

2021 SALARY CAP AND POINTS ALLOCATION



COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

This guide has been put together to assist our Western District football community to navigate both the player points system and the player payment rules.

As this guide will detail, each year a club is required to do the following:

- (a) Contract its players to payments within the salary cap.
- (b) Provide AFL Western District a copy of the club's budget for the yearly spent.
- (c) Submit all copies of player contracts to AFL Western District ahead of the start of a season.
- (d) Give each senior player a points assessment based on their playing history.
- (e) Submit a signed declaration of *actual* player payments made at the conclusion of the season.
- (f) Comply with any directions from the AFL Victoria Integrity Officer.

This guide is populated with links to all the necessary documents a club needs to properly manage their cap and points (collectively known as the **Community Sustainability Program**). However, for a one-stop-shop for all documents and resources, you may <u>click here.</u>

A system to manage player payments and player movement has been necessary to ensure the sustainability of clubs and leagues, but also to help foster healthy cultures around the investment in youth players in regional areas.

Whilst highly relevant, parity and competition integrity are not the only consideration in determination a club's points allocation and total allowable spend. Other factors for consideration include the ability for clubs to raise the funds, the prioritising of player payments over other necessary payments (including club facility development and junior program investments) and the impact of neighbouring clubs and leagues within the locality.



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE 2020 SEASON

Clubs are to note the following in relation to the 2020 CCSP Program:

2020 Player Payments

All clubs are required to submit to AFL Western District their 2020 Player Payment Actual Declaration Form and lodged all Player Declarations (contracts) where a player received any benefit as detailed in the Player Payment Actual Declaration. These documents are due by **31 October 2020.**

If a player did not receive any money in 2020, their Player Declaration (contract) is not required for submission.

Payments made, or proposed to be made, to coaches, whether playing or not playing, **do not** have to be included under the Allowable Player Payments Cap for 2020.

Upon review, AFL Western District will determine on a case by case basis, whether payments or benefits made to players in 2020 should be exempt. Where a player payment or benefit is not made exempt by AFL Western District, the club will have the value of that payment or benefit deducted from their 2021 salary cap. The full memorandum from Darryl Collings on Player Payments can be found by clicking here.

Player Points

With no Senior football occurring during 2020 the Premium Player Category will not apply for players transferring to clubs for the 2021 season. Please note this Category will continue to apply for Players that transferred after 2109 season and during the 2020 Transfer Window (November 2019 – June 2020).

There is no change to the season of service deduction nor to players' eligibility for home player status. If players did not play games in 2020, no games will be counted toward those rules.

Clubs may apply to AFL Western District for player points reassessments should they wish, in the prescribed form and in accordance with the policy. The full memorandum from Darryl Collings on points can be <u>found here</u>.



NETBALL LEAGUE

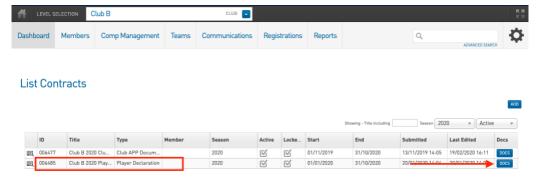
2020 DOCUMENT UPLOAD

The contract documents of a club must be uploaded to Sports TG. A comprehensive guide on how to upload documents can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>

Step 1: Navigate to the Contracts section - Members > Contracts.



Step 2: Upload documents to the Player Declaration folder.



Step 3: Upload documents by filling out the fields and selecting a file to upload.

If the contracts field displayed in Step 1 does not appear for you, you will need to be granted access by your league administrator. They will provide you with the relevant permissions.

The full details on submission can be found by clicking here.



2021 TOTAL TEAM POINTS

The policy that regulates the player points system is known as the **Player Points System Policy.** A copy of that policy can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>

Clubs can apply to AFL Western District for further points, should they feel they meet the criteria for an additional allocation. The required form for a team points reassessment can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>

The below graph details the points allocations for 2021. There is no change to the points granted to clubs ahead of the 2020 season before it was cancelled due to COVID19.



Branxholme-Wallance Football Club 47 points



Heathmere Football Club 45 points



Cavendish Football Netball Club 47 points



Heywood Football Club 45 points



Coleraine Football Netball Club 45 points



Tyrendarra Football Netball Club 45 points



Dartmoor Football Club 45 points



Westerns Football Club 45 points

AFL VICTORIA POINTS SYSTEM EXPLAINED

A helpful video on how the points system works can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>



PLAYER POINTS CALCULATIONS

Prior to the commencement of the season, clubs are required to input their individual player points values (**PPV**) for all players in their senior teams.

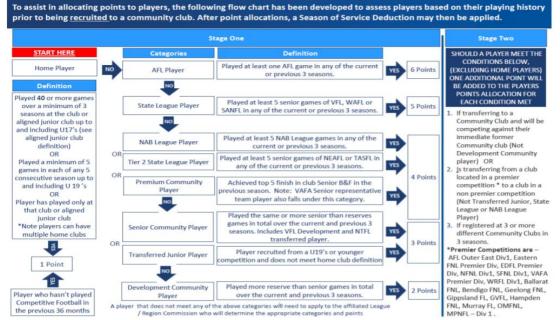
The PPV typically ranges from 1-6 points depending on which category a player falls in, and whether that player attracts any penalty points. A useful tool for calculating PPV's can be found by clicking here.

A player is entitled to a reduction of one point, known as a 'season of service deduction', if the player plays five (5) seniors or reserves games. A player continues to be entitled to the 'season of service' deduction until he reaches 1 point.

Players maybe eligible for home player status provided their meet the criteria in the below table.

If a club does not have juniors sides, it may sign a Memorandum to Understanding with a junior club so that the playing history of players at that junior club can be carried over and counted towards home player status of the senior club.

The full chart for assessing PPV's can be found by clicking here.





SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE 2021 SALARY CAPS

SALARY CAP

The policy that regulates the allowable player payments (APP or Salary Cap) is known as the Player Payment Rule. A copy of that policy can be found my <u>clicking here.</u>

The AFL Western District Commission sets the limit for salary caps across the entire region.

A club may apply to the Commission for an increase in their salary cap if they believe they meet the criteria under the Player Payment Rule.

2021 SALARY CAP \$70,000

CONTRACTING

Players receiving payments by a club must be signed to the contract known as the **Player Payment Declaration.** This form can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>

Once signed between player and club these get lodged and stored with AFL Western

RFPORTING

When the list of players receiving payments from the club is finalised, the club must fill out its budget template to submit along with the Player Payment Declarations. This form is known as the **Player Payment Budget.** A copy of this form can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>

At the end of the season, the club is required to submit its actuals declaration, which is the list of payments to club made during the season. This is know as the **Player Payment Actuals Declaration** and can be found by <u>clicking here.</u> This is submitted to AFL Western District who use it to cross reference with the Player Payment Budget and the Player Payment Declarations to ensure the club has been compliant with the



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE COACHES PAYMENTS

COACHES

Where a coach or assistant coach is not playing, none of their payments made by the club for their services needs to be included under the salary cap.

PLAYING COACHES

Where a club appoints a player as the coach of the club's senior team (i.e. a playing coach), the coaching element of that Player's payments should be specifically identified in the **Player Declaration**.

50% of the payments the club has given or applied to a playing coach, to a maximum of \$20,000, is not a Player Payment and may be excluded from the calculation of the Club's Player Payments.

For example, if a playing coach is paid \$30,000, then \$15,000 would not be a Player Payment and would not be included in the calculation of the club's Player Payments. If a playing coach is paid \$50,000, then \$30,000 would be a Player Payment and be included in the calculation of the club's salary cap.

CO-COACHES

Where a Club appoints one coach of the club's senior team who is not a player, and one coach who is a player (in a co-coach arrangement), the amount paid to the coach who is a player that is not a Player Payment and may be excluded from the calculation of the Club's Player Payment calculations is no more 25% of their total remuneration, to a maximum of \$10,000.

Where a Club appoints two coaches of the Club's Senior Team who are both Players (in a co-coach arrangement), the amount paid to the coaches that is not to be considered a Player Payment and may be excluded from the calculation of the Club's Player Payments is no more than 25% of the total payments to both coaches, to a maximum of \$10,000 per coach.

Full player payment guidelines around what can and can't be paid to players can be found by <u>clicking here.</u>



PLAYER DECLARATION (CONTRACT)

A player declaration (contract) looks like the below. A full copy can be found by clicking here.

STANDARD PLAYER DECLARATION (Rule 4(a)) NAME, CLUB AND LEAGUE This Declaration is made by: Football Club ('the Club') An affiliated club of the: Affiliated with-..... ('State Football Body') VALIDITY PERIOD PLAYER PAYMENTS For Home and Away matches (strike through where not applicable) Per senior match won: Per senior match lost or drawn: Per non-senior match won-Incentives: Deductions from match pay: Annual subs: Detail: Club property: \$..... Detail: Other: Detail: Coaching (if applicable): Other payments: DATE FOR PAYMENT ☐ Monthly ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (strike through where not applicable) I volunteer in the football and other Club activities as a hobby or pastime. Any services I provide to the Club are provided as a hobby or pastime. I do not rely on the above payments (if applicable) for my regular personal income. I have (if applicable) submitted a 'statement by a supplier' to the Club (available at https://www.ato.gov.au/forms/statement-by-a-supplier-not-quoting-an-abn/) (Note: It is the responsibility of the Player to satisfy themselves that the above acknowledgements are true and correct. Players are encouraged to obtain their own tax advice in respect of the payments they receive in connection with AFL football). By signing this Declaration, Player and Club confirm they will comply with all applicable rules, regulations and policies including the National Player Transfer Regulations, National Deregistration Policy and applicable State Football Body rules. By parent or legal guardian Date: /...../..... (where Player is under 18 years of age)/...../ Date: Position: President | Secretary | Treasurer | Football Manager (delete inapplicable titles)



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE 2021 SEASON KEY TIMELINES

Both the **Player Points System Policy** and the **Player Payment Rule** stipulate key timelines that must be adhered to by both AFL Western District and affiliated clubs.

The following timelines, in respect of the Community Sustainability Program (both Points and Caps policies) must be met:

PUBLIC RELEASE OF CAPS AND POINTS

31 AUGUST 2020

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR POINTS/CAPS
REASSESSMENTS

1 SEPTEMBER 2020 -31 OCTOBER 2020

PLAYER DECLARATIONS (CONTRACTS) DUE FOR LODGEMENT

30 APRIL 2021

PLAYER PAYMENT BUDGETS DUE

30 APRIL 2021

PLAYER PAYMENT ACTUALS DUE

31 OCTOBER 2021



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE TYPES OF PAYMENTS

The document titled **Player Payment Framework Guidelines** provides detailed information on the types of player payments that may or may not be permittable. To view a copy of those guidelines <u>click here.</u>

AWARDS/INCENTIVES

Player incentives / match awards paid in cash are Player Payments and are included in the calculation of the Club's Player Payments. This includes Weekly Awards, or incentive / bonus payments made to a Player for awards that relate to (but is not limited to) Club and best and fairest awards, goal kicking and like awards.

Non-cash benefits in the form of an award provided by a Club to Players up to a maximum value of \$300 per week per Club, and to a maximum of \$100 per week for any one Player of the Club, may be treated as not being a Player Payment and therefore not included in the calculation of the Club's Player Payments.

EMPLOYMENT

For the purposes of the Player Payment Rules, when assessing whether an employment arrangement with a Club or an Associate of a Club is bona fide, consideration will be given to, among other things, current commercial practices, market rates for payments for similar employment arrangements and any relevant industry awards.

All employment related payments associated with the operations of the Club (e.g. bar manager, canteen, ground maintenance etc.) must be declared under Rule 4. Clubs may apply for a Ruling under Rule 8(d) as to whether such payments constitute Player Payments and as to their value for the purposes of the Player Payment Rules.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

Any payment for player affiliation, player registration or insurance which the Club has agreed to pay under their arrangements with an affiliated League, Region Commission or AFL Victoria shall not be a Player Payment and is not included in the calculation of the Club's Player Payments.



MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING

Home players are worth only one point to the club. The more home players a club has on their list, the better capacity the club has to recruit other players.

To meet the criteria of becoming a home player, a player must achieve certain games milestones with a junior club, before progressing through to seniors.

Many clubs in Western District, by virtue of senior and junior leagues remaining separate, do not have a genuine junior club (Under 8's to Under 16's age groups).

Where a club does not have a juniors, the club may look to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with a junior club that formalises the pathway for transition between junior and senior football, and allows the senior club to build solid relationships with junior players in their region.

The effect of the Memorandum of Understanding is that a junior player can have their playing history of a seemingly unrelated junior club counted towards their eligibility for home player criteria.

A copy of the template Memorandum of Understanding can be found by <u>clicking here</u> and scrolling to find the document titled "**AFL Vic MoU**".

These must be agreed by senior and junior club, signed by the club's executives, and submitted to Matthew Ross (AFL Western District Commercial & Operations Manager) before **30 April** in any season.

Without approval by AFL Western District, the Memorandums of Understanding will not take effect.

The relevant definition under the Player Points Policy outlines what it means to be an aligned junior club:

"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.



SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE BUDGET/ACTUAL DECLARATION

The **Player Payment Budget** and the **Player Payment Actual Declaration** are the same form and can be found as a spreadsheet on the AFL Victoria website. <u>Click here</u> to download those templates.

The forms need to be filled in with all players on the list, and how much the agreed rate per game is.

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SOUTH WEST DISTRICT FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE BREACHES OF THE POLICY

The Player Points System Policy provides an ability for AFL Western District to enforce the policy for incorrect or misleading information. Under the points policy, this will commonly be seen where a club enters incorrect player points values for individual players. The types of penalties that can be imposed by AFL Western District can be found below:

PLAYER POINTS POLICY – 10.3					
Club fines					
Loss of premiership points					
Suspension from finals					
Player/Official Suspensions					
Any other penalty determined by the Regional Commission					

The Player Payment Rule provides that AFL Western District, upon proper investigation of a charge by the Integrity Officer and the Player Payment Disciplinary Committee, may sanction a club in a manner that it thinks fit.

The below outlines a table of sanctions available to AFL Western District under both the Player Points System Policy and under the Player Payment Rule:

AFL Western District Policy	UNINTENTIONAL	BREACH 1	BREACH 2	FURTHER BREACHES
Club fines	\$1,000 - \$5,000	\$6,000 - \$10,000	\$11,000 - \$20,000	\$21,000 - \$50,000
Loss of premiership points	NIL	8 POINTS	12 POINTS	16 POINTS
Suspension from finals	NIL	YES	YES	YES
Player/Official Suspensions	1-5 GAMES	6-10 GAMES	11-20 GAMES	20+ GAMES/LIFE BANS



AFL VICTORIA INTEGRITY OFFICER

To ensure compliance with the Player Points Policy and the Player Payment Rule, AFL Western District will appoint an Integrity Officer to conduct audits and to investigate where required or requested to do so.

The policies outline the expectations upon both clubs and players in respect of any potential investigation by an Integrity Officer.

Obligations upon the club in an instance where the Integrity Officer investigates include the following:

- (a) Provide full and free access to any premises occupied and in control of the club.
- (b) Provide copies of all financial statements.
- (c) Provide any such books, files, documents, records, articles or any other things in the control of the club as requested by the Integrity Officer.
- (d) Upon request, within seven days response to any requests for information.
- (e) Attend before the Integrity Officer, if requested, within seven days.

In relation to players' obligations before the Integrity Officer, they are required to do the following:

- (a) Provide full and free access of the players' books, files, documents or any such thing that the Integrity Officer believes is relevant to an investigation.
- (b) Full details of any companies in which the player holds shares.
- (c) Provide details of any partnerships or joint ventures of the player.
- (d) Provide satisfactory evidence of all income earned by the player for a period of up to three years.
- (e) To provide details of any bank account or financial institution account held by the player.