

Bendigo Amateur Soccer League – Summary 2025 Rules of Competition

Section	Current	Proposed	Rationale
General		<p>New Section:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bendigo Amateur Soccer League – Transition to Football Victoria 1.1 General – Transition to Football Victoria <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1. With the transition to Football Victoria in season 2026, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League will adopt the Football Victoria 2025 Rules of Competition for all common matters relating to Rules of Competition. 1.1.2. Only the Regional specific matters are contained within the 2025 Bendigo Amateur Soccer League rules of competition. Where not contained within these rules of competition, BASL we defer to and adopt the FV 2025 Rules of Competition. 1.1.3. Where there is any conflict between rules of competition, the 2025 BASL Rules of Competition reference will apply. 1.1.4. Where the 2025 Football Victoria Rules of Competition refers to Football Victoria (FV), this is to be replaced with Bendigo Amateur Soccer League (BASL). 1.1.5. Where the FV Rules of Competition refers to Men’s State League, Women’s State league or Men’s Metropolitan league replace with the equivalent Senior Team within the BASL Competitions. (i.e., League 1, League 2 and Youth) 1.1.6. Where the FV Rules of Competition refers to Metropolitan Juniors, these applies to all competitive Junior Competitions within the BASL Competitions. <p>Align the common elements of the BASL and FV Rules of Competition in readiness for season 2026 when under Football Victoria.</p>	<p>With the BASL ROC modelled on the FV ROC, utilise the FV ROC except where specific BASL (Local) Rules apply.</p>
General	Not Applicable	Ensure all email addresses are in fact correct.	
2.2 Playing Down Dispensations Also requires review of section 10.2	<p>2.2.3 A Player may in BASL’s sole discretion be permitted to play down one age group in the following circumstances:</p> <p>(a) if the Player has not previously been registered with FFA or FV. An application made under this provision is not automatically approved (needs to be the exception) and consideration of physical size, previous sports played etc. needs to be provided by clubs applying. Consideration as to whether a club already has an age-appropriate team will also be included in any final decision:</p>	<p>New Paragraph (Now Section 2.1)</p> <p>2.1.3 To ensure that no team has numerous players playing day on dispensation, a cap of 2 players per team applies to this rule.</p>	<p>Clubs to look at other options than requesting for numerous players to play down an age group.</p> <p>Ensure that teams within an age are not heavily filled with players under dispensation.</p>

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<p>3.4.1 Interchange</p>	<p>Interchange</p> <p>3.4.1 In all BASL fixtures for teams between Under 6's to Under 18's, Youth Division, Women's, League 1 Men's Reserve's, League 2 Men's, and Reserves and Open (Social) the Interchange Rule shall apply.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) Each team can make an unlimited number of interchanges in any given fixture.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) The Youth Division, Women's Competitions, Men's League 2, and Men's League 1 Reserves are allowed to only have up to five (5) interchange players permitted to be named on the Team Sheet.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(c) For all other Competitions where the interchange rule is used, any number of players are permitted to be named on the Team Sheet and used during the game.</p>	<p>Now Section 3.2.</p> <p>3.2.1 In all BASL fixtures for teams between Under 6's to Under 18's, Youth Division, Women's, League 1 Men's Reserve's, League 2 Men's, and Reserves and Open (Social) the Interchange Rule shall apply.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) All competitions where interchange is used will be permitted to have up to six (6) interchange players named on the Team Sheet.</p>	<p>Alignment to FV Rules of Competition that allows 17 players to be named on the team sheet.</p> <p>Alignment of Junior Rules with Senior Interchange requirements. Also ensures more opportunity for players by capping the number of players allowed on the team sheet in Juniors to 17 Players.</p>
<p>4.7 Date and Time Changes</p>		<p>Now Section 4.4</p> <p>New Paragraph:</p> <p>4.4.6 BASL holds ultimate power and absolute discretion over the fixturing of Competition Fixtures.</p>	<p>Brings it in line with FV Rules of Competition.</p>

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<p>5.1 Match Officials Fees</p>	<p>5.1 Match Official Fees</p> <p>5.1.1 2024 Match Official Fee Structure in Schedule 1 .</p> <p>5.1.2 (a) Payment of all fees for Match Officials (Including Assistant Referees) will be made on the day (by cash or cheque) by the Home team (except where BASL has agreed to pay the fee’s (i.e., Cup Finals)). For avoidance of doubt the home team is the first name team in the fixture, regardless of venue. (Except for pre-season cup were the hosting club pay the referee’s)</p> <p>(b) It is the home club’s responsibility to make necessary arrangements to ensure that all appointed referees are paid at the conclusion of their appointed games. Failure to pay referees in the first instance will be a warning. Subsequent breach will involve a fine at BR1 (as pre the GDT) for each subsequent breach.</p> <p>(c) BASL on the conclusion of each fixture still requires receipt of signed match records (and votes if applicable) to competitions@basl.com.au, unless otherwise requested.</p> <p>5.1.3 If a Match is abandoned or postponed, all Match Officials are entitled to receive Match fees in accordance with rules 4.2.5 and 4.6.3 respectively.</p>	<p>STILL UNDER REVIEW – MATCH OFFICIALS SECTION</p>	
<p>10.4 Composition of League’s</p>	<p>New Paragraph</p>	<p>Now Section 7.4</p> <p>7.4.9 Team’s entered and withdrawn after the release of the DRAFT fixtures will be charged 50% of the team entry cost. Teams withdrawn after the release of the final fixture will be charged 100% of the team entry cost.</p>	<p>Refer to section 11.4 below.</p>

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<p>10.5 Senior Men Promotion and Relegation</p>	<p>10.5 Senior Men’s – Promotion and Relegation</p> <p>10.5.1 Where the league conducts two separate men’s competitions, promotion and relegation between the competitions will be as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The top team in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s (Championship Winner) will be promoted to the Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season (except for (c) and (d) below). (b) The bottom team in Central Victorian League 1 in the championship season will be relegated to the Central Victorian League 2 competition for the following season (except for (c) and (d) below). (c) Where the top team in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s (Championship Winner) already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 championship the team finishing second in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season except where this club also already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 competition. (d) Where the top team in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s (Championship Winner) is unable to field 2 teams in the following season in the Central Victorian League 1 championship the team finishing second in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season except where they also cannot field 2 teams. (e) Where the same team/club in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s wins the championship in 2 consecutive seasons, they will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 regardless of whether they are able to or not field 2 teams in the next season. This promotion will be to the Central Victorian League 1 Men’s (not Reserve’s) competition. (f) Where the top 2 teams in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s competition are unable to be promoted, the team finishing third in the Central Victorian League 2 competition will be offered the opportunity to play in the Central Victorian League 1 competition in the following season (providing they can accommodate the requirement of both a Seniors and Reserves side). If accepted a play-off match between this team and the bottom placed Central Victorian League 1 team will be arranged to determine which competitions these teams play in the following season. (g) The play-off match in point (f) above must be completed within 3 weeks of the cut-off date for notification (or as dictated in dot (e)). This will be arranged by BASL in consultation with the opposing clubs. Final details remain BASL’s in its sole discretion. 	<p>Now section 7.5</p> <p>7.5 Senior Men’s – Promotion and Relegation</p> <p>7.5.1 Where the league conducts two separate men’s competitions, promotion and relegation between the competitions will be as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The top team in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s (Championship Winner) will be promoted to the Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season.(except for (c) below). (b) The bottom team in Central Victorian League 1 in the championship season will be relegated to the Central Victorian League 2 competition for the following season (except for (c) and (d) below). (c) Where the top team in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s (Championship Winner) already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 championship the team finishing second in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season except where this club also already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 competition. (d) Where the top 2 teams in Central Victorian League 2 Men’s competition are unable to be promoted the bottom placed team in the Central Victorian League 1 Men’s competition will remain in Central Victorian League 1 Men’s competition for the following season. (e) Where a team promoted from Central Victorian League 2 to Central Victorian League 1 in any season can only field one team, this will be placed in the Central Victorian League 1 Men’s competition and a BYE will be entered into the Central Victorian League 1 Reserve’s competition. <p>Note: Confirmation of whether a promoted club will be fielding one or two teams in the season following promotion must be advised by 30 November in the season of promotion to enable completion of League 1 fixtures.</p> <p>Where no advice is received BASL will enter and fixture teams in both Men’s and Reserve’s competitions in line with the Rules of Competition. Any advice of only one team will be subject to the club incurring 50% of the team entry cost if advised after the release of the DRAFT draw and 100% if advised after the release of the Final fixtures for the withdrawn team.</p>	<p>Promoting the best team from League 2 competitions to League 1 competitions is understood each and every season.</p> <p>Ensuring the bottom placed team in League 1 has a clear understanding of where they will play in the following season, assisting in their planning during the off season.</p>

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	<p>(h) Where (c) (d) (e) or (f) cannot be accommodated, the bottom placed team in the Central Victorian League 1 Men's competition will remain in Central Victorian League 1 Men's competition for the following season.</p> <p>Note: Confirmation of whether a club can or will be able to field two teams in League 1 under points (c) and/or (d) above must be by no later than 15 January is the year after the conclusion of the championship season.</p>		
Section	Current	Proposed	Rationale
<p>10.6 Senior Women's Promotion and Relegation</p>	<p>10.6 Senior Women's - Promotion and Relegation</p> <p>10.6.1 Where the league conducts two separate senior women's competitions, promotion and relegation between the competitions will be as below:</p> <p>(a) The top team in Central Victorian League 2 (Championship Winner) will be promoted to the Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season (except for (c) below).</p> <p>(b) The bottom team in Central Victorian League 1 in the championship season will be relegated to the Central Victorian League 2 competition for the following season (except for (d) below).</p> <p>(c) Where the top team in Central Victorian League 2 (Championship Winner) already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 championship the team finishing second in Central Victorian League 2 will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season except where this club also already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 competition.</p> <p>(d) Where the top 2 teams in Central Victorian League 2 competition are unable to be promoted, the team finishing third in the Central Victorian League 2 competition will be offered the opportunity to play in the Central Victorian League 1 competition in the following season. If accepted a play-off match between this team and the bottom placed Central Victorian League 1 team will be arranged to determine which competitions these teams play in the following season.</p> <p>(e) The play-off match in point (d) above must be completed within 2 weeks of the completion of all season women's competitions and will be arranged by BASL in consultation with the opposing clubs. Final details remain BASL's in its sole discretion.</p> <p>(f) Where the third placed team in the Central Victorian League 2 competition does not accept the offer of promotion, the bottom placed team in the Central Victorian League 1 competition will have the opportunity to move to the Central Victorian League 2 competition or remain in the Central Victorian League 1 competition.</p>	<p>Now Section 7.6</p> <p>7.6 Senior Women's - Promotion and Relegation</p> <p>7.6.1 Where the league conducts two separate senior women's competitions, promotion and relegation between the competitions will be as below:</p> <p>(a) The top team in Central Victorian League 2 (Championship Winner) will be promoted to the Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season (except for (c) below).</p> <p>(b) The bottom team in Central Victorian League 1 in the championship season will be relegated to the Central Victorian League 2 competition for the following season (except for (d) below).</p> <p>(c) Where the top team in Central Victorian League 2 (Championship Winner) already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 championship the team finishing second in Central Victorian League 2 will be promoted to Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season except where this club also already has a team in the Central Victorian League 1 competition.</p> <p>(d) Where promotion of either the 1st of 2nd placed team in Central Victorian League 2 Women's is not possible to Central Victorian League 1 Women's the team that finished last in Central Victorian League 1 Women's will remain in the Central Victorian League 1 competition for the following season.</p>	<p>Removal of the option for 3rd place team to be promoted to League 1 Women.</p>

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<p>10.7 Default Playing Days and Times</p>	<p>10.7.1 Default Playing Days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The default playing day for a club is for all senior entered teams (except Over 35 if held) unless exception has been sought and approved from BASL. Any final decision for an exception is at BASL's sole discretion. <p>10.7.2 Default Playing Times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday (where approved lighting is used) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Teams (Example Below) - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Youth 1pm Women 3pm Reserves 5pm Men <p>Note: These are default times and will only change to ensure streamlining (including pitch availability) of fixtures at a club and for any other fixturing required on Saturday's (i.e., Juniors)</p> Saturday and Sunday (where no lighting is available) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Teams (Example Below) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Youth 11.00am Women 1.00pm Reserves 3.00pm Men 3 Teams 10am, 12noon, 2pm – Dependant on the 3 teams 2 Teams – Variable (No Default) 1 Team – Variable (No Default) <p><u>Note: Clubs are responsible to provide un-restricted ground availability for the default playing day and times for fixtures to be developed. Any restrictions on access to grounds is covered in section 4.8 of these Rules.</u></p> <p>Note: Variations of combinations are possible and will be dealt with during the development of season fixtures.</p> <p>Note: No evening fixture is to be scheduled with a kick-off time later than 7.30pm.</p> 	<p>10.7.1 Default Playing Days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The default playing day for a club is for all senior entered teams (except Over 35 if held) unless exception has been sought and approved from BASL. Any final decision for an exception is at BASL's sole discretion. BASL will take the position of not approving separate playing days for senior teams unless exceptional circumstances (i.e., capacity issues) can be shown. Internal decisions of clubs are not exceptional circumstances and seen as a club issue to resolve amongst the playing groups. <p>10.7.2 Default Playing Times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday (where approved lighting is used) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Teams (Example Below) - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1pm Youth 1pm Women 3pm Reserves 5pm Men <p>Note: These are default times only.</p> Saturday and Sunday (where no lighting is available) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Teams (Example Below) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Youth 11.00am Women 1.00pm Reserves 3.00pm Men 3 Teams – Variable (No Default) 2 Teams – Variable (No Default) 1 Team – Variable (No Default) <p><u>Note: Clubs are responsible to provide un-restricted ground availability for the default playing day and times for fixtures to be developed. Any restrictions on access to grounds is covered in section 4.8 of these Rules.</u></p> <p>Note: Variations of combinations are possible and will be dealt with during the development of season fixtures.</p> <p>Note: No evening fixture is to be scheduled with a kick-off time later than 7.30pm.</p> 	<p>New paragraph under Default Playing day is to keep senior teams together as approved and endorsed under the competition framework. This also better assists in the appointed of referees at a number of venues.</p>

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	<p><i>Note: These are default playing dates and times to set up fixtures. BASL reserves the right to change to ensure a competition and underlying fixtures can be scheduled, particularly where clubs field multiple teams and capacity needs to be considered for scheduling.</i></p> <p><i>Clubs can still request changes in line with the ROC pertaining to Fixture Changes (once released)</i></p>	<p><i>Note: These are default playing dates and times to set up fixtures. BASL reserves the right to change to ensure a competition and underlying fixtures can be scheduled, particularly where clubs field multiple teams and capacity needs to be considered for scheduling.</i></p> <p><i>Clubs can still request changes in line with the ROC pertaining to Fixture Changes (once released)</i></p>	
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<p>11.1 Junior Competitive Competitions</p>	<p>11.1 Junior Competitions</p> <p>11.1.1. The Competition may be played in the following age groups / divisions:</p> <p>Competitive Juniors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 12 • Under 12 (Girls Only) • Under 13 • Under 13 (Girls Only) • Under 14 • Under 14 (Girls Only) • Under 16 • Under 16 (Girls Only) • Under 18 • Under 18 (Girls Only) <p>All Competitive juniors' teams will be graded into A, B, C (or Whatever number of Divisions are required) divisions pending on team numbers either by Club Nomination, Grading Competition or at BASL discretion.</p> <p>11.1.2 BASL may conduct any competition (or alter the age groupings) it deems necessary to start or complete a season.</p> <p>11.1.3 BASL may abandon or restructure any competition.</p>	<p>Now section 8.1.1</p> <p>New Paragraph:</p> <p>Clubs with more than one team in any age group MUST enter one of them in the A division where more than one division is operating (It is noted that the opportunity move the team is possible in the regrading period where the parameters have been met by said team).</p>	<p>Ensuring that teams are not entered into competitions (division requests) incorrectly.</p> <p>Ensuring that the A division competition is representative of all clubs where possible.</p>

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11.4 Team Entries	Team Entry 11.4.3 Clubs may enter a number of teams in any age group from Under 6's to Under 18's inclusive. 11.4.4 All team application forms submitted after the advised date are received subject to the approval of BASL in line with the guidelines issued each season. 11.4.5 All teams must nominate a Manager and Coach for all team entries. 11.4.6 Where insufficient entries are received to form a competition in any age group/division, BASL reserves the right to not accept those team entries or not offer a competition in that age group/division. 11.4.7 Team entry fees and fees for players in all competitions will be fixed by BASL.	Now section 8.4 Team Entry 8.4.8 Team's entered and withdrawn after the release of the DRAFT fixtures will be charged 50% of the team entry cost. Teams withdrawn after the release of the final fixture will be charged 100% of the team entry cost.	Updated to reflect current practice with team entries since 2023.
11.5 Regrading	11.5.10 The Re-grading Period will commence following Round 3 of the Regular Season. All re-grading requests must be received by BASL no later than 9.00am on the Monday after the conclusion of a Team's Round 3 Competition Fixture. Any request received after this time will not be considered unless, in the opinion of BASL, the request benefits all affected Leagues.	Now Section 8.5 8.5.10 The Re-grading Period will commence following Round 3 of the Regular Season. All re-grading requests must be received by BASL no later than 9.00am on the Monday after the conclusion of a Team's Round 3 Competition Fixture. Any request received after this time will not be considered unless, in the opinion of BASL, the request benefits all affected Leagues. Note: No Re-Grading will be considered outside of the re-grading timelines. Decisions on regrading are at BASL discretion and cannot be appealed.	To ensure that requests for regrading are not received after Round 3 and that the decisions of BASL are final.