



**FOOTBALL**  
**NSW**

## **Un-Financial Participants Policy**

Football NSW Community  
Club Football Registration Fees

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## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

### 1. Background

- a) Section 16.3 of the 2025 Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations states as follows:

#### **16.3 Non-Financial Conduct - Participants**

In the event that a Participant fails to make payment in full of any amount payable to Football NSW, an Association Member, a Branch, a Regional Association, a Centre, a Club, or a Referees Body (the other party) by the due date, Football NSW may declare that Participant as “un-financial” and may suspend that Participant from any or all Football Related Activity until the amount payable is paid in full to the other party.

Source: <https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2025/02/2025-Football-NSW-Grievance-and-Disciplinary-Regulations.pdf>, p46.

- b) This regulation provides that it is Football NSW, not a Club or Association Member, that must make the declaration in respect of whether a Participant is Un-Financial.
- c) Whilst Clubs and Associations may have their own regulations in respect of Un-Financial conduct, for Football NSW to declare a Player Un-Financial, Football NSW must be satisfied that the Player has a debt outstanding that they should reasonably be expected to pay but remains unpaid and outstanding beyond the due date.
- d) Football NSW may not declare a Player Un-Financial without first being satisfied that the Player has had a reasonable opportunity to either pay the claimed amount that is due and outstanding, or otherwise set out the reasons why they claim the outstanding fees are not payable, either in full or in part, to the Club.
- e) This Policy intends to make clear the process that must be undertaken before Football NSW can declare a Participant as Un-Financial.

### 2. Scope and Application

- a) This Policy applies only to Players registered to Club Football under Association Zones and Branch Zones.
- b) This Policy does not apply to Players in Football NSW State Competitions, Futsal, social or other competitions.

### 3. Intended audience

- a) This Policy is intended to inform Participants, Clubs, Associations and Zones.

### 4. Date of effect and review

- a) This Policy is effective from the commencement of the 2025 season and will be effective until it is either reviewed or withdrawn by Football NSW.
- b) This Policy will be reviewed annually.

## SECTION 2: UN-FINANCIAL PARTICIPANTS PROCESS

### Process to have a Player declared Un-Financial

- a) Clause 6.15 of the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations provides that a Club may charge Registration Fees:

#### 6.15 Registration Fees

- (a) A Club may charge a reasonable fee to Players provided that:
- (i) it discloses in the National Online Registration System all fees, levies and charges imposed by the Club, its District Association and/or Member Federation, and the national registration fee payable to FA; and
  - (ii) the fee reflects actual expenses related to the Player's participation in a Competition.
- (b) The onus is on the party imposing the fee, levy or charge to satisfy FA that it is reasonable.

Source: <https://www.footballaustralia.com.au/sites/ffa/files/2023-03/23-0323%20%20National%20Registration%2C%20Status%20and%20Transfer%20Regulations%20%28Final%29.pdf>, p30

- b) For the purposes of this Policy the total fee paid by an Amateur Player for the full Registration Fee Product is assumed to consist of any of the following components:
- i. Football Australia National Registration Fee (NRF);
  - ii. Football NSW Registration Fee;
  - iii. District/Association/Zone Fee; and
  - iv. Club Fee.
- c) A Player may not be marked as "Registered" in the National Online Registration System until all Registration Fees are paid, meaning any or all of the component fees set out below which may apply for a Registration Fee Product:
- i. Football Australia National Registration Fee (NRF);
  - ii. Football NSW Registration Fee; and
  - iii. District/Association/Zone Fee.
- d) In the event that a Club approves a Player's registration and the Player is marked as "Registered", the abovenamed component registration fees will be paid to Football Australia, Football NSW and the District/Association/Zone (as the case may be).
- e) The Club may make other arrangements with a registrant in respect of the payment of its own Club Fee. In the event that a Player defaults on an arrangement to pay the Club Fee, a Club may seek to have the Player declared Un-Financial.

- f) Any application from a Club to declare a Player as Un-Financial must be via the form prescribed from time to time and must include:
- i. Copies of any agreements between the Player and the Club setting out a schedule of payments including payment periods;
  - ii. Copy of first reminder letter of overdue account;
  - iii. Copies of requests for an extension of payment deadline (if any);
  - iv. Copy of second reminder of an overdue account;
  - v. Copies of any notice of default agreements between the Player and the Club;
  - vi. If the Club's terms and conditions are referenced in Play Football, please refer to these in your correspondence to the Player and Football NSW, and;
  - vii. Evidence that if outstanding registration fees are not paid by a set due date, the Club has stood the Player down from all Matches until the amount payable is paid in full.
- g) Un-Financial Player requests must be lodged with Football NSW by 30 June each year.
- h) If the Club permits a Player to continue to play after the Club has submitted an application for Football NSW to declare the Player as Un-Financial:
- i. In the event that the application to declare the Player as Un-Financial has yet to be assessed, the application will be rejected.
  - ii. In the event that the Player has been declared as Un-Financial, the Player will be removed from the Football NSW Un-Financial Player List and no further action will be taken by Football NSW.
- i) If Football NSW marks the Player as Un-Financial, the Player will be suspended from any or all Football Related Activity until the amount due and payable is paid in full to the Club.

## SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS

**“By-Laws”** means the by-laws of Football NSW as amended from time to time.

**“Club”** means any entity, team or group of individuals registered with FA and/or Football NSW or admitted to participate in a Competition.

**“Competition Administrator”** means the entity endorsed by Football NSW to administer and conduct a Competition, including enforcement of its rules and regulations, and/or its delegate.

**“Constitution”** means the constitution of Football NSW as amended from time to time.

**“District Association”** means the District or regional association or zone that is a member of a Member Federation as defined in the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

**“FA”** means Football Australia Limited, the governing body for football (soccer) in Australia.

**“FIFA”** means Federation Internationale de Football Association, its successor or assignee.

**“Fixture”** means a meeting of two (2) Clubs as scheduled in all grades applicable.

**“Football NSW”** means Football NSW Limited ACN 003 215 923 which is the governing body for football (including Futsal) in the State.

**“Football NSW Fees”** means the Football NSW Registration Fee.

**“Match”** means any match played in the Competition, a Football NSW Competition, Cup, Premiership, other event or tournament under Football NSW’s control.

**“Official”** means a Club Official, Match Official or Team Official.

**“Participant”** means a Player, Official or Spectator.

**“Player”** means any person who participates in a Match (irrespective of whether he or she is registered with FA, junior or senior or an amateur or professional).

**“Season”** means from the commencement of the Competition to the conclusion of the Competition unless otherwise directed by the Competition Administrator.

**“Spectator”** means a person who attends a Match.

**“State”** means the state of New South Wales with the exception of the northern regions of NSW which are identified by FA as “Northern NSW”.

**“Team”** means an any team registered with FA and/or Football NSW or any team admitted by the Competition Administrator to participate in the Competition.

**“Team Official”** means any person involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff, other support staff or any other person acting for or on behalf of a Team.

**“Un-Financial”** means any Player found to be in default in respect of agreed payment of Club Fees in connection with their registration to a Club.