



FFA Circular

Circular No.20-08

21 March 2020

TO THE MEMBERS OF FFA

Football Registration and the impact of COVID-19

Football Federation Australia (**FFA**) acknowledges that members of the football community have a number of queries about how COVID-19 will impact their 2020 football season (including as a result of the recent announcement by FFA that all NPL and grassroots football activities are temporarily suspended – see FFA Circular 20-07 [here](#)). We also acknowledge that we do not have all the answers in these uncertain times but we are working hard to address the important issues raised and we appreciate the patience of our members while we do so.

One such issue is the availability of refunds for registration fees paid by participants who have registered to play NPL or grassroots football in 2020 in affiliated competitions and programs.

FFA would like to reiterate that, at this stage, the suspension to FFA sanctioned grassroots football is only temporary. The suspension is currently only until **14 April 2020**.

FFA advises that it is working closely with all of the State Body Members who in turn are working with their constituent Clubs, District Associations, Zones and Competition Administrators to form a position on the issue of refunds in light of the unprecedented circumstances arising from the impact of COVID-19. Any such position may need to take into account individual circumstances, along with specific policies adopted by Clubs.

FFA and/or the State Body Members will seek to provide further information on this in due course once the extent of the impact of the current situation is better known.

During this temporary suspension, FFA, State Body Members, Competition Administrators and Clubs across the country remain committed to servicing the football community and preparing for the commencement (or, in many cases, re-commencement) of the 2020 NPL/grassroots football season.

FFA and its State Body Members recognise the importance of playing football to so many Australians, including the physical and mental health benefits it brings, particularly to young people. We are committed to ensuring that football returns as soon as possible.

However, in the meantime, we urge all participants and Clubs to be aware of their obligations under the current suspension and remind them that they are not to participate in organised football training or other related activities.

While there may be some uncertainty at this time, we strongly encourage all participants to continue to support, and register with, their local Clubs. The support from Players and other participants at local Clubs and competitions is vital not only for the Clubs themselves, but the wider football community as a whole during this challenging time.

As a football community, we need to take all appropriate steps to make sure that when football and life in Australia returns to normal, we have a sport, Clubs and infrastructure that will allow us all to continue to play the game we all love.

Yours sincerely



James Johnson
Chief Executive Officer