



Blacktown & Districts Soccer Football Association Incorporated

Player & Player Equipment Regulations

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to standardise anything related to players and their equipment within the BDSFA.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all playing members and referees of the BDSFA & BCSRFB.

3. Definitions

Under – is defined by a players age on the 31 December of the year of play

Over – is defined by the players age on the 1 January of the year of play

All Age – is a term referring to adult teams

4. General

- a. All players playing within the BDSFA must be properly registered with an affiliated club and pay all relevant fees to that club.
- b. Players may only play in age groups of their own or a maximum of three (3) years above their age as of the 31 December of the playing year.
- c. All players under the age of 18 must have 60% match time over the season proper.
- d. Protective shin pads must be worn by all players.
- e. Football specific boots may be worn. Studs must not have any sharp edges.
- f. Players must be in full club uniform including jersey, shorts and socks. Jerseys must have a number on the back.
- g. No two players on the same team shall be allowed to have identical numbers displayed on their jerseys.
- h. Where the colours of the opposing teams clash, the home team shall change into an alternate strip. The referee shall be the sole judge of colour clashes.
- i. Goalkeepers must wear clothing that clearly distinguishes themselves from other playing members.
- j. Compression clothing may be worn. The colour of the compression gear must be of the same prominent colour of the uniform or black.
- k. Caps may only be worn by goalkeepers.
- l. Hijabs may be worn. The colour of the Hijab must be of the same prominent colour of the uniform or black. Referees are not permitted to check the affixing material or touch the garment.
- m. No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted prior to, during, or after any BDSFA conducted match.



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5. Grading of Players

Clubs must grade under 8 and older players into a development league and/or division that suits their ability and encourages improvement.

6. Player Equipment

6.1 Spectacles

The referee is the sole judge who determines whether spectacles are a risk to those playing a match. Referees should show tolerance when authorising their use, especially for younger players.

6.2 Casts or Splints

Plaster casts, or any splint made of any hard material (e.g. metal, plastic) are not allowed. The use of a soft material to hide or protect the hard material splint is not allowed.

6.3 Jewellery

Jewellery of any type is not allowed, including metal, leather, plastic or any other material. Hidden jewellery must be removed before entering the field of play. Using tape to cover jewellery is not acceptable.

Medi-alert items are exempt.

6.4 Apparel

No form of political, religious or racial propaganda may appear on persons or on apparel, on sportswear, on any article of clothing or equipment whatsoever worn or used by all players, team officials, other team personnel and all other participants in BDSFA competitions.

7. Players with Disabilities

Requests can be made by clubs to the board for players with a disability to play in a more suitable age group. Players who have requested consideration will be assessed by a delegated member and will work in conjunction with the player, the players parents/guardians and club to recommend a suitable age group/division to play. The board will make the final decision.

8. Medical Conditions

Where a player has a known medical condition, the officials must be made aware. The referee should be made aware of who will assist in the case of the medical condition presenting.

The team coach and manager must have knowledge of the medical condition and must be provided with the necessary information, and medical equipment to assist the player should the medical condition present.

If the medical condition is such that it may require expert assistance or equipment, the guardians of an underage child must be present at all games and training events.



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9. Drink Bottles

The risk of communicable diseases being transmitted by sharing drink bottles is very high.

Players must have their own drink bottle with their name clearly displayed. Team officials are to ensure that players use only their own drink bottle.

10. Upgrading of Players

Players may be used as upgrades under the following conditions:

- a. The use of upgraded players cannot make the total players appearing on the team sheet exceed the total amount of players in that age group.
- b. A suspended player cannot be replaced by an upgraded player.
- c. A player may never play in a team graded in a lower age group and/or division than that to which they are registered.
- d. A player may upgrade for a team in their own age group but a higher division (i.e. 12/2 to 12/1)
- e. A player may upgrade for a team in a higher age group in the same or higher division (i.e. 12/1 to 13/1, 13/4 to 14/3 etc).
- f. A player from the Phoenix League (Female Competition) may upgrade for a team in the BDSFA Competition in their own age group in the same or higher division (i.e. 12G/1 to 12/1, 14G/2 to 14/1 etc).
- g. A player from the Phoenix League (Female Competition) may upgrade for a team in the BDSFA Competition in a higher age group in the same or higher division (i.e. 12G/1 to 13/1, 14G/2 to 14/1 etc).
- h. Players registered in the Under 5 – Under 11 age groups may upgrade into any team of their own age or higher age group in accordance with 10i.
- i. Players may only upgrade into age groups a maximum of 3 years above their age as of the 31st December of that playing year.
- j. A player must be older than or turning 16 in the year of competition to play in the , Under 21 or All Age competitions
- k. Players may upgrade from the Under 16's, Under 17's (men), Under 18 (girls) or Under 21's (men) into All Age in accordance with 10 a–g & 10 j.
- l. Players may upgrade from the Under 16's or Under 17's into the Under 21 competitions in accordance with 10 (j)
- m. Masters may upgrade into the All Age competitions as per annex B.
- n. Age relevant All Age players may upgrade into the Masters competition as per annex B.
- o. A maximum of 4 players may upgrade per match in accordance with section 10 l. & m.



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11. Player Eligibility

An eligible player is one that meets all registration requirements and is not ineligible for the following reasons:

- a. Unregistered
- b. Suspended
- c. Not being listed on the team sheet
- d. A player who has been expelled from a match but is yet to receive sanction

12. Age Eligibility for 2022 – Annex A

Over 30 Women	Players that have turned 30 before 1st January 2022. For example, players must be born in 1992 or earlier.
Over 35	Players that have turned 35 before 1st January 2022. For example, players must be born in 1987 or earlier.
Over 45	Players that have turned 45 before 1st January 2022. For example, players must be born in 1977 or earlier.
All Age	Players born before 01-01-2008
U21	Players born after 31/12/2001 and before 01-01-2008
U17	Players born on or after 01-01-2006
U16	Players born on or after 01-01-2007
U15	Players born on or after 01-01-2008
U14	Players born on or after 01-01-2009
U13	Players born on or after 01-01-2010
U12	Players born on or after 01-01-2011
U11	Players born on or after 01-01-2012
U10	Players born on or after 01-01-2013
U9	Players born on or after 01-01-2014
U8	Players born on or after 01-01-2015
U7	Players born on or after 01-01-2016
U6	Players born on or after 01-01-2017
U5	Players born on or after 01-01-2018

13. Masters Upgrades – Annex B



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You can upgrade into this team:	If you are registered into this age/division: