

2020 Senior Competition Grand Finals

Accessing Finals Fixtures

Matches in our Grand Finals can be viewed on the "[Draw and Results](#)" page, on the ESFA website. When viewing an individual division simply select the "Finals" option, which is located above the rounds selector in "Fixtures".

General Rules

- There is a no alcohol policy at all venues
- Please note there is a canteen at Heffron Synthetic. Purple Hearts will be running a canteen at Chifley Synthetic. ES Marks and Waverley, we ask you please ensure you have enough water for hydration etc. and plenty of sunscreen at all venues! Do not share water bottles
- The 'no ID, no play' rule will be enforced for all grand finals
- ESFA will provide match balls for all fixtures
- Teams are to provide match sheets (please ensure your teams are in Sports TG in plenty of time)
- Teams to provide PDF ID Sheets which will be used in conjunction with Team Sheets for official ID check 15 minutes before kick off by the opposition. If there are discrepancies, this may be escalated to ESFA representatives at each ground
- Only the coach or RTO of the respective teams playing will be allowed within the ropes/marked area, within a marked technical area – Chifley will have a technical area marked in between both fields
- Spectators are to stand/sit at a social distance on the other side of the field from the coach and/or RTO at all venues (Heffron Synthetic on the provided seating under the shade shelter)
- An interchange player may only enter the marked off area if he or

she is involved in a substitution. All other times, interchange players must remain behind the ropes/markings unless a special technical area has been set up within the ropes/marked area:

- All senior age groups AAM, AAW, O35, O45 – 7 interchange players only
- Please do not attend if you have flu like symptoms or are feeling unwell

RTO's (Registered Team Official)

- All RTO's must wear a high vis RTO vest, which may be picked up from the ESFA Staff at all venues. This will help RTO's fulfil their duties and be easily recognizable by players, spectators, match officials and other RTO's.

Player Eligibility

Senior Competitions

Player eligibility for the Senior Competitions will be in accordance with "15.8 Finals Series Player Eligibility" in the [Competition Rules](#):

(A) In Finals Series Matches a Player who plays in a Team pursuant to Rules 7.6(C), 7.6(D), 7.7(G) or 7.7(H) must have played for that Team at least once during the Premiership Competition.

(B) In Finals Series Matches, excluding Men's Championship Matches, a maximum of 5 Players may play in a Team pursuant to Rules 7.6(C), 7.6(D), 7.7(G) or 7.7(H).

J) Subject to Rule 15.8, Over 35 players are permitted to play an unlimited number of Matches in a higher division and remain registered in an Over 35s Team, however, any Player who plays more Matches for a higher Division Team than an Over 35 Team, may not play for the Over 35 Team in the Finals.

K) Subject to Rule 15.8 Over 45 players are permitted to play an unlimited number of Matches in a higher division and remain registered

in an Over 45s Team, however, any Player who plays more Matches for a higher Division Team than an Over 45 Team, may not play for the Over 45 Team in the Finals.

Post Covid Rules

(B) Players may play unlimited games as a Goalkeeper in the division immediately above or below their registered division. However, this only applies if the Goalkeeper is designated on the team sheet as GK and does not play any portion of the game as an outfield player. If the Goalkeeper plays outfield, then the borrowed player rules apply (3 for men, 4 for women). Where a Goalkeeper plays 2 divisions or higher above their registered division, the borrowed player rules apply (3 for men, 4 for women).

Procedure if scores are level at full time

If at the conclusion of a final the scores are level, the teams shall play extra time of:

Age Group	Extra Time Period	Extra Time Format
AA Men, AA Women, O35 and MC	15 mins each way	Classic Extra Time
O45	No Extra Time	Straight to Penalties

- There will be a break of 2-5 minutes before extra time commences
- At the conclusion of the first half of extra time there will be no break. Both teams are asked to remain on the field and switch ends.

All Competitive Matches (with exception of O45 competition) will use the classic extra time rule; the full extra time period must be played. If a team has scored more goals at the conclusion of extra

time, they are the winner. **There is NO golden goal.**

Withstanding the above rules, the procedure of extra time will be in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the game. If no team has scored at the end of extra time, a penalty shoot-out will take place in accordance with the [2019/20 FIFA LOTG](#).

Procedure during penalty shoot-outs

If the scores are level after extra time, a penalty shoot-out shall occur for ALL finals games.

The key points to remember are:

- Players who are on the field at the end of extra time must remain on the field of play. Substitutes are not to enter the field of play at the end of extra time. One RTO is permitted to enter the field of play to organise penalty takers and then leave before the commencement of penalty kicks
- The referee chooses which goal the kicks will be taken from.
*Note for Grand Finals however, ESFA staff may pre-determine which goal the kicks will be taken from.
- The referee tosses a coin and the team who wins the toss shall decide whether to take the first or second kick
- All players on one team must take a kick before any player has a second kick
- Both teams must begin the kicks from the penalty mark with the same number of players. If one team has less than 11 players, the opposition must reduce their numbers to match their opposition
- A goalkeeper who is injured while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a named substitute, provided their team has not used the maximum number of substitutes
- If the goalkeeper has already taken a kick, the replacement may not take a kick until the next round of kicks
- With the exception of the foregoing case, only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match, which includes extra time

where appropriate, are eligible to take kicks from the penalty mark

Basic procedure:

- Both teams are designated 5 kicks each
- If, before both teams have taken five kicks, a team has scored more goals than the other could score, even before the team were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- If after 5 kicks each, both teams have scored the same number of goals, a 'sudden death' shall occur
- Kicks continue to be taken alternatively and in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks

For a full outline of the Kicks from the Penalty Mark procedure, please see Page 91 in IFAB's [Laws of the Game 2019/20 publication](#).

Code of Conduct

We would like to remind everyone to adhere to the relevant ESFA Codes of Conduct for coaches, managers, officials, parents and players.

You can download a copy of each Code of Conduct by clicking on each relevant party:

[Coach](#)

[Manager/Official](#)

[Parent](#)

[Player](#)

Club Duties

Each club participating in a grand final will be required to provide two

officials to assist on the day with managing spectators around the field.

After the conclusion of the match we ask that both teams ensure their technical area is left clean and tidy and that both teams proceed to the presentation area as quickly as possible.

This cooperation from clubs will help the day run smoothly and efficiently.

ESFA Promotion

ESFA will have FFA accredited photographers present at all games to take photos. Photos will be provided to Clubs free of charge for their promotional use after the game.

COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR GRAND FINALS

- Please ensure social distancing is maintained at all times
- There can only be a total of 500 people at a venue at any time (this includes players, staff, volunteers, match officials, coaches/RTO's and photographers)
- Sanitiser will be provided at each venue – please use upon entry to venue (available from ESFA staff table at each venue)
- Presentations – there will be no stage this season. Presentations will be made to team captains only whereby trophies and medals may be given by the captain to the individual team. Photographs may be taken. Social distancing must be maintained.
- After presentations are made if players are staying to spectate, the 500 person per venue rule must be adhered to along with social distancing.
- Venues – both Chifley and Heffron will have an operated canteen on the days. ES Marks and Waverley do not, so please ensure all players and spectators have drinks and snacks

ESFA Finals FAQs

A) What happens if it rains?

We are working with Councils to ensure no ground closures. Information

will be available early (very early) Sunday morning if there is a typhoon however. Though please be aware of the following:

- In the advent of lightning, the 30/30 rule will apply (https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/FNSW_Lightning_Policy.pdf).
- Where a match enacts the 30/30 rule, there shall be no Extra Time or Penalties added at the completion of 90 minutes. In advent of draw, the higher placed team shall be deemed the winner.
- Should a game be abandoned due to bad weather or unsafe playing conditions, the higher placed team shall be deemed the winner.
- The ESFA representative(s) at the venue shall be the sole arbiters of any decisions made around game abandonment or the 30/30 rule.
- Should a match not meet the minimum 75% requirement to constitute a match, the higher placed team shall be deemed the winner.
- The referee is the sole timekeeper as to when the game was abandoned.

B) Do we need to bring and show IDs for Finals?

YES – PDF ID SHEET (or sheet available on electronic device) – to the opposition and **escalated to ESFA representatives** if there are any discrepancies (players must be present at ID check)

C) Do we need to bring a team sheet for the Grand Finals?

YES - Please bring your team sheet to your Grand Final and ensure it has been filled out correctly.

D) Do we need to bring match balls for the Grand Finals?

NO – ESFA will provide match balls at all venues (if clubs wish to involved juniors as ball kids then we are more than encouraging of same)

E) Do we need to abide by Covid-19 safety guidelines

YES

F) Do we need to leave the area immediately

If staying, you must be social distanced and in the spectator area only and must have sanitised after the game

G) Can we change our kick off time

Unfortunately **no** – fixtures have been online a number of weeks

The most important thing to remember, is football is the game that has kept 2020 somewhat sane. Enjoy the experience!