

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Football NSW (FNSW) Sanctioning policy is to provide clarity, support and guidance to FNSW Branches, Associations and Clubs wishing to host events or activities outside the regular football/futsal season and/or outside regular football/futsal training and matches.

Sanctioning is required for insurance, risk and football management purposes. The insurances provided by FNSW **only** apply to events sanctioned by FNSW.

SCOPE

This policy applies to FNSW Branches, Associations and Clubs, as well as Association member clubs.

This policy applies to all forms of events or activities outside the regular football/futsal season and/or outside regular football/futsal training and matches and includes, but is not limited to, events and activities such as:

- Gala days, tournaments, charity events, festivals;
- Pre-season "Come-and-Try" days;
- School holiday camps;
- All events involving a jumping castle or amusement ride, including end of year presentations;
- Off-site fundraising activities; including Bunnings BBQs or similar;
- Off-site club events or functions;
- Alternative training activities that are not football activities;
- Extended training sessions
- Interstate tours;
- International tours;
- Player, team or club participation in an event sanctioned by FNSW, another FFA Member Federation or the FFA; and
- Any event or activity which is not a normal winter football activity.

The intent of this policy is to ensure events and activities hosted by FNSW stakeholders are covered under FNSW's insurance policies and to provide FNSW with the opportunity to consider the risk and

football management of such events and activities.

Note that the insurances provided by FNSW **only** apply to events sanctioned by FNSW.

BENEFITS OF GAINING FNSW SANCTIONING APPROVAL

- a) Public liability insurance cover;
- b) Personal injury insurance cover for participants, referees and volunteers;
- c) Access to FNSW accredited referees;
- d) Risk support and information; and
- e) Member Protection and Child Protection support and information.

THE SANCTIONING PROCESS

Eligible FNSW stakeholders wishing to receive FNSW sanctioning of their event or activity are required to complete the online application form and upload supporting documents.

Eligible FNSW stakeholders include:

- FNSW Associations and their member clubs (i.e. grassroots clubs);
- FNSW Branches;
- FNSW Premier and State League Clubs;
- FNSW Futsal Clubs; and
- FNSW affiliated Futsal Centres.

As part of the sanctioning process, grassroots clubs will require the approval of their parent Association. A copy of the club's online application will be sent by FNSW to the club's parent Association for approval.

The application documents consist of:

- Part 1 - Online Sanction Application Form; and
- Part 2 - upload of competition rules and regulations and any additional required supporting documentation (for example, a Certificate of Currency).

Should a parent Association decline a sanctioning request, the club is entitled to appeal that decision to FNSW. Both parties will then be required to state their case to FNSW who will then make a determination in relation

to the sanctioning application. FNSW's determination will be final and not subject to challenge or appeal.

Following the review of the application documents, FNSW will contact the applicant to advise of the outcome of the sanctioning application.

Upon approval of the sanctioning request:

- a copy of the approval confirmation will be emailed to the applicant or their parent Association; and
- the applicant may begin promotion of the event.

Note that promotion of FNSW sanctioning of the event, including the use of the FNSW logo, prior to confirmation of approval, is prohibited.

Should the organiser wish to make any changes to the event after approval has been granted by FNSW, the organiser must notify FNSW in writing immediately and FNSW reserves the right to review the application and, if deemed appropriate, rescind the original approval.

Any event that includes MiniRoos Football age groups of U6 to U11 must apply the principles of FFA MiniRoos Club Football <http://www.miniroos.com.au>.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Eligible participant entry into a sanctioned event is limited to:

- FNSW Associations, their member clubs (i.e. grassroots clubs) and affiliated teams;
- FNSW Premier and State League Clubs and their teams;
- FNSW Futsal Clubs and their teams;
- FNSW affiliated Futsal Centres and their teams; and
- Affiliated teams of FFA Member Federations.

All participants including, but not limited to, players, team officials, referees and volunteers, **must** be registered on the National Registration platform (www.playfootball.com.au) for the current football season in order to be eligible.

All participants not registered with the host Association/Club must obtain the written approval of

their or their club's parent Association or, where applicable, their FFA Member Federation.

NON-REGISTERED PLAYERS PARTICIPATING IN SANCTIONED EVENTS

To assist FNSW stakeholders in promoting football and engaging with future football participants, FNSW has worked with its insurers to develop a fee structure applicable to non-registered football players participating in the following FNSW sanctioned events:

- Development Programs;
- Holiday Camps; and
- Tournaments.

These players must be registered on the National Registration platform (www.playfootball.com.au) and a participant list must be provided to FNSW upon completion of the event. Please refer to Circular 18/18 for fee details.

COMPLIANCE

Event organisers who fail to follow the process set out above or fail to comply with this policy may be subject to disciplinary action by FNSW including, but not limited to, the following:

- a) FNSW removing the sanctioned status of the event and informing all participants of its decision; and
- b) Subject to the nature of the breach, FNSW reserves the right to reject future applications from the event organiser.

FNSW POLICIES

In addition to complying with all relevant FNSW rules and regulations, all event organisers must ensure compliance with the following FNSW policies and guideline:

- a) [FNSW Working with Children Check Policy](#);
- b) [Goalpost Safety Policy](#);
- c) [FNSW Hot Weather Policy](#);
- d) [FNSW Lightning Safety Policy](#);
- e) [FFA National Member Protection Policy](#); and
- f) [FNSW Guidelines for Working with Children](#).

Copies of these policies and guidelines are available on the FNSW website or by clicking on the above links.

CHILD PROTECTION

All FNSW stakeholders have a duty to promote child safety within the sport of football.

In accordance with the National Member

Protection Policy and relevant state legislation, FNSW stakeholders must enquire into the background of individuals they retain who undertake any work, coaching or regular unsupervised contact with people under the age of 18 years.

In accordance with the FNSW Working with Children Check Policy, **all** coaches, managers, referees and any other persons in either a paid or voluntary capacity working or volunteering with children aged under 18 years **must** hold a valid Working with Children (**WWC**) Number. This requirement applies to volunteer parents and to parents staying in overnight accommodation with travelling teams aged under 18 years regardless of whether their child is a member of the team.

The only applicable exemption to these requirements is for workers and volunteers aged under 18 years, as persons under 18 years are unable to apply for a Working with Children Check.

CONSULTATION OR ADVICE

This policy has been developed to provide guidance to FNSW stakeholders regarding sanctioning.

FNSW stakeholders who are unsure of their obligations under this policy or have any questions, should contact FNSW.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

In this policy, the following words will have the following meanings:

Sanctioning is defined as follows:

Authorisation issued by FNSW to its stakeholders to conduct an event or activity that complies with the National Curriculum philosophies and principles together with the guidelines outlined in this policy.