

CCSP - Player Payment Rule
Player Education Module
For Season 2025

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Introduction

It is important as a Player that you fully understand your obligations as part of the Player Payment Rules (“Rules”) and the potential impact of breaches.

Players must ensure that all benefits they or any associate receives, or they believe are entitled to receive are contained in their **Player Declaration** with the affiliated Club. All **Player Declarations** are lodged in a secure portal and accessible by the Players affiliated Metropolitan League, Country Region Commission and AFL Victoria.

This includes any payment or benefit made by a Club (or an associate of a club e.g. sponsor or past player) to a Player (or an associate of a player e.g. partner).

The Rules apply to all Players whether they play seniors, reserves or underage and any benefit to play football **MUST** be declared and included in the Clubs **Player Payment Budget**.

Whilst a Club may report under its Allowable Player Payment Cap, a Player may still be in breach of the Rules.

Player Declaration

If the Club expects that it, or any Associates of the Club, will make Player Payments to a Player and/or Associates of the Player in a Football Year, within 14 days of that clubs first Match, the Club must lodge, a **Player Declaration** which sets out, on the correct template **Player Declaration** Form :

- the name of the Player;
- the total Player Payments which the Club expects that it, or an Associate of the Club, will make to the Player and/or any Associates of the Player in that Football Year, which may be expressed in whole or in part as an amount per Match;
- The **Player Declarations** MUST be signed by the Player and one of the president (or their equivalent), the secretary, treasurer or football manager of the Club.

Signing a Player Declaration

- Use the correct **Player Declaration** Form template – Refer example below.
- Any agreement or arrangement between a Player and a Club to provide playing services **MUST** be set out in writing and signed by the both the Player and an authorised representative of the Club.
- Any agreement or arrangement for the provision of playing services by a Player to a Club **MUST** be between the Club and the individual Player, rather than a company or trust associated with the Player.
- Any amendments to an agreement or arrangement should be set out in writing and signed by the Player and an authorised representative of the Club.
- All payments to a Player in relation to a particular Season should be paid shortly before, during or shortly after that Season
- **Players are advised to retain a copy of their signed and fully executed Player Declaration.**

Best Practices – Player Declaration Example

Standard Player Declaration

This *Standard Player Declaration* is established under Section 5 of the *National Community Football Policy Handbook* ('the Handbook'). It is to be used where a Club and Player wish to, or are required to, enter into an arrangement in relation to the Player's participation at the Club. A Club must provide a copy of each Player's current Standard Player Declaration upon request by a State Football Body.

PART A NAME, CLUB & LEAGUE

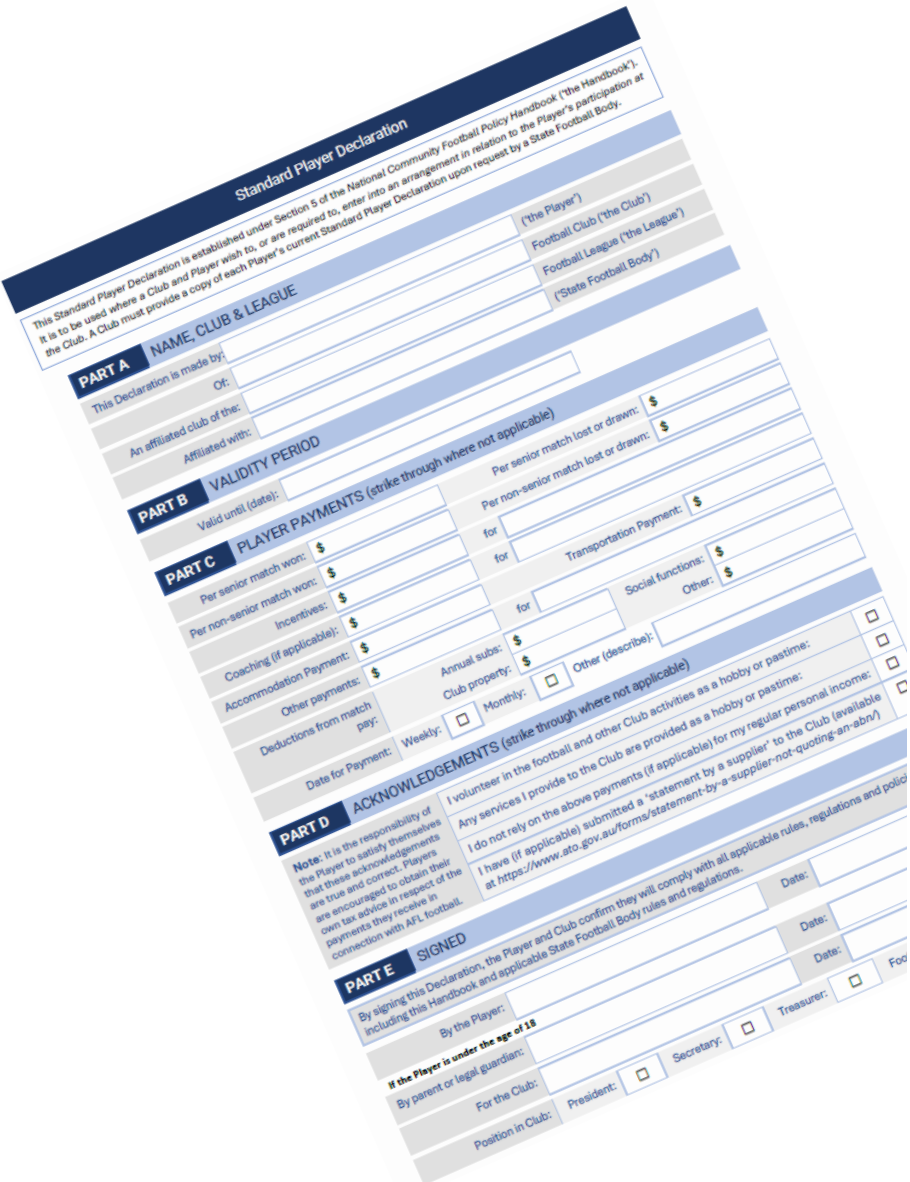
This Declaration is made by:	<input type="text"/>	('the Player')
Of:	<input type="text"/>	Football Club ('the Club')
An affiliated club of the:	<input type="text"/>	Football League ('the League')
Affiliated with:	<input type="text"/>	('State Football Body')

PART B VALIDITY PERIOD

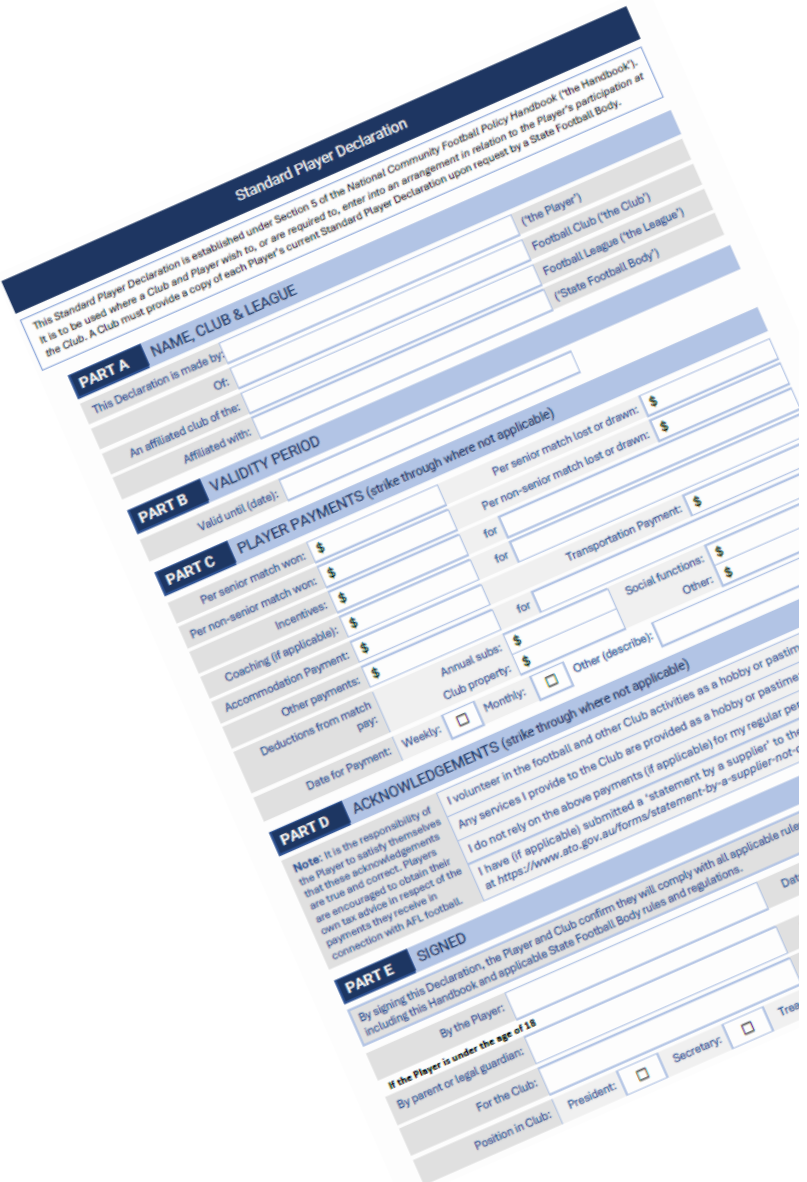
Valid until (date):	<input type="text"/>
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PART C PLAYER PAYMENTS (strike through where not applicable)

Per senior match won:	\$ <input type="text"/>	Per senior match lost or drawn:	\$ <input type="text"/>	
Per non-senior match won:	\$ <input type="text"/>	Per non-senior match lost or drawn:	\$ <input type="text"/>	
Incentives:	\$ <input type="text"/>	for	<input type="text"/>	
Coaching (if applicable):	\$ <input type="text"/>	for	<input type="text"/>	
Accommodation Payment:	\$ <input type="text"/>	Transportation Payment:	\$ <input type="text"/>	
Other payments:	\$ <input type="text"/>	for	<input type="text"/>	
Deductions from match pay:	Annual subs:	\$ <input type="text"/>	Social functions:	\$ <input type="text"/>
	Club property:	\$ <input type="text"/>	Other:	\$ <input type="text"/>
Date for Payment:	Weekly: <input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly: <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (describe):	<input type="text"/>



Best Practices – Player Declaration Example (continued)



PART D ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (strike through where not applicable)

<p>Note: It is the responsibility of the Player to satisfy themselves that these acknowledgements are true and correct. Players are encouraged to obtain their own tax advice in respect of the payments they receive in connection with AFL football.</p>	I volunteer in the football and other Club activities as a hobby or pastime:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Any services I provide to the Club are provided as a hobby or pastime:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I do not rely on the above payments (if applicable) for my regular personal income:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I have (if applicable) submitted a 'statement by a supplier' to the Club (available at https://www.ato.gov.au/forms/statement-by-a-supplier-not-quoting-an-abn/):	<input type="checkbox"/>

PART E SIGNED

By signing this Declaration, the Player and Club confirm they will comply with all applicable rules, regulations and policies including this Handbook and applicable State Football Body rules and regulations.

By the Player:	Date:
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If the Player is under the age of 18

By parent or legal guardian:	Date:
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For the Club:	Date:
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Position in Club:	President:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Secretary:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Treasurer:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Football Manager:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Alternate Player Declaration 2025 season only

STANDARD PLAYER DECLARATION (Rule 4(a))

NAME, CLUB AND LEAGUE
 This Declaration is made by: ('the Player')
 Of: Football Club ('the Club')
 An affiliated club of the: Football Netball League ('the League')
 Affiliated with: ('State Football Body')

VALIDITY PERIOD
 Valid until: / /

PLAYER PAYMENTS
 For Home and Away matches (strike through where not applicable)
 Per senior match won: \$ Per senior match lost or drawn: \$
 Per non-senior match won: \$ Per non-senior match lost or drawn: \$
 Incentives: \$ for Detail:
 Deductions from match pay: Annual subs: \$ Detail:
 Social functions: \$ Detail:
 Club property: \$ Detail:
 Other: \$ for Detail:
 \$ for
 Weekly Monthly Other (describe):

COACHING (if applicable):
 Other payments: \$ for

DATE FOR PAYMENT
 Weekly Monthly Other (describe):

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
 I volunteer in the football and other Club activities as a hobby or pastime.
 Any services I provide to the Club are provided as a hobby or pastime.
 I do not rely on the above payments (if applicable) for my regular personal income.
 I have (if applicable) submitted a 'statement by a supplier' to the Club
 Available at <https://www.ato.gov.au/forms/statement-by-a-supplier-not-quoting-an-abn/>

(Note: It is the responsibility of the Player to satisfy themselves that the above acknowledgements are true and correct. Players are encouraged to obtain their own tax advice in respect of the payments they receive in connection with AFL football.)

By signing this Declaration, Player and Club confirm they will comply with all applicable rules, regulations and policies including the National Player Transfer Regulations, National Deregistration Policy and applicable State Football Body rules.

SIGNED By the Player: Date: / /
 By parent or legal guardian (where Player is under 18 years of age) Date: / /
 For the Club: Date: / /
 Position: President | Secretary | Treasurer | Football Manager (delete inapplicable titles)

STANDARD PLAYER DECLARATION (Rule 4(a))

NAME, CLUB AND LEAGUE
 This Declaration is made by: ('the Player')
 Of: Football Club ('the Club')
 An affiliated club of the: Football Netball League ('the League')
 Affiliated with: ('State Football Body')

VALIDITY PERIOD
 Valid until: / /

PLAYER PAYMENTS
 For Home and Away matches (strike through where not applicable)
 Per senior match won: \$ Per senior match lost or drawn: \$
 Per non-senior match won: \$ Per non-senior match lost or drawn: \$
 Incentives: \$ for Detail:
 Deductions from match pay: Annual subs: \$ Detail:
 Social functions: \$ Detail:
 Club property: \$ Detail:
 Other: \$ Detail:
 Coaching (if applicable): \$ for
 Other payments: \$ for

DATE FOR PAYMENT
 Weekly Monthly Other (describe):

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
 (strike through where not applicable)

Obligations of a Player

- A Player must not engage in the conduct of potential breaches under the Allowable Player Payment provisions contained in the Player Payment Rule (“Rule”).
- Any breaches under the Rule would be subject to Sanction.
- Any conduct in the breach of the Rule by a Player, shall be deemed for the purposes of the Rule to have also been engaged in by the Club.
- Whilst it is recommended Clubs should avoid paying ‘sign on’ fees or other upfront incentives to a Player, where received, **MUST** be fully declared by the Player and Club and shall be calculated in the **Player Payment Budget and Final Club Declaration**.
- **A Player charged under these rules shall bear the onus of establishing on the balance of probabilities that the alleged conduct was not engaged in.**

Co-operation with an Integrity Review

- An AFL Victoria accredited Integrity Officer may exercise any of the powers conferred upon them under the Rule or such other powers conferred upon or delegated to them.
- **Players MUST assist Integrity Officers with:**
 - **Full and free access to Players' records**
 - **Full and free access to such of the Players' books, files, documents, records, articles or things as the Integrity Officer believes may be relevant to their enquiries**
 - **Player shall provide, and procure that any Associate of a Player provides, the Integrity Officer with a copy, including electronic copy, of any of the items referred to within 7 days' of a request from the Integrity Officer.**

Non Co-operation with an Integrity Review

No Person shall provide to the Integrity Officer information which is in any respect false or misleading or likely to mislead.

Should a Player provide false or misleading information or not co-operate with the Integrity Officer they shall be subject to a Sanction:

- **A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000**
- **a Suspension from playing a Match or Matches.**

Player Charges and Sanctions

Should a Player be charged with a breach of the Player Payment Rule:

- they shall be issued with a Statement of Grounds outlining the charge or charges and a report prior to the commencement of a Disciplinary Hearing.
- The statement of grounds and any report prepared by the Integrity Officer shall be **prima facie evidence** of the matter meaning:
 - **Player charged shall bear the onus of establishing on the balance of probabilities that the alleged conduct was not engaged in.**

Player Charges and Sanctions

If a Player **contravenes** the Player Payment Rule, the Disciplinary Committee may do one or more of the following:

- **Impose no sanction on the Club or Player;**
- **Reprimand the Club or Player;**
- **Impose a monetary sanction on the Player including the Player pay all or part of the costs of the integrity review;**
- **Order that a Player has forfeited the right to play for, or be a registered Player of, any Club for an unlimited period or for a specified period of time;**

CCSP – Player Payment Rule Integrity Program

The CCSP – Player Payment Rule (PPR) Integrity Program aims to:

- Support Community Clubs, Metropolitan Leagues and Country Regions with the management and administration of their reporting obligations as prescribed under the CCSP - PPR through clarifying the process.
- Ensure Community Clubs, Metropolitan Leagues and Regions are compliant with the PPR through the lodgment of key documents throughout the course of the Football Year and as defined under rule 4 of the PPR.
- Ensure Metropolitan Leagues and Regions are mitigating the risk to their respective Community Clubs through the completion of the CCSP - Integrity Review Process.
- Provide governing bodies with learnings on how and where the development of the CCSP can be enhanced.

CCSP – Player Payment Rule Integrity Program

CCSP – Player Payment Rule Integrity Program (“Integrity Program”) Focus Areas

The Integrity Program focuses on:

- Increased compliance checking at League and Region Level to mitigate risks to clubs of being in breach
- Inconsistencies in **Player Declarations** in current and previous seasons
- Anomalies in **Player Declarations** and Spot Checking of Player/Club arrangements
- Coaching arrangements for Playing, Non-Playing and Co-Coach arrangements
- Ongoing education requirements to ensure Clubs are compliant and Players are informed of their obligations.
- Through Mid-Season Compliance Checks, the early detection of omissions or errors provides opportunity for corrective action to be taken and minimises the risk of breaches.

CCSP – Player Payment Rule Integrity Program

Practices and Protocols:

- Training and education to be made available to all Clubs during the preseason.
- **Aspirational, by July 30th, every club to be reviewed for PPR Compliant as per lodgment requirements.**
- Monitoring to be undertaken by Metropolitan Leagues and Country Regions or AFL Victoria*
- Monitoring to be undertaken between April and July 30th annually.

Grand Final

- All Grand Finalists be reviewed under agreement by AFL Victoria, on behalf of Metropolitan Leagues and Country Regions, by December 15th annually.

**AFL Victoria shall offer a fee for service to Metropolitan Leagues and Country Regions to conduct Compliance Review by agreement.*

Further Player Questions?



Contact AFL Central Victoria