



Media Release

2nd February 2022

BENDIGO AMATEUR SOCCER LEAGUE INTRODUCES NEW SENIOR COMPETITION STRUCTURE

In November, the Bendigo Amateur Soccer League (BASL) Committee reviewed the outcomes of a 12 month body of work by a subcommittee tasked with developing an updated long term strategic plan. The draft plan included a number of key recommendations for the 2022 season. One of the most critical and immediate outcomes was a change to the preferred senior competition structure that would create a long-term opportunity for growth whilst supporting the needs of the current senior clubs. The revised structure allows greater flexibility for current and future clubs whilst still allowing opportunity for new clubs to grow into the league.

The Key changes endorsed by the BASL Committee are as follows

- The Men's competition will be also separated into a 2-tier structure (entry dependant), with League 1 designed for clubs able to field both seniors and reserves and League 2 designed for single team entries or for additional teams where clubs have capacity to enter teams in addition to their League 1 teams.
- The Women's competition will be also separated into a 2-tier structure with a single team entry required for each League. The change allows clubs to enter multiple teams or for new clubs to enter with a single entry. These competitions will also allow promotion and relegation.
- The league requirement to field a minimum number of senior teams (currently 3) has been removed, enabling clubs to enter a single team in either the men's or women's competitions. As such only Men's League 1 will have a 2 team (seniors & reserves) entry requirement.
- The Senior Competitions have been renamed to reflect the broad region from which our participating member clubs are drawn

As such BASL are pleased to announce the proposed competitions for the 2022 season are as follows.

- ANT1GK Central Victorian League 1 (Men's and Reserves)
- ANT1GK Central Victorian League 1 Women's
- ANT1GK Central Victorian League 2 Men's
- ANT1GK Central Victorian League 2 Women's
- ANT1GK Central Victorian Youth



President Aaron Shooter noted "The outcome is significant for Football in the region, the board and I truly believe the structure sets us up for both short term stability and future growth. The immediate benefit to current clubs and their members will be improved fixturing, meaning more

football more often and addresses the clear feedback from both clubs and players alike over recent years. Excitingly it also allows for new or existing regional clubs to apply for entry to the competition without the pressure to develop a 3 team senior setup in their first year in turn allowing a path for growth.

My sincere thanks to the energy and vision of the Strategy subcommittee members, the staff who brought the vision to life and my fellow board members for their support in what I believe will be a significant opportunity for senior football in the region.

I look forward to much more football for all in Season 2022".

SEASON START DATES

Seniors - 2nd / 3rd April

Competitive - Juniors 23rd April

Non-competitive - Juniors 30th April

END.