



MEMO - 2

DATE: Monday 24th February
TO: Northern Inland Football - “Northern Clubs”
FROM: NNSWF Football Operations Manager
SUBJECT: Northern Inland Football – Northern Competitions

For Information or Action	Action required	When	NNSWF Contact
Action	Confirm participation in NNSWF/NIF Competitions 2020	Wednesday 26 th February	Liam Bentley lbentley@northernnswfootball.com.au

Dear All,

Following to previous communication, I'd like to thank you all again for your input into this process. As you can appreciate, the consultation process has been challenging given the timelines, however I am confident that NNSWF and NIF have considered and addressed the issues identified by clubs in attendance at the initial forum on 11 February.

A number of consistent themes were identified in the feedback provided. The following actions respond to the feedback provided.

Action 1 – Immediate amendment to competition management and administration structure

Further to previous communication, I confirm that Northern Inland Football (NIF) Management will be reporting to Northern NSW Football (NNSWF) with respect to the administration of competitions. NIF has appointed Toby McVey as the Competition Administrator for the Northern Region. Toby will be afforded the expertise and resources of the NNSWF Football Operations Department. This change will empower clubs, when appropriate to escalate matters directly to NNSWF.



Action 2 - Immediate removal of cross-region finals series.

It was clear that the cross-region finals series was unpopular. In response, separate finals series will be implemented in the North and South.

Action 3 – Clubs permitted to enter more than one team per senior men’s division.

One of the key issues which impacted not only the premier league, but also the lower divisions was the regulation which restricted clubs to enter one team per division. This regulation would have forced more competitive teams to drop divisions and subsequently compromise the enjoyment of teams competing in lower divisions. In response, clubs will be permitted to enter more than one team in each division. The rules will restrict players from switching teams, to maintain competition integrity whilst ensuring clubs are playing in the appropriate division.

Action 4 – Open team entry in senior men’s divisions.

Clubs will be afforded the opportunity to nominate which team/s competes in which division.

Action 5 – Pilot junior girls’ program in Armidale

There is an appetite for junior girls’ football in the Northern region, and whilst the numbers do not lend themselves to a full junior age group competition, NNSWF and NIF would like to introduce a pilot program in 2020 for female players in the region. This may be a short tournament or competition to involve girls playing in boys’ competitions and show that there is a pathway for girls to play. The details will be confirmed with those interested in participating over the coming month.

Action 6 – NNSWF Attendance at Council of Clubs Meetings

A senior member of the NNSWF Football Operations Team will be present at all Council of Clubs meetings in Armidale. Further “check points” will also be scheduled.

NNSWF is confident that the above actions and the detail provided previously about changes to disciplinary procedures and communication have addressed the majority of issues raised by clubs. Please note that this is NNSWF’s initial response. NNSWF is committed to working very closely with NIF and member clubs to build an effective governance structure which will facilitate the best possible football experience and build sustainable clubs which have the capacity to serve their communities.



NORTHERN NSW FOOTBALL

It is now time for clubs to provide their players and members with clarity and confirm their intention to commit to playing in sanctioned competitions in 2020.

Club Action:

Clubs committing to Northern NSW Football & Northern Inland Football Competitions for 2020 please confirm in writing, on Club Letterhead, by no later than 5pm Wednesday 26th February to lbentley@northernnswfootball.com.au

Clubs with the intention of disaffiliating from football are required to provide notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting, including an agenda which contains the opportunity for members to discuss and endorse any proposed disaffiliation from the sport, by Wednesday 26th February to lbentley@northernnswfootball.com.au

Yours in football

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liam Bentley'.

Liam Bentley
Football Operations Manager