



# Riddell District Football Netball League

ABN 79 971 252 151

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MEMO	
<b>To:</b>	RDFNL Senior Clubs
<b>From:</b>	RDFNL Football Operations Manager
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 13 April 2022
<b>Number of pages (Inc this one):</b>	4
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Salary Cap System – Important Information</b>

I am writing to RDFNL Senior Clubs on the following matters –

## 1) Summary of Important Dates to Remember

Below is a list of dates relating to the Player Points System that clubs need to be aware of this season in summary format:

- Submission of Pre-Season Budget, Player Declarations & Non-Declared Player Lists, **COB Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**, must be done online via SportsTG. Please contact Aaron for access.
- Submission of Post-Season Final Salary Cap Submission, **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**, must be done online via SportsTG.

## 2) Confirmation of Salary Cap

Following a review of the Salary Cap System after the COVID-19 affected season in 2021, the RDFNL have implemented an \$85,000 salary cap. As per RDFNL rules, if your club had aged debt as of November 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 then your club will have a further reduced salary cap. All clubs have been communicated their salary cap for the 2022 season.

## 3) Allowable Player Payment Rules & Guidelines



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Please find attached with this memo an updated version of the AFL Victoria Allowable Player Payment Framework documents to assist you in your planning for the season ahead.

These documents, which form part of the Community Club Sustainability Program (CCSP) have been amended to reflect feedback provided by Regional Commissions and Metropolitan Leagues that took place toward the end of the 2019 season.

Please note, Player Declarations may also be used as a reason to object to a player transfer, like player contracts have previously. The introduction of Player Declarations follows concerns that the Player Contracts that Clubs have with players may impose a range of additional conditions and entitlements that may be required under current employment law.

Reconfirming the changes to the Player Payment Framework made in 2017 can be summarised below:

- A revised Player Declaration to replace the Standard Player Contract. Please note that existing player contracts that were signed prior to the adoption of these changes will continue to be recognised until expiration. It is recognised that the phasing out of player Contracts required a managed approach and these Contracts will remain as recognised under the National Player Transfer Regulations and Allowable Player Payment Rule. Please **DO NOT** continue to use the old player contracts, a copy of the new Player Declaration Form is attached with this memo.
- Removal of implementation clauses relative to the 2017 season from the Guidelines.
- Amendment to the Guidelines to confirm that any reduction for Coaches from APP calculations shall be limited to a maximum of 2 Co-Coaches. For all Co-Coaching arrangements, clubs must now seek a ruling under Rule 8 (d). Meaning clubs will need to apply to the RDFNL under rule 8 d) to alter payments exempt under this policy for multiple (maximum of 2) coaches.

Therefore, the following AFL Victoria Allowable Player Payment framework documents are attached:

- **CCSP Player Payment Rule**
- **Guidelines for Player Payment Rules**
- **Standard Player Declaration Form** – This is provided in Word & PDF Format. Please use this form from now on to sign your players.
- **Salary Cap Returns Sheet** – This incorporates both the Player Payment Return (Budget & Declaration) and Non-Contracted Player Statement. You will need to use this form for both the budget process due for submission in April and for the final submission due in October.
- **AFL Victoria Best Practice Recommendations.**
- **Application for relief from Salary Cap – Marquee Player Rule** – Clubs may apply for salary cap relief if you have recruited a marquee player who fits the description on the form.
- **Application for relief from Salary Cap Rule (Club)** – For clubs seeking salary cap relief, should also be accompanied by a detailed explanation for why the club needs relief.



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## 4) Pre-Season Player Declaration Storage & Player Payment Budget (incl Non-Declared Player Lists)

As advised in the Player Payment Rules, a copy of all Club Play Declarations and your clubs Salary Cap Budget must be lodged with the RDFNL by **COB Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**. This process has now moved onto SportsTG and a user guide is also attached.

The RDFNL Player Declaration and Payment Management System on SportsTG is now ready for use, and as such Clubs can utilise this secure site to submit your:

- a) **Club Salary Cap Budget for the 2022 Season** – a copy of the Salary Cap Budget (including Non Declared Player Statement) is available for use by Clubs for this purpose.
- b) **Copy of ALL Player Declaration Forms** – Each season, clubs MUST submit a current copy of each player's Player Declaration Form and these forms must be uploaded to the portal.
- c) **List of Non-Declared Players** – All players who have not signed a Player Declaration Form (those paid \$50 or less) must be listed on the second sheet of the Salary Cap Budget and also listed on the first sheet when projecting the budget for the season ahead.

Please note that in line with the RDFNL Player Salary Cap Framework each Club Salary Cap Budget statement shall be verified and signed by the President and any one (1) of the following, Secretary, Treasurer or Football Manager of the club.

Please ensure that your budget accounts for your worst-case scenario, clubs should:

- a) List your 22 highest paid players with Player Declaration Forms at the top of the list with how much they get paid per game and place the maximum number of games these players can play in a season (ie. 16 rounds = 16 games for each player)
- b) List the remaining paid players with Player Declaration Forms directly underneath your top 22 with how much they get paid per game and place a 0 in the games played column to ensure their payments are not recorded in your budget
- c) List your Non-Declared Players (players without Player Declarations) in the appropriate section with how much they get paid per game and place a 0 in the games played column to ensure their payments are not recorded in your budget

**NOTE:** For a standard 16 round season, the total games played at the bottom should add up to 352 games. If this happens, you are on the right track.

To gain access to the SportsTG salary cap portal, please contact Aaron McLean via [aaron@rdfnl.com.au](mailto:aaron@rdfnl.com.au)

## 5) Submission of Post-Season Player Payment Summary

At the end of each season, all clubs must submit a complete summary of all payments made relating to your players across the 2022 season. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the Player



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Payments Rules and Guidelines and understand what information you need to submit by the prescribed submission date.

**Please note that it is compulsory for all clubs to submit your final salary cap return form with all of the required information by the 31<sup>st</sup> October each year**, these forms must be uploaded to the portal by this deadline.

The Salary Cap Return Form (also used for the budgeting process) is the document you need to use to record all payments made across the 2022 season, if you do not use this form, you will be asked to transfer the information across onto it. We have also created a tracking tool on the third sheet which you can use on a weekly basis to track your player payments.

Remember, every senior game played (even if players were paid \$0 to compete) needs to be recorded and the total games played should add up to 22 players multiplied by the number of rounds played. (22 x 16 = 352)

Please contact me on 0437 547 133 if you wish to discuss further.

Regards,

Aaron McLean

Football Operations Manager

Riddell District Football Netball League

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