



2024 M-SAP Competition Regulations

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1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1.1 Definitions

In these rules, defined terms (capitalised words) have the same meaning ascribed to that term in the Competition Regulations unless the contrary intention appears, or it is defined below:

“Association” or **“MFA”** means Macarthur Football Association Inc.

“Board” means the body consisting of the Directors of the Association.

“Club” means a football club which is a Member of the Association.

“CMC” means the “Competition Management Committee” established under the Competition Regulations.

“Competitions Manager” means the person employed or appointed by the Association as the competitions manager of the Association. If that person is unwilling or unable to act or there is a vacancy, then the General Manager (or such other person designated by the Board) will assume the role of Competitions Manager.

“Competition Regulations” means the MFA Competition Regulations, as amended from time to time.

“General Manager” means the General Manager employed or appointed by the Association from time to time, and in the case he or she is unavailable to act, then such other person(s) as directed by the Board from time to time.

“M-SAP” means the Macarthur SAP League, a competitive youth football program in the Macarthur region that identifies and develops promising young talent through high-quality coaching, training, and competition.

1.2 Interpretation

In these rules:

- (a) A reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty;
- (b) A reference to the exercise of function includes, where the function is a power, authority or duty, a reference to the exercise of the power or authority of the performance of the duty;
- (c) Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (d) Words importing any gender include the other genders;
- (e) The words “include”, “including”, “for example” or “such as” are not used as, nor are they to be interpreted as, words of limitation, and, when introducing an example, do not limit the meaning of the words to which the example relates to that example or examples of a similar kind;
- (f) References to persons include corporations and bodies politic;

- (g) references to a person include the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person;
- (h) headings (including those in brackets at the beginning of paragraphs) are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this Regulation;
- (i) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction); and
- (j) a reference to "writing" will, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, including messages sent by electronic mail.

Any question or issue relating to the interpretation of these rules will be decided by the Competitions Manager in consultation with the CMC (and whose decision will be final and binding).

1.3 Severance

If any provision of these rules or any phrase contained in it is invalid or unenforceable, the phrase or provision is to be read down if possible, so as to be valid and enforceable, and otherwise will be severed to the extent of the invalidity or unenforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of these rules.

1.4 Inconsistencies

If any provision of these rules is inconsistent with the Constitution or any other regulation of the Association, then the document as directed by the Board will prevail to the extent of any such inconsistency.

2. COMPETITION REGULATIONS

In the absence of a specific M-SAP rule set out in this document, the Mini Roos National Playing Format and Rules are to apply in the first instance. Reference should also be made to the Macarthur Football Association Competitions Regulations for Macarthur Football specific regulations that may apply from time to time.

3. FEES

The total Registration Fee that a Club can charge for a player is not to exceed \$475, inclusive of governing body & MFA fees and before the redemption of Active Kids Vouchers (fees to be submitted to MFA with the signed Letter of Offer).

4. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

All players and coaches participating in the M-SAP Competition must be registered and financial on the National Registration System before round 1 of the M-SAP season to be eligible to take the field.

5. TEAMS

As per the MiniRoos National Playing Format and Rules:

5.1 U8 & U9s

- (a) Seven (7) a-side including goalkeeper.
- (b) Maximum of four (4) substitutes.

5.2 U10 & U11s

- (a) Nine (9) a-side including goalkeepers.
- (b) Maximum of five (5) substitutes.

6. APPAREL

- (a) Playing shirts must be numbered and only registered colours of the Club may be worn by all M-SAP teams as approved by the Association.
- (b) The Club is required to provide registered M-SAP players with the following uniform items:
 - a. On-field apparel
 - i. Numbered shirt
 - ii. Shorts
 - iii. Socks

- b. Off-field apparel
 - i. Jacket
 - ii. Polo
 - iii. Bag
- (c) All items to include the M-SAP logo, provided by the MFA.

7. WITHDRAWALS AND FORFEITS

The Club is committed to retaining team/s in their respective M-SAP League for the duration of the season. Sanctions may be imposed in failure to do so.

8. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The M-SAP program features four age groups: U8, U9, U10, and U11. Each age group has a single division, ensuring balanced competition for players of similar skill levels.

The M-SAP program is classified as non-competition, emphasizing player development and enjoyment over league standings and finals. The focus is on providing a positive and inclusive football experience for all participants.

There are 12 Clubs across each of the age groups represented in the M-SAP program in 2024.

The 2024 season format consists of two stages:

Round Robin (Rounds 1-11):

Every team plays each other team in their age group once, totalling 9 games per team. This stage focuses on player development and fostering a love for the game.

Split Season (Rounds 12-20):

Based on their standing after the first 10 rounds, teams split into two groups: Top 6 and Bottom 6 (please note that all results are for Association internal use only and are not shared or made publicly available).

8.1 Match Duration

- (a) U8 & U9s: two x 20-minute halves.
- (b) U10 & U11s: 2 x 25-minute halves.

8.2 Match Balls

- (a) U8 & U9s: Size 3
- (b) U10 & U11s: Size 4

Macarthur Football Association will provide clubs with two match balls for each competing team. These match balls are to be used in M-SAP games throughout the season.

Should Clubs wish to acquire additional M-SAP match balls they can be purchased through the MFA Office at a cost of \$ 35 (discounted).

8.3 Field Size

- (a) U8 & U9s:
 - Minimum: 40m long x 30m wide
 - Best Practice: 45m long x 35m wide
 - Maximum: 50m long x 40m wide
- (b) U10 & U11s:
 - Minimum: 60m long x 40m wide
 - Best Practice: 65m long x 45m wide
 - Maximum: 70m long x 50m wide

8.4 Borrowing Rules

M-SAP players may only be borrowed into another M-SAP team subject to borrowing limits outlined in the Macarthur Football Association Competition Regulations, ie. U9 M-SAP player may be borrowed into the club's U10 M-SAP team but no other U10 team.

Unless otherwise pre-approved by the Competitions Manager, at no time is an M-SAP player permitted to be borrowed into a non-MFA SAP team.

9. OTHER RULES

- (a) Appointed M-SAP coaches are required to participate in an induction session hosted by the MFA.
- (b) The MFA is invited by the Club to attend its M-SAP Grading and/or selection Day/s.
- (c) Each team is to participate in a minimum of 2 x 45–60-minute training sessions a week for the duration of the season.