



2018 FFV FINALS & PLAYOFFS

PARTICIPATING TEAM GUIDE

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General Information

All leagues (except ALDI MiniRoos) will conclude the 2018 Regular Season with a Finals or Promotion/Relegation Playoffs. The champion from each league will be invited to participate against teams from equivalent leagues from other zones in either a one or two-week Finals Series. For teams competing in 'stand-alone' leagues, where no equivalent competition in their respective age and gender exists, a 'top four' Finals will be organised for teams within these standalone leagues. Promotion/Relegation Playoffs will be played to determine the promotion and relegation for the 2019 FFV Men's & Women's State League season.

The finals format for each competition, is determined by the number of competing teams and will be one of the following:

Finals & Playoff Dates

The following dates are confirmed for Finals & Playoff fixtures in all Community competitions:

Competition	Dates*
Men's State Leagues	Saturday 15 September & Saturday 22 September
Women's State Leagues	Sunday 9 September & Sunday 16 September
Men's Metropolitan Leagues	Sunday 9 September & Sunday 16 September
Men's Metropolitan Masters Leagues	Sunday 9 September & Sunday 16 September
Sportsmart Junior Leagues (Boys & Girls)	Sunday 9 September & Sunday 16 September

**The following competitions will require one (1) mid-week fixture each: Sportsmart Boys' 16A, 16B, 16C, 18A, 18B & Sportsmart Girls' 15-16B & 15-16C.*

The provisional fixtures are now available online ([click HERE](#)), all specific fixture information and teams will be updated upon completion of the Regular Season.

Mid-week fixtures will be included if matches are postponed or abandoned and need to be rescheduled for the Finals or Promotion/Relegation Playoffs to proceed. FFV reserves the right to alter any fixture as required and all changes will be communicated to clubs as soon as possible.

Finals & Playoffs Formats

Guides regarding specific *Finals Formats* are available by clicking [HERE](#) and *Playoff Formats* can be accessed [HERE](#).

Information regarding the Finals & Playoffs formats for respective competitions can be found in the relevant [2018 Rules of Competition & Regulations](#).

Competition	Regulation
Men's State League Finals	14. MSL Final Series (p.52-53)
Men's State League Playoffs	10.3 Promotion and Relegation; 10.3.9-10.3.12 (p.43)
Women's State League Finals	14. WSL Final Series (p.51-52)
Women's State League Playoffs	10.5 Promotion and Relegation; 10.5.5-10.5.8 (p.42-43)
Men's Metropolitan Leagues	13. Final Series (p.45)
Men's Metropolitan Masters	13. Final Series (p.46-47)
Sportsmart Juniors	12. Junior Final Series (p.49-50)



Elimination Finals Format (EF)

- (i) If there are two (2) Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the Champions of the two (2) respective leagues will play each other in a one off Grand Final; or
- (ii) There are four (4) Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the Champion of each league will be fixtured in a Semi Final/Grand Final Format; or
- (iii) If there is a Standalone League (i.e. there is only one league in a particular age and grade level across all zones), the top four (4) Teams at the end of the Regular Season will be fixtured in a Semi-Final / Grand Final format.

Round Robin Finals Format (RR)

If there are three (3), (*excluding Metropolitan Masters) or five (5) Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the Champion of each League will be fixtured in a single Round Robin format where each Team plays each other once, the highest placed Team following the round robin series being crowned overall Champion.

* Please [click here](#) to refer to the Men's Metropolitan Masters Guide

Pool Finals Format (PFE)

If there are six (6), seven (7), eight (8) or nine (9) Leagues in a particular age and grade level across all zones, the Champions of each League will be allocated into separate pools, with a finals series played within and between those pools over a two (2) week period.

Host Venues

Venues for the 2018 FFV Finals & Promotion/Relegation Playoffs have been selected based on their ability to accommodate specific finals formats and cater for teams, referees and supporters. Host venues will be responsible for but not limited to:

- Pitch line marking, corner flags, goal nets, stretchers, first aid kits and match standard lighting (if applicable);
- three match balls per fixture;
- clean, accessible and secure change rooms and toilets for teams, match officials; and patrons;
- a designated area for FFV staff;
- basic canteen facilities for participants and patrons.

Change Rooms

For venues that host simultaneous fixtures on multiple pitches, FFV will provide a roster allocation for the use of change rooms. Teams will be allocated to change rooms in 15-minute blocks and are expected to vacate the change room for the next user in a timely manner.

Clubs are advised not to leave their belongings in the change rooms after their allocated time slot.

Match Officials & Fees

In the event FFV cannot appoint Match Officials/Assistant Referees or they do not attend their allocated finals fixtures, participating teams must refer to rule 5.3 of the [2018 Rules of Competition](#) (Appendix 1).

Match Official fees will be split between the competing teams of each fixture. Clubs will be invoiced for these fees via the Club Finance System (Appendix 2) for all Sportsmart Junior, Metropolitan Men's and Metropolitan Masters' Finals.

Men's & Women's State League Finals & Playoff Fees will be covered by FFV.



Ground Marshals

Each team must provide ground marshals for each fixture as instructed in section 3.4 of the 2018 Rules of Competition (Appendix 3). The host club is not expected to provide ground marshals for any fixture.

Spectator Behaviour

Clubs with teams participating in finals/playoffs are responsible for the behaviour of all spectators associated with their club as directed in Schedule 2 of the 2018 Rules of Competition. The host club may remind individuals of the relevant Codes of Behaviour but is ultimately not responsible for spectator behaviour.

Rules of Competition

All matches of the 2018 Finals Series & Promotion/Relegation Playoffs will be conducted under the 2018 Rules of Competition & Regulations except where varied within this document.

Clash Strip Alternative

Teams listed second in a fixture are considered to be the 'Away Team' as outlined under 3.5 of the 2018 Rules of Competition and are responsible for providing a clash strip in the event of a clash. If no clash strip is provided within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick off time, the team considered to be the away club will forfeit the fixture.

All Teams are encouraged to bring both Home & Away Strip to respective fixtures to ensure games can take place without delay.

Table 3.5 – Clashes and Permissions

	MSL	WSL	Juniors	Metro & Masters
Playing shirt	No Clash Permitted	No Clash Permitted	No Clash Permitted	No Clash Permitted
Shorts	Clash Permitted	Clash Permitted	Clash Permitted	Clash Permitted
Socks	No Clash Permitted	No Clash Permitted	Clash Permitted	Clash Permitted

Please note that bibs are not permitted to be worn in any Competition Fixture, all playing shirts must have a visible number on the back of the shirt.

Player Eligibility

Clubs that play in the FFV 2018 Finals Series must complete the Player Eligibility Roster online form by Wednesday 29th August, including a contact name and number for that team. This can be completed by [clicking HERE](#) or alternatively, go to www.ffv.org.au and click through *Competitions* → *Online Forms*.

All suspensions from the regular 2018 home and away season will carry over.

Players that receive a Red Card during the FFV 2018 Finals or Promotion/Relegation Playoffs will automatically miss the next FFV Competition Fixture and may be subject to any further sanction in accordance with the GDT.

Matches are to proceed as scheduled, even if there are concerns about the eligibility of a player/s on the basis of suspension or their qualification for the FFV 2018 Finals for that team.

Any concerns about player eligibility should be raised immediately after the conclusion of the match with FFV via the FFV Competitions Weekend Hotline (0478 456 777) or the present FFV staff member. Reports will be investigated and any team subsequently found by FFV to have played an ineligible player will forfeit the FFV 2018 Finals match/es in which the ineligible player participated.

If a club is uncertain about the eligibility of one or more of their players for the FFV 2018 Finals please contact the FFV Competitions team as soon as possible on 9474 1800, press 1 or 0478 456 777 (FFV Weekend Hotline).

Extra Time

Extra time **will** apply as listed below if scores are tied at the end of Normal Time. This applies to Elimination matches as well as Promotion/Relegation Playoffs:

In any match if scores are tied at the end of extra time a penalty shootout will occur.

Age Group	Duration of Matches – Normal Time	Applicable Extra Time
Under Twelve (12) Boys*	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Under Thirteen (13) Boys*	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Under Fourteen (14) Boys	2 x 30-minute halves (= 60 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Fifteen (15) Boys	2 x 35-minute halves (= 70 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Sixteen (16) Boys*	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Seventeen (17) Boys	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Eighteen (18) Boys*	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Under Twenty (20) Boys	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Under Twelve (12) Girls	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Under Thirteen (13) – Fourteen (14) Girls*	2 x 30-minute halves (= 60 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Fifteen (15) – Sixteen (16) Girls*	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Under Eighteen (18) Girls	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Metropolitan League Finals	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Men's Masters League Finals	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Women's State League Finals / Playoffs	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Men's State League Finals / Playoffs	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves

***The following Round Robin or Pool Finals Competition will not have extra time added** and will go straight to a penalty shootout if scores are tied at the end of normal time:

- Sportsmart Boys' 12 Joeys
- Sportsmart Boys' 12 Wallabies
- Sportsmart Boys' 12 Kangaroos
- Sportsmart Boys' 13D
- Sportsmart Boys' 13E
- Sportsmart Boys' 16A
- Sportsmart Boys' 16B
- Sportsmart Boys' 16C
- Sportsmart Boys' 18A
- Sportsmart Boys' 18B
- Sportsmart Girls' 13-14C
- Sportsmart Girls' 15-16B
- Sportsmart Girls' 15-16C



Match Points – Pool or Round Robin Finals

League categories which have 3, 5, 6, 7 or 9 teams in their FFV 2018 Finals format include Pool Finals or Round Robin Finals. These matches are not elimination matches. The following points will be awarded in these matches to determine the relevant ladder.

WIN (Including extra time and or penalties) – 3 points
LOSS (Including extra time and or penalties) – nil points
NO RESULT – nil points for either team

If teams finish on the same number of points at the top of the ladder:

- The team with the greatest goal difference will finish higher (excluding Penalty shootout goals);
- If the goal difference for the two teams is the same, the team that has scored the most goals FOR will finish higher;

If the teams cannot be split by the above;

- The result of the Round Robin or pool match between the two teams will determine the team that finishes higher. That is, the winner of this match will finish higher. There will be no differentiation of home or away goals.
- If the result in this match is a no result, superior disciplinary record in the FFV 2018 Finals will be used to differentiate teams.
- If there is no difference in disciplinary record between the teams a toss of the coin will be used to determine the higher placed team.

Competition Specific Regulations

The following outlines competition specific regulations which apply in conjunction to the Rules stated above, however are unique to particular competition Finals and/or Playoffs.

Sportsmart Junior Finals

Fixtures

Certain finals formats require teams to play multiple matches in one day. Where possible the interval between matches is 1.5 times the applicable game time and half-time break. For example, an Under 12 fixture has a match duration of 50 minutes and a half-time break of 10 minutes. Therefore, where possible, 90 minutes will be scheduled between two matches in this age category.

Player Eligibility

Players must have been named on the match record for a minimum of five (5) matches within the Regular Season to be eligible to participate for that team in the Finals Series and subject to player restriction regulations.

Player ID Cards are required at all junior finals fixtures. Hardcopy ID cards must include photos uploaded to MyFootballClub. Player ID cards with a photo attached after printing of the card are **invalid**. ID cards presented in electronic format, including but not limited to smart phones, tablets, laptops and computers are valid.

If a Club has two (2) teams in "A" team then Players are team-tied from the fifth (5th) round FFV Competition Fixture and will remain team-tied for the Finals Series.



Men's & Women's State League Finals/Playoffs

Fees

FFV will cover all Match Official Match Fees for Men's and Women's State League Finals & Playoffs.

Discipline – MSL/WSL Finals

Yellow cards accumulated by a Player during the Regular Season **will not be** counted for the purposes of clause 4.3 of the GDT. However, if a Player receives their 5th yellow card in their club's final Regular Season FFV Competition Fixture they shall be suspended for the relevant 2018 Finals Series and/or Playoff fixture.

If a Player receives a Red Card in the 2018 FFV Finals Series or Playoff, their Club will be notified of the Player's suspension in writing on the Monday immediately following the FFV Competition Fixture in which the Red Card was received.

Admittance Prices – Men's State League

Admittance prices for the 2018 season will be as follows. Please note that Clubs may only charge the full amount (GST Incl.) if they are registered for GST.

(a) MSL 1

Category	Admittance Price
Adults	\$7.00 (inclusive of GST)
Students/ Pensioners/ Concession Holders	\$4.00 (inclusive of GST)
Holders of current FFV Media Passes and current FFA Media Passes	FREE
Current FFV Special Pass Holders	FREE
Under 14	FREE

(b) MSL 2

Category	Admittance Price
Adults	\$6.00 (inclusive of GST)
Students/ Pensioners/ Concession Holders	\$3.00 (inclusive of GST)
Holders of current FFV Media Passes and current FFA Media Passes	FREE
Current FFV Special Pass Holders	FREE
Under 14	FREE

(c) MSL 3

Category	Admittance Price
Adults	\$5.00 (inclusive of GST)
Students/ Pensioners/ Concession Holders	\$3.00 (inclusive of GST)
Holders of current FFV Media Passes and current FFA Media Passes	FREE
Current FFV Special Pass Holders	FREE
Under 14	FREE

(d) No admission fees may be charged MSL 4 & MSL Play off fixtures



Men's Metropolitan & Masters

Player Eligibility

Players must have been named on the match record for a minimum of five (5) matches within the Regular Season to be eligible to participate for that team in the Finals and subject to player restrictions regulations.

If a club is uncertain about the eligibility of one or more of their players for the FFV 2018 Finals please contact the FFV Competitions team as soon as possible on 9474 1800 and press 1, or 0478 456 777 (FFV Competitions Weekend Hotline).

Results of Matches

Teams listed first in a fixture are considered to be the Home Club for the purposes of the 2018 Rules of Competition. They are responsible for reporting results to FFV by one of the following methods;

- calling through match results to the FFV Competitions Weekend Hotline immediately after the conclusion of a match. The contact number is 0478 456 777; or
- if a FFV staff member is coordinating matches at your venue, verifying the result to this individual immediately after the conclusion of the match.

Club Recognition

Clubs who win their respective FFV 2018 Finals league category will receive a club pennant. These will be presented by FFV on the day following the conclusion of the Grand Final, or if for a league final at the end of the last match.

Appendices

Appendix 1

5.3. Non-Attendance or Unavailability of Match Official

5.3.1. If the Match Official fails to honour his or her appointment, the next most senior Match Official (**Replacement**) will take charge of the FFV Competition Fixture.

5.3.2. If the Match Official is late arriving at a fixture, the Replacement will take charge until the Match Official is ready to take over.

5.3.3. If no registered Match Official is present to act as the Replacement ten (10) minutes prior to the FFV Competition Fixture, both clubs should agree on a replacement. If, by the scheduled kick off time, no agreement can be reached, the Home Club must appoint a person to act as Match Official for the FFV Competition Fixture.

5.3.4. If any match does not kick off within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick off time due to the absence of a Match Official the home team will forfeit the fixture.

5.3.5. All Clubs must fulfil all fixtures, regardless of whether or not the Match Official is present to take charge. Failure to do so may result in a fine and other action under the GDT.

Appendix 2

2018 Referees Fee Schedule (Clubs to be invoiced at a later date)

LEAGUE	Referees	AR1	AR2
Junior U18	\$75	\$37.50	\$37.50
Junior U16, 17	\$50	\$25	\$25
Junior U14/15's	\$45	\$25	\$25
Junior U12/13's	\$40	\$25	\$25

Appendix 3

Ground Marshals

3.4.1. Each Club must provide the number of marshals (Ground Marshals) directed by FFV.

3.4.2. Ground Marshals must:

- a. Be at least 18 years old and provide the Match Official with their name;
- b. Be in a clearly identifiable uniform;
- c. Be visible from the field of play at all times;
- d. Escort the Match official(s) to and from the change rooms and the Field of Play at the commencement of the fixture, at half time and at full time; and
- e. Where required, assist the Match Officials(s) to ensure a safe playing environment for all Players, Club Officials and spectators.

3.4.3. Match Officials must not leave their dressing rooms to enter the Field of Play or return to their rooms from the Field of Play until the identifiable Ground Marshals are present.

Table 3.4 – Minimum Number of Ground Marshals for all FFV Competition Fixtures

League	Minimum Number of Ground Marshals
MSL1, MSL2, MSL3	4
MSL4 & MSL5	2
Men’s Metropolitan League and Metropolitan Masters League	2
WPL	4
Women’s State Leagues	2
Junior Competitions	2
All other competitions incl. FFV Geelong	2

- 3.4.4. FFV may vary the minimum Ground Marshal requirements for any FFV Competition Fixture at any time.
- 3.4.5. Each home and away Club is required to provide 50% of the required Ground Marshals for each FFV Competition Fixture, failure to do so resulting in the Club being subject to a penalty under the GDT.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When will host venues for the 2018 Finals & Playoffs be publicly announced?

FFV intends to announce host venues for the 2018 Finals & Playoffs by Wednesday 15 August.

2. When will fixtures for the 2018 Finals & Playoffs be finalised?

FFV intends to finalise fixtures for the 2018 Finals & Playoffs no less than ten working days before the scheduled event.

3. Who pays for the referees at each fixture?

Cash payments will not be required for Finals & Playoff fixtures as participating clubs will be invoiced for all referee payments once fixtures are confirmed.

The Referees Fee Schedule is located at www.ffv.org.au → Competitions → Fee Schedule, which can also be located by [clicking here](#). The Fee Schedule lists applicable fees for all referees and assistant referees, which will be covered by both participating clubs at neutral venues. For finals fixtures where clubs have earned the right to host, these clubs will be responsible for the payment of referee fees.

Host clubs are not responsible for the payment of referees.

4. Who provides match balls for each fixture?

Clubs of host venues will provide all match balls which must be provided by one of FFV's 2018 licensed manufacturers (Mitre, Deploy Football, Nike, Park, Masita).

5. Who provides ground marshals for each fixture?

The two clubs participating in each fixture are to provide ground marshal(s) as per the 2018 Rules of Competition. The host club is not expected to provide ground marshals for any fixture.

6. Who is responsible for the behaviour of spectators at each fixture?

Clubs participating in the fixture are responsible for the behaviour of all spectators associated with their club. In addition to escorting referees to and from the field of play, ground marshals play an important role in managing the behaviour of their own supporters.

The host club may remind individuals of the relevant Codes of Behaviour but is ultimately not responsible for the behaviour of the associates of participating clubs. Alcohol is not to be sold or consumed at any venues, which are hosting Sportsmart Junior Finals (Under 12 to 18).

7. Who is responsible for informing FFV of the result in the match?

Teams listed first in a fixture are considered to be the 'Home' team in each Finals fixture and are responsible for calling through match results to FFV Competitions immediately after the conclusion of a match. The FFV Competitions Weekend number is 0478 456 777.

8. Who is responsible for providing a clash strip alternative?

Teams listed second in a fixture are considered to be the 'Away' team and are responsible for providing a clash strip alternative in the event of a clash. For further guidance on what constitutes a clash of strip, refer to Rule 3.5 of the 2018 Rules of Competition.

9. Do the 2018 Rules of Competition apply for the 2018 Finals & Playoffs?

The 2018 Finals & Playoffs will be conducted under the 2018 Rules of Competition except where varied within this document and the 2018 Finals & Playoffs Participation Team Guide. FFV reserves the right to shorten fixture times to accommodate all fixtures.

10. Will there be extra time in any matches?

Extra time will apply as set out below:

Age Group	Duration of Matches – Normal Time	Applicable Extra Time
Boys' Under 12*	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Boys' Under 13*	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Boys' Under 14	2 x 30-minute halves (= 60 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Boys' Under 15	2 x 35-minute halves (= 70 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Boys' Under 16*	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Boys' Under 17	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Boys' Under 18*	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Boys' Under 20	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Girls' Under 12	2 x 25-minute halves (= 50 minutes)	2 x 5-minute halves
Girls' Under 13-14*	2 x 30-minute halves (= 60 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Girls' Under 15-16*	2 x 40-minute halves (= 80 minutes)	2 x 10-minute halves
Girls' Under 18	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves
Seniors'	2 x 45-minute halves (= 90 minutes)	2 x 15-minute halves

- ***The following Round Robin or Pool Finals Competition will not have extra time added** and will go straight to a penalty shootout if scores are tied at the end of normal time.
 - Sportsmart Boys' 12 Joeyes
 - Sportsmart Boys' 12 Wallabies
 - Sportsmart Boys' 12 Kangaroos
 - Sportsmart Boys' 13D
 - Sportsmart Boys' 13E
 - Sportsmart Boys' 16A
 - Sportsmart Boys' 16B
 - Sportsmart Boys' 16C
 - Sportsmart Boys' 18A
 - Sportsmart Boys' 18B
 - Sportsmart Girls' 13-14C
 - Sportsmart Girls' 15-16B
 - Sportsmart Girls' 15-16C

11. Will there be penalty shoot outs?

In any fixtures, if scores are tied at the end of extra time or regular time as per the above listed Competitions, a penalty shootout will occur.

12. What does the winner receive?

Teams who win their respective Grand Final will be awarded a Club pennant. Where possible, pennants will be presented by an FFV representative on match day.

