



GREAT FLINDERS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

COVID MANAGEMENT COMPETITION BY LAWS

GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

- That the health and safety of the community remains the highest priority.
- That whilst balanced competition is important, that the opportunity to participate whenever possible be of higher priority (particularly for junior programs and competitions).
- That where possible the Minor Round and Finals shall be conducted within the traditional timeframes.
- Equality in the draw be of lesser importance than opportunity to participate whenever possible.
- That a premiership will only be awarded once an agreed minimum of games is achieved.
- That a minimum viable season which triggers a Finals series be the maximum number of games possible and not influenced by traditional fixture requirements and expectations.
- That a Finals Series be played with a minimum of 1 week (1 v 2) and up to a traditional final's series of 4 weeks

MINOR ROUNDS

Impact of a COVID interruption on a single round

- Should an entire round of matches be abandoned, no points or percentage shall be awarded to any team
- The season shall recommence with the next scheduled round
- The season shall continue until the original finals are scheduled to commence

Impact of a COVID interruption on consecutive rounds

- Should consecutive rounds of matches be abandoned, no points or percentage shall be awarded to any team for the abandoned rounds
- The season shall recommence with the next scheduled round
- The season shall continue until the original finals are scheduled to commence

Impact of a COVID interruption on multiple rounds

- Should multiple rounds of matches be abandoned, no points or percentage shall be awarded to any team
- The season shall recommence with the next scheduled round
- The season shall continue until the original finals are scheduled to commence

Impact of a COVID interruption on individual matches within any round (both sides affected)

- Should individual matches within any round be abandoned, teams shall receive the points allocated for a draw and the average weekly percentage of all participating teams of the same competition from that round of matches
- The individual games shall not be rescheduled
- The season shall continue until the original finals are scheduled to commence

Impact of COVID interruption on individual teams/players/officials (one side affected)

- In the instance where players and/or officials are unable to participate in a match or matches due to directed quarantine/isolation the minimum requirement to field an individual team will be 15 players on the field with 2 bench players for A Grade games.
- Where a club can only field one senior team due to reduced player numbers, priority shall be given to fielding the A Grade team for a game over the B Grade team.

Return to Play following a COVID interrupted round or match

- If 1-3 consecutive rounds have been abandoned, then the season may recommence at the next scheduled round.
- If 4-6 consecutive rounds have been abandoned, then the season shall recommence at the next scheduled round following a minimum of 7-day training period.
- If more than 6 consecutive rounds have been abandoned, then the season shall recommence at the next scheduled Round following a minimum 14-day training period.



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FINALS SERIES

Impact of a COVID interruption on individual finals matches

- The final date for completion of the Great Flinders Football League competition will be the third Saturday of September. The League will attempt to reschedule finals games interrupted by COVID within this timeline.
- Where time does not permit for a finals game to be rescheduled, should an individual match, excluding the grand final be abandoned, the team with a higher ladder position at the end of the minor round season shall be deemed the winner by virtue of higher ranking.

Impact of a COVID interruption on a grand final

- Where time does not permit for the grand final to be rescheduled and the match is to be abandoned, the team who entered the grand final first by way of victory, or if not applicable, by a higher ladder position, at the completion of the minor round season shall be deemed the premier.

Final qualifications in a COVID interrupted season

- Should a season be impacted on by COVID the minimum game qualification requirement for players shall be 2 games for A grade, Colts & Mini Colts. A player must play at least two (2) matches (reduced from 3 games for 2022 season) in the B Grade Minor Round matches to be eligible to play in B Grade Major Round matches.

OTHER

Awards & Votes

- Votes and awards will be awarded for games played and not prorated for missed matches

Consequence of a suspension in a COVID interrupted Season

- All suspensions will be served in accordance SANFL Community Football Regulations and suspensions apply to games played and not dates.

Impact of COVID interruption on the Approved Player Points System

- The APPS qualification has been reduced from 25 game to 20 to reflect shortened seasons over 2020 and 2021 The APPS will be reviewed as standard practice again in 2022.

Impact of COVID Interruption on the Total Player Payment System

- Regardless of any rounds or matches being abandoned, the Total Player Point System regulations and categories shall not be affected.

Matters not covered

- Should any scenario occur which is not covered by these bylaws, then the matter shall be referred to SANFL to provide advice, which may then be considered by the League.