

Nelson Bays Football Senior Competition Rules and Junior Playing Byelaws

A. Code Conduct Nelson Bays Football

NELSON BAYS FOOTBALL - CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Code of Conduct applies to all Nelson Bays Football Clubs participating in Nelson Bays Football activities across Canterbury, Nelson Bays, Marlborough, Mid Canterbury and West Coast.

Nelson Bays Football Member Clubs have an absolute Duty of Care to preserve the integrity of the sport of Football and are duly governed by this Code of Conduct. The Nelson Bays Football Code of Conduct is adopted from the NZ Football Code of Conduct which applies to all NZF members and persons participating in NZF Activities.

- Member Clubs accept responsibility for the actions of its members.
- Member Clubs ensure its members and associated persons (players, coaches, team managers, administrators, parents/guardians) refrain from any form of abuse, harassment, discrimination, victimisation towards others including but not limited to officials/referees, own team and opposition players, coaches, spectators. Similarly officials/referees will abide by the code of conduct.
- Member Clubs will ensure that its members respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Member Clubs will be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- Member Clubs understand and operate within the Constitution and playing regulations of Nelson Bays Football.
- Member clubs will not provide comment to any media on behalf of Nelson Bays Football
- Member Clubs understand the possible consequences of breaching the Nelson Bays Football Code of Conduct.
- Member Clubs will ensure that the actions of its members promote the interests and uphold the integrity and positive image of the sport of Football across the Nelson Bays District.
- Member Clubs will provide a safe playing and social environment for the conduct of Nelson Bays Football activity.
- Member Clubs or its members will not act in any way that may bring disrepute or disgrace to Nelson Bays Football, other member clubs, Nelson Bays Football stakeholders and/or its sponsors or commercial partners.

Nelson Bays Football expects all Clubs to understand the possible consequences of breaches and will ensure that its own members abide by the Code of Conduct which sets out to uphold the principles and values of Nelson Bays Football.

Any serious breaches of this Code of Conduct or persistent violations of any aspect of the Code of Conduct by any individual/s of member clubs may result in good behavior bonds or non refundable penalties being imposed on the member club of up to \$2,000.

By entering teams into Nelson Bays Football competitions the member club agrees to abide by all parts to this Code of Conduct

Signed

Club Name

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President/Chairman Name

Date

B. Senior/General Competition Rules

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Abbreviations

DE – District Executive

NBF – Nelson Bays Football

Section 1: General

1. Nelson Bays Football competitions shall be conducted under the current FIFA regulations except as otherwise specified in these regulations.
2. The control and management of all Nelson Bays Football competitions shall be vested in the General Manager or the respective DE.
3. Where the DE or Nelson Bays Football is required to grant approval for procedures under these regulations, the terms "DE" and "Nelson Bays Football" shall include those people or groups appointed by either the Manager or the Nelson Bays Football District Executive from time to time to oversee these procedures.
4. Nelson Bays Football shall reserve the right to amend or replace these regulations from time to time, such amendments to be notified to all Nelson Bays Football clubs. Within the current season it is the club's responsibility to update these regulations with any amendments. Prior to the start of each season Nelson Bays Football shall furnish to each member club at least one copy of the regulations for the coming season.
5. Final decisions on interpretations of any part of these regulations shall rest with Nelson Bays Football. Any decision by the General Manager or DE in regard to these regulations can be appealed to the Nelson Bays District Executive and/or Mainland Football Board in accordance with the Disputes and Protests Procedure as laid down in these regulations.
6. Fines for breaches of these regulations may be laid down by the General Manager or the DE, such fines to be notified to Nelson Bays Football Clubs no later than February in the year of the competition.
7. Each Club desiring to compete in Nelson Bays Football competitions shall, on or before a date advised by the General Manager or the DE, confirm in writing their acceptance of an invitation to compete in such competition as the division(s) advised.
8. The final composition of such divisions shall be at the discretion of the General Manager or the DE.
9. The General Manager or the DE shall have the power to accept further entries during the season if, in his opinion, it is expedient to do so.
10. The General Manager or the DE shall have the power to increase or reduce the numbers of divisions and to form or discontinue sections in any divisions as and when the need arises.

Section 2: Player Eligibility

All Clubs and players will abide by New Zealand Football Regulation on the Status and Transfer of Players

1. All players must be registered within the Goalnet Database of the participating club and Nelson Bays Football. It is the clubs responsibility to ensure their players are properly registered prior to taking the field in any match. It is the General Manager's responsibility to provide the Federation with an up to date register of players within their competitions.
2. Where players are taking part in age-determined grades, it is the clubs responsibility to sight a copy of proof of age of the player, such document to be a birth certificate, Passport or other internationally recognized legal document. The club is required to produce proof of age if requested by the General Manager or the DE.
3. A senior team may only play a maximum of three players in any Nelson Bays Football game who have played in a higher or lower division team or teams in their previous match, the exception being in grades designed as specific "reserve" competitions or if it is the first match of the new season. Any such player must first be re-classified in accordance with Section 12 herein. A player having played three consecutive games in a higher grade than the one in which the player has been classified will be automatically reclassified in that higher grade. It is emphasised that there is no automatic right to play players from a higher division in a lower division of any senior league or competition, and dispensation must be sought from the General Manager.

4. Any team playing an unregistered or ineligible player, shall be fined and shall forfeit any points arising from any match in which an ineligible player participates. The match shall be awarded to the non-offending team, "goals against" shall stand for the offending team, "goals for" shall be cancelled, or a 3 (three) – 0 (nil) win whichever is the greatest.
5. Youth players under the age of 16 (boys) require dispensation to take part in senior matches and must have written permission from their parent or guardian. The prescribed age dispensation form must be completed by the club for each player under 16 and copied to the General Manager. Girl's local rules apply. All Players must be at least turning 15 years old in the current year to be eligible to play in the Senior Mens League
6. Where a club has two or more teams playing in the same division no player is eligible to move between these teams without prior approval from the General Manager or the DE. 1st three competition games do not apply. Please note this is not an official transfer request.

Section 3: Transfers

All players in in all teams require transfers.

All Clubs and players will abide by New Zealand Football Regulation on the Status and Transfer of players

1. No player shall play for any club except that of which he/she is registered as a member but he/she may transfer to another club. Provision made for junior clubs who have no affiliation with a senior team in which case a player should be registered with the club for which he/she will play senior football, the junior club notifying NBF of the position. A player can play for both a school and club though not in the same competition.
2. All applications for transfer must be submitted online through the Goalnet Registration system. In the event of the transfer being applied for online through Goalnet, then the secretary/transfer officer should hold a signed form for future inspection should request for inspection be made.
3. The club to which an application for transfer is made shall forward such application, either approved or disapproved to the new club within five days of receipt by the old club and default in doing so then through Goalnet , the General Manager can, approve the transfer if the delay in response from the club is deemed unreasonable.
4. Transfers are not complete until authorized by Nelson Bays Football and /or cleared and registered with the new club on the Goalnet system.
5. Transfers between Nelson Bays Football clubs are the responsibility of the new club to ensure all documentation or online registration is correct prior to submitting to the General Manager. In respect of all International transfers the new club complete the new club information online and submit through Mainland Football.
6. Although Nelson Bays Football will endeavour to make sure that the transferring player is eligible to play, the club has to make due diligence also that the player is eligible to play.

Where any discrepancy arises between these regulations and those of New Zealand Football, the New Zealand Football regulations shall apply.

Section 4: Match Regulations

Each team shall provide a minimum of one FIFA approved match balls in good playing order.

1. Where team colours clash the visiting team shall be obliged to change. Failing to provide a change strip will incur a fine. In the event of the visiting team not providing a change strip then the referee has discretion to abandon the game, in which case the visiting team will be deemed to have defaulted the fixture. All teams are responsible for ascertaining opponent's team colours the time and venue of the match.
2. All matches shall be played at the time and location decided by the General Manager. A team with at least seven (7) players present must commence the match.
3. Any team not ready to commence its match within ten (10) minutes of the published start time shall forfeit the match. A forfeit match shall result in three (3) points to the opposition and also 3-0 win.

4. Defaults must be notified to General Manager or the DE no later than 12:00pm on the day preceding the fixture. Clubs who default after this time will be fined. A team which defaults either two (2) games in succession or 3 games in the season may be disqualified from the competition. Such penalty as decided by the General Manager or DE may be imposed upon the club of any team who forfeits its place under this clause. Any team defaulting in a fixture at Golden Bay shall be subject to a fine of \$300 and will be deducted 3 competition points.

Section 5: Competitions

1. The General Manager or the DE shall determine times, dates and grounds for any fixture in Nelson Bays Football competitions and shall have the right at all times to amend, postpone or cancel any fixture. Any changes to advertised schedule, due to unforeseen circumstances, have to be approved by the General Manager and both teams to agree.
2. When inclement weather or any other reason has meant competitions can not be concluded within the required time-frame the General Manager or the DE may close any competitions and declare final placing based on, at its sole discretion, the standings at the end of the first completed round, standings at the close of the competition, or as a result of a play-off between two or more teams.
3. During league competition, points shall be allocated on the basis of 3 points for a win, one point for a draw and zero points for a loss. Defaults shall be recorded as a 3-0 loss.
4. At the conclusion of any Nelson Bays Football competition, where two or more teams are tied on point's goal difference will be used to separate the teams. If still tied, the team with the most goals for shall be the winner. If still tied the League winner shall be shared.

Section 6: Team Cards

1. The General Manager or the DE shall supply to Clubs team cards for the purpose of recording the player's names playing or intending to be played, in any match. Such cards shall have provision for the signatures of the team's coach/manager, the opposition coach/manager, the Referee together with such other information, as the General Manager or the DE may deem necessary.
2. Prior to the commencement of each match a team card shall be completed by each team and handed to the Referee. At the finish of the match the team cards shall be signed by the referee and returned to the captain/coach/manager of each team. If no referee appointed then both coaches shall sign each others cards, to approve scores and any comments.
3. Any team/club/school/manager, filling out a team card with the intention of misleading the General Manager or the DE shall be fined a maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the team/club/school/manager shall be liable for suspension.
5. Each team captain or an official of each team shall be required to forward the completed match card, the score and any other comments having been endorsed thereon by the Referee, to Nelson Bays Football not later than the Tuesday following the match. Any Club failing to forward a duly completed match card by the required day may be fined the sum of \$20.00 per card and/or lose any points gained unless a satisfactory explanation is received by Nelson Bays Football.
6. Players participate in a match by their inclusion on the team card. Such a player is adjudged to have played whether or not they were actively involved on the field of play.

Section 7: Substitutions/Apparel

1. In all matches players shall be permitted to wear undergarments which contrary to F.I.F.A. guidelines may not match the colour of the team shirt or shorts providing always that if such undergarments shall be of the same colour as the opposition shirt/shorts the Referee can at his discretion request that they be removed or covered e.g. long sleeved garments. The D.E. make this provision to enable the use of "skins" and other such garments which minimise risk of injury and recognise that the expense of requiring players to have multiple coloured such garments is unreasonable at this level of the sport.
2. In all matches in the First and Second Divisions of the Senior Men's League, each team shall be allowed 5 substitutes named on the team card and three may be permitted to be used in the course of the match. This rule shall apply to all other competitions in which First and Second Division teams compete exclusively.

3. In all other divisions lower than the Second Division, and in all competitions where teams from such lower divisions compete (including all Senior Women's Divisions/Competitions) each team shall be permitted to name and use 5 substitutes. Rolling Substitutions shall be permitted for all teams

Section 8: Referees

1. All matches shall be controlled by a referee. Only referee or the General Manager can decide if grounds unfit to play on the day of the match.
2. Should a referee not be appointed to a match or if the referee fails to arrive, it shall be the responsibility of the Coach/Manager of each team to agree on a person to referee the match.
3. In the event of disagreement, a person appointed by the home team shall referee the first half; a person appointed by the visiting team shall referee the second half.
4. Should a referee require a linesperson, then each team shall be responsible for providing one person to act as a linesperson and such person shall be responsible to the referee.
5. All matches shall be refereed in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game, except as amended by the rules of the competition.
6. If a team refuses to take the field of play due to the fact that a referee has not turned up and chooses not to implement the above, the said team has treated the game as a default.

Section 9: Discipline and Misconduct

1. All misconduct shall be dealt with by Nelson Bays Football General Manager or the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with New Zealand Football Disciplinary Code and Nelson Bays/Mainland Football Disciplinary process.
2. It is essential that each Club insist on high standards of behaviour and discipline both on and off the field. This relates to foul language, attitudes towards referees etc. and if the Club becomes persistent offenders then they could face a fine or expulsion from a competition or competitions, or such other sanction as the Disciplinary Committee think fit.

Section 10: Appeals

1. Each Club may bring a dispute or protest against any application of Nelson Bays Football rules. The General Manager or the DE will make a decision and advise that decision to the party or parties concerned. The dispute or protest must be from the president/secretary of the Club and on the Clubs letterhead and accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 + GST. The appeal or protest must be lodged within 7 days of the breach complained of (including Sundays).
2. Each Club has a right of appeal against any ruling of the Nelson Bays Football to Mainland Football and thereafter, to New Zealand Football, in accordance with the respective regulations of Mainland Football/New Zealand Football.

Section 11: Youth/Colt Teams

1. Only 2 Adults (over 19 years) to be registered in a Colts team, playing in the Senior League Competition
2. Only 2 Adults (over 19 years) can play per game recorded on Team Card.
3. Youth Teams upon registration must supply names and date of birth to qualify for youth rates.
4. No more than 3 Youth players can be regraded down to any Youth/Colt team in any one game.
5. Boys U 16 years require a dispensation to take part in senior matches. A copy of the prescribed Dispensation form to be filed with Nelson Bays Football General Manager.
6. Girls under the age of 16 require a dispensation to take part in Women's senior Saturday league matches. Dispensation to be filed in accordance with Section 2(5).
7. Fees: Youth Rates apply to the Youth/Colts Team.
Senior rates apply to teams with 3 or more registered senior players.

Section 12: Senior Teams

1. A club may apply to Nelson Bays Football to have a player reclassified in a lower grade. Nelson Bays Football requires notification by 4:00p.m. on the day before the lower grade fixture in which the club wishes the player to take part.
2. Nelson Bays Football may at its discretion refuse an application for reclassification where there is obvious strengthening of the lower grade team by the reclassification thereby putting the opposing team at a disadvantage.
3. A player having played three consecutive games in a higher or lower grade than the one in which the player has been classified will automatically be reclassified into that grade.
4. No more than 3 senior players can be regraded down to another Senior Team in any one game.
5. Players can only be moved down one grade.

6. Reason for movement of players down a grade:

Team numbers below 12 players. Illness and/or recovery from injury. A player has attained reclassification after playing 3 consecutive games in the higher/lower grade.

Section 13: Promotion/Relegation

After a full season of competition if required promotion/ relegation will be one up & one down.

Section 14: Complaints

Clubs are advised that complaints must comply with the following:

1. Complaints must be in writing from the President or Secretary of the Club making the complaint on club letterhead. No other complaints will be accepted or acted upon henceforth. The complaint must be accompanied by a \$25 fee, this may be refunded at Nelson Bays Football discretion depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the outcome.
2. The letter should contain a clear statement setting out the complaint and should include evidence to support the complaint. For example, if a team complains that a player from a higher grade was in their opponent's team, the name of that player must be supplied. Without such evidence, the complaint will not be followed up.
3. Complaints will be referred to a Disciplinary Committee who will consider the complaint and decide what, if any, further action is required. Options could include seeking further information and/or hearing from the parties.
4. The General Manager will not respond to emails from individuals and will be advising callers of the same.
5. Clubs' attention is also drawn to the Code of Conduct covering the playing of the game. This applies to all participants including parents and bystanders.
6. **Ground Complaints:** The fitness of the ground for play shall be decided on the ground by the Referee whose decision shall be final. If the game is abandoned by the Referee due to insufficient ground markings, the home team shall be deemed to be at fault. The General Manager shall have the power to award the match to their opponents and/or impose a penalty not exceeding \$50.00.
7. Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other appurtenances of the game, shall not be entertained by the General Manager unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. If an objection has been lodged with the Referee, a protest accompanied by the appropriate fee as laid down in the Rules may be lodged with Nelson Bays Football.

Section 15: Sideline conduct

1. **Alcohol:**
No Alcohol should be consumed on sidelines or in the near vicinity of a game.
Consumption should be based at the Clubrooms or a designated area (i.e. beer tent).
2. **Crowd Control:**
Spectators should be at least 1 metre back from the sideline, if problems are continuously occurring a rope barrier should be erected to ensure there is no interference with the game and safety of spectators. This is a requirement under the Health & Safety regulations.
3. **Abusive Language:**
This should not be tolerated at any game. It is a bad image for clubs and not a good example for younger players. Referees are in control of the game and have the power to remove and card any team official/spectator. This action would be supported by Nelson Bays Football.

For Clubs who ignore this rule the following will apply:

The Disciplinary Committee shall have power to suspend or inflict such penalty (monetary or otherwise) as it may deem expedient upon any club, team, player, official, member or any other person who shall be guilty of:

1. Any breach of Competition Rules or New Zealand Football Rules and Regulations or Laws of the Game.
2. Objectionable or improper behaviour during or in connection with any match under the control of Nelson Bays Football or any duly constituted meeting in connection with the affairs of the Nelson Bays Football.

3. Misconduct towards a Referee away from the field of play. The offence will be dealt with in the same way as if the offence had been committed on the field of play.
4. Such other act as in the opinion of the General Manager or D.E. shall constitute misconduct. This clause shall also refer to club supporters/spectators attending matches.

**All Clubs should take responsibility in managing these sideline issues.
Please refer to Nelson Bays Football Code of Conduct**

Section 16: Trophies

1. Trophies will be presented to all Senior Competition winners
2. The winners of all Trophies are entitled to have the name of their club inscribed on the Trophy.
3. Engraving of trophies shall be paid for by Nelson Bays Football by Authorised engravers.
4. Each winner of the Trophy shall be required to keep the Trophy in good order and condition and to return the Trophy to Nelson Bays Football when called upon to do so.
5. All Trophies for local competitions remain the property of Nelson Bays Football.

Section 17: Fines Payment Schedule

Fines:

Yellow Card	\$ 25.00
Red Card	\$ 50.00

Defaults

Local	\$ 50.00		
Top or the South	\$150.00	Ineligible player	\$ 20.00
Golden Bay	\$300.00	No Team Card received	\$ 20.00

Other

Fields not prepared	\$ 50.00
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Transfers:

Online Transfer through Goalnet	FREE
International Transfer	\$125.00

Section 18: Rules of the Glenn Stephens Memorial Trophy

1. The Trophy shall be competed for by any team (other than MPL teams) of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the General Manager and/or D.E.
2. (a) Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in any local league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in a Trophy competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule.
 (b) Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the General Manager shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
 (c) A player who has played for one team in a Trophy Competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
3. The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot arranged by the District Executive and shall be played on a round robin group basis followed by the knockout principle unless circumstances require the District Executive to alter the format.
4. Each Group Winner shall be guaranteed a home tie in the first knockout round and shall play a team from a different qualifying group, such team not being the winner of a Group. Draws for semi finals shall be by lot.
5. The duration of each match shall be two spells of 45 minutes. In the event of the game then being drawn in the knockout stage, two extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
6. In the round robin stage three points shall be awarded for a win; 1 point for a draw and no points for a loss. Qualification for the knockout stage shall be determined by the General Manager from time to time depending on the number of teams entering the competition. Places in Qualifying Pools shall be by points, then goal difference, then goals scored.
7. No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12
 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".
8. Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the General Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.

Section 19: Rules of the Top of the South Trophy

1. Marlborough and Nelson Bays Football rules shall apply.
2. Each team shall play every other team an equal number of matches.
3. The team scoring the greatest number of points in all matches shall be deemed to have won the League.
4. In the event of two or more teams having an equal number of points the winner shall be decided by goal difference over the matches and if the team or teams are equal on goal difference then the team that has scored the most goals shall be declared the winner.
5. No team shall play more than Three (3) players in any one match who are classified in any higher league. Any such player having first been re-classified in accordance with Section 12
6.
 - a. If games are postponed in Nelson because of the weather/ground conditions and Blenheim is unaffected then fixtures scheduled for Blenheim playing fields will be played.
 - b. If games are postponed in Blenheim because of the weather/ground conditions and Nelson is unaffected then fixtures scheduled for Nelson playing fields will be played.
7. Any team which has cause to default any game during the season must notify either Marlborough or Nelson Bays Football prior to 12 noon on the Friday before the match. Failure to comply with this rule may result in fines being imposed as follows:

1st Default	\$150
2nd Default	\$200
8. Any disciplinary action will be handled by the Disciplinary Committee of the District to whom the offending player is affiliated.
9. Any competition disputes will be heard by a committee comprising of two representatives from both Marlborough and Nelson Bays Football.
10. To preserve the special character of the league at least two Marlborough teams must be assured entry.

Section 20: Rules of The McCarthy Challenge Cup

1. The Cup shall be a challenge cup to be competed for by first division teams of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the District Executive.
2. All matches shall be played on the home ground of the Cup Holder unless otherwise decided by the General Manager.
3. No matches in this competition shall be played after the last week in August each year.
4. All challenges for the Cup shall be deemed to have been made from the commencement of the season unless notification to the contrary is received by the General Manager not later than the 30th April each year.
5. No club shall be permitted to challenge for the Cup more than once in any one year.
6. The date and time of all matches for the Cup shall be fixed by the General Manager. The holders of the Cup, if so directed by the General Manager, shall accept a challenge to be played in conjunction with any other fixture arranged by such Committee but in no case on a date on which there is a representative match.
7. If the holders of the Cup refuse to play, or fail to play, any cup match as and when required by the Men's Committee (within the ambit of these rules) then the holders shall forfeit the Cup and hand same over to the challengers, if the challengers, but for such refusal or failure would have played the match as required.
9. The General Manager may at his discretion postpone or cancel any match and then if necessary fix another date for the match to be played.
10. Should the Referee declare the ground unplayable for any fixture, the General Manager, if deemed necessary, will fix another date for the game to be played.
11. Should any dispute arise as to any matters arising out of these rules, the matter in question shall be decided by the D.E. whose decision shall be final.
12. If the final score is a draw after two periods of 45 minutes, the Cup is retained by the holder.

Section 21: Rules of the Price Charity Cup

1. The Cup shall be competed for by first division teams of Nelson Bays Football and the entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the District Executive.
2. (a) Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in any local league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule.
 (b) Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
 (c) A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
3. The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the General Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the District Executive to alter the format.
4. The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
5. Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the General Manager may at his discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
6. The General Manager, may at his discretion postpone or cancel any match and the General manager may then if necessary fix another date for the match.

Section 22: Rules of the Gould and Tout Trophy

1. The Cup shall be competed for by second division teams of Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the District Executive.
2. a. Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12 and reclassification must be for reasons set out not to strengthen a team.
 b. Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.
 c. A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.
3. The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the General Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the District Executive to alter the format.
4. The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the F I F A Laws of the Game.
5. Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the General Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
6. The General Manager, may at his discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary fix another date for the match.
7. No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12
 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".

Section 23: Rules of the A. R. Hurst Trophy

1. The Cup shall be competed for by third division teams of financial clubs affiliated to Nelson Bays Football. The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the District Executive.
2. (a) Each competing player must have played at least two consecutive games in a lower league competition in the current season for the club they have affiliated with before they can take part in the Cup competition. Playing two games in one day will not make a player eligible under this rule. A player from a higher division must be re-classified in accordance with Section 12

(b).Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponents. If both teams involved have offended then the Judicial Committee shall have the power to either disqualify both teams, order the match to be replayed and/or fine both teams a sum not exceeding \$20.00.

(c) A player who has played for one team in the Cup competition cannot play for another team in the same year.

3. The method of draw for the competition shall be by lot, arranged by the General Manager and shall be played on the knockout principle, unless circumstances require the District Executive to alter the format.
4. The duration of each match shall be two (2) spells of 45 minutes each. In the event of the game then being drawn, two (2) extra spells of 15 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of goals being equal at the end of such extra time each side shall take penalty kicks as defined in the F I F A Laws of the Game.
5. Should the Referee declare the ground unfit for play, the General Manager may at its discretion fix another date for the match to be played.
6. The General Manager, may at his discretion postpone or cancel any match and may then if necessary fix another date for the match.
7. No Player shall play for a team graded lower than the one in which they have been classified, except in accordance with Section 12 (1) Breach of this rule shall result in the player being deemed an "ineligible player".

Nelson Bays Football Masters Leagues

1. To be eligible as a Masters player, the player has to be 33 years or older in the playing year. In the 2015 season teams will be allowed four (4) players over the age of 28 years but under 33.
2. There are unlimited rolling substitutions.
3. The Masters League will be regarded as a fourth division for the purposes of re-classification of players from higher divisions.

C. NELSON BAYS FOOTBALL INCORPORATED
JUNIOR PLAYING BYLAWS

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Abbreviations

DE – District Executive
NBF – Nelson Bays Football

Section 1: General

1. The final date for entries shall be set by the General Manager or District Executive annually and the General Manager shall have the power to accept further entries during the season if it is expedient to do so.
2. The final date for payment of registration fees shall be 28 days after receipt of an account, or such date as is set by the District Executive.
3. The District Executive shall have the power to increase or reduce the number of grades to form or discontinue from time to time divisions in any grade whenever the occasions warrant.

Section 2: Birthdates – Grade information

1. The General Manager will be responsible for the organising of games in the following grades based on a player's age as at the 1st January in the playing year i.e. 12th grade – player who is 12 on or after the 1st January of that year.

Grade	Playing Times	Ball Sizes
Youth Leagues 15-18Yrs	2/40 minutes	5(68-71cm)
14th	2/35 minutes	5(68-71cm)
13th	2/30 minutes	4(63-66cm)
12th	2/30 minutes	4 (63-66cm)
11th	2/25 minutes	4 (63-66cm)
10th	2/25 minutes	4 (63-66cm)
9th	2/20 minutes	3 (58-61cm)
8th		3 (58-61cm)
7th		3 (58-61cm)
Junior Girls	2/20 minutes	3 (58-61cm)
Intermediate Girls	2/25 minutes	4 (63-66cm)

Clubs are reminded that multiple matches are played on pitches each morning and therefore half time break should be limited to no more than 5 minutes to ensure the following match on the pitch can commence on time

Section 3: Registration

1. All players to be registered on Goalnet, with all requested information, as approved by Nelson Bays Football before any player is eligible to play in competition.
2. All players may be registered in block in their respective grade and after any grading games into team lists for the duration of the competitions. Late registrations may be added as necessary.
3. Playing unregistered or non-eligible players will result in the match counting as a win to the opposing side, providing their team sheet is in order. All teams breaching this bylaw shall be fined \$5.00 (five dollars) per game.
4. All club official(s) wilfully fielding teams containing unregistered ineligible players continuously will be disciplined by Nelson Bays Football.

Section 4: Grading

1. That the grades be divided into divisions as needed. Teams being seeded on past performances and/or Club preferences with the intent to ensure a balanced competition within each division.
2. Teams to be seeded from 10th grade.
3. The District Executive may, on application from a club, re-grade a team.
4. That the General Manager/ District Executive may, on application for dispensation for such, allow clubs to play players above their age group. However, players will play in their own age group unless there are exceptional circumstances. For example, a country club with not enough players to fill a team or that the player is of exceptional ability.
5. Players are graded according to ability rather than just an age group. A player can only play down one grade.
Teams are limited on application to
1 player per 7 aside Team
2 Players per 9/11 aside Team
Dispensations application to be submitted to Nelson Bays Football before the commencement of the Season

Exemptions will be at the discretion of the General Manager for rural clubs.

6. It is mandatory that clubs wishing to play players under the age 16 in the Men's League to obtain permission in writing from the parents/Guardians, as required under Section 2 of the Competition Rules.
7. New Team entries may be accepted throughout the first round of competition. Registrations to be emailed to the General Manager on the forms supplied with all the required information. All players must be registered and have their birth date sighted by the club's secretary or president.

Section 5 Restriction on Representative Players

A Representative player is defined as being any player who has represented, or has been selected to represent, Nelson Bays Football in the South Island Inter District Representative competition in the previous season, with the exception that players selected at 10th grade for Representative teams shall not be regarded as such for the purpose of this regulation.

Any team failing to comply with this regulation shall be deemed to have defaulted the game and a result of 3-0 will be recorded in favour of the opposition, irrespective of whether the match is played, in accordance with the default provisions. Default provisions detailed within these regulations shall take effect.

Restriction on Representative Players

1. This rule needs to apply to ALL reps players in the previous season from 11th grade upwards. 10th grade Reps do not count but must have dispensation to play up.
2. The rule shall apply to the 12th Grade; 13th Grade and 14th Grade Competitions only
3. The rule applies to the number of reps players in a squad. This ensures players are spread across sufficient teams to ensure a good competition.
4. The number of Reps per match day squad for 12th Grade shall be 6

The Representative players per squad shall be no more than 4 in number from the Representative A team (Royal) and in addition 2 other players from the other Representative teams (either girls or boys).

5. The number of Reps per match day squad for 13th and 14th Grades shall be 7

The Representative players per squad shall be no more than 5 in number from the Representative A team (Royal) and in addition 2 other players from the other Representative teams (either girls or boys).

6. Goalkeepers are included in all grades as Rep Players.
7. Representative players from other areas of the country who come into our region, shall not be counted as Rep Players for the purpose of this rule.
8. Representative players who obtain dispensation to play a grade above their eligible grade shall be regarded as Rep Players for the purpose of this rule.
9. The Rule applies to all female Rep Players whether playing in a Girls Grade or a mixed Grade

Section 6: 7 Aside competition

1. Juniors to play 7 v 7 games on reduced size fields and goal posts.
2. Field size: 55m x 35m
3. Posts 4m (wide) x 2m.(high)
4. Corner kicks not greater than 18m from the near post; Goal kicks to be from the edge of the Goal Box.
5. Substitutions for 7 aside competition may be continuous on and off throughout the game, however at no time during the game must 7 v 7 be increased.
6. The Off Side rules applies to all Grades including girls Divisions.
7. (a) Rules of the game are to be introduced and players educated throughout the season.

- (b) Off side rule to be introduced
- (c) Both Coaches to Discuss before the commencement of the game on how to apply the rules.

Section 7: 9 Aside competition

1. Junior Grades : 11th /12th and Intermediate Girls to play 9 v 9 games on reduced size fields and goal posts.
2. Field size: 70m x 50m,
3. Posts 2.0m (high) x 5.0m.(wide)
4. Corner kicks at corner of touchline and goaline; Goal kicks to be from the edge of the 5m Box.
5. Substitutions for 9 aside competition may be continuous on and off throughout the game, however at no time during the game must 9 v 9 be increased.

The Off Side rules applies to all Grades including girls Divisions.

Section 8: 11 Aside Junior competitions

1. All teams from 13th grade and above shall play 11 v 11 football.
2. The competition shall be in age grades, some of which may be combined as approved by the District Executive. Each grade may be divided into divisions and teams to be seeded on past performance and/or club preference with the intent to ensure a balanced competition within each division.
3. Each team will be limited to 16 registered players. Rolling Substitutions permitted for all Grades

Corner Kicks	13 - Youth League	Normal corner position
Goal Kicks	13 - Youth League	Edge of 5m box
4. Pitch and Goal Sizes: Pitch size for 13th grade should be standardised to no less than the minimum FIFA specification of 90m x 60m. Goal size up to maximum of 7.32 x 2.44m.

Section 9: Points Awarded

In all League competitions :

3	for a win
1	for a draw
0	for a loss

Section 10: Fixtures

1. The District Executive will endeavour to circulate fixture lists throughout the season. However each weekly final fixture will appear either each Wednesday in the Nelson Mail plus on the Web Site – www.nelsonbaysfootball.co.nz.
2. Postponements, transfers or any alteration to fixture lists will made only by the General Manager. Postponements are to be based on weather/ground conditions only and will cover all games for that competition day. All other cancellations are to be accepted as defaults and must be notified as per rules. Notice of such fixture changes to be broadcast not later than 8:00am on the morning of the game, should such a service be available. Changes and cancellations will also appear on the Web Site.

Section 11: Defaults

1. Clubs intending to default games must notify the General Manager the day prior to the match. Failure to do so may result in a \$25.00 (twenty five dollar) fine.
2. Any team defaulting two games in succession or three games at intervals, shall give reasons to the District Executive who will take such action as they deem fit. A team which defaults either two (2) games in succession or 3 games in the season may be removed from the competition. Such penalty as decided by the General Manager or DE may be imposed upon the club of any team who forfeits its place under this clause.
3. In the event of any team withdrawing from the competition during the season, points gained by opposing teams will be deducted from their tally.
4. A maximum of 10 minutes may be allowed after the starting time, after which the missing team will be considered defaulted.

Section 12: Kick Off

1. Matches must start at the times set down in the fixtures lists.
2. Where the game is late in starting, playing time shall be shortened equally in both halves to ensure that the following game if any, will start on time.

3. When both teams have seven or more players for 11 v 11 games, (FIFA rule), 6 or more players for 9 v 9 games five or more players for 7 v 7 games, at the due time, the match must start.
4. Each team shall be in possession of a suitable ball and both shall be offered to referee for selection and the management committee reserve the right to fine any club \$10.00 (ten dollars) who fails to observe this requirement.
5. In the event of a game being abandoned for any reason the District Executive shall have the power to award the game to either teams or to order a replay (if required).

Section 13: Team Colours

All teams shall play in the colours registered with Nelson Bays Football except where the colours clash, and in which case the second named club in the fixture will change to contrasting colours.

Section 14: Results

1. Each club will be responsible for notifying Nelson Bays Football of team results.
2. No points will be awarded to those teams who fail to comply with (1) above. District Executive also reserves the right to fine any club failing to comply the sum of \$5.00 (five dollars) for each subsequent offence.
3. Results to be into the Nelson Bays Results officer by 12 noon on the Monday following the game.

Section 15: Transfers

Any transfers of players between clubs during competition must have a covering letter/form granting permission from the player's parents. **The player is then transferred on the Goalnet System, the old club can request sight of the request and permission from the old club prior to approving the transfer.**

Section 16 General Rules

1. All cautions or sending-offs must be reported by the referee to Nelson Bays Football 48 hours after the match (excluding Sundays).
2. Any misconduct towards the 'Code' or Official away from the field shall be dealt with in the same manner as if the offence had been committed on the field.
3. Similar discipline will apply to any team or club who wilfully breaks the By-laws of Nelson Bays Football or the Laws of the Game.
4. No club or School shall allow players under discipline from Nelson Bays Football to take part in any matches controlled by Nelson Bays Football. A breach of this rule renders the offender liable to suspension or a fine and the case of a school, the reporting to the National Body.
5. Nelson Bays Football shall have the power to suspend and/or inflict a penalty (monetary or otherwise) upon any club, player, team official, member or any other person found guilty of any serious breach of the Rules of Nelson Bays Football, the Laws of the Game or any other misconduct.
6. Clubs wishing to lodge a protest or an appeal over any breach of the By-Laws of Nelson Bays Football should do so in writing from Club Secretary on Club letterhead within FIVE days of the breach and include a fee of \$20.00 (twenty dollars), which may be refunded at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.
7. The letter should contain a clear statement setting out the complaint and should include evidence to support the complaint. Complaints will be referred to a Disciplinary Committee who will consider the complaint and decide what, if any, further action is required. Options could include seeking further information and/or hearing from the parties *For example, if a team complains that a player from a higher grade was in their opponent's team, the name of that player must be supplied. Without such evidence, the complaint will not be followed up.*
8. All Junior, Youth and College Teams should be accompanied/supervised by at least one adult person at every game.

Section 17: Referees and Decisions

1. Law 5 of the FIFA rules gives full power to the referee. Only the referee can change a decision and then only before play restarts. Such decisions cannot be challenged.
2. The game depends on volunteer referees. Without them there would be no game.
3. The District Executive requires every team playing in its competitions, from 9th Grade and above, to supply two representatives from each team, one of whom must be the coach or team leader, to undergo a Level 0 Introduction to Refereeing Course, held by Nelson Bays Football, on dates to be specified.
The cost per participant will be set by the District Executive, from time to time.

Failure to attend such a course by 31st July each season could result in the team involved having their team withdrawn from the competition, with loss of all competition points.

Matches controlled by Club Referees will be refereed in accordance with the following clauses:

4. It is expected that referees will discharge their duties fairly and impartially.
5. The NBF playing bylaws state that each team will provide a referee for half of the game.
6. **Unless mutually agreed otherwise**, the following will apply:
 - (a) The home team will supply the referee for the first half, and
 - (b) the away team will supply the referee for the second half.
 - (c) Where games are not played on the home ground of either team, the first named team will be deemed to be the home team.

Section 18: Miscellaneous

1. If through adverse weather there is insufficient time to complete the set of fixtures, a count back to the nearest complete round will be made and the points at that stage will decide the divisional winners.
2. All trophies held by Nelson Bays Football shall remain the property of Nelson Bays Football.
3. Any club presented with a trophy from Nelson Bays Football shall retain such trophy until the August Management meeting of the following year. Any club not returning a trophy by the requested date shall be fined at the discretion of District Executive the replacement up to \$20.00 (twenty dollars) per trophy not returned.
4. The club holding the trophy will be held responsible for any damage that occurs whilst it is in their possession.

Section 19: Representative & Inter Districts Games

1. Only players registered with Nelson Bays Football on Goalnet and playing in teams within competitions run by Nelson Bays Football shall be eligible for Junior and Youth Representative teams. Exemption to this rule may be at the discretion of District Executive.
2. All representative players are required to produce evidence of birth before the team is named.
3. That all players who represent Nelson at Representative Tournaments, either National or Regional, over FOUR seasons during their junior and Youth career, will be awarded a Representative Medal by Nelson Bays Football.
4. Coaches and Managers of Rep. teams (for 4 or more years) be awarded medals for their efforts.
5. A fee will be set for each squad member by way of subscription for Representative Teams, such fee shall be notified by the General Manager to the Representative Team Coaches by the date of the trials each year

Section 20: Reimbursement Policy

The policy applies to all South Island, third term holiday tournaments (12-18th grades inclusive) 12th grade's July Festival, plus Nelson Bays Football officials attending Regional meetings and coaches courses.

Reimbursement of travel and/or accommodation applies only to the first and second officials at representative tournaments and games not to other team members or persons.

Section 22: Junior and Youth Representative Football Team Policy

Policy

NBF age group representative teams will be selected on merit. Coaches will be appointed by and be responsible to NBF. NBF will apply for funding to cover gear (uniform and balls), and a contribution towards travel costs.

Procedures – Please see Procedures for trials on www.nelsonbaysfootball.co.nz