

# AFL BARWON

## NETBALL PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY & PPSP BY-LAWS

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# Netball Player Points System

## 1. Objectives of the AFL Barwon Player Points System

AFL Barwon in conjunction with Netball Victoria believes the equalisation of community netball competitions is vital for the growth and sustainability of community netball. The AFL Barwon Netball Player Points System (PPS) has been created as an equalization measure for the Netball competitions in the AFL Barwon Region.

Even, fair, competitions lead to interest in growth in participation, which leads to stronger clubs and stronger competitions. Even competitions allow players, supporters and club volunteers the chance to turn up on any given match day with the knowledge that the outcome of the game is uncertain and that their team has an even chance of winning. This mindset motivates people to become and remain engaged with their community club and provide rewards and recognition to all those that assist in putting a team out on the court.
The objectives of the AFL Barwon PPS policy are as follows, to:

1. Promote player loyalty and junior development
2. Support the role of volunteers undertake in managing their clubs by:
    - Minimising the need to fundraise for player payments
    - Providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at club level
    - Providing incentive to spend more time and effort in the development of Netball, a welcoming environment and growing the game within the local community
3. Support the Equalisation of the community netball competitions
4. Ensure teams fielded in the competitions are strong and as equally matched as possible
5. Provide the best opportunities for players to develop and display their skills
6. Provide opportunities to compete at a community level within an orderly and fair system
7. Enable team spirit and public support
8. Encourage community and corporate sponsorships of Community Clubs
9. Reduce the inflationary nature of player payments to assist clubs survive financially and reduce financial burden/stress on clubs

This PPS policy sets out a framework of rules and guiding principles in relation to a player points system which should be adopted by community clubs in order to achieve the above objectives

## 2. Definitions

**2.1** ANC- Australian Netball Championships

**2.2** Category- player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a player

**2. 3** Community Club or 'Club'- Netball club which participates within a community netball competition that does not include State Leagues (VNL, ANL or SUNCORP)

**2.4** Competition- Victorian Netball competition in which the community club participates in official fixtured matches

**2.5** Football Netball League- Netball competition that is run in conjunction with local Australian Rules Football Competitions

**2.6** First Home & Away Match- first official competition match for the home and away season of a competition

**2.7** Netball Victoria- Netball Victoria state governing body

**2.8** Player Points Allocation- total number of points allocated to an individual player in a senior team taking into consideration the player points category that applies to each player and any additional points or deducted points accordance with this PPS policy

**2.9** PPS Policy- community club sustainability player points policy as amended by Netball Victoria from time to time

**2.10** Season- community netball season between April 1st and 30 September each year (or such agreed dates)

**2.11** Season of Service- season where a player has player the minimum qualification requirements in a senior grade as stipulated in the Football Netball Leagues by laws

**2.12** Total Team Points- total amount of points allocated to a specific senior team by a Football Netball League for each season in accordance with this PPS policy

**2.13** VNL- Victorian Netball League

# 3. Affiliated Football Netball League Responsibilities

AFL Barwon will:

**Total Team Points**

**3.1** Determine the maximum permitted Total Team Points that may be allocated to any individual club for the ensuing season.

**3.2** Determine the Total Team Points allocation per A Grade Team for the ensuing season.

**3.3** will consider all applications from Community Clubs for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws.

**3.4** may allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Community Clubs in accordance with the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws to manage unique local conditions and meet the needs of local Community Clubs and the relevant senior Competitions.

**Player Points Allocation**

**3.5** will liaise with Community Club's to ensure Player Point Allocations are entered via League Netball Manager prior to any players first A grade Home and Away Match of each season and will confirm the Player Point Allocations entered by the community club

**3.6** as part of the Player Point Allocation process, AFL Barwon may provide the opportunity for clubs to seek reassessment of any player's Player Point Allocation. Any reassessment against the Player Point Allocation should be made in accordance with the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws

**3.7** once the process in clauses 3.5 and 3.6 has been undertaken, any player's Player Point Allocation will be fixed for that season.

# 4. Affiliated Club Responsibilities

**4.1** will determine each Player's Points Allocation for its A Grade squad and submit to AFL Barwon for review and confirmation. This determination may include any additions or deductions applicable to each player in accordance with this PPS Policy. See clauses 6 and 7 and appendices 12.1 for applicable flow chart to assist in this process

**4.2** will submit Player Points Allocations to Netball Manager prior to the relevant Community Club's first Home and Away match of each season, or a players first A Grade Home and Away Match

**4.3** Provide accurate information to AFL Barwon pertaining to the relevant playing history of new recruits to aid with a player points assessments.

**4.4** acknowledges that if a Community Club does not follow this procedure and decides to play a player in a match in an A Grade Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and submitted to the Netball Manager, that club will risk of any subsequent enforcement penalty as determined by the relevant Football Netball League in accordance with this PPS Policy

**4.5** will ensure on match days the A Grade Team does not exceed that Club's Total Team Points. For the avoidance of doubt, Community Clubs may recruit above their allocated points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation on match days.

**4.6** may make an application to the AFL Barwon Board for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws (i.e. for unique local circumstances).

# 5. Player Points Categories

**5.1** A player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that player's playing history and achievements and is structured in a way to promote player retention and loyalty

**5.2** Each player expected to play in the A Grade Team of a Community Club will be allocated a category and a Player Points Allocation as follows:

**5.2.1** Category 1- Home Player – 1 Point

a) Player who has played 40 or more junior games at the aligned junior club up to and including U19 Competition; or

b) A Player who has played only at that Community Club and for no other Community Club; or

c) A Player who has not played Competitive Netball in the Previous 3 years

NOTE: Under the Category 1 definition, a player may be categorised as a 'home player' at more than one Community Club

**5.3** If a player does not meet the Category 1 'home player' eligibility above, their points Category will be assessed based on the highest playing level achieved prior to the player joining the current club in the following categories

**5.3.1** Category 6 - International Tier 1 Player/ National Netball League- 6 Points

a) A current player of Suncorp super netball/**international equivalent** or in the previous two seasons

b) Player who has represented a Tier 1 Country at an International Event.

**5.3.2** Category 5 - International Tier 2 Player/ VNL Open/ ANC/ Suncorp Super Netball League Training Partner – 5 Points

a) Player who has represented a Tier 2 Country at an International Event.

b) A current player of or has played VNLChampionship in the previous two seasons

c) A current player of an ANC team or has played ANC in previous two seasons

d) A Suncorp Super Netball training Partner

# 5. Player Points Categories - Continued

**5.3.3** Category 4- VNL 23&U or 19 & Under/ State Representation/Premium Community Player – 4 points

a) A current player of a VNL 23&U team, or has played in 23&U or VNL Division 1 or 19 & Under team (2023), or equivalent state league competition in the previous two seasons

b) Players selected in State 17 & Under and 19 & Under teams

**5.3.4** Category 3 – Senior Community Player and Transferred Junior – 3 Points

a) Played A grade in another FNL in the previous 3 years

b) Transferred junior applies to juniors playing within the AFL Barwon region including 19&U competitions

**5.3.5** Category 2- Development Community Player- 2 Points

a) Played B Grade or Lower in an FNL in the previous 3 years

**5.4** A Community club that has a player that does not meet any of the above player Categories will need to apply to their affiliate Football Netball League to determine the appropriate Player Points Allocation. In Determining the Player Points Allocation, the Football Netball League will have referred to all relevant factors so as not to unreasonably restrict the player's movement between Community Clubs or a player's opportunity to play Netball at a club of her choice

**5.5** For the purpose of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a player and will be assessed under the above Categories

## 6. Additional Player Points Allocations

**6.1** If a player transfers to a Community Club and will be competing against their immediate former Community Club an additional one-point penalty will be applied. This does not apply to juniors transferring within the region.

**6.2** Where a player has registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in three (3) seasons, one additional point will be applied to that players Player Point Allocations. In determining the 3 season's timeframe, clubs shall assess the current or upcoming season as the first season along with the previous two (2) seasons, as detailed in the examples below.

- Club A- 2023 Season
- Club B- 2024 Season
- Club C- 2025 Season

**6.3** A Community Club may make an application for a re-assessment under clause 7.3 to the PPP in relation to a player's additional points allocation

## 7. Deductions and Amendments to Player Points Allocation

**7.1** Once a player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one point will apply for each 'Season of Service' to that players Community Club in a senior grade (Minimum Football Netball Leagues qualification requirements per season), even if not in consecutive years, until the player reaches not less than 1 point. (This is the minimum number of points a player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a player is eligible for underage Netball at his/her club, they must play minimum requirements in a senior grade to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.

**7.2** Where a player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history in current Season or any of the previous 3 Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply, hence the use of the flow chart in appendix 12.3 (Category 1- Home Players are excluded)

**7.3** The PPP may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history and circumstances. In addition, Community Clubs may make an application in accordance with the Local PPS By Laws detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a player to the PPP. The PPP reserve the right to make amendments to a player's point allocation should additional playing history or new information be made available.

## 8. Total Team Points

**8.1** The Board will undertake their own process of Total Team Points allocations and will be responsible for determining Total Team Points for their affiliate Senior Competitions and Clubs. Any alterations to a Community Club's Total Team Points cap for any other reason must be prior approved by the Operations subcommittee.

**8.2**. For each match, a club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of players allowed to participate. A Grade Team lists must consist of a minimum of 9 listed players and a maximum 12 listed players. It is at the club's discretion to the number of players listed between 9-12 however the Total Team Points calculated for the listed players must not exceed the clubs Total Team Point Allocation.

# 9. Enforcement

**9.1** Given Player Points Allocations will be managed via Netball Managers and operations staff.

**9.2** Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by the Football Netball League in line with the penalties set out in clause 9.3

**9.3** Penalties may include (without limitation)

(a) Club fines
(b) Loss of Premiership Points- Current Season and in the future
(c) Suspension from Finals- Current Season and in the future
(d) Player/Official Suspensions- for those players/officials that knowingly provide false information to the club;
(e) Any other penalty determined by the Football Netball League or Netball Victoria from time to time

In applying any enforcements provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, Football Netball Leagues shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as

- Unintentional- where a club had not been provided with accurate information
- Interpretive- where a club had applied the policy in a manner that the policy was not intended
- Intentional- where a clear breach had occurred with little or no regard to the requirements of the policy

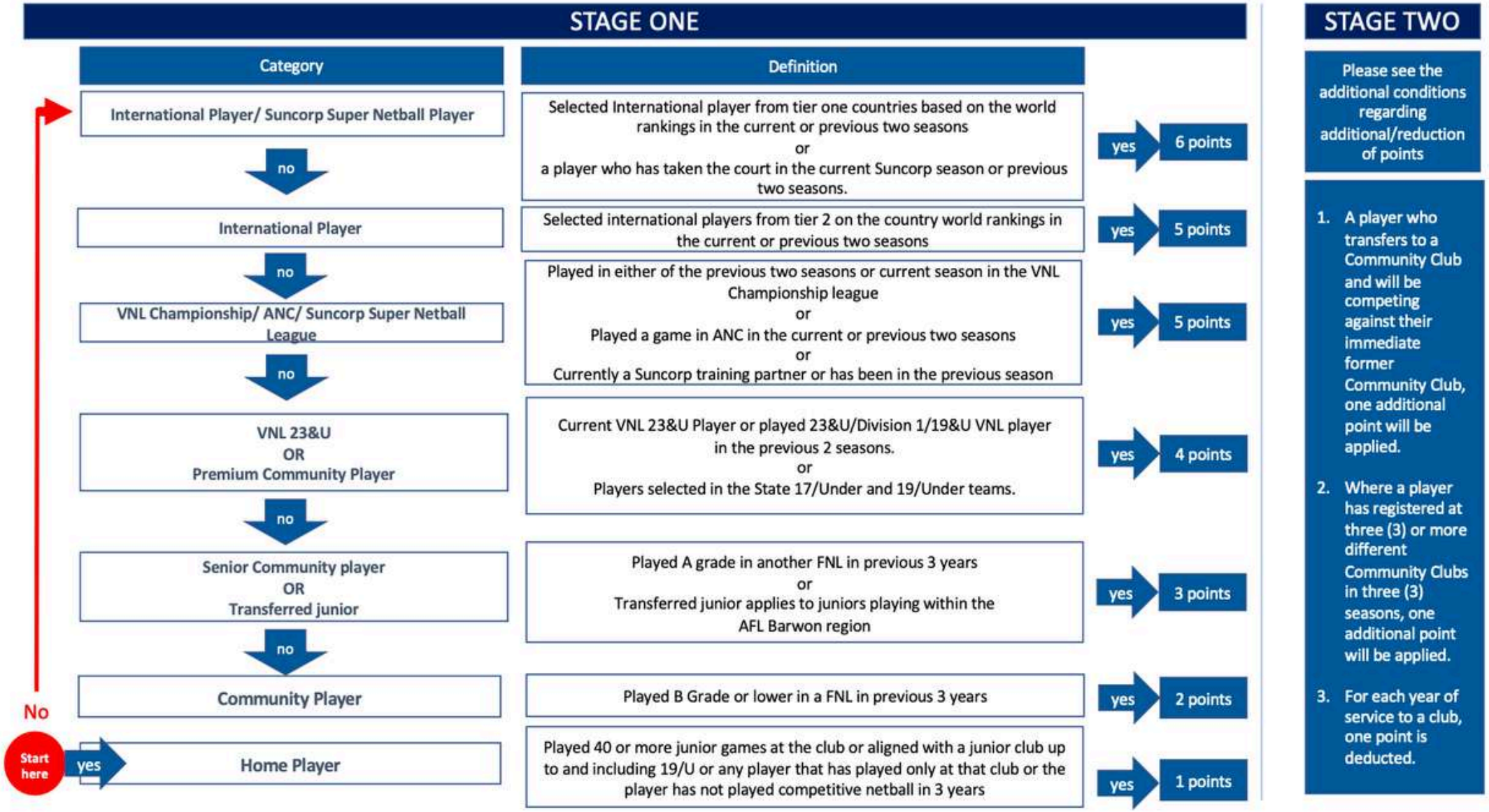
# 10. Appeal and Review

**10.1** Where a Community Club is of the view that a player's Player Points Allocation is deemed inappropriate under this PPS Policy following a reassessment conducted by the PPP, an appeal against that Player Points Allocation must be submitted to The Board in accordance with the Local PPS By Laws.

**10.2** Where a Club is of the view that its own Total Team Points is deemed inappropriate following a reassessment by the PPP, an application against that Player Points Allocation must be submitted to The Board in accordance with the Local PPS By Laws.

**10.3** The PPP will review the PPS Policy and Local By-Laws throughout each Season.

**10.4** AFL Barwon reserves the right to review and amend a player's points value should new information be brought to light that had not been previously disclosed, and impacts on a player's points assessment.


STAGE ONE
Category
Definition
International Player/ Suncorp Super Netball Player
Selected International player from tier one countries based on the world rankings in the current or previous two seasons
or
a player who has taken the court in the current Suncorp season or previous two seasons.
yes
6 points
no
International Player
Selected international players from tier 2 on the country world rankings in the current or previous two seasons
yes
5 points
no
VNL Championship/ ANC/ Suncorp Super Netball League
Played in either of the previous two seasons or current season in the VNL Championship league
or
Played a game in ANC in the current or previous two seasons
or
Currently a Suncorp training partner or has been in the previous season
yes
5 points
no
VNL 23&U
OR
Premium Community Player
Current VNL 23&U Player or played 23&U/Division 1/19&U VNL player in the previous 2 seasons.
or
Players selected in the State 17/Under and 19/Under teams.
yes
4 points
no
Senior Community player
OR
Transferred junior
Played A grade in another FNL in previous 3 years
or
Transferred junior applies to juniors playing within the AFL Barwon region
yes
3 points
no
Community Player
Played B Grade or lower in a FNL in previous 3 years
yes
2 points
No
Start here
yes
Home Player
Played 40 or more junior games at the club or aligned with a junior club up to and including 19/U or any player that has played only at that club or the player has not played competitive netball in 3 years
yes
1 points
STAGE TWO
Please see the additional conditions regarding additional/reduction of points
1. A player who transfers to a Community Club and will be competing against their immediate former Community Club, one additional point will be applied.
2. Where a player has registered at three (3) or more different Community Clubs in three (3) seasons, one additional point will be applied.
3. For each year of service to a club, one point is deducted.

# AFL Barwon Local PPSP By-Laws

## Netball

## (October 2026)

## 1. Player Points System

AFL Barwon affiliated leagues and Competitions must comply with the provisions of the relevant
governing policies:

- AFL Barwon Netball Player Points System Policy

The application and interpretation of these Policies is at the absolute discretion of the AFL Barwon Player Points Panel and Board.

**1.1 Definition of "Home Player" for AFL BARWON Leagues – Refer to Relevant Policy**

- Player who has played 40 or more junior games at the aligned junior club up to and including U19 Competition; or A Player who has played only at that Community Club and for no other Community Club; or A Player who has not played Competitive Netball in the Previous 3 years

## 2. AFL Barwon Player Points Panel (PPP)

AFL BARWON may appoint persons to a Player Points Panel. The panel will be a minimum of 3 members and will comprise:

- AFL Barwon Head of Operations – Football and Netball
- AFL BARWON Operations Coordinator (Male Football, Female Football & Netball);
- An endorsed representative from the GDFNL or CDFNL Board if required.
- Other selected AFL BARWON staff member.

# 2.1 Jurisdiction of the AFL Barwon Player Points Panel - Individual Player Assessment

**2.1.1** Clubs may make application in writing to the relevant AFL BARWON Operations Manager for reassessment of a player's points allocation within 7 days of the player's points being allocated by AFL BARWON pursuant to the AFL Barwon Player Points System framework, but no later than 3 days before the player's first Home & Away game with that club.

**2.1.2** The application must address the matters set out in 2.2 in the AFL Barwon Local PPS By-Laws. Any supporting evidence should be submitted with the application.

**2.1.3** All applications for individual player points reassessment will be considered by the "PPP" each Wednesday morning on a weekly basis. Clubs will be advised of the outcome by 5.00pm on the same day.

Any applications received after 9.00am Wednesday will not be considered until the following week, if they play in the A Grade Netball Team, the individual player will forfeit the chance to have their points reassessed and incur their original assessment of points. Once a player has played in the A Grade (Highest Graded) Team for a club, any request for a reduction to their assessed points will not be considered. (Retrospective requests will not be considered)

**2.1.4** Decisions of the PPP will be by majority vote.

**2.1.5** AFL BARWON will provide written notification to the Club within 24 hours of the PPP making its decision.

## 2.2 Considerations for Individual Assessments

The guide below will be used when assessing club submissions. The application of these guidelines will be at the absolute discretion of the PPP.

### 2.2.1 Contracted Player

- Any player who is to receive in excess of $80 per game in the current season will not be considered for any points reduction.

### 2.2.2 University Placement

- No reduction in assessed points will be considered, but additional points may not be applied only where the relocation has resulted in the player registering at 3 or more community clubs in 3 seasons as referenced in Clause 6.2 of AFL Barwon Netball Player Points System Policy.
- If a player has been relocated due to a University placement, consideration for non- application of extra points as above will only be given if:
- Acceptable evidence of current enrolment is provided with the application
- The distance relocated is considered by the PPP too excessive to continue playing for their previous club.

### 2.2.3 Employment

- No reduction in assessed points will be considered, but additional points may not be applied only where the relocation has resulted in the player registering at 3 or more community clubs in 3 seasons as referenced in Clause 6.2 of AFL Barwon Netball Player Points System Policy.
- Consideration will only be given where a player has been relocated by the employer to another area with the same company or government organisation, and if:
    - Acceptable evidence of forced employment relocation is provided by the employer with the application
    - The distance relocated is considered by the PPP too excessive to continue playing for their previous club

### 2.2.4 Circumstances that limit playing opportunities

- Where evidence is provided to support a claim whereby a player was unable through injury or pregnancy to complete the required games in the previous season to attract a one- point reduction having already been registered at that club.

### 2.2.5 Playing History

- Consideration not to apply additional points for 3 clubs in 36 months may be given whereby a Netball player has played 5 or less games in either of the 2 previous seasons

# 3. Jurisdiction of the AFL Barwon PPP - Club Assessment

AFL Barwon will notify all clubs of their allocated Team Points for the next season by Mid-October in the previous year.

- BFNL & GFNL Clubs will be allocated TTPs using a tiered approach based on their A Grade team's ladder position as at:
  - the end of the home and away season for the previous season - BFNL
  - the end of finals for the previous season - GFNL

The weighting for these determinations will be at the discretion of the AFL Barwon Operations Committee.

- Clubs wishing to apply for additional points are invited to apply to the AFLB Operations Committee. These applications are to be submitted to the Head of Netball, to then be tabled by the Chair of the AFLB Operations Committee and are due by no later than 10 days after being notified of their TTP's each year. Clubs are encouraged to submit applications as soon as possible. For 2027 these applications are to be submitted to Sophie Allison sophie@aflbarwon.com.au

- Applications will be reviewed on a weekly basis and Clubs notified of outcomes and reasoning by October.

- Clubs need to provide evidence and data to support their application, in-line with the Club Assessment Criteria (see below). The AFLB Operations Committee will not consider applications where there is no supporting documentation.

- A template will be provided to Clubs to assist in the application process.

- The decision of the AFLB Operations Committee is final. There will be no appeals process.

## 3.2 Considerations for Total Team Points Reassessments

Club Assessment Criteria

- Recent Sustained Lack of Success
- Access to underage sides
- Geographic Location
- Demographics
- Socio Economics
- Other factors may be considered by the Committee.

## 3.3 Appeals against the AFL Barwon PPP

**3.3.1** Clubs may appeal a decision of the Player Points Panel for *Individual Player Points reassessments* to the AFL BARWON Board provided that the appeal is made in writing to the Head of the AFL Barwon Operations sub-committee not later than **5.00pm** on the second business day after AFL BARWON has notified the Club of the decision for Individual Assessments. Evidence must be provided that demonstrates the PPP did not apply the considerations outlined in the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws.

**3.3.2** The AFL BARWON Board will appoint an Appeals Panel comprising AFL Barwon Boarders, whose decision will be by majority vote.

**3.3.3** The appeal may be dealt with in whatever forum the AFL BARWON Appeals Panel considers most appropriate – including at a formal meeting of the AFL BARWON Board, by teleconference or by consideration “on the papers”.

**3.3.4** AFL BARWON will provide written notification to the member club within 7 days of the AFL BARWON Board making its decision.

**3.3.5** The Board is not obliged to give reason for its decision.

**3.3.6** The decision of the AFL BARWON Board is final.


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