AFL VICTORIA

COMMUNITY CLUB SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

2027 SEASON

AFL VICTORIA PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS) POLICY

1. Objective of the Community Club Sustainability Program

To maintain, support and grow Australian football at the community football level it is important that teams fielded by community Clubs are as strong and well matched as possible. Given the infinite differences in club capacity and capability within leagues and competitions, the Community Club Sustainability Program (CCSP) provides a mechanism which supports financial responsibility in a volunteer-based environment and equalisation measures.

The essence of sport is competition, and the aspiration is to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain and that any team has a chance of winning. The notion of equalisation in community football competitions is vital as even and fair competitions lead to community interest and engagement.

The definition of equalisation measures in community football refers to mechanisms which are designed to reduce disparities between clubs within competitions leading to community interest and engagement with clubs and competitions.

Equalisation measures provide levels of consideration for clubs with reduced resources, or opportunities to compete on field.

The Objectives of the CCSP - Player Points System (PPS) and the Allowable Player Payments (APP) are to:

1. Reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to ~~r~~educe financial burden on Clubs.
2. Support the role volunteers undertake in managing their Clubs to be financially, culturally and environmentally sustainable.
3. Support the notion of equalisation in community football Competitions.
4. Support the notion that teams be competitive in competitions to enable club spirit and public support.
5. Ensure that Clubs develop and recruit players whilst not obtaining an excessive proportion of the better credentialed players at the expense of the less advantaged Clubs.
6. Allow players to develop and be recognised for their skills in competitions conducted between evenly matched and financially viable Clubs.
7. Promote player loyalty, player retention and junior development.

These objectives are to attract and maintain the interest of players, supporters, officeholders, sponsors and volunteers, all of whom are essential for community football Clubs and competitions.

The philosophy of competition equalisation is accepted in sports all around the world. Professional sporting bodies have accepted practices such as drafts, salary caps, and the like in order to help competitions ensure competitiveness and club sustainability.

Ensuring a club's sustainability financially, culturally and environmentally together with equalisation measures in competitions on field and will enable the game to thrive.

2. Definitions

2.1. **AFL** – Australian Football League.

2.2. **AFL Victoria** - means Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited ACN 147 664 579.

2.3. **CCSP Advisory Group** –. shall be appointed annually as a collaboration of Metropolitan Leagues, Country Regions and AFL Victoria to support, guide and determine matters relevant to the function of the CCSP under delegated authority of Metropolitan Leagues, Country Regions

2.4. **Category** – means the player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player.

2.5. **Community Club or 'Club'** – means an Australian football club which participates within a community football competition that does not include State Leagues (i.e., the VFL or Talent League).

2.6. **Competition** – means an Australian football competition in which the Community Clubs participate in official fixtured matches.

2.7. **Competitive Football** – means any formally organised football competition conducted by a Metropolitan League or Region excluding AFL 9s, school football and women's competitions.

2.8. **First Home and Away Match** – means the first official competition match for the home and away season of a Competition.

2.9. **Competition Management System** – means the online competition management system implemented by football competitions across Victoria.

2.10. **Metropolitan League** - means the bodies affiliated to AFL Victoria to administer Australian Football in the metropolitan region of Victoria.

2.11. **Player membership details** – means a player's individual details provided for on the Competition Management System.

2.12. **Player Points Allocation** – means the total number of points allocated to an individual player in a Senior Team taking into consideration the Player Points Category that applies to each player and any additional points or deducted points in accordance with this PPS Policy.

2.13. **PPS Policy** - means this player points system policy as amended by AFL Victoria from time to time.

2.14. **Premier Competition** - means the Competitions outlined in clause 6.4 of this PPS Policy.

2.15. **Region** – means the bodies affiliated to AFL Victoria to administer Australian Football in the relevant region of Victoria.

2.16. **Reserves Competition** – means the Reserves, Club XVIII, Thirds and Veterans competitions within any league or division of a competition.

2.17. **SANFL** – means the South Australian National Football League.

2.18. **Season –** means Community Football season between 1 April and 30 September each year (or such other agreed dates).

2.19. **Season of Service** – means a Season where a player has played a minimum of five (5) senior or reserves games in one Season for a particular Community Club. A player who

has completed a Season of Service is eligible for a reduction of one point should they play for the same Community Club in the following season(s) in accordance with this PPS Policy.

2.20. **Senior Competition** – means the senior or 1st grade Competition within any league or division of a Competition.

2.21. **Senior Team** – means the team of players that participate within a Community Club's senior or 1st grade football team.

2.22. **SFL** – means the Sydney Football League.

2.23. **TSL** – means the Tasmanian State League.

2.24. **Total Team Points** – means the total amount of points allocated to a specific Senior Team by the Metropolitan League or Region for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.

2.25. **VFL** – means the Victorian Football League.

2.26. **WAFL** – means the Western Australia Football League.

Interpretation:

A reference to:

“Aligned Junior Club” is where seniors and juniors exist under the same incorporated association, or where there is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in place between standalone senior and junior clubs that is approved by a Metropolitan League or Region and the CCSP Advisory Group . To be considered an ‘Aligned Junior Club’ an MoU ensures appropriate player pathways exist using the document detailed at Attachment 12.4 of this policy. Unless exceptional and compelling reasons are presented to and approved by the CCSP Advisory Group, a Senior club may only be aligned with one Junior Club and a Junior club may only be aligned with one Senior Club.

“**Transferred”** refers to the formal transfer authorised under Section 3 - Player registration and transfers of the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook.

“Unique local conditions” refers to the conditions, environment or circumstances which are unique to a Community Club or a region of Community Clubs which may give grounds for a reassessment of a Club’s Total Team Points as determined by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region.

Victorian affiliated Community Club means a Community Club affiliated to a Victorian based Metropolitan League or Region by way of an authorised licence or affiliation agreement.

3. Affiliated Metropolitan League/Region Responsibilities

Each Metropolitan League or Region affiliated to AFL Victoria:

Total Team Points

3.1. acknowledge that the Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 46 points per men's Senior Team subject to the conditions of this clause 3.

3.2. will consider all applications from Community Clubs for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. applications based on unique local circumstances under clause 4.5).

3.3. may allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Community Clubs in accordance with this PPS Policy to manage unique local conditions and meet the needs of local Community Clubs and the relevant senior Competitions.

3.4. may adopt By Law clauses to manage Metropolitan League or Region-specific scenarios where.

3.4.1 the player pathway from junior to senior clubs' football in an area is otherwise restrictive and which they may align specific junior and senior clubs to create a player pathway.

3.4.2 the AFL Victoria Player Points System Policy is silent and localised solutions to appropriately manage its intent and purpose is necessary.

3.4.3 all by Laws clauses must be approved by AFL Victoria annually following endorsement by the CCSP Advisory Group.

3.5. acknowledge that any decision to exceed the 46 point Total Team Points cap must be approved by the CCSP Advisory Group.

3.6. will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each Senior Team for each Club affiliate (i.e. not reserves or underage Competitions) for the following Season and in accordance with this PPS Policy, with all points allocations to be lodged with the CCSP Advisory Group by 31st July each calendar year.

3.7. subject to approval of Total Team Points via the CCSP Advisory Group, Metropolitan Leagues and Regions must communicate the allocation of each Club's Total Team Points to each of their affiliate Clubs for the following Season in accordance with PPS Policy by 31st August in each calendar year (or such other date as determined by the CCSP Advisory Group).

Player Points Allocation

3.8. will liaise with Community Club's to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via the Competition Management System prior to any player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season and may adopt a review process of the Player Point Allocations entered by the Community Club and amend any allocations as necessary.

3.9. as part of the Player Point Allocation process, Metropolitan Leagues and Regions may provide the opportunity for Clubs to seek a reassessment of any player's Player Point Allocation. Any reassessment against a Player Point Allocation should be made to the relevant Metropolitan League or Region no later than 5 days before the player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season

3.10. once the process in clauses 3.7 and 3.8 has been undertaken, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed for that Season unless the Metropolitan League or Region is of the

view that there are exceptional circumstances relevant to a player that warrant an amendment of the Player Point Allocation during the Season.

3.11 Country Regions may, under written agreement with the affiliated Country leagues, delegate authority regarding Total Team Point allocations (under clause 8.1 and 8.2), or Individual Player Point assessments (under clause 7.3). Any such delegation must include final endorsement by the relevant Region of any allocation or assessment made by the affiliated Country league.

AFL Victoria shall be required to endorse any such written agreement.

4. Affiliated Club Responsibilities

Each affiliate Community Club:

4.1. will determine each player's Player Points Allocation for its Senior Team. This determination may include any additions or deductions applicable to each player in accordance with this PPS Policy. See clauses 5, 6 and 7 and appendices 12.1 and 12.3 for applicable PPS table and flow chart to assist in this process.

4.2. will enter Player Points Allocations into each relevant player's membership details using the Competition Management System prior to the relevant Community Club's First Home and Away Match of each Season, or a players first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season.

4.3. acknowledges that if a Community Club does not follow this procedure and decides to play a player in a match in a Senior Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation reviewed and entered into the Competition Management System, that Club will bear the risk of any subsequent enforcement penalty as determined by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region in accordance with this PPS Policy.

4.4. will ensure that on match days the Senior Team does not exceed that Club's Total Team Points. For the avoidance of doubt, Community Clubs may recruit above their allocated points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation on match days.

4.5. may make an application to its affiliate Metropolitan League or Region for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. for unique local circumstances). The application process is to be set down and communicated to affiliate Clubs by the relevant Metropolitan League or Region.

5. Player Points Categories

5.1. A player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that player's playing history and achievements prior to registering with their current club and is structured in a way to promote player retention and loyalty.

5.2. Each player expected to play in the Senior Team of a Community Club will be allocated a Category and a Player Points Allocation as follows:

5.2.1. Category 1 – Home Player – **1 Point**

a) Player who has played 40 or more games over a minimum of 3 seasons * at the aligned junior club up to and including U17 Competition: or
b) Where the player pathway from junior to senior clubs' football in an area is otherwise restrictive, a Metropolitan League or Regions in country areas have adopted By Law clauses which align specific junior and senior clubs to create a player pathway. All By Laws clauses must be approved by AFL Victoria following endorsement by the CCSP Advisory Group .

c) Player who has played a minimum of 5 games in each of any 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 19's or
d) A player who has played only at that Community Club or an aligned junior club, and for no other Community Club; or
e) A player who has not played Competitive Football in the previous 36 months.

All MOU's and By Law clauses adopted by Metropolitan Leagues or Regions to ensure appropriate player pathways exist must be approved by AFL Victoria following endorsement by the CCSP Advisory Group.

NOTE: Under the Category 1 definition, a player may be categorised as a 'home player' at more than one Community Club.

*Junior Players (up to and including U17 Competitions) - Recognition for 2020 and 2021 seasons

Where a Junior Player (up to and including U17 Competitions) is registered at a club during the 2019 season, and that player remains at the same club and played a minimum of 1 game in both the 2019 and 2021 seasons, that player may be allocated a full Home and Away season of games, to a maximum of 15 games, for each of the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

5.3. If a player does not meet the Category 1 'home player' eligibility above, their points Category will be assessed based on the highest playing level achieved prior to the player joining the current club in the following Categories:

5.3.1. Category 6 – AFL Player – **6 Points**
Player who has played a minimum of one AFL game in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.

5.3.2. Category 5 – State League Tier One – **5 Points**
Player who has played a minimum 5 senior games of VFL, WAFL or SANFL in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons.

For example, a player *would not qualify* in this category for the 2026 Season if that player has played as follows in the previous three (3) Seasons:

Season 2026 – 4 games
Season 2025 – 3 games
Season 2024 – 2 games

However, a player *would* qualify in this category for the 2026 Season if that player had played as follows in the previous three (3) Seasons:

Season 2026 – 0 games
Season 2025 – 6 games
Season 2024 – 2 games; or

Season 2026 – 5 games
Season 2025 – 0 games
Season 2024 – 0 games

NOTE: where a Category refers to "a minimum of 5 games in any of the previous 3 Seasons", the above calculation example will apply.

5.3.3. Category 4 –Talent League and State League Tier Two – **4 Points**
a) Talent League player - who has played a minimum 5 Talent League games in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons; or
b) State League Tier Two player – who has played a minimum of 5 senior games in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons at TSL level.

5.3.4. Category 3 – Senior Community Player and Transferred Junior Player – **3 Points**

a) Senior Community player – who has played the same number or more senior games than reserves games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level. This also includes:

- A player from any of the interstate community league Competitions including the Northern Territory Football League, as well as SFL, QAFL, WAFL Reserves and SANFL Reserves competitions.

b) Transferred Junior – a player who was transferred from an U19's (or younger) Competition and who does not meet Category 1 eligibility.

5.3.5. Category 2 – Development Community Player – **2 Points**

A player who has played more reserves games than senior games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level. The Development Community Player category also includes Club XVIII, Thirds (overage) and Veterans or Masters competitions.

5.4. A Community Club that has a player that does not meet any of the above player Categories will need to apply to their affiliate Metropolitan League or Region to determine the appropriate Player Points Allocation.

5.5. For the purposes of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a player and will be assessed under the above Categories.

5.6. A player playing on an Interchange Agreement as detailed at Section 3 - Player registration and transfers, section 3.7 of the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook (i.e. a permit player) will be assessed on the same basis as transferred players.

5.7. These individual Player Point allocations may also be reassessed and subject to the process detailed as Section 7.3

6. Additional player point allocations:

6.1. Clauses 6.2 .6.4 and 6.5 do not apply where a player is classified as a Category 1 Home Player

6.2. If a player transfers to a Community Club and will be competing against their immediate former Community Club, (except Category 2 - Development Community Players) an additional one point penalty will apply.

6.3. Subject to prior approval by the CCSP Advisory Group, a Metropolitan League or Region may apply an additional two points (instead of one point under clause 6.2) as required by the unique local conditions in order to meet an objective of this PPS Policy. This two point addition is a discretionary rule and it is the responsibility of the Metropolitan League or Region to communicate to its affiliate Clubs if implemented. For the avoidance of doubt, the one point addition is not discretionary.

6.4. If a player transfers from a Community Club located in a Premier Competition to a Community Club in a non-premier competition an additional one point penalty will apply. For avoidance of doubt, this clause applies where the player played their most recent match with that club in a Premier competition, prior to the transfer being submitted This clause does not apply to Category 3 – Transferred Junior Player, or if the player is transferring from a Premier

Competition but has already met the definition of a State League Category 5 or Talent League Category 4 player due to playing on a permit at the higher level.

Premier Community Football Competitions include:

- Eastern Football League Premier Division
- Essendon District Football League Premier Division
- Northern Football Netball League Division One
- Riddell District Football Netball League
- Southern Football Netball League Division One
- Victorian Amateur Football Association Premier Division (not B or C)
- Western Football Netball League Division One
- Ballarat Football Netball League
- Bendigo Football Netball League
- Geelong Football Netball League
- Gippsland Football League
- Goulburn Valley League
- Hampden Football Netball League
- Murray Football League
- Ovens and Murray Football Netball League
- Mornington Peninsula Football Netball League – Division One
- Outer East Football Netball – Premier Division
- Any other Competition as determined by CSSP Advisory Group from time to time.

6.5. Where a player has transferred to and/or registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in three (3) seasons, one additional point will be applied to that player's Player Points Allocation. In determining the 3 season's timeframe, clubs shall assess the current or upcoming season as the first season along with the previous two (2) seasons, as detailed in the example below.

Club A – 2027 season
Club B – 2026 season
Club C – 2025 season

For the avoidance of doubt, player registrations under a permit arrangement to a State League, Talent League, NTFL club or under local interchange agreements, where their home club is classified as a Victorian affiliated Community Club, will not be penalised under this clause.

Where the player is registered with and NTFL club and plays in the summer competition (competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March), this registration with the NTFL club is not assessed in this clause.

This clause shall not include any season where the player has played solely in an underage competition.

6.6. A Community Club may make an application for a re-assessment under clause 7.3 to its affiliate Metropolitan League or Region in relation to a player's additional point allocation.

7. Deductions and Amendments to player points allocation:

7.1. Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to that player's Community Club (minimum 5 senior or reserves games per Season*), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches not less than 1 point. (This is the minimum number of points a player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a player is eligible for underage football at his Club, they must play at least 5 Senior Team games to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.

*Where a Leagues Home & Away Rounds in 2021 have been cancelled, the following scale shall be used to calculate a season of service deduction for an 18 Round season:

- 18 H&A Rounds 5 games to receive a season of service deduction for 2021 season.
- 15-17 H&A Round Season 4 games to receive a season of service deduction for 2021 season
- 14 or less H&A Round Season 3 games to receive a season of service deduction for 2021 season.

7.2. Where a player qualifies in more than one Category based on their playing history in the current Season or any of the previous 3 Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart in appendix 12.3. (Category 1 - Home Players are excluded).

7.3. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances. This includes circumstances where it is deemed a player has transferred to minimise their player point allocation under this policy. In addition, Community Clubs may make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to its relevant Metropolitan League or Region. The application for reassessment may be based upon of the following:

(a) The age of the player, especially if the player is looking to play at a higher level.
(b) The injury history of the player
(c) The recent playing history of the player
(d) The living, schooling and work arrangements of the player; or
(e) Any other relevant consideration.

Meeting one of the above criteria may not, on its own, provide for a reduction in a player's point allocation with the application to substantiate that the point allocation is inappropriate based on the Players playing history and achievements.

7.4. A League on behalf of an affiliated club, may also make an application to receive a points reduction to a player's Player Points Allocation in relation to a player transitioning into or out of a Club aligned with a school or tertiary institution. Such application must be provided to the CCSP Advisory Panel for consideration and approval or disapproval.

7.5. Subject to the considerations which the Metropolitan League or Region should take into account under clause 7.3, the determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the relevant Metropolitan League or Region.

7.6. Should a player be recruited from a Victorian affiliate Community Club which participates in a community Competition which is not affiliated with AFL Victoria or has not adopted this AFL Victoria PPS Policy, that player will have a value of one point to a Community Club which has adopted the PPS Policy. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions, at their discretion may review this one point allocation particularly where the playing history of that player includes prior participation in Competitions that have adopted this PPS Policy.

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8. Total Team Points

8.1. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions will undertake their own process of Total Team Points allocations and will be responsible for determining Total Team Points for their affiliate Senior Competitions and Clubs. As stated under clause 3.5, Total Team Points should only exceed 46 points and for legitimate circumstances necessary to achieve the evenness and equalisations objectives of this PPS Policy. Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points cap for any other reason must be prior approved by the CCSP Advisory Group.

8.2. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions may implement a variable scale of Total Team Points for each of their competitions. In order to determine team variances to a Senior Competitions Total Team Points' cap, Metropolitan Leagues and Regions should adopt the following guiding principles regarding the additional allocation or reduction of Total Team Points to a Community Club:

8.2.1. Additional total team points may be allocated to a Community Club which is located in a region with a low population base.
8.2.2. Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club did not qualify for finals in previous seasons or has been promoted from previous seasons.
8.2.3. Reduction of total team points may be applied when a club has achieved multiple premierships and/or sustained success over previous seasons.
8.2.4. Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess, or is a recently merged or restructured entity.
8.2.5. Additional total team points may be allocated where a Community Club has no U18, U19 or younger underage sides and is not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control, or if a Community Club is aligned with a university and the team is based around players coming and going over a 3-4 year period.

8.3. For each match, a Club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate in a match for that Competition and this should be consistent for each match within a Season, within each Competition. For example, if the maximum number of players on match days for the Competition is 22 players, a Club cannot submit a team list of 21 players to meet the Total Team Points cap. For the avoidance of doubt, a Club must list the maximum number of players allowed on its team sheet in calculating its Total Team Points. For exceptional circumstances (i.e., not having enough players to field a full Senior Team) the matter should be referred to the Metropolitan League or Region for review and direction.

9. Implementation

9.1. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions should adopt this PPS Policy by no later than 30 September. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions must advise in writing to the CCSP Advisory Group of its intention to implement the PPS Policy prior to this date.

9.2. Metropolitan Leagues and Regions are free to publicise Total Team Points to affiliate Clubs for the following year at their own discretion once approved by the CCSP Advisory Group.

10. Enforcement

10.1. Player Points Allocations will be managed via the Competition Management System, and if correct procedure is applied, with Players Points Allocation entered into the system prior to the start of the Season.,. Errors are less likely given that the Competition Management System will not permit a club to complete a Senior Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Club's permitted point's cap.

10.2. Should any Club or Player breach any provision of this Player points system policy or make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by the Metropolitan League or Region in line with the penalties set out in clause 10.3.

10.3. Penalties may include (without limitation):

(a) reversal of a match result in which the breaches occurred
(b) Club fines
(c) Relegation (when in a divisional competition)
(d) Loss of premiership points – current season and in the future
(e) Loss of Total Team points - current season and in the future
(f) Suspension from finals – current season and in the future

(g) Player / Official suspensions –.
(h) Any other penalty determined by the Metropolitan League or Region or the CCSP Advisory Group from time to time.

In applying any enforcements provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, Metropolitan Leagues and Region shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as:

- Unintentional - where a club had not been provided with accurate information.
- Interpretive - where a club had applied the policy in a manner than was the policy was not intended.
- Intentional - where a clear breach had occurred with little or no regard to the requirements of the policy.

11. Appeal and Review

11.1. Where a Community Club is of the view that one of their registered player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy following a reassessment conducted under clause 7.3 of this policy, any appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be heard by that Metropolitan League or Region under their own appeals process.

11.2. Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points is deemed inappropriate following a reassessment under Clause 8.2 of this Policy, any appeal against that Total Team Points allocation must be heard by that Metropolitan League or Region under their own appeals process

11.3. A party to a decision (as determined by AFL Victoria) may appeal a decision to apply an enforcement provision under this PPS Policy against that Club. An appeal, to a panel appointed by AFL Victoria, shall be lodged with the AFL Victoria Football Operations Manager by no later than 5.00pm on the day following the decision and administered consistent with the Appeal provisions contained at Clause 26 of the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook with any appeal process to be administered by written submission from relevant parties to the appeal with no hearing.

11.4. For the avoidance of doubt a party may appeal in respect of such a decision on one or more of the following grounds:

i) Section 26.1(b)(i)(A) the decision was an error of law that had a material impact on the decision.
ii) Section 26.1(b)(i)(B) the decision was so unreasonable that no Controlling Body or Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it;
iii) Section 26.1(b)(i)(D) the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

11.5. The CCSP Advisory Group will review the PPS Policy throughout each Season and amendments and variations may be made by the CCSP Advisory Group from time to time.

12. Appendices

12.1. Player Points Categories Tables

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM – CATAGORIES AND DEFINITIONS			
Category 6	6 points	AFL Player	Played at least one AFL game in any of the current or previous 3 seasons.
Category 5	5 points	State League Tier 1 - VFL, WAFL, SANFL	Played at least 5 senior games of VFL, WAFL or SANFL in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
Category 4	4 points	Talent League	Played at least 5 Talent League games in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
		State League Tier 2 - TSL	Played at least 5 senior games in any of the current or previous 3 seasons
Category 3	3 points	Senior Community Player	Played the same or more senior than reserves games in total over the current and previous 3 seasons. Also includes Interstate Community Leagues including NTFL, SFL, QAFL WAFL Reserves and SANFL Reserves.
		Transferred Junior	Player recruited from an U19's or younger competition and does not meet the Category 1 home club definition
Category 2	2 points	Development Community Player	Played more reserves games than senior games in total, over the current and previous three (3) Seasons at community football level
Category 1	1 point	Home Player	Played **40** or more games over a minimum 3 seasons * (See Clause 5.2.1 for 2020 and 2021 seasons) at that club or aligned junior club up to and including U17 competitions
			Where the player pathway from junior to senior clubs' football in an area is otherwise restrictive, a Metropolitan League or Regions in country areas have adopted By Law clauses which align specific junior and senior clubs to create a player pathway. All By Laws clauses must be approved by AFL Victoria following endorsement by the CCSP Advisory Group.
			Player who has played a minimum of **5** games in each of the 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 19's
			Player who has only played at that club or aligned junior club.
			Player who hasn't played Competitive football in the previous 36 months.

Note: For any player that does not meet any of the above categories will need to apply to the affiliated Metropolitan League / Region who will determine the appropriate categories and points

Additional Penalty Player Points	Additional 1 point	If transferring from another community club and will be competing against their immediate former club (does not include Category 2 Development Community Player) Metropolitan Leagues and Regions may increase this to an additional 2 penalty points subject to approval by AFL Victoria.

	Additional 1 point	Is transferring from a club located in a premier competition to a club in a non-premier competition (does not apply to Category 3 – Transferred Junior Player, Category 5 – State League or Category 4 –Talent League player)
	Additional 1 point	If registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in the current or previous two (2) seasons. Does not include players moving on permit (e.g. VFL, Talent League, NTFL or Local Interchange Agreement) as detailed in clause 6.5. This clause shall not include any season where the player has played solely in an underage competition
Deductions for Player Points	Deduct 1 point	For each season of service to the club (minimum 5 senior or reserves games per season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches 1 point Note: if the player is eligible for underage football at that club, it must play 5 senior games to meet the criteria for a year of service. * See clause 7.1 for 2020 and 2021 season
Note: Metropolitan Leagues and Region may reassess an individual players points classification where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history		
Note: Where a player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history in the previous 3 seasons, the category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart. (Home players are excluded).		

Definition of Junior Aligned Club	• Where seniors and juniors exist under the same constitution, or • Where there is a memorandum of understanding in place between standalone senior and junior clubs that is approved by a Metropolitan League or Region and AFL Victoria or • Where the player pathway from junior to senior clubs' football in an area is otherwise restrictive, a Metropolitan League or Regions in country areas have adopted By Law clauses which align specific junior and senior clubs to create a player pathway. All MOU's and By Law clauses must be approved by Metropolitan Leagues or Regions in country areas to ensure appropriate player pathways exist and approved by AFL Victoria following endorsement by the CCSP Advisory Group .	
Premier Community Competitions * Note: this includes Development Community recruited from these competitions.	Eastern FNL Premier Division Essendon DFL Premier Division Northern FNL Division 1 Outer East F.N Premier Division Riddell District FNL Southern FNL Division1 VAFA Premier Division Western FNL Division 1	Ballarat FNL Bendigo FNL Geelong FNL Gippsland FL Goulburn Valley League Hampden FNL Murray FL Ovens & Murray FNL Mornington Peninsula FNL – Division 1

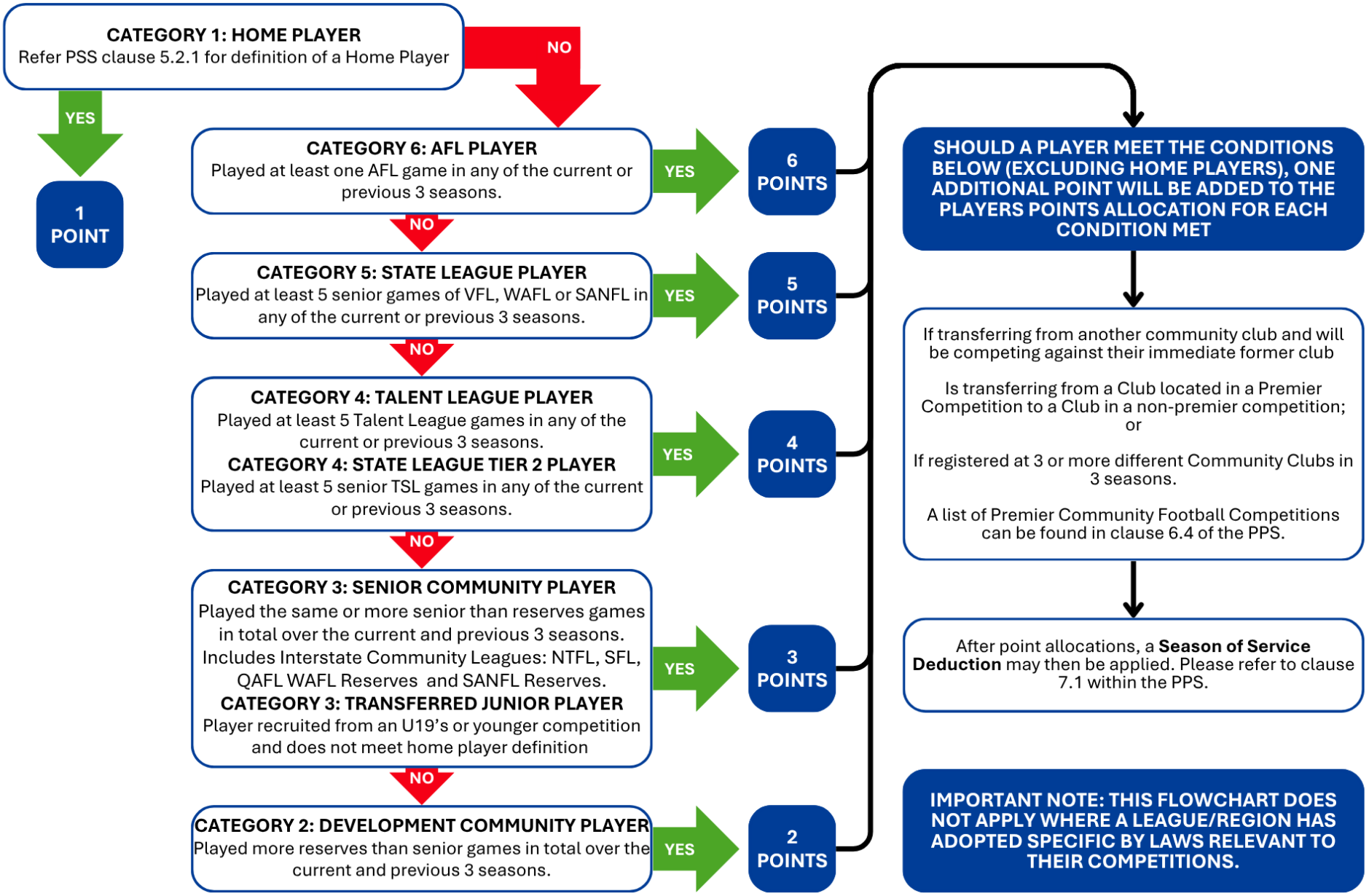
12.2. Total Team Points Allocation Tables

Metropolitan Leagues and Regions may choose to adopt any of these types of clauses below based upon unique local conditions when allocating total team points;

Total Team Points Allowances / Reductions Consistent with clause 8.2	Small population base	Additional points to team allocation where the club is located in a region with a low population base
	Ladder Position	Additional points to team allocation if team did not qualify for finals in previous season or has been promoted from previous season
		Reduction in points to team allocation for multiple premierships and/or sustained success over previous seasons.
		Additional points to team allocation where a club endures significant hardship, lack of success, is coming out of recess or is a recently merged or restructured entity.
	Junior Pathway	Additional points to team allocation where a club has no U18/19 or younger underage sides aligned (MOU in place) to it, and not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control, or if a club is aligned with a university and the team is based around players coming a going over a 3-4 year period.

12.3 – Player Points Assessment Flowchart

To assist in allocating points to players, the flow chart has been developed to assess players based on their playing history prior to registering with their current Community Club.



12.4 - Senior / Junior club Memorandum of Understanding

AFL Victoria Senior/Junior Club Memorandum of Understanding

This form is to be used where a Senior Club and Junior Club are seeking to formalise an aligned junior pathway for the purposes of the AFL Victoria Player Points System Policy.

PART A DETAILS

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on the	.....day of.....20.....	('date')
Between		Football Club ('Senior Club')
Affiliated Member of the		Football League
And		Football Club ('Junior Club')
Affiliated Member of the		Football League

PART B TERMS OF MoU

1. BACKGROUND

A. Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited (AFL Victoria) has implemented a Player Points System Policy (PPS Policy) to support community football club sustainability, equalisation of community football competitions and to promote junior development (Objectives).

B. The Junior Club party to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be recognised as an "Aligned Junior Club" in accordance with the PPS Policy.

C. An Aligned Junior Club player is eligible for Player Point Allocation categorisation in accordance with the PPS Policy as amended by AFL Victoria from time to time.

D. The Parties agree to comply with the terms and conditions set out in this MOU and the Objectives of the PPS Policy.

E. Each Party will cooperate to maximize the opportunities for junior players to move to senior football through the Senior Club's pathway competition (e.g. Under 19/ Under 18). This may include permit arrangements approved by the affiliated governing bodies where players are still eligible to play junior football.

2. COMMENCEMENT OF AGREEMENT

The Parties agree that this MOU shall commence from ***the date stated in Part A***, and following signing by relevant Clubs, Regions, Metropolitan Leagues and AFL Victoria as applicable.

Please note that any Junior games played prior to this date with the Junior club detailed in this MoU will not be included in assessing if a junior player meets the requirements of the Home Player category.

3. AMENDMENT

This MoU may not be varied except by a written instrument duly executed on behalf of each Party.

4. NO PARTNERSHIP, NO AGENCY

Each of the Parties shall, in all other respects, remain independent of each other and nothing in this MoU shall be construed as creating a relationship of partnership, principal and agent or of trustee and beneficiary.

The Parties acknowledge that words and definitions defined in the PPS Policy shall bear the same meaning in this MOU and to the extent of any inconsistency between this MoU and the PPS Policy, the PPS Policy shall take priority.

PART C DECLARATION

SIGNED for and on behalf of			Football Club (Senior Club)
President Name			
Signature		Date of signing	

SIGNED for and on behalf of			Football Club (Junior Club)
President Name			
Signature		Date of signing	

SIGNED for and on behalf of			Metropolitan League/Region (Senior Club)
CEO/Region Manager Name			
Signature		Date of signing	

Where the junior club and Senior club are not within the same Metropolitan League or Region:

SIGNED for and on behalf of			Metropolitan League/Region (Junior Club)
CEO/Region Manager Name			
Signature		Date of signing	

SIGNED for and on behalf of **AFL Victoria**			
Football Operations Manager Name			
Signature		Date of signing	