



## AFL Victoria Player Points System Policy

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October 2018



# AFL VICTORIA PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS) POLICY

## 1. Objective of the Community Club Sustainability Program and PPS Policy

The Community Club Sustainability Program (CCSP) subcommittee believes that equalisation of community football competitions is vital for community football.

Even and fair competitions lead to interest, which leads to bigger crowds, which leads to stronger clubs and competitions. Even competitions allow supporters and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain and that their team is a chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provides rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the field.

The philosophy of competition equalisation is accepted in sports all around the world. Professional sporting bodies have accepted practices such as drafts, salary caps, and the like in order to help competitions ensure competitiveness and club sustainability.

The objectives of the state PPS Policy are as follows, to:

1. support equalization of community football Competitions;
2. ensure teams fielded in the Competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible;
3. provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills;
4. provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system;
5. enable team spirit and public support;
6. encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs;
7. reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to assist clubs survive financially and reduce financial burden/stress on Clubs;
8. promote player loyalty and junior development;
9. support the role volunteers undertake in managing their Clubs by;
  - minimising the need to fundraise for player payments
  - providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at Club level
  - providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of football, a welcoming Club environment and growing the game within the local community.

This PPS Policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system which should be adopted by Community Clubs in order to achieve the above objectives.

If this policy is adopted by Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions, they will need to amend their relevant by laws to include all relevant provisions under this PPS Policy.

## 2. Definitions

- 2.1. **AFL** – Australian Football League.
- 2.2. **AFL Victoria** - means Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited ACN 147 664 579.
- 2.3. **CCSP subcommittee** – means the subcommittee made up of current player payments working party members. The members of the party include Region Commission Chairmen, AFL Victoria Staff Representatives, AFL Victoria Country Representatives and Metropolitan League C.E.O's and General Managers.
- 2.4. **Category** – means the player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player.
- 2.5. **Community Club or 'Club'** – means an Australian football club which participates within a community football competition that does not include State Leagues (i.e. the VFL or TAC Cup).

- 2.6. Competition** – means an Australian football competition in which the Community Clubs participate in official fixtured matches.
- 2.7. Competitive Football** – means any formally organised football competition conducted by a Metropolitan League or Region Commission excluding AFL 9s, school football and women's competitions.
- 2.8. First Home and Away Match** – means the first official competition match for the home and away season of a Competition.
- 2.9. Footyweb System** – means the online competition management system implemented by football competitions across Victoria.
- 2.10. Metropolitan League** - means the bodies affiliated to AFL Victoria to administer Australian Football in the metropolitan region of Victoria.
- 2.11. National Player Transfer Regulations** – means the AFL's national policy for player transfers as updated by the AFL from time to time.
- 2.12. NEAFL** – means North East Australia Football League.
- 2.13. Player membership details** – means a player's individual details provided for on the Footyweb System.
- 2.14. Player Points Allocation** – means the total number of points allocated to an individual player in a Senior Team taking into consideration the Player Points Category that applies to each player and any additional points or deducted points in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 2.15. PPS Policy** - means this community club sustainably player point's policy as amended by AFL Victoria from time to time.
- 2.16. Premier Competition** - means the Competitions outlined in clause 6.3 of this PPS Policy.
- 2.17. Region Commission** – means the bodies affiliated to AFL Victoria to administer Australian Football in the relevant region of Victoria.
- 2.18. Reserves Competition** – means the Reserves, Club XVIII, Thirds and Veterans competitions within any league or division of a competition.
- 2.19. SANFL** – means the South Australian National Football League.
- 2.20. Season** – means Community Football season between 1 April and 30 September each year (or such other agreed dates).
- 2.21. Season of Service** – means a Season where a player has played a minimum of five (5) senior or reserves games in one Season for a particular Community Club. A player who has completed a Season of Service is eligible for a reduction of one point should they play for the same Community Club in the following season(s) in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 2.22. Senior Competition** – means the senior or 1<sup>st</sup> grade Competition within any league or division of a Competition.
- 2.23. Senior Team** – means the team of players that participate within a Community Club's senior or 1<sup>st</sup> grade football team.
- 2.24. TSL** – means the Tasmanian State League.
- 2.25. Total Team Points** – means the total amount of points allocated to a specific Senior Team by the Metropolitan League or Region Commission for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 2.26. VFL** – means the Victorian Football League.
- 2.27. WAFL** – means the Western Australia Football League.

## **Interpretation:**

A reference to:

**“Aligned Junior Club”** is where seniors and juniors exist under the same constitution, or where there is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in place between standalone senior and junior clubs that is approved by a Metropolitan League or Region Commission. To be considered an ‘Aligned Junior Club’ an MoU must be approved by the relevant Metropolitan League(s) and/or Region Commission(s) to ensure appropriate player pathways exist using the document detailed at Attachment 12.4 of this policy.

**“Transferred”** refers to the formal transfer authorised under the National Player Transfer Regulations.

**“Unique local conditions”** refers to the conditions, environment or circumstances which are unique to a Community Club or a region of Community Clubs which may give grounds for a reassessment of a Club’s Total Team Points as determined by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission.

**“VAFA senior representative team”** refers to the VAFA’s Premier representative team only.

**Victorian affiliated Community Club** means a Community Club affiliated to a Victorian based Metropolitan League or Region Commission by way of an authorised licence or affiliation agreement.

### **3. Affiliated Metropolitan League/Region Commission Responsibilities**

Each Metropolitan League or Region Commission affiliated to AFL Victoria:

#### **Total Team Points**

- 3.1.** acknowledge that the Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 47 points per Senior Team subject to the conditions of this clause 3.
- 3.2.** will consider all applications from Community Clubs for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. applications based on unique local circumstances under clause 4.5).
- 3.3.** may allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Community Clubs in accordance with this PPS Policy to manage unique local conditions and meet the needs of local Community Clubs and the relevant senior Competitions.
- 3.4.** acknowledge that any decision to exceed the 47 point Total Team Points cap should be approved by the CCSP subcommittee.
- 3.5.** will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each Senior Team for each Club affiliate (i.e. not reserves or underage Competitions) for the following Season and in accordance with PPS Policy, with all points allocations to be lodged with the CCSP subcommittee by 31<sup>st</sup> August each calendar year.
- 3.6.** subject to approval of Total Team Points via the CCSP subcommittee, Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions must communicate the allocation of each Club's Total Team Points to each of their affiliate Clubs for the following Season in accordance with PPS Policy by 30<sup>th</sup> September in each calendar year (or such other date as determined by the CCSP subcommittee).

#### **Player Points Allocation**

- 3.7.** will liaise with Community Club's to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via the Footyweb System prior to any player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season and will review the Player Point Allocations entered by the Community Club.
- 3.8.** as part of the Player Point Allocation process, Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions may provide the opportunity for Clubs to seek a reassessment of any player's Player Point Allocation. Any reassessment against a Player Point Allocation should be made to the relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission no later than 5 days before the player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 3.9.** once the process in clauses 3.7 and 3.8 has been undertaken, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed for that Season unless the Metropolitan League or Region Commission is of the view that there are exceptional circumstances relevant to a player that warrant an amendment of the Player Point Allocation during the Season.

### **4. Affiliated Club Responsibilities**

Each affiliate Community Club:

- 4.1.** will determine each player's Player Points Allocation for its Senior Team. This determination may include any additions or deductions applicable to each player in accordance with this PPS Policy. See clauses 6 and 7 and appendices 12.1 and 12.3 for applicable PPS table and flow chart to assist in this process.
- 4.2.** will enter Player Points Allocations into each relevant player's membership details using the Footyweb System prior to the relevant Community Club's First Home and Away Match of each Season, or a player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season
- 4.3.** acknowledges that if a Community Club does not follow this procedure and decides to play a player in a match in a Senior Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation reviewed and entered into the Footy Web System, that Club will bear the risk of any subsequent enforcement penalty as determined by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission in accordance with this PPS Policy.

- 4.4. will ensure that on match days the Senior Team does not exceed that Club's Total Team Points. For the avoidance of doubt, Community Clubs may recruit above their allocated points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation on match days.
- 4.5. may make an application to its affiliate Metropolitan League or Region Commission for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. for unique local circumstances). The application process is to be set down and communicated to affiliate Clubs by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission,

## 5. Player Points Categories

- 5.1. A player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that player's playing history and achievements and is structured in a way to promote player retention and loyalty.
- 5.2. Each player expected to play in the Senior Team of a Community Club will be allocated a Category and a Player Points Allocation as follows:

### 5.2.1. Category 1 – Home Player – 1 Point

- a) Player who has played 40 or more games over a minimum of 3 seasons at the aligned junior club up to and including U17 Competition; or
- b) Player who has played a minimum of 5 games in each of any 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 19's or
- c) A player who has played only at that Community Club or an aligned junior club, and for no other Community Club; or
- d) A player who has not played Competitive Football in the previous 36 months.

NOTE: Under the Category 1 definition, a player may be categorised as a 'home player' at more than one Community Club.

- 5.3. If a player does not meet the Category 1 'home player' eligibility above, their points Category will be assessed based on the highest playing level achieved prior to the player joining the current club in the following Categories:

### 5.3.1. Category 6 – AFL Player – 6 Points

Player who has played a minimum of one AFL game in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.

### 5.3.2. Category 5 – State League Tier One – 5 Points

Player who has played a minimum 5 senior games of VFL, WAFL or SANFL in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons.

For example a player *would not qualify* in this category for the 2019 Season if that player has played as follows in the previous three (3) Seasons:

Season 2018 – 4 games  
Season 2017 – 3 games  
Season 2016 – 2 games

However, a player *would* qualify in this category for the 2019 Season if that player had played as follows in the previous three (3) Seasons:

Season 2018 – 0 games  
Season 2017 – 6 games  
Season 2016 – 2 games; or

Season 2018 – 5 games  
Season 2017 – 0 games  
Season 2016 – 0 games.

NOTE: where a Category refers to “a minimum of 5 games in any of the previous 3 Seasons”, the above calculation example will apply.

**5.3.3. Category 4 – TAC Cup, State League Tier Two, and Premium Community Player – 4 Points**

- a) TAC Cup player - who has played a minimum 5 TAC Cup games in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons; or
- b) State League Tier Two player – who has played a minimum of 5 senior games in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons at NEAFL or TSL level; or
- c) Premium Community player – who has achieved a club senior best and fairest top 5 finish, in senior Competitions only, in the previous Season. Note: VAFA Senior Representative Team players from the current Season or the Season immediately prior also fall under this Category.

**5.3.4. Category 3 – Senior Community Player and Transferred Junior Player – 3 Points**

- a) Senior Community player – who has played the same number or more senior games than reserves games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level. This also includes:
  - Previous VFL development league players who do not meet Category 5 eligibility (i.e. who haven't played the minimum of 5 senior VFL games in any of the current or previous 3 Seasons); or
  - A player from any of the interstate community league Competitions including the Northern Territory Football League.
- b) Transferred Junior – a player who was recruited from an U19's (or younger) Competition and who does not meet Category 1 eligibility.

**5.3.5. Category 2 – Development Community Player – 2 Points**

A player who has played more reserves games than senior games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level.

**5.4.** A Community Club that has a player that does not meet any of the above player Categories will need to apply to their affiliate Metropolitan League or Region Commission to determine the appropriate Player Points Allocation. In determining the Player Points Allocation, the Metropolitan League or Region Commission will have regard to all relevant factors so as not to unreasonably restrict the player's movement between Community Clubs or a player's opportunity to play football at a Club of his choice.

**5.5.** For the purposes of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a player and will be assessed under the above Categories.

**5.6.** A player playing on an Interchange Agreement as detailed at clause 3.9 of the National Player Transfer Regulations (i.e. a permit player) will be assessed on the same basis as transferred players.

**6. Additional player point allocations:**

**6.1.** If a player transfers to a Community Club and will be competing against their immediate former Community Club, (except Category 2 - Development Community Players) an additional one point penalty will apply.

**6.2.** Subject to prior approval by the CCSP subcommittee, a Metropolitan League or Region Commission may apply an additional two points (instead of one point under clause 6.1) as required by the unique local conditions in order to meet an objective of this PPS Policy. This two point addition is a discretionary rule and it is the responsibility of the Metropolitan League or Region Commission to communicate to its affiliate Clubs if implemented. For the avoidance of doubt, the one point addition is not discretionary.

**6.3.** If a player transfers from a Community Club located in a Premier Competition to a Community Club in a non-premier competition an additional one point penalty will apply. This clause does not apply to Category 3 – Transferred Junior Player, or if the player is transferring from a Premier Competition, but has already met the definition of a State League Category 5 or TAC Cup Category 4 player due to playing on a permit at the higher level.

Premier Community Football Competitions include:

- Eastern Football League Premier Division Essendon District Football League Premier Division
- Northern Football Netball League Division One
- Southern Football Netball League Division One
- Victorian Amateur Football Association Premier Division
- Western Region Football League Division One
- Ballarat Football Netball League
- Bendigo Football Netball League
- Geelong Football Netball League
- Gippsland Football League
- Goulburn Valley League
- Hampden Football Netball League
- Murray Football League,
- Ovens and Murray Football Netball League
- Mornington Peninsula Football Netball League – Division One
- AFL Outer East – Premier Division
- Any other Competition as determined by CSSP subcommittee from time to time.

**6.4.** Where a player has registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in three (3) seasons, one additional point will be applied to that player's Player Points Allocation. In determining the 3 season's timeframe, clubs shall assess the current or upcoming season as the first season along with the previous two (2) seasons, as detailed in the example below.

Club A – 2019 season

Club B – 2018 season

Club C – 2017 season

For the avoidance of doubt, player movements under a permit arrangement e.g. to a State League, TAC Cup, NTFL club or under local interchange agreements, where their home club is classified as a Victorian affiliated Community Club, will not be penalised under this clause.

**6.5.** A Community Club may make an application for a re-assessment under clause 7.3 to its affiliate Metropolitan League or Region Commission in relation to a player's additional point allocation.

## **7. Deductions and Amendments to player points allocation:**

**7.1.** Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to that player's Community Club (minimum 5 senior or reserves games per Season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches not less than 1 point. (This is the minimum number of points a player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a player is eligible for underage football at his Club, they must play 5 senior games to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.

**7.2.** Where a player qualifies in more than one Category based on their playing history in the current Season or any of the previous 3 Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart in appendix 12.3. (Category 1 - Home Players are excluded).

**7.3.** Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances. In addition, Community Clubs may make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to its relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission. The application for reassessment may be based upon the following:

- (a) The age of the player especially if the player is looking to play at a higher level
- (b) The injury history of the player
- (c) The recent playing history of the player
- (d) The living, schooling and work arrangements of the player; or
- (e) Any other relevant consideration.

Meeting one of the above criteria may not, on its own, provide for a reduction in a player's point allocation with the application to substantiate that the point allocation is inappropriate based on the Players playing history and achievements.



- 7.4. A Club may also make an application to receive a points reduction to a player's Player Points Allocation in relation to a player transitioning into or out of a Club aligned with a school or tertiary institution. Such application should be approved by the CCSP subcommittee.
- 7.5. Subject to the considerations which the Metropolitan League or Region Commission should take into account under clause 7.3, the determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission.
- 7.6. Should a player be recruited from a Victorian affiliate Community Club which participates in a community Competition which has not adopted the PPS Policy by 30<sup>th</sup> September, that player will have a value of one point to a Community Club which has adopted the PPS Policy. Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions, at their discretion may review this one point allocation particularly where the playing history of that player includes prior participation in Competitions that have adopted this PPS Policy.

Note: Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions should communicate to their members which Leagues have adopted the Policy by 30<sup>th</sup> September each year.

## **8. Total Team Points**

- 8.1. Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions will undertake their own process of Total Team Points allocations and will be responsible for determining Total Team Points for their affiliate Senior Competitions and Clubs. As stated under clause 3, Total Team Points should only exceed 47 points and for legitimate circumstances necessary to achieve the evenness and equalisations objectives of this PPS Policy. Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points cap for any other reason must be prior approved by the CCSP subcommittee.
- 8.2. In order to determine team variances to a Senior Competitions Total Team Points' cap, Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions should adopt the following guiding principles regarding the additional allocation or reduction of Total Team Points to a Community Club:
  - 8.2.1. Additional total team points may be allocated to a Community Club which is located in a region with a low population base.
  - 8.2.2. Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club did not qualify for finals in previous seasons or has been promoted from previous seasons.
  - 8.2.3. Reduction of total team points for multiple premierships and sustained success over previous seasons.
  - 8.2.4. Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess, or is a recently merged or restructured entity.
  - 8.2.5. Additional total team points may be allocated where a Community Club has no U18 or U19 or younger underage sides and is not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control, or if a Community Club is aligned with a university and the team is based around players coming and going over a 3-4 year period.
- 8.3. For each match, a Club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate in a match for that Competition and this should be consistent for each match within a Season, within each Competition. For example, if the maximum number of players on match days for the Competition is 22 players, a Club cannot submit a team list of 21 players to meet the Total Team Points cap. For the avoidance of doubt, a Club must list the maximum number of players allowed on its team sheet in calculating its Total Team Points. For exceptional circumstances (i.e. not having enough players to field a full Senior Team) the matter should be referred back to the Metropolitan League or Region Commission for review and direction.

## **9. Implementation**

- 9.1. Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions should adopt this PPS Policy by no later than 30 September. Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions must advise in writing to the CCSP subcommittee of its intention to implement the PPS Policy prior to this date.

**9.2.** Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions are free to publicise Total Team Points to affiliate Clubs for the following year at their own discretion once approved by the CCSP subcommittee.

## **10. Enforcement**

- 10.1.** Given Player Points Allocations will be managed via the Footyweb System, if correct procedure is applied, with Players Points Allocation entered into the system prior to the start of the Season, it is envisaged there will be minimal issues in the management of the Player Points Allocations. Errors are less likely given that Footyweb will not permit a club to complete a Senior Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Club's permitted point's cap.
- 10.2.** Should any Club make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by the Metropolitan League or Region Commission in line with the penalties set out in clause 10.3.
- 10.3.** Penalties may include (without limitation):
- (a) Club fines
  - (b) Relegation (when in a divisional competition)
  - (c) Loss of premiership points – current season and in the future
  - (d) Suspension from finals – current season and in the future
  - (e) Player / Official suspensions – for those players/ officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club;
  - (f) Any other penalty determined by the Metropolitan League or Region Commission or the CCSP subcommittee from time to time.

In applying any enforcements provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commission shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as:

- Unintentional - where a club had not been provided with accurate information.
- Interpretive - where a club had applied the policy in a manner than was the policy was not intended.
- Intentional - where a clear breach had occurred with little or no regard to the requirements of the policy.

## **11. Appeal and Review**

- 11.1.** Where a Community Club is of the view that a player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy following a reassessment conducted under clause 7.3 of this policy, any appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be heard by that Metropolitan League or Region Commission under their own appeals process.
- 11.2.** Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points is deemed inappropriate following a reassessment under Clause 8.2 of this Policy, any appeal against that Total Team Points allocation must be heard by that Metropolitan League or Region Commission under their own appeals process.
- 11.3.** An appeal against a decision to apply an enforcement provision under this PPS Policy should be made via the AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability Manager within fourteen (14) days of any enforcement application be applied and will be reviewed by a panel appointed by the AFL Victoria.
- 11.4.** The CCSP subcommittee will review the PPS Policy throughout each Season and amendments and variations may be made by the CCSP subcommittee from time to time.

## 12. Appendices

### 12.1. Player Points Categories Tables

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM – CATAGORIES AND DEFINITIONS			
Category 6	6 points	AFL Player	Played at least one AFL game in any of the current or previous 3 seasons.
Category 5	5 points	State League Tier 1 - VFL, WAFL, SANFL	Played at least 5 senior games of VFL, WAFL or SANFL in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
Category 4	4 points	TAC Cup	Played at least 5 TAC Cup games in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
		State League Tier 2 - NEAFL, TASFL	Played at least 5 senior games in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
		Premium Community Player	Achieved top 5 finish in club Senior B&F in the previous season. Note: VAFA Senior representative team player also falls under this category
Category 3	3 points	Senior Community Player	Played the same or more senior than reserves games in total over the current and previous 3 seasons. Also includes VFL Development League Players not meeting Category 5 State League definition and Interstate Community Leagues including NTFL.
		Transferred Junior	Player recruited from an U19's or younger competition and does not meet the Category 1 home club definition
Category 2	2 points	Development Community Player	Played more reserves games than senior games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level
Category 1	1 point	Home Player	Played <b>40</b> or more games over a minimum 3 seasons at that club or aligned junior club up to and including U17 competitions
			Player who has played a minimum of <b>5</b> games in each of the 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 19's
			Player who has only played at that club or aligned junior club.
			Player who hasn't played Competitive football in the previous 36 months.

Note: For any player that does not meet any of the above categories will need to apply to the affiliated Metropolitan League / Region Commission who will determine the appropriate categories and points

Additional Penalty Player Points	Additional 1 point	If transferring from another community club and will be competing against their immediate former club (does not include Category 2 Development Community Player) Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions may increase this to an additional 2 penalty points subject to approval by AFL Victoria.
	Additional 1 point	Is transferring from a club located in a premier competition to a club in a non-premier competition (does not apply to Category 3 – Transferred Junior Player, Category 5 – State League or Category 4 – TAC Cup player)
	Additional 1 point	If registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in the current or previous two (2) seasons. Does not include players moving on permit (e.g.: VFL, TAC Cup NTFL or Local Interchange Agreement)

Deductions for Player Points	Deduct 1 point	For each season of service to the club (minimum 5 senior or reserves games per season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches 1 point Note: if the player is eligible for underage football at that club, it must play 5 senior games to meet the criteria for a year of service.
Note: Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commission may reassess an individual players points classification where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history		
Note: Where a player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history in the previous 3 seasons, the category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart. (Home players are excluded).		

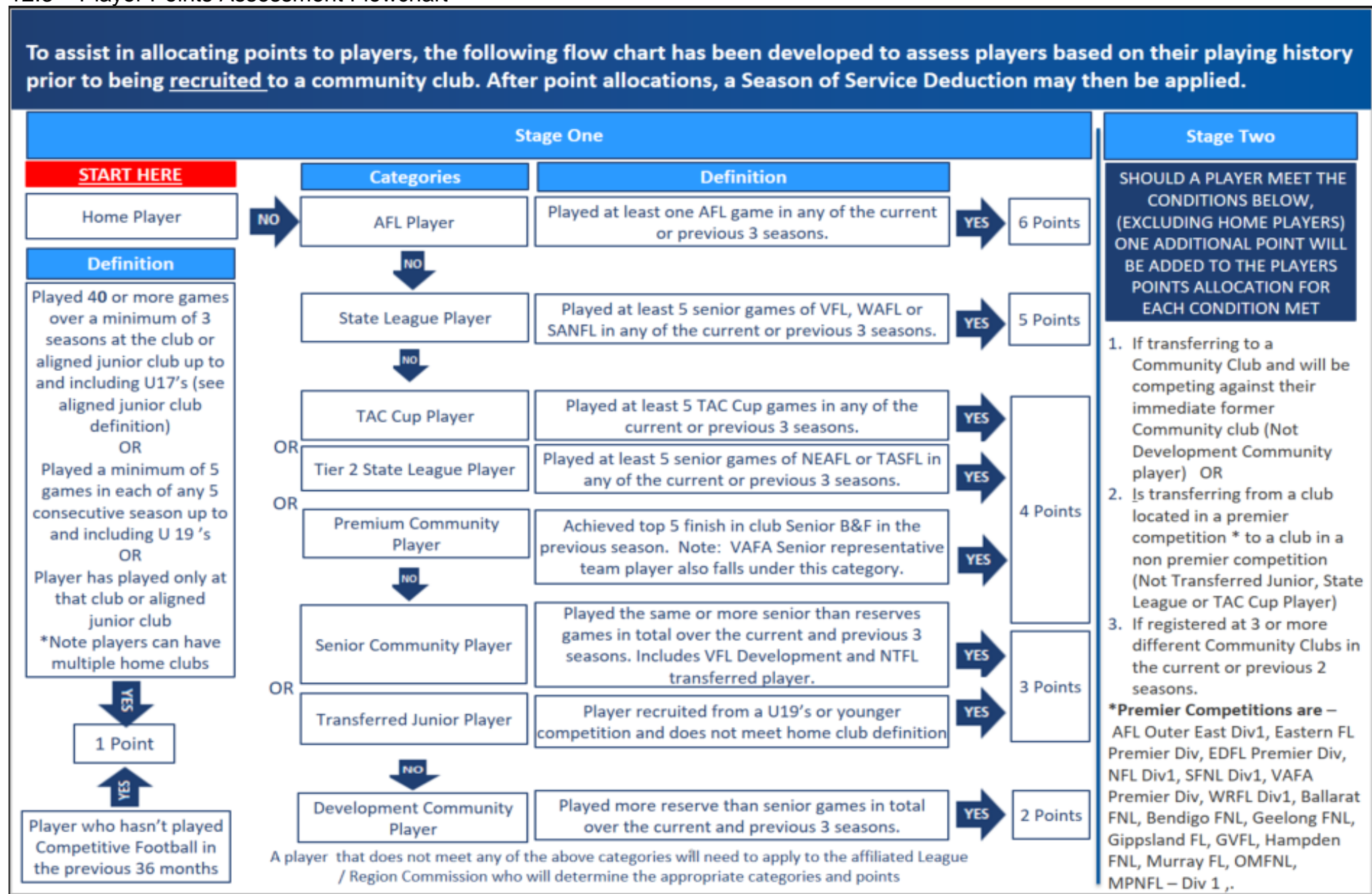
<b>Definition of Junior Aligned Club</b>	Where seniors and juniors exist under the same constitution, or where there is a memorandum of understanding in place between standalone senior and junior clubs that is approved by a Metropolitan League or Region Commission. Senior clubs can have multiple MOU's with junior clubs and junior clubs could have multiple MOU's with senior clubs. All MOU's must be approved by Metropolitan Leagues or Region Commissions in country areas to ensure appropriate player pathways exist.	
<b>Premier Community Competitions *</b> Note: this includes Development Community recruited from these competitions.	<b>Metropolitan</b>	<b>Country</b>
	Eastern F.L Premier Division	AFL Outer East Premier - Division
	Essendon D.F.L Premier Div.	Ballarat FNL
	Northern F.L Division 1	Bendigo FNL
	Southern F.N.L Division1	Geelong FNL
	VAFA Premier Division	Gippsland FL
	Western Region F.L Division 1	Goulburn Valley L
		Hampden FNL
		Murray FL
		Ovens & Murray FNL
		Mornington Peninsula FNL – Division 1

## 12.2. Total Team Points Allocation Tables

Metropolitan Leagues and Region Commissions may choose to adopt any of these types of clauses below based upon unique local conditions when allocating total team points;

Total Team Points Allowances / Reductions	Small population base	Additional points to team allocation where the club is located in a region with low population base
	Ladder Position	Additional points to team allocation if team did not qualify for finals in previous season or has been promoted from previous season
		Reduction in points to team allocation for multiple premierships or sustained success over previous seasons.
		Additional points to team allocation where a club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess or is a recently merged or restructured entity.
	Junior Pathway	Additional points to team allocation where a club has no U18/19 or younger underage sides aligned (MOU in place) to it, and not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control, or if a club is aligned with a university and the team is based around players coming a going over a 3-4 year period.

## 12.3 – Player Points Assessment Flowchart



## 12.4 - Senior / Junior club Memorandum of Understanding



### SENIOR / JUNIOR CLUB ALIGNMENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING APPLICATION

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

BETWEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOOTBALL CLUB INC.  
("Senior Club")

AND \_\_\_\_\_ FOOTBALL CLUB INC.  
("Junior Club")

(the Parties)

The Senior Club is an affiliated Senior member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Football League Inc.

The Junior Club is an affiliated Junior member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Football League Inc.

#### 1. Background

- A. Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited (**AFL Victoria**) has implemented a Player Points System Policy (**PPS Policy**) to support community football club sustainability, equalisation of community football competitions and to promote junior development (**Objectives**).
- B. The Junior Club party to this Memorandum of Understanding (**MOU**) will be recognised as an "**Aligned Junior Club**" in accordance with the PPS.
- C. An Aligned Junior Club player is eligible for Player Point Allocation categorisation in accordance with the PPS as amended by AFL Victoria from time to time.
- D. The Parties agree to comply with the terms and conditions set out in this MOU and the Objectives of the PPS.
- E. Each Party will cooperate to maximize the opportunities for junior players to move to senior football through the Senior Club's pathway competition (e.g. Under 19/ Under 18). This may include permit arrangements approved by the affiliated governing bodies where players are still eligible to play junior football.

## 2. Commencement of Agreement

The Parties agree that this MOU shall commence from dd/mm/yyyy, and following signing by relevant Clubs, Region Commissions, Metropolitan Leagues and AFL Victoria as applicable

Please note that any Junior games played prior to this date with the Junior club detailed in this MoU will not be included in assessing if a junior player meets the requirements of the Home Player category.

## 3. Adoption of Name and Emblem (optional)

The Senior / Junior Club agrees to change its name to \_\_\_\_\_ Football Club Inc.

The Senior / Junior Club agrees to adopt the \_\_\_\_\_ emblem.

The Senior / Junior Club agrees to adopt the \_\_\_\_\_ Jumper design and colours.

## 4. Representation at Meetings (optional and as applicable)

Consistent with the relevant Region Commission's or Metropolitan League's rules and regulations, the Parties shall be represented at the relevant meetings of their affiliated bodies as follows:

Region Commission or Metropolitan League meetings

Senior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Club League meetings

Senior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Club League meetings

Senior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Club nominee \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Income, Expenditure, Sponsorship and Fundraising

All income, expenditure, sponsorship and fundraising shall be conducted separately between the Parties and is the sole responsibility of each Party.

## 6. Tenancy Arrangements

### A. Arrangements for Match days

Senior matches will take place on (day) at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm.

Junior matches will take place on (day) at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm.

### B. Arrangements for Training (Regular Season, April – September)

Senior training will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm

Junior training will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm

### C. Pre-Season (including practice matches)

Senior training will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm  
Junior training will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at (venue) between xx pm and xx pm

### D. Sharing of costs – Pavilion /Utilities /Ground

Venue hire and related costs will be borne by the Parties in accordance with existing arrangements between a Party and relevant council or third party. The Parties will work together to share costs and usage of venues and facilities.

### E. Venue

Senior Club allocation of costs based on usage \_\_\_\_\_ %  
Junior clubs allocation of costs based on usage \_\_\_\_\_ %

## 7. Support Programs

The Parties will support the pathway available to junior players that wish to progress to senior football. Programs the parties may undertake to assist with this pathway include, but are not limited to:

- Senior player attendance at Junior training
- Senior player attendance at Auskick sessions
- Junior team playing half time grid games at senior home games
- Junior player(s) team mascot for Senior Teams
- Senior Club Memberships or Junior players and parents
- Develop buddy system for Senior and Junior players
- Support at relevant club presentation events e.g.: Trophy Donation
- Information session for players transitioning from junior to senior club
- Players from the Under 16/17's teams occasionally training or playing with the Under 18/19's teams
- Sharing and maintenance of equipment
- Senior Match Day invitations for players and parents from Under 16' / 17s teams, for example breakfast while watching the Under 18/19's or lunch at a Senior home game.
- Involvement at each Parties social events during the season

The Parties will implement support programs as follows:

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## **8. Meetings and Communications**

### **A. Liaison Officer**

The Parties shall each nominate a Liaison Officer to be present at the other Party's committee meetings.

### **B. Committee Meetings**

Each Party shall hold monthly committee meetings during the football season.

## **9. Arbitration Committee**

### **A. The Parties agree that:**

- (i) should any dispute or conflict arise in connection with this MOU or the PPS between any member, official or committee of a Party; or
- (ii) if any decision has to be made that would affect either Party in relation to this MOU or the PPS, then the Arbitration Committee shall meet to approve the decision or resolve the dispute as soon as practicable.

### **B. The **Arbitration Committee** shall comprise the following members:**

- (i) the President and the Secretary of the Senior Club;
- (ii) the President and the Secretary of the Junior Club; and
- (iii) for disputes or conflicts, within the same Region Commission or Metropolitan League, a person nominated by the Region General Manager or CEO of the Region Commission / Metropolitan League that the Senior/ Junior Club is affiliated with.
- (iv) for disputes or conflicts, within the across different Region Commissions or Metropolitan Leagues, the matter may be referred to AFL Victoria whose decision shall be final and binding.

### **C. The Parties acknowledge that if a matter arises in relation to this MoU or the PPS that can't be resolved by the Arbitration Committee, the matter shall be referred to AFL Victoria whose decision shall be final and binding.**

## **10. Amendment**

This MoU may not be varied except by a written instrument duly executed on behalf of each Party.

## **11. Assignment**

A Party shall not assign or transfer their rights, benefits or obligations contained in this MOU without the prior written consent of the Party's relevant Metropolitan League or Region Commission.

## **12. No Partnership, No Agency**

Each of the Parties shall in all other respects, remain independent of each other and nothing in this MoU shall be construed as creating a relationship of partnership, principal and agent or of trustee and beneficiary.

### 13. General

Detail of any other MoU that Junior club has in place

Other Senior Club \_\_\_\_\_ MoU Date of Effect: dd/mm/yyyy

Detail of any other MoU Senior club has in place

Other Junior Club \_\_\_\_\_ MoU Date of Effect: dd/mm/yyyy

Detail of additional arrangements where Junior club has multiple MoUs signed with Senior Club  
e.g : Limitation on the Home player classification with Senior clubs.  
(to be completed by Region Commission / Metro league Clubs are affiliated with)

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The Parties acknowledge that words and definitions defined in the PPS shall bear the same meaning in this MOU and to the extent of any inconsistency between this MoU and the PPS, the PPS shall take priority.

**SIGNED** for an on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ **Football Club Inc. (Senior Club)**

.....	President Name	
.....	President Signature	.... / .... / ....Date of signing
.....	Witness Name	
.....	Witness Signature	.... / .... / ....Date of signing

**SIGNED** for an on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ **Football Club Inc. (Junior Club)**

.....	President Name	
.....	President Signature	.... / .... / ....Date of signing
.....	Witness Name	
.....	Witness Signature	.... / .... / ....Date of signing

**SIGNED for an on behalf of AFL (*enter Region*) Region Commission Inc.(where affiliated)**

..... Chairpersons name

..... President Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

..... Witness Name

..... Witness Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

**SIGNED for an on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ Football League Inc.(Metropolitan League as relevant)**

..... Chairpersons Name

..... Chairpersons Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

..... Witness Name

..... Witness Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

**SIGNED for an on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ Football League Inc. (Metropolitan Junior League as relevant)**

..... Chairpersons Name

..... Chairpersons Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

..... Witness Name

..... Witness Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

**SIGNED for an on behalf of AFL Victoria**

(where Senior and Junior clubs are affiliated with the same Region Commission or Metropolitan League and / or where a Junior or Senior Club has multiple MoU's in place)

..... Club Sustainability Manager

..... Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing

..... Witness Name

..... Witness Signature ..... / ..... / .....Date of signing