

**TO: ALL COMMUNITY CLUBS**

**FROM: FFV COMPETITIONS**

**DATE: 14 OCTOBER 2016**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED UNDER 12 STRUCTURE CHANGES (BOYS AND GIRLS)**

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Dear Clubs,

We write to you in relation to the [Proposed Under 12's Structure \(Boys and Girls\)](#) changes that were communicated to Clubs on Friday 12th August.

FFV has received a range of feedback from Community Clubs regarding the proposal to change the Under 12's format in time for the 2017 season. In accordance with our memo dated 12 August, any transition to a modified Under 12s format, and the timing for such a change, will rely on your feedback and specifically, the collective views of Clubs in this regard.

### **Club Feedback**

Whilst the feedback received was generally positive with respect to the proposed changes, the majority of Clubs raised concerns with regards to the timing and implementation of those changes.

In addition, a range of questions and queries were raised with respect to the following areas:

1. Pitch Space and Ground Requirements
2. Match Official Appointments
3. Competition Results and Ladders
4. Player Numbers per Team
5. Coach Education

It was apparent from the feedback received that Clubs are keen to work through the issues above before significant changes are made to the current Under 12s format in Community football.

As a result and given current timing, FFV has decided to defer the introduction of a revised Under 12s format until the 2018 season for Community football.

### **Next Steps**

We would like to continue to work with Clubs to address the issues contained in the feedback received and ensure that any changes made to the Under 12 format are; in the best interests of the game (in terms of participation, enjoyment and development) and that Clubs can facilitate those changes without significant disruption.

Accordingly, FFV has determined the following outcomes:

- Changes to the Under 12's format will be **deferred** to the commencement of the **2018 season** for Community Competitions.

- FFV will host a Community Club Forum in early 2017 in relation to the Under 12's format changes for the 2018 season. The forum will provide the opportunity for us to discuss the proposed changes in detail with Clubs and address any concerns.
- FFV will monitor the 2017 NPL Under 12's program (which will adopt the proposed changes for Season 2017) to aid in the transition in 2018 for Community Competitions.

In short, deferring the introduction of the changes proposed to the 2018 season will enable FFV to further engage and work with Clubs to ensure that transition is as smooth as possible. It will also provide Clubs with sufficient time to plan and implement those changes from an operational perspective, as well as communicate accordingly with club members and relevant stakeholders.

As above, we will hold a Community Club Forum in relation to the proposed new Under 12 structure in May next year. Information regarding the Forum will be communicated in due course.

To confirm, there will be no changes in 2017 for the Under 12's format in Community Competitions, the Under 12's format will operate as per the 2016 season.

Should you require any clarification on the above matters, please contact the Competitions Department via email at [competitions@ffv.org.au](mailto:competitions@ffv.org.au) or on 9474 1800 and press '1' at the switchboard.

Regards,



Matthew Annells  
**FFV GM - Football Operations**