisional placement shall be reviewed.

Divisional Finals Series

If at the end of the regular season teams in a particular division are equal on points, goal differences shall be taken into account in determining:

- a. Premiers
- b. The teams eligible to enter the semi-finals in each division.
- c. Positional placements for semi-final positions.

The number of goals scored against a team shall be deducted from the number of goals scored by the team in the regular season. The highest resultant figure shall be deemed to have the better goal difference. If teams are still locked then the team which has scored the higher number of goals shall be deemed the winning team. If there is still a deadlock then the teams concerned shall play an extra midweek fixture under semi final rulings conditions to determine eligibility for semi-final positions.

Additional Finals Series Rulings

- During the finals series, if both teams have scored an equal number of goals at the end of the normal period of football, the referee will allow both teams to have a 5 minute break at which time the coin shall be tossed as per the normal start of game rules and

2 x 10 minute periods of extra time shall follow. During this time the Golden Goal rule shall be adopted and if a goal is scored then the referee shall blow full time and award the team which scores first in extra time the fixture. At half time in extra time the teams will swap ends and continue to play. There will be no rest period designated for half time. If after extra time the score is still locked then the referee will conduct a penalty shoot out as per the current FIFA guidelines to determine the winner of the match.

- All players taking part in semi-finals and finals must have played a minimum of 5 fixtures in the regular season to be eligible for selection. The executive may allow individual Players who have not played 5 fixtures to play in a finals series only when a club can show that extenuating circumstances have occurred that have stopped a registered player from completing his 5 fixtures. If a team is found to have played an ineligible player, the executive committee of the competition shall apply an appropriate sanction at its discretion which may include, awarding the result to the opposing team or replaying the semi-final or final.
- No team shall be allowed to play in a semi-final or final unless all outstanding fees and fines are paid in full. Any team found in this situation shall forfeit their fixture. The next best placed team shall then be promoted to take this particular teams place in the finals series.
- Any team forfeiting a final series fixture shall be replaced in that scheduled fixture by the next best placed team in that division.
- All finals series matches shall be played at their scheduled time and place. Normal flexibility rules regarding scheduled timing of fixtures shall not apply during finals series matches.
- All finals series games venues will be wherever possible played at a neutral venue. The venue selection is at the sole discretion of the games convenor.

Annual Baptist Football Queensland Awards

Steve Medlin Fair Play Trophy

The BFQ Executive at the end of each regular season shall award BFQ's top honour "The Steve Medlin Perpetual Trophy" to the team that has best upheld the goals, aims and objectives of BFQ on a regular basis. In each fixture of the regular season the official match referee shall award each team with a score between 0 and 5 with regard to the individual teams ability to uphold the values of BFQ before during and immediately after the particular fixture. Should two teams be equal on points then the team with highest number of 5 point values shall be awarded the title. If still equal then the same method shall be used for those fixtures with 4 points awarded. If still equal then the teams shall be deemed joint winners.

Behavior of Team prior and after the game	1 Point
Behavior of Team during the game	1 Point
Playing Strip Correct	1 Point
Attitude of Players towards opponents and referees decisions	1 Point

BFQ Divisional Player of the Year

Each BFQ competition executive committee at the end of each regular season shall award a Player of the Division award for each division being contested in its relevant competition in that particular year. After each scheduled fixture the match referee shall award points on a 3,2,1 basis to the three players on the park regardless of team that best represented the goals aims and objectives of BFQ during that particular fixture. Should players be equal on points at the end of the regular season then the player who has received the greatest number of maximum 3 point votes shall be deemed the player of the year for that particular division. Should players still be equal then they shall be awarded the title of joint winners of the divisional player of the year award.

Player Sports Injury Policies

- BFQ and its elected officers accepts no liability for injury caused on the field of play in respect of a player's wearing of spectacles or contact lenses. Any prescription spectacles worn on the field must be attached to the player via tape or a fastening device, which wraps around the back of the head. It is preferred that only safety sport type glasses or goggles be worn on the field.
- BFQ offers a blanket policy for sports injury insurance to cover players when playing and training for BFQ sanctioned matches. Inclusion in this policy is on a club-by-club basis. It is the responsibility of the individual club to ensure that all players registered with their club are aware of the individual clubs player insurance policy and procedures.
- Whilst BFQ will strive to enhance player safety at all of its sanctioned games, BFQ accepts no responsibility or liability for any and all injuries incurred by players involved in, or training for, BFQ sanctioned games.
- BFQ strongly advises individual players to supplement this insurance cover by arranging their own personal accident and or income protection insurance independently through an insurer or insurance agent should they require it.

Team Playing Strips

- Each team shall play in a numbered approved same coloured playing shirt complete with same coloured stockings and same coloured shorts. All playing strips must be approved by the relevant executive league committee before ordering or usage.
- Clubs are encouraged to find a suitable sponsor for playing strips to help offset costs. Clubs are reminded that all sponsors must be approved by the executive management committee of BFQ before acceptance of any sponsorship arrangements between member clubs and other bodies.
- No team may change its approved playing strip without the written permission and prior approval of the relevant executive league committee of BFQ. Team Managers should contact the registrar of their respective competition for further clarification if required.
- Teams are encouraged wherever possible to carry an alternative strip to cover the possibility of a clash of playing strip occurring.
- Should a playing strip clash occur it is the responsibility of the teams listed second (away team) on the fixture listing to supply an alternative playing strip. It is hoped that a common sense approach will be undertaken by all teams to come prepared when a possibility of playing strip clash might eventuate.

Registering Of Players During The Regular Season

- Players may be registered with a club up to and including the 31st July of each year.
- No team shall register players after that date without the approval of the relevant BFQ executive committee. Approval will only be given in extenuating circumstances. Team Managers should contact the registrar of their respective competition for further clarification if required.
- Players must be registered with a particular team and shall not be allowed to transfer to any other team within a playing season except with the written permission of the relevant executive committee of BFQ. Requests for transfer must be made in writing to BFQ before the player plays his first match for his new club. Player registration forms and any fees owed to his previous club must be forwarded to the Club Registrar/Team Manager of the receiving club prior to the day of the first fixture with the new club.

Forfeits Procedures

- In the event of a team failing to arrive before the scheduled kick off, or within five minutes of the end of play of the earlier game if such game is late, the referee shall declare the game a forfeit. The referee shall sign the team sheet accordingly. The team present shall be awarded a **provisional** 3-0 win.
- In the event of the above being brought about by circumstances beyond the control of the absent team, then such team shall submit the circumstances in writing to the registrar of its particular competition within 7 days of the event. If upon investigation, BFQ executive committee finds that the circumstances are unavoidable, then the provisional awarding of winning points shall be reversed and the teams shall be given 1 calendar month in which to replay the fixture. If both teams can not come up with a suitable time to replay the fixture within 1 calendar month or the end of the regular season (whichever is the lesser) than a 2-2 draw shall be declared and points awarded accordingly.
- Each affiliated club shall lodge with BFQ upon joining a forfeit fee as a guarantee of fulfilling its fixtures. Any club forfeiting a match without sufficient notice of its intention shall have the expense deducted from its forfeit fee. Clubs fulfilling their fixture obligations shall have their respective forfeit fee held in trust from year to year by the executive of BFQ. Clubs found to be continually forfeiting fixtures may be required by the executive to lodge a larger forfeit fee based upon the clubs history of recent forfeits. The amount of this additional bond shall be decided on a case by case basis by the executive and communicated in writing to the particular club.
- If a team is deemed to have breached the competition rules during a game that creates a technical forfeit i.e. the playing of too many players in one game, the team shall lose any competition points gained from that particular game and the game shall be awarded to the opposing team. Points awarded for this game shall be as per normal forfeit rulings. The new winning team shall be awarded a 3-0 result for the purposes of goals for and against.
- Any goals awarded to a team based on a forfeit shall be accredited to the goalkeeper of the winning team on the team sheet submitted for the fixture. Should no official team sheet be lodged with the registrar then the goalkeeper from the previous fixture of the winning team shall be accredited the goals.

- Teams incurring a forfeit fee during the season are required to resubmit a new bond should they be requested to. All points awarded to a team in this situation will be suspended until such time as the new bond is paid in full.

Forfeit Guidelines & Charges

- All forfeits must be lodged via email to the BFQ Referees Convenor, BFQ Games Convenor, and relevant BFQ competition registrar (all three must be notified) no later than 3pm on the Sunday preceding the scheduled fixture.
- Forfeit game no later than 3pm Sunday previous to the scheduled fixture: \$70 forfeit fee plus loss of 1 competition point
- Forfeit game later than 3pm Sunday previous to the scheduled fixture: \$140 forfeit fee plus loss of 2 competition points
- Teams found to be forfeiting games on a continuing basis shall be asked to show cause as to why their right to continue to field teams in BFQ competitions shall not be withdrawn.

Byes

BFQ wherever possible avoids having any division with an unequal number of teams. However should a bye be in place in a particular division and your team is playing under the squad system then the following ruling shall apply.

- The manager of the team experiencing a bye must submit to the relevant BFQ league registrar a team sheet with a minimum of 11 players' names that would normally play for that side. On receipt of this team sheet the registrar shall award 3 competition points but no goals to that teams cumulative tally for the season. Any player whose name appears on the submitted team sheet is then not eligible to play in any other fixture of BFQ football in any division for that particular round of fixtures.
- Should no team sheet be submitted for the bye round then no points will be awarded to the teams cumulative tally and all players normally playing for that team shall be eligible to play in other teams for that particular club (if playing as a squad) or available for borrowing by other clubs as per the normal system.
- Byes experienced by teams after the 31st July shall be automatically awarded the 3 points and a team sheet does not need to be submitted.

Team Manager's Match Day Responsibilities

- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that their team be at the designated field and ready to play **a minimum** of 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of their game.
- It is the team manager's responsibility that all players be dressed in their **correct approved club-playing strip**. All playing strips must be approved by the executive of BFQ prior to the commencement of a playing season. **Approved playing strip will include numbered same coloured shirt, same colored shorts and same coloured socks.** Shorts are to be of the same color, socks to be the same colour and design and shirts are to individually numbered. Players not in correct playing uniform will be requested to leave the park at the discretion of the referee. The referee will report breaches of uniform code in his match report for the relevant competition committee to take further action.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that if a clash of strip does occur it is the responsibility of the second side mentioned on the fixture draw (away side) to arrange for a change of playing strip. The executive of BFQ may make exceptions to this rule from time to time. The away side shall be the one listed second on the fixture draw for that game regardless of the geographical location of the fixture.
- The team manager is to ensure that all players wear suitable footwear. It is preferred that players play in soft toed soccer shoes with molded soles and tags. Cross Trainer sand shoes will be allowed until soccer shoes are obtained. Boots, shoe tags and studs must conform to the Referees chart - Law 4. In the interest of player safety the wearing of solid or hollow aluminum tags is strictly forbidden.
- The team manager shall ensure that no player be allowed to enter the field of play without suitable (fit for purpose) FIFA approved shin guard protectors in place. As a guideline approved shin pads shall cover the shin from the top of the ankle to just below the knee. Team managers shall ensure that all shin pads are designed for senior football. The wearing of junior football shin pads is strictly forbidden in the interest of player safety.
- The team manager is responsible for ensuring that all players expecting to play in a scheduled fixture will have read and understands their obligations under BFQ's Player's Code of Conduct before during and after games sanctioned by BFQ.
- The team manager is responsible for ensuring that all players on their team are aware of BFQ's "sports injury insurance" policy.
- The team manager will ensure that all players and supporters act in a manner that enhances the goals and aims of BFQ including its policies with regard to the consumption of alcohol and other prohibited substances including recreational and performance enhancing drugs.

- The team manager shall be their player's advocate at any necessary judiciary hearing that may be necessary due to breaches in the player's code of conduct.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that no player during a game shall change shirts unless it is to interchange with the goalkeeper. No Player shall be allowed to enter the field of play wearing another players numbered shirt.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that their teams pay all referee and assistant referee fees due each game **prior to the commencement of play.**
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that their team completes a team sheet for each fixture in the prescribed manner. The signed team sheet will be handed to the match referee no later than 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that at the commencement of each fixture teams shall enter the field from the halfway line in an orderly fashion and line up on either side of the centre line to receive instructions from the referee.
- It is the team managers responsibility to ensure that each player fill out the BFQ Individual Player Registration Form and The BFQ Summary Team Sheet before they are able to take the field. The BFQ Summary Team Sheet must be lodged with the relevant competition registrar within 5 working days of the fixture or a 2-point penalty for each infringement may be incurred. The BFQ Individual Player Registration Form is to be retained by the club.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that a suitable first aid kit is available for usage by their team.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that players wishing to register with BFQ affiliated clubs that are also registered with other clubs in other associations declare their affiliation. They must also supply to the relevant BFQ league registrar a written authority release from the secretary of their other club on club letter head that they are free to play in BFQ approved competitions prior to playing their first BFQ approved fixture. This release must state that they will not hold BFQ or any BFQ affiliated club responsible for any injuries incurred to the player whilst playing in BFQ sanctioned matches.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that the area they occupy at a ground on the day of a scheduled fixture is left in a neat and tidy state free of litter.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure provision of a safe, supportive and organised environment for all players, spectators and match officials.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that all players and spectators depart from the ground in a safe and orderly manner.
- It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that team spectators associated with his particular team are kept under control and behave in an acceptable manner.

Game Cancellations and Postponements

In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of fixtures due to rain or acts of God rendering the grounds unplayable the executive games committee shall be empowered to have all or any of the matches replayed or declared abandoned and award points according to the following guidelines.

All Games Cancelled

- Declare a dead rubber and award no points.
- If all games are cancelled all fields normally utilised by BFQ are therefore deemed unplayable. Should any team utilise a field when it has been officially deemed unplayable that team will be charged by BFQ for any repairs to the playing surface that may have been made necessary as a result of using the closed field.

Some Games Cancelled

- Balance of fixtures for the round not played shall be played within a one month calendar period at venues and times agreed to between the relevant teams, games convenor and the referees convenor. If no agreement can be reached on a suitable time and venue then a 2-2 result shall be declared and points allocated accordingly.
- Cancellation or relocation of games will be posted on the website up until 10.00am on the morning of the fixture.
- Games not cancelled before 10.00am on the day of the scheduled fixture shall be deemed to be playable until such time as the allocated referee for the fixture has completed a pre-match inspection of the playing surface. Should the referee deem that the surface is unplayable the fixture will be deemed to be a postponed fixture and normal such rulings shall apply.
- If the game is cancelled by the referee due to their assessment of the field being in an unplayable condition, the playing surface shall be immediately vacated. Should any team utilise a field when it has been officially deemed unplayable that team will be charged by BFQ for any repairs to the playing surface that may have been made necessary as a result of using the closed field.

Finals or Semi-Finals Cancelled

- Should a final or semi-final be cancelled or abandoned by the referee, the decision as to whether the results at the time abandonment will stand, or the replaying of the match, will be at the discretion of the Executive Management Committee.
- In making its decision, the Executive Management Committee, as a guideline, may consider the following:
 - if the match is abandoned up to or including the commencement of the second-half, the match may be considered for replay
 - if the match is abandoned after the second half commences, then the result may stand as it is at the time of the abandonment by the referee
 - the score at the time of abandonment, and whether there may be a likelihood of there being a different result if the game were to have been played for the full 90 minutes.
- If it is deemed by the executive management committee that the match is to be replayed, the replay will be at the time and venue as specified by the executive

management committee. If a team is unable to comply with the specified replay, then that team will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

Postponement of Games:

If by mutual agreement of both teams a scheduled fixture is unable to be played at its scheduled time and venue, then the match may be played at a more convenient time and venue suitable to both teams.

- Matches may only be postponed prior to 3.00pm on the Sunday afternoon before the scheduled fixture. No postponements will be accepted after this time.
- The details of the rescheduled match (time and venue) must be included in the email advice submitted, as outlined in the Forfeits Guidelines and Charges section above.
- If the rescheduled match is not played as advised above, a technical forfeit will be incurred on the part of the team who initiated the original forfeit (the team which lodged the email), and will result in the payment of the \$140 forfeit fee.
- All rescheduled matches must be played prior to the last Saturday of the regular season.

Playing of Friendly Games with Member Clubs and Clubs From Other Associations

BFQ both before, during and after the season encourages the playing of trial matches and friendly games. For the purpose of player penalties during these games it is hoped that any incidences requiring the use of infringement cards by the referee would be minimal. It is the intention of the executive management committee to only take action where the referees report from such a game would deem the need for a player to have a case to answer that could incur a lengthy suspension. In these instances, the standard judiciary procedures would be called upon.

- Any match involving a BFQ club and or controlled by a BFQ referee shall be considered a sanctioned match of BFQ and therefore any and all BFQ affiliated players playing in the match will be required to play the game under the canopy of the BFQ players code of conduct.
- BFQ clubs are free to organise friendly games with clubs from other football associations. Clubs are to be aware that any game played by a BFQ registered club is deemed to be sanctioned by BFQ for insurance purposes. Clubs wishing to play friendly games with clubs from other associations are requested to notify the games convenor and relevant competition registrar of the match time and venue. Should a BFQ referee be required for the match then the BFQ club should contact the BFQ Referees Convenor who will advise as to whether a BFQ accredited referee can be made available for the match.
- A BFQ team sheet will be required to be filled out for these matches and the completed team sheets lodged by the BFQ home team with the BFQ Results Officer after the game has been played. The referee shall mark the front of the team sheet as being a 'friendly game'. If the game was controlled by a referee not accredited to control BFQ matches then the BFQ team manager shall forward the completed team sheet to the BFQ Results Officer.

Player Infringement Penalties & Procedures

Following is a list of offences for infringements on the field and a points system similar to the current FIFA rules and is subject to review by the executive management committee of BFQ from time to time.

Red Card (Send Off) Offences

Send off offences are treated as an automatic minimum one game suspension and may be extended after the match review committee has reviewed the official match report. If after reading the report BFQ's results officer and or relevant competition registrar acting on behalf of BFQ executive feels that a greater suspension is required (up to and including 3 weeks), the player and club shall be notified in writing of the suspension. Suspensions imposed up to and including 3 games are not subject to appeal.

<i>Send Off Offence (Red Card)</i>	<i>Minimum Suspension</i>
Violent Conduct (including threatening a referee – verbally or physically) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 1 (eg. pushing without striking/retaliation)• Grade 2 (all other offences)	1 Game 4 Games
Serious Foul Play	2 Game
Uses Offensive or Insulting or Abusive Language and or Gestures	1 Game
Receives a Second Caution in the same match	1 Game
Spits at an Opponent, Official or Spectator	2 Game
Denies an opponent a goal or obvious goal scoring opportunity	1 Game

A player who accrues a second red card in the season will serve an extra week suspension period that will be served following any other sentence that may have been imposed due to the red card offence. A third red card may result in the player having their right to play further games withdrawn for the balance of that particular season and finals series.

Byes and game cancellations due to field closures shall not be included in the suspension period.

The executive management committee reserves the right in the interest of fair play and safety to impose lengthier suspensions for serial offenders.

Yellow Card (Caution) Offences

A player who accumulates 4 yellow card offences in the regular season shall incur a 1 game suspension penalty. This penalty is mandatory and is not subject to the appeals process.

Any player who accumulates 8 yellow cards will serve 2 weeks suspension.

Any player who accumulates 12 yellow cards may result in the player having their right to play further games withdrawn for the balance of that particular season and finals series.

Players who accumulate a fourth yellow card in the last fixture of the regular season shall serve a one match suspension in their first scheduled game of the final series.

At the end of the regular season all outstanding yellow card offences shall be negated.
i.e. All players contesting finals series football at the start of the final series shall be deemed to have zero yellow card offences.

Players contesting finals series games who accumulate 3 yellow card offences during the finals series shall also serve a 1 game suspension penalty.

Yellow card offences once recorded on the official team sheet by the referee controlling the match are not eligible for any appeal processes.

<i>Cautionable or Yellow Card Offences</i>
Deliberately Obstructing or tripping an opponent
Entering or re-entering the field of play without the Referee's permission
Deliberately leaving the field of play without the Referee's permission
Persistently Infringes the Laws Of The Game
Showing Dissent Of Referees or Asst. Referees Decisions by word or action
Deliberately Delaying the Restart of Play
Deliberately Grabbing or Holding a Player
Foul or Dangerous Play
Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
Removal of jersey when celebrating a goal
Unsporting Behavior

Playing of a suspended player by a club when they have been notified by BFQ in writing (email, letter or text message) will result in the players normally registered team losing any points allocated whilst the player is under suspension. It will also result in an automatic doubling of the individual players prescribed penalty.

Penalties incurred and not practically completed in the regular series of a season are to be served in the final series (if contesting) and then in the consequent season of registration for the individual player.

Penalties incurred and not practically completed in the final series of a season are to be served in the consequent season of registration for the individual player.

Team Managers are reminded to inform players suspended from Baptist Football Queensland sanctioned matches that their suspension will also be upheld by Football Queensland, Queensland Christian Soccer Association, Sunshine Coast Christian Soccer Association and Queensland Commercial league competitions.

Technical Breaches of Competition Rules

Where a technical breach of the rules of the competition occurs and is brought to the attention of the relevant competition management committee, the relevant competition management committee shall prepare a report for the executive management committee's consideration and review. The executive management committee has the power after completing its investigation and review of the incident to determine an appropriate penalty where one is not already indicated within the rules of competition or constitution. Penalties imposed may include, but not be limited to loss of competition points, monetary fine, or replaying of a

designated fixture. The executive management committee's decisions on matters of this nature shall be deemed as final and are not appealable.

All complaints of this nature must be submitted in writing from the secretary or nominated contact of the team's club and must be in the hands of the relevant competition registrar within 5 days of the incident occurring.

Judiciary Procedures

- The club of a Player sent from the field by the referee will be notified by the executive management committee (normally via the results officer) via email, telephone or SMS message as soon as possible what suspension will be applied for the offence committed. Suspension periods up to 3 games will be notified by the results officer to the players club as soon as the referees match report has been reviewed by the competition match review panel. The normal review panel shall be made up of the results officer and relevant competition registrar who may bring other executive committee members into the decision making process should they feel it necessary to do so and or both parties can not agree on a suitable penalty. Suspension periods up to and including 3 games are not eligible for the appeals process.
- If the match review committee feels that a greater suspension may need to be applied due to the nature of the offence or previous charges against the player concerned, the results officer shall advise the players club that the player is to be immediately stood down from BFQ sanctioned matches until such time as a suitable judiciary panel can be convened to fully hear the charge. This judiciary panel shall be made up of the following representatives.
 - a. Independent Chairperson (an executive member not from the players club)
 - b. Referees Representative (Convenor or their representative should they have been in control of the match concerned)
 - c. Players Representative (from those elected to the current executive)
 - d. One other current elected executive committee member.
- The judicial panel shall hear evidence from the players club who may send 2 representatives to the hearing and also from the referee (either in person or via the match report) and any other witnesses that either the judicial panel or the players club may call. After hearing all evidence presented the judicial panel will advise the club as to the outcome of the hearing via written notification on behalf of BFQ executive. Decisions made by this judicial panel are subject to appeal as per the association's normal procedures. Any further appeal should be in writing and addressed to the Secretary of BFQ.
- The executive management committee reserves the right after due consideration to penalise teams either via a fine or loss of premiership points for continual breaches of the season rules, player's and team's code of conduct. Any penalty imposed shall be notified to the club in writing and subject to normal appeals processes.
- Players suspended by the BFQ discipline tribunal may be required do undergo a suitable course in behavior management before being allowed to take part in any further BFQ sanctioned matches.
- Players playing in more than one sanctioned competition of BFQ shall accrue demerit points for the competition in which the infringement occurred. However a player suspended from playing matches in a particular competition is suspended from all BFQ

sanctioned matches until such time as the suspension period expires in the competition in which the infringement occurred.

Duration of Matches

The BFQ executive management committee has instructed referees that wherever possible, adherence to the following schedule with regard to duration of matches shall apply.

Competition	Duration of Match (Minutes)	Half Interval (Minutes)	Time	Ball Size for Games	Corners
All competitions	45 x 45	10		No. 5	Corner Flag

BFQ accredited referees are permitted to shorten the length of any fixture should weather, ground or other circumstances outside BFQ's control be in place at a particular ground on a particular scheduled match time.

The referee will wherever possible negotiate a suitable time frame with both managers or communicate his intention to shorten a match to the managers before the commencement of the fixture.

Season Points Calculations

Points are only allocated for specific fixtures once the results officer of BFQ has the official team sheet in his possession. Any and all results are only provisional until such time as the Results Officer declares them as official.

Regular season fixture results will wherever possible be posted to the BFQ web site no later than the following Tuesday evening. It is the responsibility of each team manager to telephone the result of the match through to the results officer prior to 6.00pm on the Saturday of that weekends fixture round.

Competition	Win	Loss	Scoreless Draw	Scored Draw	Attendance General Meeting
All competitions	3 Points	0 Points	1 Point	1 Points	1 Point

Specific Competition Rulings

Whilst all general rulings apply to BFQ sanctioned games a number of additional exemptions and additions relate to specific competitions run by the association on a season-by-season basis.

Senior Women's Competition

- Players must be or turning at least 13 years of age in the year of the season for which they are applying for registration.
- The names of no more than 16 players can be entered on the team sheet.
- Teams shall be allowed to play up to 16 players in any scheduled match.
- All players must have distinctive and different shirt numbers.
- **No piece of jewellery** may be worn at any time during a game. Medical alert bracelets are the exception to this rule and shall be taped under the jersey or on the wrist or ankle

without covering the medical information it displays. BFQ will however allow players who are married to wear a taped wedding band as long as the band has no sharp edges.

- Any prescription spectacles worn on the field must be attached to the player via tape or a fastening device, which wraps around the back of the head. It is preferred that only safety sport type glasses or goggles be worn on the field.
- Goalkeepers shall be the only players on the field of play allowed to wear a cap or head covering and this must not be of a hard brimmed variety.
- Any sharp or long fingernails shall be taped and covered before entering the field of play.
- Under special circumstances teams may apply for registration of under age players to compete in teams in this competition. Players applying for registration under this rule must be approved by the Ladies League Executive committee prior to their first game and must have attained a minimum of 12 years of age and demonstrate that their skill level is in keeping with the aims and objectives of this competition.
- Any players registered to play in the Senior Women's competition, and is aged 16 or under, will be eligible for selection in the Under 16 representative team

Senior Men's Competition

- Teams shall normally be made up of male players. If a team wishes to register players in a team comprising members of both sexes, then this may be done.
- Teams competing in the men's competition shall be able to use up to 16 players in each scheduled match.
- Only the goalkeeper shall be allowed to wear a cap or head covering and this must not be of a hard brimmed variety.
- No piece of jewelry may be worn at any time during a game Medical alert bracelets are the exception to this rule and shall be taped under the jersey or on the wrist or ankle without covering the medical information it displays. BFQ will however allow players who are married to wear a taped wedding band as long as the band has no sharp edges.
- Players registered to play in the men's competition shall be turning a minimum of 15 years of age in the year they are applying for registration in.
- Any players registered to play in the men's competition, and is aged 16 or under, will be eligible for selection in the Under 16 representative team.
- Any players registered to play in the men's competition, and is aged 18 or 17, will be eligible for selection in the Under 18 representative team

Over 30's Men's Competition

- To be eligible to play, all players must meet the age criteria. Any person turning 30 years of age or older in the year of the season a player is applying for registration shall be eligible to play.
- Teams may apply to register up to 2 players under the age of 30 to compete in this competition. Players applying for registration under this rule must be at least 27 years of age (that is, turning 28 in the year of the competition).
- The BFQ executive management committee shall have the authority to change the number and age of players under this condition at any time it deems necessary however any change made will apply to all teams in the competition from the date of the change onwards.

