



**SUNSHINE COAST  
CHURCHES FOOTBALL *Inc***

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# **BY - LAWS**

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Last Updated: November 2024

## Quick Reference Page

A quick reference for the more common enquiries,

### Registration

- Players must be registered before they take the field
- Register online, you will get a confirmation email when successful
- Playing unregistered will incur a 3-0 forfeit and monetary fine.

**By-Laws 1.A. (page 5) & 8.B (page 11)**

### Player Age Eligibility

- Minimum age: As of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, the preceding year, men must be at least 15yo and women 13yo to play in the senior competitions and 35yo to play in Over 35s.
- Players may play in a higher division for the same club. Players may not play in another team in their own division.

**By-Laws 1.B. (page 5)**

### Arriving Late

- Players must be marked on the online team sheet as playing prior to taking the field. Failure to do so may result in monetary fine. You may arrive at any time during the game.

**By-Laws 2.C. (page 7) & 8.B (page 11)**

### Catch Up Games & Washouts

- Any games that are washed out or cancelled will be replayed wherever possible however this will be dependent on a range of factors such as field/referee availability, number of weeks left in the season and structure of the competition. We plan for wet weather weeks and typically replay them all.

**By-Laws 7.A (page 10)**

### Fixture Alteration Requests

- A proposal to change times, dates or venues of any game must be received in writing by SCCSA administration at least 14 days prior to the original, advertised time.

**By-Laws 7.B (page 10)**

### Forfeits

- If a team decides to forfeit but play a friendly, they will be recorded as losing 3-0 and share the match fees with the other team as normal.
- If a team forfeits but does not play, they will be recorded as losing 10-0
- If a team notifies the office of a forfeit by 12 noon on match day no match fees will be charged, if after 12noon they will be responsible for the match fees of both teams.

**By-Laws 7.C (page 10)**

### Sanction Appeals & Red Cards

- You cannot appeal a one game ban however not every red card attracts a suspension period.
- To appeal you must write to [admin@sccsa.org.au](mailto:admin@sccsa.org.au) within 48 hours (2 days) and pay appeal bond of \$150.
- The committee will then arrange an appeals tribunal. If successful, the \$150 will be refunded.
- A scheduled bye, washout or rescheduled match does not count as suspension served. A forfeit (either team) does count as suspension served.

**By-Laws 10.B (page 13) & 9.B (page 12)**

### Complaints

- Minor grievances should be directed to the SCCF Committee, contact details are on the webpage.
- Serious or formal complaints should follow the SCCSA complaints procedure outlined on the webpage.

**By-Laws 13.B (page 15)**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

SCCSA	-	SUNSHINE COAST CHURCHES SOCCER ASSOCIATION
SCCF	-	SUNSHINE COAST CHURCHES FOOTBALL INC
FIFA	-	FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
IFAB	-	INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD
FFA	-	FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

# 1. PLAYERS, REGISTRATIONS & RESTRICTIONS

## 1.A Registration of Players

- (i) All players must be registered with a SCCF affiliated team in order to play in SCCF Tournaments & Fixtures.
- (ii) A player is registered and eligible to play in a SCCF competition once their online registration is completed.
- (iii) Any team who fields a player that is not properly registered will be deemed to have forfeited the game.
- (iv) Each player shall be allocated a jersey number in which he/she plays for the entire season. The allocated jersey numbers will be the same as the numbers on the Team Nomination Sheet.
- (v) Each player is to upload a photo ID (student ID, driver's license etc) for the online registration.
- (vi) SCCF reserves the right to refuse, reject or cancel player registration without notice.
- (vii) SCCF registration fees shall be determined preseason by the SCCF Executive and these fees are non-refundable.
- (viii) Any residual fees will be the responsibility of the team for whom that player registered and may be recovered from the team bond.
- (ix) Team squads are limited to a maximum of 20 players per team per season.
- (x) (x) Clubs may make up to 2 players per team inactive and replace them within their squads during the season, but not during the finals series, so long as the 2 players who are made inactive don't play again for any SCCSA club or team within that same season and where the players meet the below criteria.
  - a). Player has sustained a season ending Injury (whether sustained playing football or not).
  - b). Player has been diagnosed with a Serious illness or needs to provide care to a family member who has a Serious illness.
  - c). Player has moved away from the Sunshine Coast.
  - d). Players personal circumstances have changed significantly, and they are no longer able to play football due to these circumstances.

Players who are made inactive are not entitled to a refund and SCCF fees are non-transferable. New players will need to pay full fees.

All requests to make a player inactive will need to be made by the Club in writing using the "Inactive Player Request Form" form to the Seniors Committee detailing the reason why the player is being made inactive.

## 1.B Player Restrictions

- (i) The age of a player shall be determined as at midnight of 31<sup>st</sup> December of preceding year. There is no upper age limit, the minimum age for Seniors competitions are;

Males: 15 years  
 Females: 13 years  
 Over 35s: 35 years

- (ii) Players may play in a higher division for the same club. Players may not play in another team in their own division. Divisions are ranked in order of;
- |          |                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Highest: | 1 <sup>st</sup> Division          |
|          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division          |
|          | Over 35s 1 <sup>st</sup> Division |
| Lowest:  | Over 35s 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division |
- (iii) Special dispensation may be sought for junior players wishing to play in Senior Men's or Women's and will be considered by the SCCF committee on a case by case basis.
- (iv) A player registered in a Senior Men's or Women's team that plays six games in a higher division must remain in that team for the remainder of the season.
- (v) A player registered in a Juniors or Over 35s team may play up an unlimited number of games providing this does not contravene By-Law 1.B (vii).
- (vi) A player must play a minimum of four games to be eligible to play for that team in the Championship competition or the Cup Final. Byes or games in which a player is formally suspended are not included in these four games. Forfeits or abandoned games are included in these four games.
- (vii) A player may only play in one team for the (Seniors) SCCF Championship competition.
- (viii) In the Knockout Cup Competition (Kevy Cup), teams may borrow a player/s from any Over 35s registered team (including other clubs).
- (ix) If borrowing a player means you will have more than 14 players available for that game, you may not borrow that player, however a Goal-Keeper can be borrowed regardless of numbers so long as they don't play any other position within that game due to being a specialised position.
- (x) Age-eligible Senior players may play up to 6 x O35's games for their club so long as the total players available for that game doesn't exceed 14 players.

### 1.C Player Transfers

- (i) Players wishing transfer between teams must apply in writing to the SCCF committee. Consent will be sought from the receiving team.
- (ii) Transfer applications must be approved by SCCF committee prior to the player taking the field for their new team. We recommend providing at least five days' notice.
- (iii) A player may only transfer once during a season.
- (iv) A player may transfer to a lower division team at any point in the season.

## 2. TEAMS

### 2.A Team Eligibility

- (i) Only teams from SCCSA affiliated clubs are eligible to compete in SCCF Fixtures & Tournaments.
- (ii) Team nominations must be submitted by a nominated team official.
- (iii) Teams shall be identified first and foremost by their club name [Buderim, Caloundra etc]
- (iv) Teams must also be identified by a unique team name [Lions, Chiefs, Reds, etc].
- (v) Teams may not use names that conflict with other SCCSA *club* names
 

e.g.	Eagles	-	[Noosa]
	Warriors	-	[Palmwoods]
	Wildcats	-	[Nambour]
- (vi) SCCF committee reserves the right to reject any team names that may be deemed inconsistent with SCCF values.
- (vii) In line with IFAB rules, up to 6 interchanges are permitted to be available on a team sheet.

### 2.B Team Strip

- (i) All teams must ensure any advertising on team strips is consistent with SCCF values.
- (ii) Each player shall wear their SCCF allocated number, not less than 100mm high, clearly displayed on the back of their shirt.
- (iii) All players shall wear correct full team strip, i.e. correct coloured shirt, shorts & socks.
- (iv) If the shirts of opposing teams are too similar one team must wear bibs. The team who wears the bibs shall be that whose shirt does not match their affiliated club colours. If both teams' shirts are aligned to club colours, it shall be the team listed second in the advertised fixture.
- (v) Each team should have a nominated captain for each game who should wear an appropriate, identifying arm band.
- (vi) SCCF committee reserves the right to revoke any team strips that may be deemed inconsistent with SCCF values.

### 2.C Team Sheets

- (i) Online team sheets must be completed prior to kick off and all players playing in the match must be marked as such. Goalkeepers should be indicated as to whether they played 1<sup>st</sup> half, 2<sup>nd</sup> half or both halves.
- (ii) Late players must be added to the online team sheet before entering the field of play.

- (iii) Only players that are marked as playing on the online team sheet are deemed to have played.

### **3. SENIOR COMPETITIONS**

#### **3.A Competition Management**

- (i) A Premiership, Championship and Cup competitions will be conducted each year. All details including season dates, draws, divisions and venues will be set by the SCCSA administration.
- (ii) Before round seven of the Premiership, the SCCSA administration in conjunction with the SCCF committee may reallocate teams to different divisions to ensure a fair and balanced competition.
- (iii) The last fixture date is the last date for rescheduled games to be played. In the event where some teams have played less games than the others in their division, the SCCSA administration in conjunction with the SCCF committee will determine the most fair and practical resolution.
- (iv) The SCCF Executive may decide if any game, including finals, is to be rescheduled or abandoned for any reason.
- (v) The Cup competition is open to all SCCF registered Senior Men's and Over 35s teams. Each team must nominate for the Cup before round two of the Premiership competition.

#### **3.B Competition Structure**

- (i) The Committee in collaboration with administration team will decide on the best competition structure (league, cup & finals) for each division at the beginning of the year; with consideration given to, the number of teams, the number of game weeks available, washout weeks etc.
- (ii) The Premiership will be decided by the accumulation of points from each fixture, three points for a win, one point for a draw, three points for a bye and zero points for a loss. If teams are equal on points, the Premiership ladder will be ordered by; best goal difference, most goals scored, most wins, least red cards, least yellow cards.
- (iii) The Cup competition will be a knockout competition. Teams will nominate to participate before round two of the Premiership competition. Teams will be drawn randomly and then play against each other until a result is obtained. The losing team will vacate the competition with the winner progressing to the next round until an overall winner is determined.

#### **3.C Championship & Cup Results**

- (i) All Championship and Cup games must be played until a result is obtained.
- (ii) Games resulting in a draw in normal time will proceed to extra time and then penalties, as per IFAB regulations.



### 3.D Summer Soccer Competition

- (i) The SCCF may run Summer Soccer competition for ladies, men's and mixed teams.
- (ii) All players must be registered with SCCF or SCCSA and pay the scheduled registration fee.
- (iii) Specific rule changes are outlined in Annex A.

## 4. **COMPETITION RULES & LAWS**

### 4.A Fixtures & Tournaments

- (i) Fixtures & tournaments will be played according to current IFAB Laws of The Game and FFA directives, except as detailed below;

### 4.B Local Rules

- (i) Special Law for Over 35s competitions: No slide tackles. Sanction: Indirect free kick.  
**Note:** Players may slide for the ball if it is not near an opponent.
- (ii) The kick off time must be strictly adhered to; no period of grace is permitted. When teams are not ready to play and the kick-off time is delayed, time will be deducted from each half so that the game finishes on time.
- (iii) Sock tape does not have to be the same colour as the sock colour
- (iv) For women, a game will consist of two 40 minute halves separated by a 10 minute half time break. If extra time is required it will consist of two 10 minute halves, separated by no break.

## 5. **AWARDS**

### 5.A Awards

- (i) Yearly awards will include but are not limited to;
  - Premiership Team – The team at the top of the Premiership ladder at the end of the season.
  - Championship Team – The team that wins their respective grand final.
  - Player of the Year – The best and fairest player of the year as voted by senior teams.
  - Golden Boot – The player from each division who scores the most number of goals.
  - Membership Medal – Awarded to players registered with SCCSA for 10 years and every 5 years thereafter.

## 6. **OFFICIALS**

### 6.A Team Officials

- (i) Team officials are appointed by their team and are responsible for the organisation and conduct of their team. Team officials include managers, coaches etc.
- (ii) Unless playing, team officials are to remain in the technical area while the game is in progress.
- (iii) Under no circumstances shall any person enter the field of play unless called upon by the referee. Strong disciplinary action may be taken for breaches of this By-Law.
- (iv) Only players and two team officials are permitted in the technical area.

## **6.B Ground Officials**

- (i) A Ground Official will be identified and on duty at each SCCF game. They will be appointed by SCCSA administration.

## **6.C Referees**

- (i) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees body as nominated by SCCF.
- (ii) Referees shall have complete authority before, during and after the game in question in accordance with the Laws of The Game as laid down by IFAB.
- (iii) Referee's fees and payment method will be negotiated annually with the nominated Referees body.
- (iv) Where a team's shirt colour clashes with that worn by the referee, the referees will, where possible, change their shirt colour. Where a colour clash occurs and the 3 appointed referees do not all have an alternate colour available, the centre referee will change shirt colour and the 2 assistants will remain in a black strip. Where a colour clash occurs and none of the referees have an alternate coloured shirt, a bib/tabard may be worn by the referee.

## **7. Changes to Scheduled Games**

### **7.A Postponed, Cancelled & Abandoned Games**

- (i) In the event of wet weather that results in the cancellation of all scheduled games, no points will be awarded to any team. These may be rescheduled at the discretion of the SCCSA administration.
- (ii) The SCCF committee & the referee have the right to cancel or abandon games if conditions are considered to be unsafe for participants or excessive damage to the playing surface would occur.
- (iii) Postponed or abandoned games will rescheduled by the SCCSA administration.
- (iv) If a Premiership game is abandoned after 75% of the match has been played, the result will stand and it will not be rescheduled. If a Championship or Cup game is abandoned, the SCCF Committee will determine the fairest method for resolution.

### **7.B Fixture Alteration Requests**

- (i) A proposal to change times, dates or venues of any game must be received in writing by SCCSA administration at least 14 days prior to the original, advertised time.

### 7.C Forfeits

- (i) When a forfeit is offered to an opposing team, that team shall accept the forfeit. This game will not be re-scheduled. A team (minimum seven players) that has not presented itself within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick off time will be deemed to have forfeited that game.
- (ii) The teams can elect to play a friendly match. If this occurs the score will be recorded as a 3-0 win to the team that did not forfeit and both teams will be responsible for their respective match fees.
- (iii) If a friendly match is not possible, the team that did not forfeit will be awarded a 10-0 win.
- (iv) If the forfeiting team offers a friendly match and the other team pull out, the score will be recorded as a 3-0 win to the team that did not forfeit.
- (v) If the forfeiting team notifies the SCCSA administration by 12 noon on the day of the scheduled kick off, no match fees will be charged. If this deadline is not met, the forfeiting team will be responsible for the match fees of both teams.

## 8. FINES & SANCTIONS

### 8.A Bonds

- (i) A \$200 bond from each team is to be deposited with SCCF prior to commencement of fixtures matches. Fines will be deducted from this during the season if required. Should the bond fall below \$100, another \$100 is required to be deposited before the team may play again. Balance of monies unused will be refunded at the conclusion of the season.

### 8.B Fines & Sanctions

- (i) Fines and sanctions will be applied by the SCCF committee as per the table below;

	<b>OFFENCE</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>	<b>FINE</b>
1	Playing an ineligible player in a SCCF fixture or tournament. (Including suspended, unregistered or from a higher division)	3 goal forfeit of impacted game.	\$50 fine
2	Second offence & subsequent offence(s)	3 goal forfeit of impacted game.	\$100 fine
3	Bond balance not in credit.	3 goal forfeit of impacted game.	Nil
4	Online Team Sheets not completed	Nil	\$10 fine per person

5	Playing in non-matching team colours after round 3.	Nil	\$10 fine per player
6	Walk offs	3 goal forfeit of impacted game.	Match Fee (paid to opposition)
7	Where the SCCF committee deem the offence to have potentially impacted the outcome of a game.	3 goal forfeit of impacted game.	Nil
8	Where the SCCF committee deem the offence did not impact the outcome of the game.	Warning	As deemed by SCCF committee
9	Where fines or sanctions are not adhered to by the due date.	Deduction of competition points as deemed by SCCF committee	As deemed by SCCF committee

- (ii) Random checks will be conducted throughout the season to ensure that all players, teams & clubs comply with the registration requirements of the SCCF.
- (iii) The SCCF committee reserves the right to impose sanctions on teams or players that bring Churches Football/Soccer into disrepute. These include but are not limited to fines, suspensions, deduction of competition points, and removal from competition or deregistration.

### 8.C Walk Offs

- (i) Walk-offs are disrespectful of the time and costs invested by all participants and are not endorsed. As per section 8B(ili), the SCCF committee will determine the outcome of the match and any sanctions or fines the offending team or official may be liable for.

## 9. **PLAYER BEHAVIOUR** (Refer also to Annex B – “Fair Play Policy”)

### 9.A Cautions (Yellow Cards)

- (i) In the event of a Caution, the player shall be shown the Yellow Card and the ‘Y number’ corresponding to their offense will be noted against their name on the team sheet by the referee.
- (ii) There is no appeal against a caution.
- (iii) If two yellow cards are received in a match a red card will be issued. If the red card results in a suspension being imposed, the yellow cards will be expunged. If the no suspension is served for the red card, the yellow cards will remain valid.
- (iv) If a yellow card is received and later a direct red card, the yellow card will remain valid.
- (v) A player who accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the course of the SCCSA season must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions:
  - a. Five (5) yellow cards, equates to a one match suspension.
  - b. A further three (3) yellow cards during a season (8 in total), an additional match suspension will apply.

- c. A further two (2) yellow cards during a season (10 in total), an additional match suspension will apply.
- d. Every one (1) yellow card thereafter during a season (11+ in total), an additional match suspension will apply.

### 9.B Send Offs (Red Cards)

- (i) In the event of a "Send Off" the player shall be shown the Red Card and the fact noted with the corresponding 'R number' on the Team Sheet by the Referee.
- (ii) A red card report will be sent to the SCCF committee for a decision as the length of suspension. These decisions will be made as per Annex D – Suspension Guidelines.
- (iii) Players receiving red cards in any other SCCF sanctioned game including friendlies, state titles, nationals etc, shall serve a suspension as deemed appropriate by the SCCF committee, in line with the current by-laws.
- (iv) Any sanction will apply to the players' next SCCF scheduled game, regardless of competition.
- (v) Any scheduled bye's, washouts or rescheduled matches do not contribute towards a suspension period. Any forfeits (either team) do contribute to a suspension period.

### 9.C Placed on Report

- (i) When a misdemeanour has been committed by a player prior to or following a game, or by an official of a club or a spectator, the referee has the authority to place that person/s on report.
- (ii) The procedure for the "Send Off" shall then come into effect.

## 10. **DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND RIGHTS OF APPEAL**

### 10.A Disciplinary Committees

- (i) The SCCF committee or a person or persons appointed by the SCCF Committee for that purpose, shall decide on the suspension period based on the referee's report and/or supplementary reports.
- (ii) Suspensions will be based on, but not limited to, the "Player Suspension Guidelines" in ANNEX D of these By-Laws.
- (iii) Suspensions will apply to the players following SCCF sanctioned game, regardless of competition or year.
- (iv) The SCCF committee will inform the SCCSA administration of their decision. The SCCSA administration will record the decision and inform the player's team officials.

### 10.B Appeals against Suspensions or the Disciplinary Committee Decisions.

- (i) Appeals against any disciplinary decision must be;
- (ii) Lodged in writing to SCCSA administration within 48 hours (2 days) of the committee's decision and detail in full the reason for the appeal and include any supporting documentation for the appeal, and,
- (iii) Be supported with payment of a \$150 application fee into an account nominated by SCCSA administration.

Upon receipt of an appeal;

- (iv) A Tribunal Committee will be set up involving three appointees, not involved with the original decision, the club/s or the player/s involved in the dispute; at a time decided by the Tribunal Chairman.
- (v) The players, team officials and referees involved are to be invited to attend the tribunal and must notify the Tribunal Chairman if they cannot attend.
- (vi) Each party will be given fair opportunity to present further evidence or witnesses and argue their case. The Tribunal may like to ask questions and so written statements will not be accepted however they may call an absent party if deemed necessary and a phone number is made available.
- (vii) The Tribunal Committee will consider all aspects of the matter before making a final decision.
- (viii) The Tribunal Committee's decision is final – no further appeals will be accepted.

## **11. INJURIES & INSURANCE**

### **11.A Injury Of Members & Associate Members**

- (i) Only the team official or suitably qualified medical person is allowed on the field, after being called on by the referee. Assessment of the injury by a suitably qualified person should take place before the player is moved from the field.
- (ii) A person (typically a team official) that witnessed the injury must notify the SCCSA administration and fill in the appropriate Incident Report Form within seven days of the injury.
- (iii) Any person that is injured during a SCCF sanctioned activity must notify the appropriate official as soon as practical.

### **11.B Insurance Claims**

- (i) Should an injury be the subject of an Insurance Claim, the person must fill in a claim form which and then send to SCCSA administration for processing.

**Note:** An up to date Incident Report Form and Insurance Claim Form can be downloaded from the SCCSA webpage.

## **12. Representative Team - SCCF/SCCSA**

### **12.A Representative Teams**

- (i) Final team selection is at the sole discretion of the representative coach.
- (ii) Representative Coaches shall be appointed by the SCCF committee, from nominations received.
- (iii) SCCF Registered colours are BLACK & GOLD.
- (iv) SCCF provides a representative strip jersey for each team. This jersey remains the property of SCCF. Players provide their own black shorts.
- (v) This strip must not be worn unless playing an authorised representative match.
- (vi) Travelling and accommodation costs are paid by each player, coach or manager.
- (vii) The SCCF may pay nomination fees (subject to approval by the committee) for all SCCF approved tournaments in which the representative teams participate.
- (viii) All items supplied by SCCF, such as training equipment, footballs etc, remains the property of SCCF and must be returned.

## **13 MISCELLANEOUS**

### **13.A ALCOHOL**

- (i) No alcohol or drugs are to be consumed at SCCF sanctioned games or training.
- (ii) No person whether appointed or otherwise who is representing SCCF shall consume or be affected by alcohol (or drugs that would affect a person's judgement) at SCCF/SCCSA games or events.

### **13.B COMPLAINTS**

- (i) For minor concerns, teams may air their grievances with the SCCF committee who will endeavour to provide avenues for resolution. Please ensure correspondence is polite and constructive and funnelled through team officials wherever possible.
- (ii) For any serious or official complaints please follow the complaints procedure outlined on the SCCSA webpage.

### 13.C DOGS

- (i) Dogs are not permitted at any SCCF controlled venue for fixtures, finals, training, and representative games, trials or carnivals whether on a leash or not.
- (ii) It is the responsibility of the Ground Official to ensure compliance and player's responsibility to support the Ground Official.



**ANNEX A****Summer Soccer Rules**

1. All FIFA rules and SCCF By-Laws apply outside of the following modifications:
2. Only six (6) players are on the field at any one time – Maximum 10 in a team.
3. Unlimited interchange of 4 substitutes. (During play is permitted)
4. A goal can only be scored by kicking the ball from outside the semi-circle.
5. If a player is inside the semi-circle he/she has the following options:
  - a) Head the ball into the goal, or;
  - b) Kick or pass the ball outside the semi-circle and then a goal may be scored.
6. If a player kicks a goal from inside the semi-circle then a free kick is awarded to the defending team.
7. The goalkeeper may not throw or kick the ball (including goal kicks) directly over the half way line on the full without being touched. Sanction: Free kick from where the ball crossed the half-way line
8. No offside rule is in place. However, it is not good sportsmanship to place players up close to the opposing goal keeper and this should bring on a warning or indirect free kick from the referee.
9. 2 x 20 minute halves with a 5 minute break at half time will be played.
10. All Free Kicks are indirect, so they must touch another player before scoring a goal.
11. Slide tackles are not permitted. Sanction: Indirect free kick
12. MIXED TEAMS: Only male goalkeepers allowed and no more than 3 males on the field at once.
13. Referees will ensure that no team will take to the field without:
  - a) A completed team sheet all players having signed, and
  - b) The administrator's signature showing the team has paid fully.

**SUMMER SOCCER is a means to maintain fitness over the summer months and should be played and refereed with fun and safety in mind at all times.**

**ANNEX B****SUNSHINE COAST  
CHURCHES FOOTBALL *Inc***

# FAIR PLAY POLICY

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## **[1] Aim**

The aim of Sunshine Coast Churches Football Inc. is to provide a safe environment for Soccer players in a competition that enhances the good spirit of the game, by the good nature in which it is played.

## **[2] Objective**

The objective is to enable players and non-players of all backgrounds, pastimes and sporting abilities the opportunity to play Soccer safely, competitively and with the highest regard for their fellow player's enjoyment and safety.

## **[3] Overview**

It is within the guidelines of the S.C.C.F by-laws to ensure that all participants understand fully the aim and objectives that playing within this competition means.

In the first instance, the zero tolerance towards abuse of officials, fellow players, coaches, admin staff and spectators; this is mandatory.

Secondly, play must be within the guidelines of FIFA Laws and never pass the point where a deliberate act or action could injure a fellow participant.

All participants must understand that the SCCF is a competition to enjoy at all times, never to hurt, injure or abuse any person involved.

## **[4] Fair Play**

Fair play is exactly what is expected of all participants.

## **[5] Policy**

All players, coaches, administration staff and spectators must abide by the policies herein at all times. Failure do so will result in a disciplinary hearing being conducted and may well result in suspension or expulsion from the competition permanently.

- The game is to be played in a non aggressive manner at all times.
- Retaliation of any sort will not be permitted.
- Foul, abusive language or gestures are not permitted towards any other player, officials or spectators at any time.
- The SCCF has a Zero Tolerance policy towards swearing, foul or abusive language.
- The SCCF has a Zero Tolerance towards abuse of Officials.
- The SCCF has a Zero Tolerance towards racial abuse

**[6] PLAYERS      *PLAY FOR FUN AND ENJOYMENT***

- Play for the fun of it.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the official during a break or after the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent and throwing equipment is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit; so will you.
- Be a good sport. Cheer all good plays whether they are from your team or the other team.
- Treat all players the way you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.

**ANNEX C****List of Cautionable (YELLOW CARD) Offences**

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## CAUTION CODES

- Y1** Unsporting Behaviour (including dangerous play)
- Y2** Dissent by Word or Action
- Y3** Persistent Infringements
- Y4** Delaying the Restart of Play
- Y5** Failure to Respect Distance when Play Restarted
- Y6** Entering or Re-entering the Field of Play without the Referee's permission
- Y7** Deliberately Leaves the Field of Play without the Referee's Permission)

**List of Sending Off (RED CARD) Offences**

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## SEND OFF CODES

- R1** Serious Foul Play
- R2** Violent Conduct
- R3** Spitting at Anyone
- R4** Deliberately handling the ball thereby denying a goal scoring opportunity to the opponent (except for the goalkeeper in his/her own penalty area)
- R5** Deliberately commits a direct free kick offence, which denies a goal scoring opportunity
- R6** Uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- R7** Receives a second caution in the same match

**ANNEX D****PLAYER SUSPENSION GUIDELINES**

(NB) Where a sentence is suspended (S), the penalty shall be imposed in addition to any new penalty if the player reoffends)

MS = Mandatory one week suspension only

Number of matches is ADDITIONAL to mandatory 1 week

Please note that "repeat offender" suspensions are ADDITIONAL to accrued penalty (e.g. 3 red card)

RC Code	Grade	Description	Guideline	Matches	Repeat offender
R1	1 – 2	Serious Foul Play	Bad tackle, no injury	MS	1
	3 - 4			1 sus	1
	3 - 4		Conduct that endangers the safety of an opponent	1 sus	1
				1	1 + 1 sus
				2	2 + 1 sus
		3 - 4		Causes serious injury	3
R2	1 - 2	Violent Conduct	Excessive contact when the ball is not in play or playing distance	MS	1
	3 - 4			1	1 + 1 sus
	1 - 2		Pushing an opponent	MS	MS + 1 sus
	3 - 4		Punching an opponent	4	2
	3 - 4		Serious, premeditated punch	6	2 + 1 sus
	3 - 4		Inciting, instigating violent melee	3	4
R3	1 – 2	Spitting AT	AT opponent or other person	2	4
	3 – 4	Spitting opponent or other person	ON opponent or other person	4	6
	2 – 3		Participating in a melee (non violent)	1	2
	3 - 4		Participating in a melee (violent)	3	3 + 1 sus
R5	1	DOGSO	Obvious reflex action stopping ball with hand	sus	MS
	2 - 3			MS	MS + 1 sus
R6	1 - 2	OFFINABUS	Using language and/or gestures in frustration	MS	MS + 1 sus
	2- 3			MS + 1 sus	2
	3 - 4		Using language and/or gestures directed at another person	4	6
				4	6
				6	8
		2 - 3		Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures	4
	3 - 4			6	8
	3 – 4		Using language and/or gestures directed at match official	4	5

	4 - 5		Spitting at match official	1 year	2 years
	4 - 5		spitting ON a match official	2 years	Life
	4 - 5		Striking or Punching a match official	10 years	Life
	4 - 5		Threatening a match official	1 year	2 years
R7	1 - 2	Second Yellow		MS	MS

- \* The above is only a guide for Disciplinary & Tribunal Committees.
- \* Sanctions may be varied depending on the severity of the reports from the officials.
- \* Committees may deem multiple offences to be served consecutively or concurrently.
- \* Committees should consider at what time in the game the offence took place and the effect that the offence had on the outcome of the game.
- Review other leagues' disciplinary guidelines.







**PRE-AMBLE:**

Whilst SCCF inc. predominately caters for senior players, it is acknowledged that there are a significant number of players both male and female that are under the age of 18 and therefore potentially 'at risk'. Consequently, SCCF fully endorses the SCCSA "Child Protection Policy" and incorporates it as part of the SCCF inc, constitution.

SCCF also endorses the following:

- SCCSA "Fair Play Policy"
- Department of Sport & Recreation "Codes of Behaviour"

In addition to the above documents, SCCF inc. provides the following risk management strategy particular to its own operation

<b>RISK</b>	<b>LIKELYHOOD</b>	<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>
Description of the Risk: Source, Effects, consequences	V.High, High, Moderate, Low, V.Low	Policies, Procedures, Regulations currently in place. Personnel Expertise.
1. Injury or abuse to players from other players	High	Games controlled by experienced, senior referees according to FIFA laws of the game and directives from FFA. Boot inspection & Pre kick-off instructions to the teams from the referees. <i>Red Card &amp; Incident reporting scheme</i> <i>Player Suspension Guidelines</i> issued to manager Refusing renewal or cancelling registration of troublesome players Non registration of players banned or suspended by other associations. Divisionalised competition.

2. Injury to players due to grounds & equipment	Low	<p>Regular ground &amp; equipment inspections by SCCF ground controllers, clubs and referees.</p> <p>Properly constructed goals - installed to prevent tipping over.</p> <p>Referees to cancel or abandon games if playing conditions are not deemed safe</p>
3. Injury or abuse to referees from players	Low	<p>Games controlled by experienced, senior referees according to FIFA laws of the game and directives from FFA.</p> <p><i>General Information</i> issued to manager</p> <p><i>Red Card &amp; Incident reporting scheme</i></p> <p><i>Player Suspension Guidelines</i> issued to manager</p> <p><i>Refereeing with SCCF</i> instructions issued to referees</p> <p>Refusing renewal or cancelling registration of troublesome players.</p>
4. Injury due to environmental hazards: Heat, Storms.	V. low	<p>Night games</p> <p>Referee implementation of SCCSA Extreme Weather Policy</p>
5. Serious or long term injuries due to incorrect injury management.	low	<p>Try to have First Aider in attendance at all venues Ice always available</p> <p>All players covered by ambulance cover</p> <p>Mobile phones always available First Aid kit available at each venue</p> <p>Injured players referred to professionals</p>

6. Litigation for injuries to players	Low	<p>Only registered players are permitted to play  <i>Player Governing fees paid to SCCSA prior to commencement of fixtures</i></p> <p><b>Players advised to:</b> seek professional health advice regarding their fitness or any medical condition they may have. Private medical insurance should be seriously considered before participating in any active sport. The Association will not in any circumstances be liable for any loss, injury or damage, howsoever caused, to any player</p>
7. Abuse to minors	Low	<p><i>SCCF Executive members to have a Blue Card</i></p> <p><i>All referees to have a Blue Card</i></p> <p><i>All managers/coaches/co-ordinators to have a blue card</i></p> <p><i>Parental consent /countersigning of insurance and registration cards</i></p> <p><i>SCCF ground controller/representative at all games</i></p> <p><i>Adherence to SCCSA 'Child Protection Policy' guidelines</i></p>
8. Discrimination / Racial Abuse to players or referees	Low	<p><i>Games controlled by experienced, senior referees according to FIFA laws of the game and directives from FFA.</i></p> <p><i>SCCF ground controller/representative at all games</i></p> <p><i>Fair Play Policy</i></p> <p><i>Red Card &amp; Incident reporting scheme</i></p> <p><i>Player Suspension Guidelines &amp; General Information issued to manager</i></p> <p><i>Refereeing with SCCF instructions issued to referees</i></p> <p><i>Refusing renewal or cancelling registration of troublesome players.</i></p>
9. Spectator problems	Low	<p><i>Few spectator numbers at all venues</i></p> <p><i>Monitoring by SCCF Ground Official</i></p>

10. Player misconduct	Med	<p>Games controlled by experienced, senior referees according to FIFA laws of the game and directives from FFA.</p> <p><i>Red Card &amp; Incident reporting scheme</i></p> <p><i>General Information</i> issued to manager</p> <p><i>Player Suspension Guidelines</i> issued to manager</p> <p><i>Refereeing with SCCF</i> instructions issued to referees</p> <p>Refusing renewal or cancelling registration of troublesome players</p> <p><i>Disciplinary Action guidelines &amp; policy. Fair Play Policy</i></p> <p>SCCF ground controller/representative at all games</p> <p>Judiciary Co-ordinator position on SCCF executive</p> <p>Complaints reporting system via team manager</p>
11. Public Litigation	Low	<p>Club incorporation</p> <p>Member of SCCS Association</p> <p>Public Liability insurance</p>
Other		