



NATIONAL  
PREMIER LEAGUES



FOOTBALL  
NSW

# WOMEN'S PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM | 2026

## Football NSW - NPL Women's NSW & FNSW League One Women's Player Points System

- The Football NSW Women's Player Points System applies to all squads within the NPL Women's NSW and Football NSW League One Women's Competitions.
- The maximum points total for a forty (40) Player combined First Grade and Under 23s squads in the 2026 NPL Women's NSW and Football NSW League One Women's competition is **460**.
- A Club newly entering at the level of NPL NSW Women's or Football NSW League One Women's either through promotion / relegation or at the invitation of FNSW independent of the previous season's results will be given an additional fifty (50) points to their PPS cap in their first season of entry.
- The Senior Player and Youth Player advancement points adjustments can be used either;
  - in the same season the player moves to the National Elite Pathway Team, should the move happen during the football season; or
  - in the season immediately following the season in which the player moves to the National Elite Pathway Team; or
  - in the season immediately following the move should the move occur outside the FNSW football season.
- Each Club will start with forty (40) players that are attributed with a points value of 12.5 points.
- Once a Player is added to the Senior Squad Player Roster, her points value is adjusted to 10 points, and then further adjusted depending on certain characteristics which result in points being added to or deducted from the Player's points value.
- A Player's points value cannot be less than 0 points.
- The following table details the points adjustment depending on the Player's history:

Category	Points Adjustment	Criteria
<b>Homegrown Player Deduction</b>	-1 for each season registered with the Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Homegrown Player is a Player that has been registered for any period during a season with her Club's Youth Teams.</li> <li>One (1) point is deducted from the Player's points value for each season the Player was registered with her Club's Youth Teams.</li> <li>The maximum adjustment to a Player's points value under this category is minus five (5) points.</li> </ul>
<b>Loyalty Player Deduction</b>	-1 for each continuous season with the Club's First Grade or Reserve Grade Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Loyalty Player is a Player that has registered for her Club's Senior Squad for at least four (4) continuous seasons.</li> <li>One (1) point is deducted from a Player's points value for each season, starting from her fourth continuous season, in which the Player is registered for the Club's Senior Squad.</li> <li>The maximum adjustment to a Player's points value under this category is minus five (5) points.</li> </ul>
<b>Visa Player</b>	+10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Visa Player is any Player who is <b>not</b> an Australian Player.</li> <li>Ten (10) points is added to a Player's points value if that Player is a Visa Player.</li> <li>A Visa Player may still benefit from the other categories of the PPS (e.g. Loyalty Player Deduction). A Club is permitted a maximum of three (3) Visa Players per squad. Of the three (3) Visa Players, a minimum of one (1) must be an AFC or OFC Visa Player. In the event a Club does not have an AFC or OFC Visa Player, the maximum number of Visa Players permitted shall be two (2).</li> </ul>
<b>Switching Player</b>	+8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Switching Player is a Player that has switched from another NPL NSW Women's, FNSW League One Women's Club, or a Club from an equivalent Member Federation Competition, during the current or preceding season and are in the Senior Squad.</li> </ul>
	0+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A player that has not been registered with an NPL NSW Women's FNSW League One Women's Club, or a Club from an equivalent Member Federation Competition for a period of 30 months from the date the Player made her last appearance for a Club in a match will not incur a switching player penalty</li> </ul>
<b>Pathway Player</b>	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No points are added to, or deducted from, a Player's points value, where that Player has left the Club and registered directly with a National Elite Pathway Team and are returning to the same club directly from that program.</li> </ul>
<b>Youth Player Advancement</b>	-3 per Player	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three (3) points may be deducted from a Club's Points Total for each registered Player that is recruited from the Club's youth teams into a National Elite Pathway Team.</li> <li>A one-off deduction attributed to the Club's Points Total when a player is recruited to a National Elite Pathway Team for the first time.</li> </ul>
<b>Senior Player Advancement</b>	-8 per Player	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eight (8) points may be deducted from a Club's Points Total for each registered Player that is recruited from the Club's Senior Squad into a National Elite Pathway Team.</li> <li>A one-off deduction attributed to the Club's Points Total when a player is recruited to the National Elite Pathway Team for the first time.</li> </ul>

<b>Promoted Club</b>	-50 per Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Promoted Club will receive a deduction of 50 points from their points total.</li> <li>• This points deduction only applies for the Promoted Club's first season following promotion into the NPL Women's NSW Competition or a new Club being granted a licence to participate in the NPL Women's NSW or FNSW League One Women's Competitions by Football NSW.</li> </ul>
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## GENERAL DEFINITIONS

### Senior Squad

Senior squad means the Club's First Grade and Under 23s teams participating in the NPL Women's NSW or Football NSW League One Women's Competitions.

### Youth Teams

Refers to a Club's U13–U20 teams participating in the Football NSW Girls Youth League One or Girls Youth League Two competitions. Where a Club does not operate a GJDL program but does have a MJDL program, Football NSW will consider the Club's U12 team as part of the Youth Teams category. Additionally, any female player participating in the Club's U13 Boys program will also be recognised under this category.

### Youth Player

Youth Player means a player from the Club's U13 – U20 teams.

### Senior Player

Senior Player means a player from the Club's First Grade and Under 23s teams.

### National Elite Pathway Team

A National Elite Pathway Team is a team which participates in the National Elite Pathway, as determined by the FA Technical Department and the Member Federations from time to time. Points are credited for the movement of Players through the National Elite Pathway. For the purposes of the PPS, a team is a National Elite Pathway Team if they are one of the following:

- A-League Womens Club including Academy team's participating in the NPL/League One Womens and or, the A-League Womens Team; or;
- National Training Centre team (full-time programs only).

For clarity, Bulls Academy FC are not classified as National Elite Pathway Teams as they do not currently hold an A-League Womens licence.

### Club

Club means any entity admitted by Football NSW to field a team in the NPL Women's NSW or Football NSW League One Women's Competitions.

### PPS or Player Points System

PPS or Player Points System means the system for calculating a Club's player points as set out in the Football NSW Competition Regulations and in this document.

### Points Total

Points Total means the sum of all points attributed to all Players on the Club's Senior Squad at any given time.

### Maximum Points Total

Maximum Points Total means the permitted total value of a Club's Points Total, as determined by Football NSW, being **460** points.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Senior Squad Player Roster Requirements

- At all times during a season, a Club may include a maximum of 40 Players on its Senior Squad Player Roster.

### Australian Player

An Australian Player is any Player who is:

- (a) a citizen of Australia;
- (b) a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person residing in Australia on a “permanent” visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person’s Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person’s online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
- (c) the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian government. For further details see: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.

### Visa Player

- Member Federations and Clubs are encouraged to refer to the following website for further clarification regarding visas: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.
- For the purposes of the PPS, a New Zealand Citizen is classified as a Visa Player unless she satisfies the definition of an Australian Player. Please refer to the Department of Home Affairs for further clarification regarding the visa status of New Zealand Citizens in Australia: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.

### Homegrown Player

- A Player does not need to register in continuous seasons in a Club’s Youth Teams to be eligible for Homegrown Player points.

*Example: For a Player who was registered for the Club in the U14’s and U15’s but was not registered with the Club in the U16’s, a total of two (2) points will be deducted from her points value for the current season.*

- A Player is eligible for Homegrown Player points at the same time as being eligible for Loyalty Player points.

### Loyalty Player

*Example: A Player is registered with a Club’s Senior Squad in 2023, 2024 and 2025 (continuous seasons). If also registered in 2026, she will be eligible to receive her first point reduction of one (1) point as a Loyalty Player in the 2026 season.*

- If a Player is not registered with any Club for a season and subsequently returns to her last Club, the number of continuous seasons of registering for that Club will be deemed to be continuous.

*Example: A Player was registered with the same Club in 2022, 2023 and 2024 (continuous seasons), however was not registered with any Club in 2025. If the Player registers with that Club in 2026, it will be deemed to be her fourth continuous season with that Club.*

- Should a Player move into a National Elite Pathway Team, the determination of the continuous seasons of service will not be deemed to have ceased if she returns to her previous Club. During the Player’s time in the National Elite Pathway Team, the calculation of continuous seasons of service will be suspended.

### **Switching Player**

- Football NSW has the right to determine in its sole and absolute discretion as to whether Switching Player points will apply.
- Switching Player points also apply for mid-season registrations and transfers, including a Player promoted from a Club's Youth Teams.
- Where a Player is promoted from a Club's Youth Team to a Club's Senior Squad Player Roster during the season, Switching Player Points will be applied where the Player's registration immediately prior (e.g. earlier in the 2026 season) or in the previous season (2025) was with another NPL Womens NSW, FNSW League One Women's, or a Club from an equivalent Member Federation Competition.
- In accordance with clause 5.5 of the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations, a Player will remain registered with FA for a period of thirty (30) months from the date the Player made.
- Her last appearance for a Club in a match. A Player who has been inactive for the thirty (30) month period will not incur Switching Player points should they then register with another NPL/League One Womens Club following this period.

### **Pathway Player**

- A Pathway Player is subject to all other categories of the PPS (other than the Switching Player category). For example, a Pathway Player is eligible for Loyalty Player points and Homegrown Player points.
- A Player who departs a Club for a National Elite Pathway Team and returns to the same Club will be classified as a Pathway Player provided the Player has remained with the National Elite Pathway Team for the duration of their absence from the relevant Club.