



JUNIOR PLAYER POINTS POLICY

2026

For WFNL Club Distribution

For many years, WFNL member clubs have identified player movement as a significant factor impacting the evenness of competitions and viability of teams.

This document/policy provides mechanisms that will assist in minimising the impact of player movement and the competitiveness of the competition.

AIM

To apply a player points system for the U12 – U16 age groups that will assist in the reduction of player movement from Club to Club within the Western Football Netball League (WFNL). This will contribute to creating evenness amongst teams and more even, competitive competitions.

APPLICATION OF POINTS

PLAYER

Every WFNL player in the U12 – U16 age groups will attract 'player points' based on the category that they fit into as outlined below.

Players' points will only apply to registered WFNL competition players and players who transfer from one WFNL club to another in any given year.

For every season that a player remains at their WFNL Club (must have played at least 5 games for that Club in the previous year) they will have a reduction of one (1) point for a year of service deduction until they reach one (1) point.

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TEAM

WFNL teams in the U12 – U16 age groups can only play with a maximum of ten (10) points of transfer players in any given match unless the League has granted the club dispensation in writing.

For administrative purposes the team sheet will not be capped however the Registrar/Team Manager will be required to ensure that they have no more than ten (10) points worth of transfer players on the team sheet for any given match.

RESPONSIBILITY

The club is responsible for monitoring the number of points transferred into a team so that the total number of transfer points on match day does not exceed ten (10).

It is the team manager's responsibility to ensure that they do not have more than ten (10) points of transfer players selected on a team sheet for any given match throughout the season.

SANCTIONS

Clubs that have teams that play more than the allowed ten (10) player points for any given match without receiving a written dispensation from the League will be deemed to be playing a non-eligible player per by-law 4.2 – 'Unregistered or ineligible player.'

Matches, where a team has been deemed to have played a non-eligible player as per above, will not count toward the season of service games tally.



PLAYER POINTS

The number of points allocated to a player will be as follows;

CATEGORY 1 - WFNL NON-TRANSFER PLAYER - 1 POINT

- This applies to every player in the U12 to U16 age groups at a club who has not transferred in the 2026 season.
- Applies to players who are returning to their home club; played a minimum number of games depending on participants' age;
 - Minimum 20 Games – Under 12 Player
 - Minimum 30 Games – Under 14 Player
 - Minimum 40 Games – Under 16 Player
- A player who has not played for 24 months or more as per Appendix B to WFNL By-Laws - National Player Transfer Regulations 3.4(c)

Please note: Players who fit into one or more categories attract a higher player point value.

CATEGORY 2 - WFNL CLUB PLAYER - 2 POINTS

- A WFNL player who does not fit into the other categories.
- This point value only applies to a transfer player.

CATEGORY 3 - WFNL REP PLAYER AND/OR TOP 5 LEAGUE BEST & FAIREST PARTICIPANTS – 4 POINTS

- This point only applies to a transfer player.
- Transferred player selected for the WFNL Representative program in the previous season.
- Transferred player polled in the Top 5 of a WFNL Junior Competition Best & Fairest in the previous season



DISPENSATION

LESS THAN 18 (GIRLS)/20 (BOYS/MIXED) REGISTERED

This applies to:

- Clubs that have only one team in a particular age group
- That team has less than 18 (Girls)/20 (Boys/Mixed) registered
- That team has reached the maximum of ten (10) transfer points

That team can apply in writing to the league for dispensation to the maximum of ten (10) points for transfer players.

If the application is successful

- The additional players cannot take the team numbers past 20 (girls)/22 (boys/mixed)
- Can only come from Category 2

MERGED TEAMS

Clubs that have teams that are low on numbers and are not able to field a team can apply to the league to merge their team with another Club's team that also has low numbers and is not able to field their team. The club that is housing the merged team may apply in writing to the league to consider exceeding the maximum of ten (10) points for transfer players in any given match.

In submitting the application the club must provide;

- The reason why the two teams are required to merge
- A full list of players from both teams being considered for the merge

When assessing the application the league will consider all aspects of the merged team, taking into consideration the potential impact on the evenness of the competition if the application was approved.

FEMALE PATHWAYS

Female players who have played in the mixed competition and have to transfer from their Club (as they don't field female-only teams) to another Club (that does field female-only teams) will not be allocated any transfer points. Once the transfer has been completed they will be allocated one (1) point.

Female players who have played in a female-only team and are transferring to a club with a newly created female-only team that is closer to their home or at a club they have played for before or have family currently involved at.





PLAYERS WITH NO TEAM AVAILABLE AT THEIR CURRENT CLUB

Players who are advised by their club that there will be no team in their age group at their current club may be given a dispensation of transfer points. The player has the option of applying for a season permit to a club that has a team for that season, with the intention of returning to their current club the following year, or transferring to another club.

