



SOUTHERN TASMANIAN JUNIOR
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Player Points System Policy

(PPS)

Season

2022

STJFL PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

1. Objective of the STJFL PPS Policy

The STJFL Player Points System Policy committee believes that equalisation of community football competition is vital for community football.

Even and fair competitions lead to interest, which leads to stronger clubs and competitions. Even competitions allow supporters and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain, and that their team is a chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provides rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the field.

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

The objectives of the STJFL PPS Policy are as follows, to:

1. support equalization of community football Competitions;
2. ensure teams fielded in the Competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible;
3. provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills;
4. provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system;
5. enable team spirit and public support;
6. encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs;
7. promote player loyalty and junior development;
8. support the role volunteers undertake in managing their Clubs by;
 - providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at Club level
 - providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of football, a welcoming Club environment and growing the game within the local community.

This PPS Policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system which should be adopted by STJFL Clubs in order, to achieve the above objectives.

2. Definitions

- 2.1. **AFL** – Australian Football League.
- 2.2. **AFL Victoria** - means Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited ACN 147 664 579.
- 2.3. **Category** – means the player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player.
- 2.4. **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 TSL, VFL etc).
- 2.5. **Competition** – an Australian football competition in which the Community Clubs participate in official fixtured matches.
- 2.6. **Competitive Football** – means any formally organised football competition excluding AFL 9s, school football competitions.

- 2.7. **First Home and Away Match** – means the first official competition match for the home and away season of a Competition.
- 2.8. **Play HQ System** – means the online competition management system implemented by football competitions across Australia. Previously known as (Sports TG, Gameday or Footyweb)
- 2.9. **STJFL** - means the Southern Tasmanian Junior Football League Inc.
- 2.10. **STJFLPPS** – means the STJFL Player Points System
- 2.11. **National Player Transfer Regulations** – means the AFL’s national policy for player transfers as updated by the AFL from time to time.
- 2.12. **NEAFL** – means North East Australia Football League.
- 2.13. **NTFL** – means Northern Territory Football League.
- 2.14. **Player membership details** – means a players individual details provided for on the Play HQ System.
- 2.15. **Player Points Allocation** – means the total number of points allocated to an individual player in a 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.
- 2.16. **PPS Policy** - means the community club player points policy as amended by the STJFL from time to time.
- 2.17. **Match Committee** – means any 2 of: the STJFL Executive Officer, President, Vice Presidents
- 2.18. **Premier Competition** - means the Competitions outlined in clause 6.2 of this PPS Policy.
- 2.19. **SANFL** – means the South Australian National Football League.
- 2.20. **Season** – means Community Football season between **1 March and 31 October** each year (or such other agreed dates).
- 2.21. **Season of Service** – means a Season where a player has played a minimum of five (5) games in one Season for a particular Community Club.
- 2.22. **Competition** – means any Competition within any division of the STJFL.
- 2.23. **Team** – means the team of players that participate within a Community Club’s football team.
- 2.24. **TSL** – means the Tasmanian State League.
- 2.25. **Total Team Points** – means the total amount of points allocated to a specific Team by the STJFL for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 2.26. **VFL** – means the Victorian Football League.
- 2.27. **WAFL** – means the Western Australia Football League.
- 2.28. **SFL / SFLW** – means Southern Football League / Southern Football League Women’s competition in Tasmania

Interpretation: A reference to:

“**Transferred**” refers to the formal transfer authorised under the National Player Transfer Regulations.

“**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 STJFL Board (Match Committee).

3. STJFL Player Points System Management Responsibilities

Total Team Points

- 3.1. Acknowledge that the Total Team Points allocation will be capped per Team subject to the conditions of this clause three (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).
- 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 Competitions.
- 3.4. Acknowledge that any decision to alter the Total Team Points cap should be approved by the STJFL Match Committee.
- 3.5. Will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each Team for each Club affiliated for the following upcoming Season and in accordance with PPS Policy, with all points allocations to be assessed by the Match Committee.

Player Points Allocation

- 3.6. Will liaise with Community Clubs to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via the Play HQ System prior to any player's first Home and Away Match of each Season. The League will enter Player Points Allocation into each relevant player membership details using the Play HQ System prior to the relevant Community Clubs First Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 3.7. As part of the Player Point Allocation process, the STJFL Match Committee may provide the opportunity for Clubs to contest any player's Player Point Allocation. An appeal against a Player Point Allocation should be made in writing from club official no later than 5 days before the player's first Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 3.8. Once the process in clauses 3.7 – 3.8 has been undertaken, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed for that Season, unless the STJFL Match Committee is of the view that there are exceptional circumstances relevant to a player that warrants an amendment of the Player Point Allocation during the Season.

4. Affiliated Club Responsibilities

Each affiliate Community Club:

- 4.1. Acknowledges that if a Community Club does not follow this procedure and decides to play a player in a match in a Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and entered into the Play HQ System, that Club will bear the risk of any subsequent enforcement penalty as determined by the STJFL in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 4.2. Will ensure that on match days the Team does not exceed that Club's Total Team Points.
- 4.3. May make an application to the STJFL Match Committee 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 Match Committee.

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 and is structured in a way to promote player retention and loyalty.
- 5.2. Each player expected to play in the 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) A player who has played only at that Community Club and for no other Community Club; or
 - b) **A player who registers for the first time in the STJFL at club competition level. (excludes Auskick)**
 - c) A player who has not played Competitive Football in the previous 24 months.
- 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 in the following Categories:

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

5.3.1. Category 4 – Southern, State Player Transferred out of Zone – 4 Points

- a) A Talent Identified and nominated State Player
- b) A Talent Identified and nominated Southern Representative Player
- c) A Talent Identified and nominated Southern Development player
- d) *The four points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at Which time they will reduce as with other Categories*

5.3.2. Category 3 – Community Player and Transferred Out Zone – 3 Points

- a) Transferred Player – a **Youth** player who was recruited from an STJFL Club Competition and who does not meet Category 1 eligibility.
- b) *The three points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at Which time they will reduce as with other Categories*

5.3.3. Category 2 – Community Player Registration Out Zone – 2 Points

- A) Transferred Player – a **Junior** player who was recruited from an STJFL Club Competition and who does not meet Category 1 eligibility.
 - B) *The two points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at Which time they will reduce as with other Categories*
- 5.4. A Community Club which has a player that does not meet any of the above player Categories will need to apply to the STJFL Match Committee to determine the appropriate Player Points Allocation.
- 5.5. A player playing on an Interchange Agreement as detailed at clause 3.9 of the National Player Transfer Regulations (i.e., a permit player) will be assessed on the same basis as transferred players.
- 5.6. 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 to a maximum of 4 points.

6. Additional player points allocations:

- 6.1. If a player has transferred to three (3) or more different Community Clubs across the previous 36 months, one additional point will be applied to that player's Player Points Allocation up to a maximum of 4 points.
- 6.2. A Community Club may make an application for a re-assessment under clause 7.3 to STJFL Match Committee in relation to a player's additional point allocation.

7. Deductions to player points allocation:

- 7.1. Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, after 4 years a reduction of one point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to that player's Community Club (minimum 5 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 football at his Club, they must play 5 games to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.
- 7.2. STJFL Match Committee may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances. A Community Club will need to make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to the STJFL Match Committee. The application for reassessment may be based upon one or more 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.
- 7.3. Subject to the considerations which the STJFL Match Committee should take, into account under clause 7.2, the determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the STJFL Match Committee.
- 7.4. Should a player be recruited from a Tasmanian affiliate Community Club which participates in a Community Competition which has not adopted a PPS Policy, that player will have a value of one point to a Community Club which has adopted the PPS Policy. The STJFL Match Committee, at its discretion may review this one-point allocation particularly where the playing history of that player includes prior participation in Competitions which have adopted a PPS Policy.

8. Total Team Points

- 8.1. The STJFL Match Committee will undertake its own process of Total Team Points allocations and will be responsible for determining Total Team Points for their affiliate Competitions and Clubs. As stated under clause 3, the starting point is that Total Team Points will be capped and should only vary for legitimate circumstances necessary to achieve the evenness and equalisation objectives of this PPS Policy.
- 8.2. In order, to determine variances in the Total Team Points Cap, the STJFL Match Committee should adopt the following guiding principles regarding the additional allocation or reduction of Total Team Points to a Community Club: Additional total team points may be allocated if a Community Club endures significant hardship, is coming out of recess, or is a recently merged or restructured entity.

- 8.3. Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points cap under clause 8.2 or for any other reason must be prior approved by STJFL Match Committee. 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.

NB: If the maximum number of players on match days for the Competition is 22 players, a Club cannot submit a team list of 20 players, leaving available players out, 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.

9. Implementation

- 9.1. The STJFL Match Committee is free to publicise Total Team Points to affiliate Clubs for the following year at its own discretion once approved.

10. Enforcement

- 10.1. Given Player Points Allocations will be managed via the Play HQ System, if correct procedure is applied, with Players Points Allocation entered into the system prior to the start of the Season, it is envisaged there will be minimal issues in the management of the Player Points Allocations. Errors are less likely given that Play HQ will not permit a club to complete a Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Club's permitted points cap.
- 10.2. As detailed in clause 9.2 it will be at the discretion of STJFL Match Committee as to the enforcement provisions they apply to affiliate Clubs, however from 2018 onwards, should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised in line with the penalties set out in clause 10.3.
- 10.3. Penalties may include (without limitation):
- (a) Club fines
 - (b) Loss of premiership points – current season and in the future
 - (c) Suspension from finals – current season and in the future
 - (d) Player / Official suspensions – for those players/ officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club;
 - (e) Any other penalty determined by the STJFL Match Committee from time to time.

11. Appeal and Review

- 11.1. Where a Community Club is of the view that a player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy, any appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be heard by the STJFL Match Committee under its own appeals process.
- 11.2. Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points or Total Team Cap allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy, any appeal against that Total Team Points allocation must be heard by the STJFL Match Committee under its own appeals process.
- 11.3. An appeal against a decision to enforce an enforcement provision under this PPS Policy should be made via the STJFL Match Committee.
- 11.4. The Match Committee will review the PPS Policy throughout the season and amendments and variations may be made by the Match Committee from time to time.

12. Appendix A

12.1. Player Points Categories Tables **MAXIMUM NUMBER of POINTS APPLICABLE is FOUR (4)**

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM – CATAGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

The points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at which time they will reduce as with other Categories by one point per season

Category 4	4 points	Talent ID Player, Southern, Regional - State	Has transferred from another STJFL community club to new club but residence is not aligned to this community and is a TID player <i>The four points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at which time they will reduce as with other Categories</i>
Category 3	3 points	Out of Zone Youth Player	Has transferred from another STJFL community club to new club but residence is not aligned to this community. <i>The three points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after transfer at which time they will reduce as with other Categories</i>
Category 2	2 points	Out of Zone Junior Player	Has transferred from another STJFL community club to new club but residence is not aligned to this community. <i>The two points will remain valid for a period of 4 years after registration at which time they may reduce as with other Categories</i>
Category 1	1 point	Community Player	Player who has only played at that club or has reduced his points by being there for a period of years.

Additional 1 Player Point

If transferred to three or more community clubs in past 36 months. Does not include players moving on Local Interchange Agreement.

Deduction of Player Points

After 4 seasons of service to the club (minimum 5 games per season), 1 point deducted per year even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches 1 point

N.B: For any player unable to fit in the above categories, the Club will need to apply to the STJFL Match Committee which will determine the appropriate categories and points

EXAMPLE; EXEMPTIONS / CONSIDERATIONS.

- i. If a player returns to original community STJFL club, (U8-17.5) then they should be classed as a Community Player = 1 point, providing residential abode is within that community club.
- ii. Players who played at junior level with a particular STJFL club but seek transfer as a consequence of changed living circumstances or schooling.
- iii. Family circumstances.
- iv. Should a community club not have an available team commensurate with a player's abilities any player seeking transfer should move to another club nearest that players **community zone**. **Such a move entitles the player to transfer as a Category 1 player.**
- v. **A transfer to a club not in the nearest available community team may result in that player attracting a greater number of points to be decided by the Match Committee. Category 2 or 3.**
- vi. Actions which result in teams ultimately becoming unviable may result in those players attracting greater number of points.

SEASON 2022

Boys & Girls

Match day base points

24 points youth level (U13-U17.5)	Team of 22 / minimum 16
24 points junior level (u11-12)	Team of 22 / minimum 14
20 points junior level (u11-12)	Team of 20 / minimum 12
15 points junior (u8-10)	Team of 15 maximum