

BY - LAWS

of the

GLADESVILLE-HORNSBY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION **INCORPORATED**

1. ALTERATIONS TO THE BY-LAWS:

- (1) Each member club shall have the right to apply for variation of these By-Laws.
- (2) The MC shall have the power to deal with such variations or amendments.
- (3) Notice of Motion for such variation shall close with the Secretary not later than 30 September of each year.
- (4) The By-Laws shall only be varied by a majority vote of those persons in attendance and entitled to vote.
- (5) Members shall be advised of any Notice of Motion and given fourteen (14) days notice of the meetings at which they shall be discussed. Notices of Motion of alteration of By-Laws shall be considered by a SGM.

2. REGISTRATIONS:

- (1) Any person wishing to participate in competitions or matches conducted by this Association must be properly registered with the Association. No contracted players shall register with the Association.
- (2) A player shall become a registered player with the Association once all of the following have taken place –
 - (a) The player or parent/guardian must complete and sign a “My Football Club” Electronic Registration form thus agreeing to abide by the rules and regulations of FFA, FNSW, GHFA and the Club.
 - (b) The player must pay to the Club the relevant club registration fee.
 - (c) The Club must submit to the Association the player’s registration and photo as prescribed by the Association, in the manner prescribed by the Association.
- (3) Once a Club has submitted to the Association the required information to register a player, it is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that the player’s ID Card is collected from the Association Office by 4.00pm on the Friday prior to the player’s first game. Such ID Cards must be used at all matches as proof of registration for the players club and team.
- (4) For the purposes of the “Accident Support Program”, a player is considered registered with the club from the time he/she completes the aforesaid electronic registration and may submit a claim to the insurance company upon the Club completing the player’s registration with the Association.

- (5) To be eligible to play in “under age” grades, a player must be under the relevant age on the 31st December of the previous year.
- (6) Players registering for Small Sided Football (SSF) must have turned four (4) by the 31st December in the previous year.
- (7) Clubs must ensure a player is eligible to play in a particular age group by obtaining documented proof of age. Any breach of this By-Law shall result in any game in which the player plays being deemed to be a forfeit.
- (8) With the exception of transfers permitted by, and subject to, By-Law 3(1), no players may be registered with more than one club within GHFA or any other Association at any one time in any one year.
- (9) No player may be registered for competitive football after 4.00pm on 31st May or the Friday preceding the 31st May if the 31st May falls on a weekend.
- (10) A team consisting of not less than seven (7) players for Under 12 to Over 45, fourteen (14) players for Super League and five (5) players for Under 6 to Under 11 must be registered with the Association by the date and time scheduled by the Board for that year as the “close of Team Registrations”.
- (11) Clubs with outstanding teams not registered as in (10) above must seek re-admission for these teams at the MC Meeting on the Wednesday prior to the first competitive game. Any team re-admitted shall be subject to a late team fine.
- (12) Registration of additional players will then be accepted up until the day and time scheduled by the Board for that year as the ‘close of registrations’ for each week subject to (9) above.

3. TRANSFERS:

- (1) A player having been registered with the Association as a member of a Club may transfer to another Club upon the Club notifying the Association in writing that the player has been deregistered in “My Football Club”. In this circumstance, the first Club will only be charged the appropriate amount of registration as defined in Section 27 (6) of the Constitution. The second Club will be charged the full insurance and registration fee.
- (2) No registered player may transfer on more than one occasion in any one season.
- (3) If an affiliated Club has more than one registered team playing in the same grade and division, it shall not permit any player to interchange within these two teams unless the interchange is previously sanctioned by the MC.
- (4) Transfer of a player of a Club between teams in the same grade and division or in the same grade and lower or higher division may be sanctioned by the MC.
- (5) Any player who seeks and is refused a clearance from his/her Club may appeal in writing to the MC for permission to transfer to another Club.
- (6) No player may be transferred after the close of player registrations as in By-Law 2 (9)

4. PLAYING OUT OF GRADE:

(1) General Provisions

A player may play for his/her Club in a higher grade than the one which he/she was originally registered provided that -

- (a) Upon playing up a **sixth game** in a higher grade/division, a player shall continue to play in the higher grade/division he/she played in on the sixth occasion and shall not be permitted to revert to the lower grade.
- (b) It is the **responsibility of all clubs** to keep a record of all players playing up. The club must then notify the Association in writing when a player has played his/her 6th game out of his/her original grade and also the grade in which the player played his/her sixth game. The Association will then issue a new ID Card for that player.
- (c) A player may not take the field in a higher grade/division match until such time as all available registered members of that team have taken the field of play.
- (d) A limit of five (5) players shall be allowed to play up in a match for the same team per round as conducted by this Association.
- (e) Any player playing in a higher grade and/or division than his/her registered team, must have his/her name, ID number, and registered grade and division noted in the appropriate columns on the team sheet.
- (f) A Club may apply to the MC in writing for permission for a player to be downgraded within his/her Club where he/she is qualified by age for the lower grade. Downgrading for players from the grade/division in which they are registered to another grade or division shall case after the fourth match of the Premiership.

(2) Championship and Pennant Matches

- (a) In age groups Under 10 to Under 21 during Championship/Pennant matches players may only play for a higher grade in a division equal to or higher than the division in which they are registered.
- (b) In All Age during Championship/Pennant matches, players may only play in their own grade or a higher grade. Note: special rules apply for Over 35 and Over 45.
- (c) In age group Under 9s during Championship/Pennant matches, teams may only use upgraded players from lower Under 9 divisions or from Under 7 or Under 8 teams.
- (d) In age groups Under 9 to Under 11 during Championship/Pennant matches, teams may only use upgraded players as follows –

- (1) If a team has 10 or more of their own registered players available then the team may not use any upgraded players.
- (2) If a team has only 9 of their own registered players available then the team may use one (1) upgraded player.
- (3) If a team has only 8 of their own registered players available then the team may use two (2) upgraded players.
- (4) If a team has only 7 of their own registered players available then the team may use three (3) upgraded players.
- (5) If a team has only 6 of their own registered players available then the team may use four (4) upgraded players.

5. CHANGING OF PLAYERS:

- (1) In the Under 9 and Under 11 age group, unlimited player interchange is permissible at any time during the game. However no more than fourteen (14) players may participate in any match for any one team. No team may take the field if more than fourteen (14) names appear for that team on the team sheet. More than fourteen (14) names appearing on a team sheet will constitute a forfeit against that team. Players taking the field of play in any game must have their own numbered shirt corresponding to the number appearing on the team sheet.
- (2) In age groups Over 35 and Over 45, Association games, unlimited player interchange is permissible at any time during the game however no more than eighteen (18) players may participate in any match for any one team. No team may take the field if more than eighteen (18) names appear for that team on the team sheet. More than eighteen (18) names appearing on a team sheet will constitute a forfeit against that team. Players taking the field of play in any game must have their own numbered shirt corresponding to the number appearing on the team sheet.
- (3) In age groups Under 12 to All Age, Association games, unlimited player interchange is permissible at any time during the game however no more than sixteen (16) players may participate in any match for any one team. No team may take the field if more than sixteen (16) names appear for that team on the team sheet. More than sixteen (16) names appearing on a team sheet will constitute a forfeit against that team. Players taking the field of play in any game must have their own numbered shirt corresponding to the number appearing on the team sheet.
- (4) Interchange procedure shall be as follows:-
 - (a) “Interchange zone” will be an area one metre either side of the half-way line.
 - (b) An interchange is one which is made when the ball is out of play and for which the following conditions shall be observed –
 - (i) The player leaving the field shall do so from the touch line crossing over at the sector called the interchange zone.

- (ii) The player entering the field shall also do so from the interchange zone but not until the player leaving the field has passed completely over the touch line.
 - (iii) A player nominated for interchange shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee whether called upon to play or not.
 - (iv) The interchange is completed when the player who was off the field, enters the field. From this moment they become a player and the player who they replaced ceases to be a player.
- (c) Subject to By-law 5(4)(b)(iii)above, the number of interchanges made during the match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field for another player.
 - (d) If during an interchange, an interchange player enters the field before the replaced player has completely left the field, the referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the field, caution the interchange player and then restart the game.
 - (e) If during an interchange, an interchange player enters the field or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the interchange zone, the referee shall caution the offending player.
- (5) (a) In Super League 1 & 2 competitions substitution rather than interchange applies. It is permissible to substitute a maximum of five (5) players during the game.
 - (b) Substitutions can be made at any time during the match, subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee. Once a player has been substituted he/she may not retake the field.
 - (c) For these competitions, at no stage can more than sixteen (16) names appear for any team on the team sheet. More than sixteen (16) names appearing on a team sheet will constitute a forfeit against that team.
 - (d) Players taking the field of play in any game must have their own numbered shirt corresponding to the number appearing on the team sheet.

6. PLAYING OUTSIDE ASSOCIATION:

Any registered player proved to have played in any competition match of Association Football outside the Association without the permission of the MC may be suspended for a period to be determined by the MC or P & D C.

No Club entering teams in GHFA Inc shall be permitted to enter teams in any competition run outside the Association without the permission of the MC.

7. TEAM NOMINATIONS:

- (1) Teams must be nominated on the forms provided by the Association. However, nominations for Super League 1 & 2 must be made on Club letterhead.

- (2) The closing date for the nomination of teams for the next season, except for Premier League and Super League, shall be fixed by the Association at the completion of the current season. Premier League and Super League nominations must be received at the office of the Association by 5.00pm on the last Friday in November of the preceding year.

8. GROUNDS AND APPURTENANCES:

Upon affiliation, the Competitions Director shall allocate a ground to each Club to dress. Dressing shall consist of 4 corner posts, 2 nets, post and rope barriers to both sidelines at a minimum of 1.5m from the sideline. Clubs must dress grounds at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off of the first game on that ground, and clubs must ensure dressing is maintained until the completion of the last game on that ground that day.

9. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:

- (1) Players in all matches must appear in proper uniform, comprising shirt, shorts, socks in the team's colours, approved footwear and shin pads.
- (2) The shirts of all players in competitive football must have unduplicated numbers.
- (3) Player shirt numbers must be listed on the official team sheet. All goalkeepers must be noted as "GK" in Super League 1 & 2.
- (3) Clubs must seek permission from the Strip Committee before putting advertising/sponsorship on their playing strip. If approved, patches will only be allowed as follows –
 - (a) A patch not exceeding 25 x 10 cm shall be permitted on the front of shirts.
 - (b) A patch not exceeding 75 x 75 mm shall be permitted on each sleeve of shirts.
 - (c) A patch not exceeding 75 x 75 mm shall be permitted on the front-side of each leg of shorts.
 - (d) Any Club not complying with this By-Law shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$500.
 - (e) Any Club incurring a fine, as in (4) above, shall modify sponsorship patches within fourteen (14) days of notification.

10. CLUB COLOURS:

- (1) Where the colours of Clubs are similar, the strip committee shall determine if a 'clash of strip' has occurred. The visiting team (as per fixture book) shall be the team to change when a designated clash of strip occurs, unless otherwise directed by the MC. The MC will decide on the colours of all Clubs.
- (2) Approval for colour registration/alteration and also changes to any part of a Club's strip must be submitted by the first MC Meeting in February each year for consideration by the Strip Committee.
- (3) The Association must ensure that the Referees' Association is issued with a list of colour clashes designated by the Association.

- (4) For games where the Association has designated a colour clash, it will be the responsibility of the Manager or Coach of the home team to inform the referee prior to the commencement of the game if the visiting team is not wearing an alternate strip. Referee must then note this on the back of the team sheet.
- (5) A sample of each Clubs current playing strip must be supplied to the Association for approval and retention.

11. SPECIAL COMPETITIONS:

The Association may conduct special competitions under such rules and conditions as are directed by the MC.

12. FEES AND FINES:

(1)	Forfeit Fees:	Small Sided Football	\$15.00
		Under 9 to Under 11	\$20.00
		Under 12 to Under 14	\$25.00
		Under 15 to Under 16	\$30.00
		Under 17 to S/League	\$75.00

Except as provided for in By-Law 15 (d) the above fees shall apply. If however notification of such forfeit is NOT given to the Association by 4.00pm on the Friday preceding the game then the team forfeiting shall also be liable for the appropriate officials' fees for the forfeited game.

(2)	Protest Fee:	\$200.00
(3)	Appeal Fee:	\$250.00 (\$100 of which is not refundable)
(4)	Late Team Fine:	\$100.00
(5)	Fines:	
	(a)	Undressed Grounds \$50.00
	(b)	No Ball \$10.00
	(c)	No Result \$10.00
	(d)	Non-attendance \$50.00
	(e)	Team Sheets \$ 5.00
	(f)	Non-numbered Shirts \$ 5.00 per team
	(g)	No Armband \$ 5.00
	(h)	Alternate Strip \$50.00
	(i)	Incorrect Result \$10.00
	(j)	Card Confirmation \$15.00

(6) The MC shall have the power to waive any fees or fines.

(7) State Competitions

Failure to notify results by the prescribed time in the prescribed manner - \$250
(or such other amount as FNSW may impose)

13. ENTRIES:

- (1) Following the closing date for entries by Clubs for teams in each grade, the Grading Committee shall meet and arrange suitable competition for the season.
- (2) If insufficient entries are received in any grade, that competition may be suspended for the year.
- (3) GHFA Inc competitions will receive precedence during the season over Club organised events.

14. POINTS:

- (1) In Premiership, Championship and Pennant Competitions points shall be allotted at follows:-

Win	-	3 points
Draw	-	1 point
Win by forfeit or bye	-	3 points

(with result being given as 3 goals to nil)

- (2) In all Premiership Competitions the team with the greatest number of Competition Points at the completion of the competition proper shall be Competition Premiers. Should there be teams equal on points at the end of the competition then their position shall be decided on goal difference (ie goals against subtracted from goals for). If goal difference is the same the team with the greatest number of goals scored for shall be the premiers.

15. FORFEITS:

- (1) Matches shall be played on the ground set down by the Association and shall commence at the official kick-off times. Any team failing to play its match as set down shall be deemed to have forfeited the match. Where a club is aware that a team will forfeit, the club must notify the Office of the Association of the forfeit by 4.00pm on the Friday immediately preceding the game.
- (2) In all grades (other than Under 9s to Under 11s - see subclause (4) below), if a team is unable to field at least seven (7) of its registered players at the scheduled starting time, then such team will be deemed to have forfeited the match. No grace period shall be permitted.
- (3) Where a team (other than Under 9s to Under 11s) takes the field with only seven (7) of its own registered players, should any of these players leave the field and be unable to return (ie due to injury or send off) then the game shall cease and the referee must record the fact on the back of the team sheet.
- (4) For Under 9s to Under 11s, if a team is unable to field at least six (6) of its own registered players at the scheduled starting time, then such team is deemed to have forfeited the match. No grace period shall be permitted. Where a team takes the field with only six (6) of its own registered players should any of these players leave the field and be unable to return (ie due to injury or send off) then the game shall cease and the referee must record the fact on the back of the team sheet.

- (5) Teams forfeiting on two consecutive occasions without satisfactory reason may be removed from the competition by the MC.
- (6) A forfeit fee will not apply where fourteen (14) days advance notice is given to the Association.
- (7) Any team which plays an ineligible player or a player who is not registered with the Association shall be deemed to have forfeited that match.
- (8) Where a team forfeits a match, such match shall be treated as a game by the opposing team for all purposes of these By-Laws.
- (9) State Competitions
Where a club which has agreed to represent the Association in a State Competition forfeits a State Competition match, the Club will be charged any amount imposed by FNSW in respect of the forfeit (in 2012 - \$500)

16. DEFERRED GAMES:

Matches washed out by rain or unplayable due to ground unavailability shall be replayed at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. No application for deferred games shall be considered.

17. TEAM SHEETS:

- (1) In all competition matches, except Championship Finals, the first team mentioned in the draw shall, at least five (5) minutes before the scheduled start of the match, hand to the Referee a team sheet duly completed by both teams.
- (2) A player may take the field at any time during a game. If the player's details are not noted on the team sheet, the player must ensure they are noted at that time, or as instructed by the referee.
- (3) All team sheets are to be posted or delivered to the Association following the completion of each competition game and are to be posted so as to reach the Association no later than the mail each Tuesday following the weekend game.
- (4) The Association reserved the right to apply a late penalty for any team sheet not received from a referee by the Tuesday following the game and also to apply a further penalty for any team sheet not received by the Association by the following Tuesday. Such penalty shall be determined by the MCM.
- (5) Prior to the manager signing the team sheet at the conclusion of the game, the referee shall enter on the said team sheet, beside the name of players, the code for any caution and/or send off issued during the game.
- (6) All players listed on the team sheet will be deemed to have played in that match.

18. DURATION OF MATCHES:

- (1) The duration of matches in the various grades shall be 2 equal periods of -

Under 6	15 minutes
Under 7 to Under 9	20 minutes
Under 10 to Under 12	25 minutes
Under 13 to Under 14	30 minutes
Under 15 to Under 16	35 minutes
Under 17 to All Age	45 minutes
Over 35 and Over 45	45 minutes

- (2) In all games except the 1.00pm and 3.00pm games (except in extreme circumstances) if the commencement of a game is delayed, a shorter period of time must be played in equal halves. In respect to the 1.00pm games no shortened times will be played unless the game commences half an hour or more late.
- (3) No addition is to be made to the duration of either half of the game in the event of time being lost due to injury or any other occurrence that causes play to be suspended.

19. CORNER KICKS AND GOAL KICKS:

For grades Under 12, corner kicks are to be taken 7 metres out from the penalty area.

20. TEAM COACH(S) AND MANAGER:

- (1) Team Coach(s) and Manager must be registered with the Association and must wear their ID Cards and a GHFA Inc armband for the period during which they are acting in that capacity at official GHFA Inc games.
- (2) Only officials identified in the way as described in (1) are entitled to act as Coach(s) and Manager.
- (3) The team Coach(s) and Manager shall be noted on the team sheet for all games in which they are acting in that capacity.

21. REFEREES:

A referee shall be appointed for each match by GHFRA or by this Association. Where no referee is available, it shall be the duty of the two team managers to reach a decision and appoint a substitute referee or referees (one each half). If no decision can be reached, each manager must referee half a game. Both managers should sign the team sheet after the match. Person or persons who referee should sign the reverse side of the team sheet and return same to the home Team Manager who shall ensure that it is returned to the Association by the following Tuesday. Where an active, qualified member of GHFRA is present at the ground that referee has the right to referee the match, providing that the match is at the level of game the member normally covers.

22. DISCIPLINE

Part A: Players cautioned or ordered off the field of play:

- (1) Any player shown a red card which is upheld must serve an automatic one (1) match suspension in the very next competition match to be played by the team in which the player is registered. A

match suspension means that the player is not permitted to play for any other team during that round on that weekend.

- (2) Byes, washouts and forfeits by the players Club do not constitute matches served as part of a suspension. For suspensions in Premier League and Super League, a match is considered both the first and reserve games on any one day.
- (3) Players sent off in the weekend games cannot appear at the P & D C meeting until they have received notification of their sentence, as they must serve a suspension of at least one match.
- (4) The P & D C will meet on the Tuesday (or a day determined) and review the send-off reports from the previous weekend. The P & D C will either cite the player to appear before the P & D C, or it will determine a penalty as appropriate to the offence, on the basis of the table of minimum and maximum penalties approved and published from time to time by MC (and set out in Appendix A of these By-laws).
- (5) Where the P & D C so requests, a player must appear before the P & D C and have the case heard for the action or actions which caused the player to be dismissed from the field. Clubs will also be notified if a player is to be cited to appear before the P & D C.
- (6) If the P & D C considers on the basis of the written report(s) of Match Officials that an offence is proven, it must determine a sentence in fixtures or in time frames. Clubs will be notified of penalties imposed on players.
- (7) The P & D C has the right in considering the severity of the offence to take into account the player's past record and extenuating circumstances.
- (8) Offenders who receive more than the minimum fixture penalty for the offence for which they have been charged have two options. They can accept the penalty as stipulated, or they can challenge the penalty. If the player intends to challenge the penalty handed down by the P & D C, the player's club must inform the Association by e-mail (or otherwise in writing) by 10.00 am on the Monday following notification of the penalty. The player will be allocated a time to appear before the next meeting of the P & D C.
- (9) Where a player challenges a penalty and is nevertheless found guilty, the player will be subject to a penalty greater than the minimum by one or more fixtures, up to but not exceeding the maximum number of fixtures prescribed for the offence as set out in Appendix A of these By-laws.
- (10) A club has the right of appeal against a determination of P & D C to impose a penalty on a player under this By-law (see By-law 23(3) below).
- (11) Any player receiving four (4) yellow cards during the premierships rounds shall be suspended for one (1) competition match and any player receiving six (6) yellow cards in the premierships rounds shall be suspended for two (2) further competition games. Notification shall be given to the player's Club as soon as possible after the fourth and sixth caution is received by the Association.
- (12) The accumulation of yellow cards shall cease at the end of the premierships rounds and restart for the round robin. If in the championship or pennant round robin a player receives two (2) yellow cards, that player shall be automatically suspended for one (1) match. Notification shall be given to a players Club as soon as possible after the second caution is received by the Association.

(13) Despite paragraph (10) of Part A of this By-law, there is no right of appeal against yellow cards.

Part B: Misconduct

(1) For the purposes of this By-law:

- (a) “**Football Activity**” means any activity of a football nature that takes place on the field of play or playing area or within or external surrounds of a ground or any other activity relating or incidental to the objects of Football NSW.
- (b) “**Participant**” means Players, coaches, Office Holders, Match Officials, Spectators and any other Person involved in a Football Activity.

(2) The P & D C shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any written complaint alleging misconduct, as defined in paragraph (3) below, by a Member, Football Club and/or a Participant.

(3) A Member, Football Club and/or a Participant shall at all times in a Football Activity act in the best interest of the Game and shall not act in any manner which:

- (a) is unsportsmanlike or unprofessional;
- (b) brings or may bring the Game into disrepute or damage the reputation and goodwill of the Game;
- (c) is violent;
- (d) is improper, threatening, abusive, indecent, insulting or discriminatory whether by words or behaviour by reason of persons of ethnical origin, colour, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability or any other reason;
- (e) directly or indirectly offers, agrees to give, gives, solicits, agrees to accept or accepts any gift or award or consideration of any nature which is or to be related in any way to influencing the outcome or conduct of a Match;
- (f) directly or indirectly bets or instructs, permits or enables any Person for the other Person’s benefit to bet on the result, progress or conduct of a Match or Competition;
- (g) directly or indirectly induces or attempts to induce a Player to leave the Football Club for which that Player is registered;
- (h) knowingly or willfully engages in the “ring in” of a Player or Players in any Match;
- (i) is disrespectful or abusive of Match officials or of their decisions;
- (j) hinders the proceedings of the P & D C in any matter as defined in paragraph (d) below.
- (k) breaches any obligations imposed by the By-Laws.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (3)(j) above, a person must not –

- (a) Insult a member of a P & D C in or in relation to the exercise of the powers or functions of a member; or
- (b) Repeatedly interrupt the proceedings of the P & D C; or
- (c) Create a disturbance or take part in creating or continuing a disturbance in or near a place where the P & D C is sitting; or
- (d) Obstruct or hinder the P & D C or a member in the performance of the functions of the P & D C; or
- (e) Fail to comply in full with an order of the P & D C,
- (f) do any other act or thing that would, if the P & D C were a Court of record, constitute a contempt of Court.

Part C: Powers of the P & D C

- (1) The P & D C must act at all times in accordance with the principles of natural justice, and is empowered:
 - (a) To conduct its meeting at such time, date and place as it may determine.
 - (b) To take evidence.
 - (c) To require the attendance of any party Member or Participant to give evidence.
 - (d) To require the production of any document, information or other material in whatever form held by any party under the jurisdiction of GHFA;
 - (e) Where the party Member or Participant is required to give evidence and/or produce information or other material refuses or fails to attend and give evidence, the P & D C shall request MC to suspend the party from Competition or membership privileges of GHFA until lifting of the suspension.
 - (f) To inform itself on any matter or thing in order to properly carry out its function.
- (2) Upon a finding by the P & D C of a breach of any of the matters referred to in Part B above, P & D C may impose any penalty it considers appropriate in the circumstances of the case, including (but not limited to):
 - (a) the imposition of a fine or bond, for such time as and on such conditions as the P & D C deems fit; and/or
 - (b) deduction of points from any team in a Competition; and/or
 - (c) expulsion, suspension or disqualification of any Participant from any Football Activity for such time as it deems fit; and/or
 - (d) expulsion, suspension or disqualification of any Member from membership of GHFA.

- (3) The determination of the P & D C shall be in accordance with majority opinion and if equally divided the Chairman's determination shall prevail.
- (4) The P & D C shall make determinations on the balance of probabilities. The onus of proof of an assertion will be upon the person making the assertion.

23. PROTESTS/APPEALS:

- (1) Any Club may protest in writing to the Association on any matter relating to or arising out of competitions conducted by the Association.
- (2) All protests to be recognised must be made in writing and received at the office of the Association by the Tuesday following the match and accompanied by the Protest Fee.
- (3) Any appeal in relation to penalties issued pursuant to Part A of By-law 22 where a person has appeared at the P& D C hearing must be received in writing from the appellant's Club at the office of the Association within seven (7) days of the P & D C hearing, or if notification of the penalty was not given at the P & D C hearing then within seven (7) days of such notification to the appellant's Club, accompanied by the Appeal Fee.
- (4) Any appeal in relation to penalties issued pursuant to Part B of By-law 22 must be received in writing from the appellant's Club at the office of the Association within seven (7) days of the P&D C hearing or if notification of the penalty was not given at the P & D C hearing then within seven (7) days of such notification to the appellant's Club, accompanied by the Appeal Fee.
- (5) All appeals will be heard under the GHFA Appeals Procedures as drawn up by the GHFA Board. A copy of these procedures shall be provided to all appellants.

24. BIRTH CERTIFICATES:

- (1) Clubs entering teams in age group competitions must provide original birth certificates or satisfactory evidence of age of players if requested by GHFA Inc.
- (2) The Competitions Director may, at his/her discretion, deduct competition points in respect of each game played by the player or players in question until evidence of age is provided. An aggrieved club may seek an MC review of any such decision under this By-law.

25. COMPETITION FORMAT:

Except for Super League 1 & 2 (see By-Law 28), all teams competing in the Premiership Competition, are expected to play in the Championship or Pennant Competitions. Any team which does not complete their responsibility in this regard shall be liable to a fine of four (4) times the Forfeit Fee as specified in By-Law 12(1) per game forfeited.

(1) Premiership:

Eight (8) team competitions to form the basis of all competitions except at the discretion of the GC and except for Super League 1 & 2 (see By-Law 28).

- (a) 10 Team Competitions: Will play fourteen (14) rounds to be drawn at the beginning of the season and the top team on points will be recognised as the Premiers and the top four teams will play off for the Champion-ship on a Round Robin basis.
- (b) 8 Team Competitions: Will play fourteen (14) rounds and the top team on points will be recognised as the Premiers and the top four teams will play off for the Championship on a Round Robin basis.
- (c) 6 Team Competitions: Will play fifteen (15) rounds and the top team on points will be recognised as the Premiers and the top four teams will play off for the Championship on a Round Robin basis. The fifteen (15) rounds will be drawn in calendar order through the year, including any additional round scheduled on a date determined by the Competition Secretary.
- (d) The Premiership Competition shall be suspended on Easter Saturday.

(2) **Championship:**

The Championship shall be played by all age groups from Under 9 to Over 45 except for Super League 1 & 2.

- (a) Championship Round Robin:

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
1 v 4	1 v 3	1 v 2
2 v 3	2 v 4	3 v 4

In the event of any round being washed out, Round 1 will be rescheduled until played or until the remainder of the round robin is cancelled.

- (b) Where teams are equal on points and goal difference at the conclusion of the Championship Round Robin series the Championship Finalists shall be decided by:-
 - i) Overall total of Premiership and Championship Round Robin points.
 - ii) If still equal, overall Premiership and Championship Round Robin goal difference.
- (c) In Championship Finals, for all age groups, where two teams are drawn at full time, ten (10) minutes extra time each way shall be played. During that extra time, the first team to score will be declared the winner. If no score is recorded during the extra time, the teams shall be declared Joint Champions.
- (d) Championship Round Robin to be played at the discretion of the Competition Secretary if the premiership competition is affected by wet weather.

(3) **Pennant Competition:**

- (a) 10 Team Competitions:

While the top 4 teams are playing off the remaining 6 teams will play a pennant Competition as set out below:-

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
5 v 10	5 v 9	5 v 8
6 v 9	6 v 8	6 v 10
7 v 8	7 v 10	7 v 9

(b) 8 Team Competitions:

While the top 4 teams are playing off the remaining teams will play a Pennant Competition as set out below:-

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
5 v 8	5 v 7	5 v 6
6 v 7	6 v 8	7 v 8

In the event of any round being washed out, Round 1 will be rescheduled until played or until the remainder of the pennant competition is cancelled.

(c) 6 Team Competitions:

While the top 4 teams are playing off the remaining 2 teams will play for the pennant. If possible the Competition Secretary will organise a special competition with other six (6) team competitions in the same age group.

(d) In the event that the round robin is reduced to only one (1) round, the games will be played as friendly games but no pennant will be awarded.

26. IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND RESULT SHEETS:

- (1) All competitions are played under the ID Card system.
- (2) Every mentioned player on the team sheet will produce his/her ID Card to the opposition manager at the centre of the field for checking prior to the commencement of the game. At this point if ID Cards are not available for inspection, the game shall be forfeited by the offending team. The opposition manager must advise the referee of the situation and at that time the referee shall write on the back of the team sheet that the ID Cards were not produced making sure he/she signs the notation. The teams may then play a friendly game.
- (3) No protests will be accepted regarding player eligibility and identity if ID Cards are not checked.
- (4) Team managers must sign the team sheet in the appropriate place to confirm that he/she has sighted the opposition's ID Cards.
- (5) Should an ID Card not be available for an individual player, then said player shall not be eligible to take the field in any game.
- (6) ID Cards for substitutes must be produced to the opposing manager as the substitute is taking the field of play.

- (7) A manager has the right, at any time during the game, to request from the opposition manager the ID Cards for that particular team if he/she has any doubt about the eligibility of any player on the field, provided that the ID Cards were checked prior to the commencement of the game.
- (8) Only current year ID cards issued by GHFA Inc are permitted to be used.
- (9) When a Club has requested and obtained permission for the regrading of any player, that Club must return the player's ID card to the Association and obtain a new ID Card for the player prior to the player taking the field.
- (10) ID Cards may be inspected by any Member of the Board of the Association at any time during the game.
- (11) When a player plays out of grade and/or division, the team Manager has the responsibility to note this fact in the appropriate place on the team sheet.
- (12) Photographs shall be updated every three (3) years for players in Under 6 to Under 16.
- (13) Photographs shall be updated every five (5) years for players in Under 17 to Over 35 inclusive unless the Club or Association considers a player has changed his/her appearance so as not to be easily recognised from the current photo.

27. PERPETUAL TROPHIES:

Clubs shall return to the Association, by 30th June in each year, any perpetual trophies presented to their teams for the previous season. Clubs failing to return same by the said date will be required to pay an amount of \$100 per trophy.

28. SUPER LEAGUE DIVISIONS:

- (1) There will be a Super League Division 1 and a Super League Division 2 both comprising of First and Reserve Grades.
- (2) Super League 1 shall comprise of ten (10) teams which shall play two (2) complete rounds with a Semi-Final (1 v 2 and 3 v 4) and a Final (being the loser of 1 v 2 versus the winner of 3 v 4). The winner of 1 v 2 will go through to a Grand Final against the winner of the Final. If rain causes the final series to be reduced the Competitions Director will decide how this series will proceed depending on time available.
- (3) Super League 2 shall comprise of ten (10) teams which shall play as per (2) above unless only eight (8) teams nominate then Super League will play as per (2) above with only eight (8) teams.
- (4) In Super League 1 & 2 players may be freely transferred between first grade and reserve grade for the first thirteen (13) matches of the competition, however once thirteen (13) matches have been completed, those players who play in first grade three (3) of the next five (5) games will be ineligible to play in reserve grade for the balance of the competition and finals.

- (5) In the application of By-Law 28(4), goalkeepers shall be neutral players and shall be eligible to play in goals in either grade as required. Where a first grade player plays in goals (and only in goals) for reserve grade, or where a reserve grade player plays in goals (and only in goals) for first grade, their appearances on the team sheet will not be counted for the purposes of By-Law 28(4). Goalkeepers must be marked as “GK” on the team sheet.
- (6) A player will be deemed to have taken the field and played in a match if the player is listed on the team sheet.
- (7) The rules for Super League 1 & 2 finals series shall be –
 - (a) If in any game of the finals series the score at the end of full time is drawn then ten (10) minutes each way will be played.
 - (b) If at the end of extra time the score is still drawn then a penalty shoot out will occur.
 - (c) Stoppage time will be played in all finals.
- (7) The team finishing No. 10 in the Super League 1 First Grade premiership to be relegated to Super League 2. The team finishing No. 1 in the Super League 2 First Grade Premiership to be promoted to Super League 1 and the team finishing No. 10 in Super League 2 First Grade to be relegated to the All Age competition.
- (8) In the event of a club being unable to provide sufficient players to take the field in both the reserve and first grade games and therefore wishing to forfeit one game, can only forfeit the reserve grade game.
- (9) No Club shall be represented by more than one team in the Super League 1 & 2 competitions.
- (10) The closing date for nominations for a position in Super League 1 & 2 for the following season shall be received at the office of the Association by 5.00pm on the last Friday in November of the preceding year. The Association will contact all nominating clubs no later than fourteen (14) days after the close of nominations to advise them of the result of their nomination.

29. SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL:

- (1) In the Under 6, 7 and 8 age groups small sided games shall be played.
- (2) For Under 6s, 4 v 4 games shall be played in fifteen (15) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time on a field 30 x 20 metres with portable goals 2m x 1m.
- (3) For Under 7s, 5 v 5 games shall be played in twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time on a field 30 x 20 metres with portable goals 2m x 1m.
- (4) For Under 8s, 7 v 7 games shall be played in twenty (2) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time on a field 50 x 35 metres with goals 5m x 1.5m.
- (5) Competition points shall not be accumulative.

- (6) Managers, Coaches, Club Officials or Spectators may not take the field unless requested to do so by the Referee and then only in the case of injury.
- (7) All teams which play non-competitive football shall be differentiated by colours/animals.
- (8) The season will end the week prior to Championship Finals. The middle weekend of the NSW State School Holidays will be byes for mini football teams.
- (9) Teams forfeiting without prior notice to Clubs in SSF shall incur a forfeit fee.
- (10) Fines for SSF [see Constitution Clause 27(10)(h)] shall be \$5.00 per infringement up to \$10.00 per team per week to deter further infringements by specific teams or clubs.

30. UNDER 9 TO UNDER 11 COMPETITION:

In the Under 9s to Under 11s, games of 9 v 9 shall be played. Under 9s in twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time and Under 10s and Under 11s in twenty-five (25) minute halves with a five (5) minute half time on a field 70 x 45 metres with goals 5m x 1.5m. Normal rules of competition shall apply and points shall be accumulative.

31. OVER 35 COMPETITION:

- (1) To be eligible, a player must be over the age of 35 on 31st December in the previous year.
- (2) In Association games, unlimited player interchange is permissible at any time during the game. The interchange procedure shall be as set out in By-Law 5(1).
- (3) Players may only be upgraded to play from Over 45s.
- (4) Players eligible to register as Over 40 or Over 45 players under By-Law 33 may register in the Over 35 competition, but shall nonetheless be noted by the Association as an eligible Over 40 or Over 45 player. Subject to this By-Law, they will be eligible to play for their Club as a substitute player in any grade of Over 35.
- (5) By-Law 31(4) does not apply for the final game of the Premiership and/or in any Round Robin Championship and Pennant matches.
- (6) The maximum number of Over 40 or Over 45 players permitted by By-Law 31(4) to play in a match in a division lower than that in which they are registered shall be two (2).
- (7) A maximum of five (5) players whether they are Over 40 or Over 45 players (maximum. 2 players) or upgraded Over 35 players, shall be permitted to play for any one team in any one game.
- (8) By-Law 31(4) does not apply to Over 40 or Over 45 players who are registered to play in the Over 35 Division 1 competition. These players are, while registered in Division 1, not eligible to play in lower Over 35 divisions.

32. OVER 45 COMPETITION:

- (1) To be eligible a player must be over the age of 45 on 31st December in the previous year however each team may register a maximum of four (4) players who are Over 40 players, ie must be over the age of 40 on 31st December in the previous year.
- (2) In Association games, unlimited player interchange is permissible at any time during the game. The interchange procedure shall be as set out in By-Law 5(1).
- (3) Players may only be upgraded to play from lower Over 45 divisions.
- (4) If an Over 45 team is decimated by injury, the Club may put a letter to the Competitions Director requesting approval to play Over 45 players in that team from an Over 35 team.

33. GRADING:

When there is a combination of two teams into one from the previous year then the highest division for grading for the current year for the nominated team will be no higher than the average of the previous year's two divisions unless nominated by the club.

APPENDIX 'A'

**GLADESVILLE HORNSBY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC.
REFEREE CAUTION AND SEND-OFF CODES FOR 2013**

Cautions

Cautions	
Code	Offence
Y1	Unsporting behaviour
Y2	Dissent by word or action
Y3	Persistent infringement of the laws of the game
Y4	Delaying the restart of play
Y5	Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
Y6	Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
Y7	Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission

Send-Off Codes

Section A

Offences by players against other players or any other person. This section also applies for offences by team officials, other persons or players who have been sent from the field.

		Suspension (matches unless otherwise noted)	
Code	Offence	Automatic	Maximum
R1	*** Serious Foul Play ***		
	"Excessive force or brutality when challenging for the ball"	2	12
	R1(A1) Tackle that endangers the safety of an opponent	3	10
	R1(A2) Rugby tackle or violent charging	2	8
	R1(A3) Over the ball tackle	2	12
R2	*** Violent Conduct ***		
	"Excessive force or brutality when not challenging for the ball" (May occur either on the field of play or not, against an opponent, team mate or any other person)	1	2 years
	R2(A1) Head butting	5	2 years

	R2(A2) Punching/Fighting	2	8
	R2(A3) Kicking	2	12
	R2(A4) Pushing, grabbing or holding	1	6
	R2(A5) Becoming involved in a melee, fight or other incident	4	12
	R2(A6) Elbowing to the head	4	16
	R2(A7) Elbowing to the body	1	10
	R3	*** Spitting ***	1 year
R4	"Denying a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball"	1	4
R5	"Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to a player running towards his opponents' goal by an offence punishable by a free kick"	1	6
R6	"Using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures"	1	20
	R6(A1) Swearing - moderate (i.e. in frustration and not widely audible) not directed to any specific person and non-threatening	1	8
	R6(A2) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language	2	8
	R6(A3) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures of a discriminatory nature (includes racist or sexist remarks or remarks regarding a person's religion, ethnicity or physical/other disability)	4	20
	R6(A4) Indecent, threatening or abusive actions or gestures	4	20
R7	"Receives a second caution in the same match"	1	1

Section B - Offences against match officials

Offences by players or team officials against match officials. This section also applies for offences against match officials by players or team officials who have been sent from the field.

		Suspension (matches unless otherwise noted)	
Code	Offence	Automatic	Maximum
R2	*** Violent Conduct ***		
	R2(B1) Offence not covered below	6 months	10 years
	R2(B2) Threatening or intimidating a Referee or Assistant Referee by word or action	6 months	30 years
	R2(B3) Tripping a Referee or Assistant Referee	1 year	30 years

	R2(B4) Pushing with an open hand, arm, shoulder, hip etc. with intent	1 year	30 years
	R2(B5) Striking with a ball or other object	1 year	30 years
	R2(B6) Striking: Punching, kicking, elbowing etc.	1 year	30 years
R3	*** Spitting ***	1 year	2 years
R6	"Using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures"	2	20
	R6(B1) Swearing - moderate (including expressions of frustration) not widely audible and non-threatening - overheard by, but not directed at, a match official	2	8
	R6(B2) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language directed at a match official	4	20
	R6(B3) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures of a discriminatory nature directed at a match official (includes racist or sexist remarks or remarks regarding a person's religion, ethnicity or disability)	4	20
	R6(B4) Indecent, threatening or abusive actions or gestures towards a match official	4	20

Misconduct

This section deals with offences by spectators and all participants where an incident has occurred and no red card sanction has been imposed.

Offence	Sentencing range	
	Minimum	Maximum
Misconduct(a): Unsportsmanlike or unprofessional conduct	1 week	30 years
Misconduct(b): Brings, or may bring, the game into disrepute	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(c): Engages in violent behaviour or actions	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(d): Is improper, threatening, abusive, indecent, insulting or discriminatory, whether by word or behaviour, regarding a person's ethnic origin, colour, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability, or an other reason	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(e): Knowingly or wilfully engages in the "ring-in" of a player or players in any match or plays in any match while suspended or knowingly plays a suspended player in any match	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(f): Is disrespectful or abusive of Match Officials or of their decisions	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(g): Takes or makes action (physical or by word) against a player or team official	1 month	30 years

Misconduct(h): Hinders the proceedings of the P&DC or Tribunal	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(i): Breaches any of the obligations imposed by Association or FNSW By-Laws	1 month	30 years
Misconduct(j): Breaches The Association's Code Of Conduct	1 month	30 years

Note:

Players sent off on the weekend games can NOT appear at the P&DC until they have received their sentence as they must serve at least one match which counts towards the sentence

HEARING/SENTENCE PROCEDURE

The P&D Committee will meet and review the send-off reports/incident reports and determine sentence as appropriate to the offence on Tuesday (or at a day determined) from the previous weekend. Clubs will be notified of charged player(s) sentences by the Thursday following the game. Clubs will also receive notice of any cited persons following P&D reviewing incidents report/send-off reports

Punishment

If the Disciplinary Committee considers the offence is proved it must select the punishment from the above guidelines. Suspensions are calculated in fixtures or a time frame.

The Disciplinary Committee has the right to consider:

- a) the severity of the offence
- b) the players past record
- c) extenuating circumstances

Offenders who receive **more than the minimum** fixture penalty have two options:-

- a) Accept the penalty as stipulated, or
- b) Challenge the penalty, **and if the player is found guilty** he/she will be subject to a **penalty greater than the minimum by one or more fixtures up to the maximum** number as prescribed in the Regulations.
- c) Players can request a copy of the Send-off or incident report to be sent to them prior to the hearing at the time of lodging the intention to contest the sentence, otherwise it will be available at the PD & C Hearing. **NOTE all notices of “challenges” must be lodged by the offender’s Club.**

Appeal

All Clubs have the right to appeal any suspension imposed on their players by GHFA by lodging an Appeal together with the appropriate Appeal Fee, as per the Association By-Laws. This Appeal must be lodged by the Club within 7 days of notification of the suspension.

Citing

The P&DC may cite a player, team official or club official to appear if the committee feels that the offence warrants greater penalty than the automatic penalty or requires clarification on an offence.

Unacceptable Conduct by Team, Team Officials

Upon receipt of incident reports by clubs, referees, GHFRA or Officials of GHFA, the P&D will investigate any unacceptable conduct, including language, abuse and violent conduct by team officials or spectators during or at the completion of the game, and will determine a penalty if it determines one is warranted. Penalties may include suspension, fines, bonds or deduction of competition points for repeat offenders and could be in addition to penalties set out for Misconduct.
