

DISPENSATION PROCESS

Bendigo Amateur Soccer League

Season 2022

Extract from 2022 Rules of Competition



BENDIGO AMATEUR SOCCER LEAGUE

EXTRACT – 2022 RULES OF COMPETITION

PLAYING UP OUTSIDE RULES OF COMPETITION

2.3.2 To be eligible to play in a Senior (Men or Women's) competition or in a junior age group higher the following applies:

For all Senior Competitions ages below are based for the date a player turns this this age and NOT based on their age at 1/1 on the year of competition. (Example of this are below).

(a) Playing Youth:

A player can play youth from the age of 15, if they want to play at the age of 14 then they can providing that they sign and lodge an agreement with BASL prior to taking the field of play.

A player cannot play youth younger than 14.

(b) Playing Senior Men's:

A male player can play senior men's from the age of 15, if they want to play at the age of 14, they can providing that they sign and lodge an agreement with BASL prior to taking the field of play.

A player cannot play senior men's younger than 14.

(c) Playing Senior Women's:

A female player can play senior women from the age of 14, if they want to play at the age of 13 then they can providing that they sign and lodge an agreement with BASL prior to taking the field of play.

A player cannot play women's younger than 13.

Examples:

1. John is 14 when the season has started (born 21 May, turning 15) and want to play in the Youth team. To play his club will need to lodge an exemption application to play prior to playing in the team. Cut-off will be Close of Business (COB) on the Thursday prior to the fixture.
2. Brian is 15 when the season has started (born on 12 February, having already turned 15) and wants to play in the senior men's team. There is no requirement to lodge a dispensation request as Brian has already turned 15.
3. Jack is 13 when the season has started (born 12 June, turning 14) and wants to play in the Youth team. He is unable to apply for a dispensation to play in the team until he is 14 on 12 June after which he can play providing an agreement has been lodged with BASL).
4. Michelle is 12 when the season starts (born 21 November, turning 13) and wants to play in the Senior Women's team). As she does not turn 13 until after the season has concluded she is unable to apply to play under a dispensation agreement.
5. Felicity joins the club on 12 July. When joining she has just turned 14. As she has already attained the minimum age, she does not need to apply for a dispensation agreement to play in the team.



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(d) Playing Junior Competitions:

For Junior Divisions (Under 6 to Under 16 (including Under 18 Saturday)) a player may only play up to four (4) years above his or her age group in 2022, unless an application to BASL for exemption from Regulation 2.3.2 is made by the player's Club on behalf of the player and is accepted by BASL

- 2.3.3 An application made under Regulation 2.3.2 must submit a dispensation agreement with BASL prior to any player taking the field of play. The agreement must be lodged at competitions@basl.com.au no later than the close of business (COB) the Thursday prior to the fixture.

The agreement will cover:

- Previous experience playing outdoor football, 11v11.
- While the players are still physically developing that we recommend that they are monitored for growth spurts and their load managed to suit.
- Does the club have an age group for this player to play in with their own age?
- Reasons for this player playing in an older age group.
- Signed by the club (Representative), Player, Parent/Guardian.
- Needs submission to BASL Prior to taking the field of play. Cut-off will be the Thursday prior to a fixture.
- The agreement would include a statement that they understand that the player will be playing in a senior competition and will be in and around a senior/adult environment.

- 2.3.4 An application made under Regulation 2.3.3 will be considered by BASL. BASL has sole discretion in relation to any application made under that Regulation.

- 2.3.5. Any Team which fields an ineligible player may be subject to penalty under the GDT.

- 2.3.6. Teams playing any player under a dispensation granted by BASL must produce the letter of dispensation on match day upon request by the Match Official. Failing to produce a letter of dispensation upon request by the Match Official may result in a charge of Misconduct under the GDT.

- 2.3.7. If there is a dispute about a player(s) eligibility on the day of a Competition Fixture, the Match Official must note the details of that dispute and send those details to BASL together with an incident report. No Club or Match Official may prevent a player from taking the field in a Competition Fixture on suspicion of ineligibility.

- 2.3.8 A Player will not be prevented from playing above his or her age group except where other rules with the 2022 ROC apply and would be broken

- 2.3.9 A Player who is participating above his or her age group will not be prevented from returning to play in his or her rightful age group unless that Player is suspended and except where other rules apply (e.g., Cup Competitions or Grading).



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PLAYING DOWN OUTSIDE RULES OF COMPETITION

2.3.10 A Player **may** in BASL's sole discretion be permitted to play down one age group in the following circumstances:

- (a) if the Player has not previously been registered with FFA or FV. An application made under this provision is not automatically approved (needs to be the exception) and consideration of physical size, previous sports played etc. needs to be provided by clubs applying. Consideration as to whether a club already has an age-appropriate team will also be included in any final decision: or
- (b) if the Player has previously been registered with FFA or FV and the Player's Club provides satisfactory evidence that the Player is not capable of competing at the higher level including but not limited to the following:
 - (i) Club Official to submit a formal request in writing either on Club letterhead or from an official club email account outlining the request
 - (ii) Supporting evidence in writing or email from the player's parent(s)/guardian(s)
 - (iii) Medical Certificate outlining the player's condition and reason(s) for needing to play in a younger age group