

LIGHTING POLICY

Bendigo Amateur Soccer League



BENDIGO AMATEUR SOCCER LEAGUE

Football Lighting Policy & Requirements

BASL uses Football Victoria's (FV) Lighting Policy and Requirements for compliance to lighting standards for competition fixtures. The requirements below are sourced from the FV policy and have been changed to state BASL.

Football Victoria Lighting Policy and Requirements

The Football Lighting Policy & Requirements (the Policy) sets out the mandatory requirements for competition lighting at football (soccer) venues used by Clubs competing in Bendigo Amateur Soccer League (BASL) competitions.

The primary reason for the requirements is to ensure that Clubs are compliant with relevant standards and applicable Occupational Health and Safety requirements. Other reasons include enabling higher quality play, providing a satisfactory experience for spectators and ensuring that football venues are "good neighbours" in residential areas.

Mandatory Requirements for Competition Lighting

These requirements apply to Matches between BASL clubs, including friendlies and practice matches. These requirements may also apply to Matches played in Victoria against non-Victorian or non-BASL clubs.

This document:

- explains the background to the requirements;
- specifies the standards to be met for each level of competition; and
- details the process which must be followed to gain approval for evening matches;
- details the conditions under which approval for night fixtured matches may be retained by clubs.

1 Background

The Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) has produced technical recommendations and requirements for televised and non-televised Football however it has not mandated specific lighting standards for competitions of the type managed by FFV.

Football Federation Australia (FFA) has likewise not mandated specific lighting standards for competitions of the type managed by FV.

FV has therefore adopted the Australian Standard AS2560.2.3-2007, *Sports Lighting - Lighting for All Football Codes* (**Australian Standard**) as the minimum for lighting



levels and lighting infrastructure requirements for FV managed competitions. BASL has aligned to these standards.

The Australian Standard applies to football (soccer) as well as other codes played in Australia. The Australian Standard provides different minimum requirements for competitions and training.

While BASL supports Clubs wishing to expand their audiences or provide better opportunities through evening matches, Clubs must be aware that compliance with these requirements is a precondition of BASL's approval of night fixturing.

2 Requirements

The requirements detailed below are enforceable under BASL's Rules of Competition for each league administered by BASL and must be read in conjunction with the Rules of Competition as published from time to time. The requirements detailed below are mandatory for Matches to be played under lights.

These standards are the MINIMUM required for BASL competitions.

BASL encourages achievement of higher lighting levels where practicable.

The Australian Standard identifies several levels of competition and specifies lighting standards for each. The levels are:

- Amateur;
- Semi-Professional; and,
- Professional.

Therefore, based on the Australian Standard, the following table details the minimum requirements for competition lighting, including both minimum lux levels and minimum horizontal uniformities.

COMPETITION		MINIMUM LUX†	MINIMUM HORIZONTAL UNIFORMITIES	
			U ₁	U ₂
PROFESSIONAL*	Competition	500	0.70	0.50
	Match Practice Training	200	0.60	0.40
SEMI-PROFESSIONAL (NPL and NPL2)	Competition	200	0.60	0.40
	Match Practice Training	100	0.50	0.30
AMATEUR (All other competitions)	Competition	100	0.50	0.30
	Match Practice Training	100	0.50	0.30

† The minimum Lux refers to the maintained average as actually measured in field audits, not the levels provided for in design documents.

* Certain night fixtures may require professional standard lighting. These may include some televised matches, and FFA Cup finals. In all cases, FFV will notify a Club if the minimum lighting requirements are above what its nominated home ground can accommodate.



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NB. The maximum glare rating for all competitions is 50.

To avoid doubt, professional training lighting requirements do not apply to NPL and NPL2.

Lighting installations shall be designed with minimum obtrusive light as per the Australian Standard to ensure that no disturbance or discomfort is caused to neighbouring properties and residents, or spectators.

Stakeholders must consider whether the following may cause disturbance or discomfort and address these issues as soon as practicable.

- Light falling on vertical surfaces or entering a property via windows etc,
- The brightness or intensity of the installation from specific observer positions looking toward the installation,
- The light emitted upward (above horizontal) from each floodlight. This effect is often referred to as "sky glow,"

3 Process

Where a Club wishes to schedule Matches at times requiring lighting, the Club must ensure that it has certified lighting system in line with the Australian Standard.

Certification is based on an audit of the lighting system by a suitable consultant.

The Club or ground manager must pay the cost of the audit.

The lighting consultant must have suitability, qualifications and experience in floodlighting for sports purposes, especially football. Suitable lighting consultants will include but are not limited to Members of the Illuminating Engineering Society of Australia and New Zealand Limited (IES - The Lighting Society).

As part of the audit, the lighting consultant must:

- undertake a review of the installed equipment to assess its characteristics and current potential for compliance with the Australian Standard;
- make such calculations as are necessary to assess compliance with the required Glare Rating;
- undertake an on-field audit using appropriate equipment measuring in accordance with Clause 6.3 of the Australian Standard and assess compliance with the lux levels and their uniformity – noting that for this purpose of Certification:



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- the tests must cover the entire field of play within the marked lines – this area is referred to as the Principal Playing Area₁ (tests across half field only are not acceptable);
- identify any issues of concern regarding the uniformity of vertical illuminance affecting illumination of the ball on medium and high trajectory paths;
- identify any issues of concern relating to the lighting system's reliability, including a check of the switchboard/lighting control systems to confirm that they are able to be fully secured and are in good working order ; and
- report to BASL on compliance with the Australian Standard or otherwise and any other matters affecting the performance and reliability of the system.

The lighting consultant's report to BASL must include details of the installation, measurements obtained in the on-field audit and the calculation of maintained average lux level and uniformities. This shall include comments on uniformity of vertical illuminance and glare in relation to the existing pole heights, luminaire aiming and total system reliability.

BASL will provide a prescribed form (**Appendix 1**) for the lighting consultant to complete which will provide space for the required information. The test readings must be attached to this form. The form must be completed and signed by the lighting consultant.

Certification is subject to satisfactory compliance with the Australian Standard and acceptable reliability.

Once a signed Certification by an approved lighting consultant is submitted to BASL with all information on the form and with the required attachments, BASL will check the Certification for completeness and accuracy. If BASL is satisfied the information and lighting performance meet BASL's requirements, BASL will register a venue as compliant for amateur level matches. BASL reserves the right to seek additional information or testing from the Club or lighting consultant, to be provided at the Club's cost.

Certification will be accepted by BASL for a period of two years or as otherwise determined by BASL, after which another audit must be undertaken and Certification provided if the Club wishes to continue to hold Matches at times requiring lighting. BASL will not approve fixtures that require lighting without the Certification and subsequent BASL registration of the venue.

4 Ongoing compliance

The Club must ensure that the Australian Standard is always met for night Matches.



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Where a Club becomes aware that lighting for a Match is not likely to meet the Australian Standard it must immediately notify BASL in writing of that fact, whereby BASL will arrange a change of fixture.

Where a referee has made a report in relation to the adequacy of the lighting at a venue or BASL has concerns that a venue may not currently meet the Australian Standard, BASL may engage a suitable lighting consultant to undertake a field audit to test compliance as detailed above. If the lighting is found to meet the Australian Standard BASL will bear the cost of the audit.

If the lighting is not found to meet the Australian Standard, the Club is responsible for the costs of the audit and BASL approval for fixtures requiring lighting at the venue will be removed until the lighting is maintained, repaired or modified to comply with the Australian Standard.

If a Match is unable to commence, halted temporarily or abandoned due to the failure of the lighting to meet the Australian Standard or failure to function at all during a Match (**Lighting Failure**), the Club must provide evidence to BASL as to the causes of such failure.

If the Lighting Failure was due to circumstances beyond the control of the Club, including network system failure, weather, accidental damage or offsite equipment failure or any other extraordinary circumstances accepted by BASL, no penalty will be imposed and subject to BASL being satisfied that the lighting for the Club's subsequent night fixtures will meet the Australian Standard, those fixtures will remain as scheduled.

If the Lighting Failure was due to any other reason, including deliberate interference:

- a. the Club may be penalised subject to BASL's discretion; and,
- b. the Club must pay for a further audit in accordance with the process detailed in section 3 above; and
- c. the Club will not be permitted to hold night Matches at the venue until an audit demonstrates compliance with the Australian Standard.

If a Lighting Failure occurs on a second, third or subsequent occasion within two concurrent seasons for any reason, BASL in its sole discretion may not accept the relevant venue for further night fixtures, except on such conditions that BASL shall determine. Notwithstanding this, a venue subject to the above may be disqualified from hosting night fixtures for such a period as determined by BASL.