



TAMWORTH COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

These rules and regulations are specific to the Tamworth Competition and are in addition to the Northern Inland Football Competition Rules & Regulations.

COMPETITION VENUES

- a) The venue for all competition and finals matches for all age groups will normally be the Gipps St Sporting Fields, Gipps St, West Tamworth. Other grounds can be used if there are not enough grounds available at Gipps St for any competition. In Men's and Women's divisions, other grounds will be used from time to time across the Tamworth region on a home and away basis where applicable.
- b) Where the Gipps St Sporting Fields are not available due to weather, or other reasons beyond the control NIF, the Competition Administrator will choose either an alternate venue, notifying Clubs, on social media and in the local media, or defer or abandon the match or matches effected.
- c) Where the Gipps St Sporting Fields are not available due to weather, or other reasons beyond the control NIF, the Competition Administrator will choose either an alternate venue, notifying Clubs, on social media and in the local media, or defer or abandon the match or matches effected.
- d) The Grand Final will be played in Tamworth on a date & venue set by the Competition Administrator. Home semi- finals only can be played at other venues if applicable.

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

Men's T-League Football Competition

- (a) In 2018 the Men's T-League will consist of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grade Competitions. 3rd grade may be split at the discretion of the competition's administrator pending team registrations.**



- (b) To play in the 1st and 2nd Grade Competitions a Club must be able to field a squad with sufficient players to play in **both** the 1st and 2nd Grade competitions with no maximum number of players. If a club has only enough players to field one side, then that side can only play in the 3rd Grade Competition.
- (c) It is not compulsory to enter the local 1st/2ndGrade competition. If a club has enough for two (2) teams but only wants to enter both teams in 3rd grade this is allowed.
- (d) Where a Club has more than one side entered in the 3rd Grade Competition then once a player plays in one of those 3rd grade sides they are not permitted to play in any of their Clubs other 3rd Grade sides in the current season.

Movement Between Grades

- (a) Players can be promoted from any grade in either the Northern Inland Premier League or T-League competition, however they can only be relegated one grade per week.

Junior Player Movement

- (a) A junior player can play up in a higher age group anytime without penalty, once registered to a team no player can play down an age group.
- (b) **A junior female player may play one age group below the age they are turning in that calendar year, however once registered in a team, may not fill in for a team an age group below.**

Youth Players

While players registered in youth teams are required to play in their own age competitions as a priority, youth players shall be allowed to play in Senior Football matches without penalty, as long as they are old enough.

All youth players filling in for senior teams, MUST be marked on the Match Card with a J next to their name for record keeping purposes.

Women's T-League Competition

- (a) In 2019 the Tamworth Women's T-League Competition will be a One grade, competition.
- (b) After Playing each team once, the competition will split as even as possible at the Competition Administrator's discretion.
- (c) **Prior to season commencement, each club with multiple entered teams must submit a team listing to the Competition Administrator. Players may "fill in" for their club's other side/s no greater than 5 games total. Juniors are not subject to this rule.**



- (d) **Clubs may enter more than one team in the 2019 Women's Competition.**
- (e) Female juniors may fill in for their club's side, however are subject to finals rules and requirements.
- (f) **Women are to be registered exclusively to a women's competition or a men's competition exclusively and if registered in the women's competition may not fill in for men's sides.**
- (c) **A junior female player may play one age group below the age they are turning in that calendar year, however once registered in a team, may not fill in for a team an age group below.**

Junior Competitive will play under a summarized format.

AGE RESTRICTIONS - Age restrictions for local Tamworth Football competitions are:

- (a) Male or female player playing in Men's T-League competition: Minimum age - player must be turning 15 Years of age in the year of the competition and a "Parental Consent Form" submitted to the Competition Administrator prior to the player taking the field. Exemptions can be applied for and will be assessed on an individual basis.
- (b) Female player playing in Women's T-League competition: Minimum age – player must be turning 14 years of age prior to the commencement of the competition. Exemptions can be applied for and will be assessed on an individual basis.

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

(a) **Guest Player**

The TDF competition may allow guest players to play in its competitions. The Competition Administrator must approve such guest players, having consideration to the level of competition being played and any other matters that are relevant. (As per FFA National Registration Regulations 5.3) Guest players shall only be permitted after the 30th June each year. Application for a Guest Player is to be made on the appropriate form. Conditions Apply.

A fee payable to NIF and the Club for which the guest player is to be associated with will apply.



INTERCHANGE OF A PLAYER

Unlimited interchange will apply to all fixtures (with a maximum of 16 players to be recorded on the match sheet/card, except for Women's T-League which has provision for a maximum of 18).

School Excursions/Leave Weekends

Where there is a school leave weekend or a school excursion, the Club of the team(s) effected **must** apply for deferment fourteen (14) days before the match is scheduled. If the request is inside the fourteen (14) days, then the deferment will be denied.

Teams/Clubs are not required to play deferred games on any day that would cause a contravention of their religious beliefs or principles.

Finals Eligibility

- a) In a Men's T-League Grade competition fixture, a player who has played in at least 66% of their fixtures (provided that they have not been named in the starting line up for a higher grade for that round) during the premiership competition is eligible to play in that grade's final series.
- b) **In a Women's T-League Grade competition fixture, a player who is named in that side as per requirements prior to the season and/or has not exceed the 5-game fill in rule applied to the women's competition.**