

## 2026 AGSV / APS Football Regulations

1. See General Regulations Governing Sporting Competitions.
2. Football is conducted under the rules of the **VAFA** unless otherwise stated.  
**Note:** Mouthguards are **highly recommended**, and players are encouraged to wear them. **All jewellery (including hair pins) to be removed not taped.**
3. **Divisions** will consist of:
  - i. Junior: Years 7, 8, 9
  - ii. Open: Years 9 - 12
  - iii. Firsts: Years 7 – 12
4. **Duration of games: For First games: 4 x 18 minute quarters be played with no time on.** Games below Firsts: 4 x 15 minute quarters be played with no time on. The intervals shall be 5 minutes for quarter time, 10 minutes for half time and 5 minutes for three quarter time. **Firsts Matches are to commence no earlier than 10:00am.**
5. In all games a **25 metre penalty** will apply.
6. **Uniform:** If there is a clash of uniform, the away team will organise an alternative strip.

### **For Firsts Football:**

7. **Team Size:** Teams shall consist of no more than 24 named players, not more than 18 can take the field at any one time. Teams can have up to 6 on the bench. The minimum requirement to commence a game is 11 players.
8. **Equipment:** A new size 4 leather football.
9. **Player on the Mark:** There is only one player on the mark; movement or jumping upwards is permissible, provided there is no movement over the mark. There shall be no shouting, whistling, throwing or pretending to throw an object. There shall be no deliberate distraction by other players.  
Umpires are to penalise breaches of these regulations with the football penalty of 25 metres.
10. **A Kick must travel a minimum of 15 metres** for a mark to be awarded.
11. **The last possession (off the foot or handball) out of bounds rule will be implemented between the arcs only, in all matches. Should the last touch be difficult to determine, the Umpire will conduct a ball up, 10m inside the playing field.**
12. **Interchange:** At any one time during a match one of the players then taking part in the match may be replaced in the team by one of the players not then taking part in the match, provided always that the procedures laid down by this law are followed in all respects.
  - a. There is to be an "interchange gate" (two lines about 5 metres apart, cutting the boundary line) on each wing.
  - b. Only players who have left the field of play by the interchange gate may return, except an injured player who has been removed by stretcher or with the aid of two trainers not through the interchange gate may later, if recovered, return via the inter-change gate.
13. **Runner & Water Carriers:** Each team is permitted one runner, two water carriers and a coach on the field. A coach is permitted on the field to instruct players who are not in-play. This coach will be required to wear a high-vis vest or top.

14. **Umpires and Officials**
- The AGSV/APS offices** (or if required the Home school) is to arrange two reliable Field Umpires who shall wear a distinguishable uniform. Both field umpires to introduce themselves to the coach of both **teams 10 minutes prior to start time on the field.**
  - Each school **may provide a linesperson** who shall wear a distinguishable uniform, to adjudicate out of bounds.
  - The Host school is to provide two independent Goal Umpires for home matches (Firsts only) .**
  - The Home school is to provide one-time keeper.
15. **Send off Rule:** The central umpire/s of all games are instructed that they should send a player from the field for a serious offence. The umpire should, at the time of the incident, or as soon as possible afterwards, give details to the teacher-in-charge of that player's team. A player sent off may not be replaced for the period of her suspension.
- Yellow Card: 5 minutes** – e.g. disputing a decision; bad language; throwing a mouth guard; intentional tripping by hand; wrestling - **cannot be replaced.**
  - Red Card: 15 minutes** – e.g. striking; charging; dangerous tackling; dangerous bumping to the head; tripping by foot or leg; avoidable contact with an umpire (i.e. a reportable offence) - **cannot be replaced.**
  - Black Card: End of game** - (e.g. seriously reportable offence) king hit; head butting; kicking or second red card offence in the same match - **can be replaced after 15 minutes.**
16. **Redraws where required - Refer to General Reg 17 for method of calculation.**
17. **Semi Finals: Semi Finals will be conducted following the conclusion of the regular season.**
- Allocation of Premiership points - Win: 2 points; Draw: 1 point; Loss: 0 points.**
  - Format: The format will be 1v4 and 2v3 with the winner of each match progressing to the Grand Final.**
  - Should any two or more teams be equal and have played each other, the team winning that contest shall take precedence. Where teams are equal on Premiership points refer to General Regulation 17 for method of calculation to separate teams.**
  - Extra Time - In the event of a tied result at the conclusion of regular time in the Semi Final, two additional periods of five (5) minutes each, plus time-on, shall be played. Teams do not change ends from the last quarter during the first period of additional time. If scores remain level thereafter, the team that finished higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season will progress to the Grand Final.**
18. **Grand Final**
- The team finishing higher on the ladder at the end of the home and away season will have the opportunity to host.**
  - Extra Time: In the event of a tied result at the conclusion of regular time in the Grand Final, two additional periods of five (5) minutes each, plus time-on, shall be played. Teams do not change ends from the last quarter during the first period of additional time. If scores remain level thereafter, the Premiership or ladder position shall be declared shared.**
19. ~~**APS Representative Squad Selection:**~~  
An APS Football team of 22 players will be selected annually to play the AGSV. The representative game is to be played following the conclusion of the Winter Sport season.  
Selectors: 2026 — HY & Caut

#### **Games other than Firsts**

20. **Team Size: 16 players can take the field at any one time. Teams can have unlimited players on the bench.** Teams can negotiate using 18 players on the field at any one time. The minimum requirement to commence a game is 11 players.
21. **Duration of games: 4 x 15 minute quarters be played with no time on.** The intervals shall be 5 minutes for quarter time, 10 minutes for half time and 5 minutes for three quarter time.
22. Size of ball: Size 4 synthetic or leather.
23. Only 4 players per team permitted to contest a centre bounce.
24. Players are only permitted 2 bounces before they must dispose of the ball. They are not permitted to handball to themselves.



25. No intentional kicking off the ground is permitted. A free kick will be awarded for kicking in danger.
26. **The last possession (off the foot or handball) out of bounds rule will be implemented between the arcs only, in all matches. Should the last touch be difficult to determine, the Umpire will conduct a ball up, 10m inside the playing field.**
27. **Runner & Water Carriers:** Each team is permitted one runner, two water carriers and a coach on the field. A coach is permitted on the field to instruct players who are not in-play. This coach will be required to wear a high-vis vest or top.
28. **Officials:** Home schools will provide the following officials (1 of each): timekeeper, a field and a boundary umpire. Both teams are to provide a goal. In the event a boundary umpire cannot be provided, the Field umpire will bring the ball in 10 metres from the boundary and effect a ball-up.
  
29. **Mercy Rule/Termination Score:** The Mercy rule will be invoked when a team is 6 goals ahead. When a team leads by 6 goals or more the following strategies will apply:
  - a. After a point is scored by the leading team, the trailing team will be given possession to restart play at the back of the centre square.
  - b. After a goal is scored by the leading team, the trailing team will be given possession in the centre circle.
  - c. The coaches should rearrange positions to reduce the dominance of the team
  - d. If the score difference exceeds 100 points, the score is to be kept but not displayed.