

Northern Beaches Summer Football



NBSF Competition 2025

Overview, Playing Rules, Format and Competition Structure Information

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1. OVERVIEW

Northern Beaches Summer Football (NBSF) has delegated the organisation and management of their Summer Football Competition to the NBSF Committee.

This document outlines the purpose of the competition, the playing rules, and the competition structure for the NBSF competition in 2025. It is important that all players, managers, coaches, parents, and supporters understand and adhere to the following guidelines:

1. NBSF organises this competition to provide a safe, fair, and inclusive environment where everyone involved can enjoy football.
2. The main aim of the competition is to help players maintain their fitness and skills in a fun and friendly setting.
3. All players, managers, coaches, parents, and supporters must comply with the appropriate behaviour, failure to do so may result in penalties to the team.
4. Respect for referees is paramount. Any abuse or intimidation towards referees will result in the offending team being removed from the competition, with the forfeiture of their playing fees.
5. The safety of players is the competitions top priority. Please avoid allowing anyone to climb or swing on the goalposts, and report any dangerous or inappropriate behaviour to NBSF Committee representatives at the Marquee.

2. PLAYING RULES

The FIFA Laws of the Game apply, with the following specific Summer Football rules in place:

- **Team Composition:** Each team consists of 6 players, including one goalkeeper.
- **Substitutions:** Teams may have up to 10 players with unlimited substitutions.
- **Offside:** There is no offside in Summer Football.
- **No Slide Tackling or Aggressive Behaviour:** Slide tackling, tackling from behind, body checking, or any aggressive behaviour is prohibited. Offenders will receive a Yellow Card, and the opposing team will be awarded a free kick.
- **Throw ins:** When the ball goes over the sideline, it is restarted with a throw-in not a kick-in. Opposing players must be at least 5 meters away during throw-ins.
- **Free Kicks:** All free kicks, except for penalties, are indirect, with the opposing player required to be at least 5 meters away.
- **Penalties:** Penalties are taken 6 meters from the goal, in line with the centre of the goal. Goalkeepers cannot be substituted immediately after a penalty unless injured.

- **Unlimited Interchange:** Interchanges are allowed when the ball is out of play, but must occur at the halfway mark. The player leaving the field must do so before the replacement enters.
- **Goal Scoring:** A goal can only be scored from a free kick, kick-off, throw-in, or corner by a second attacking player, not the original kicker.
- **Scoring Rules:**
 - Normal Goal – Worth 1 point.
 - Top Bins Goal (Ball Goes in the top bins net) – Worth 2 points.
 - If the ball hits the target and fails to go in the goal, **NO GOAL** is awarded
- **Goalkeeper Rules:**
 - Goal kicks can be taken as a place kick, punt kick, or throw, and the ball cannot be propelled past the halfway line on the full.
 - Goalkeepers must release the ball within 4 seconds after gaining possession.
 - Goalkeepers can only be substituted at halftime unless injured.
- **Goal Clearances:** If the ball crosses the goal line last touched by an attacker, play restarts with a goal clearance (goal throw) by the goalkeeper. The ball must be thrown directly out of the penalty area. For Juniors (U6 to U12), the ball must not be thrown over halfway on the full. In general play, the goalkeeper may throw over halfway or punt the ball.
- **Back-Pass Rule:** Goalkeepers cannot handle or play the ball with their feet after releasing it from possession unless it has been touched by an opponent or gone out of play. This also applies to goal clearances. Goalkeepers must release the ball within four seconds of gaining control. If the goalkeeper crosses the halfway line, there is no time restriction.
- **Corner Kicks:** Corner kicks are taken from the corner area and must be executed within four seconds.
- **Kick-Off:** A kick-off to start or restart a game must be taken within four seconds of the referee's signal.

3. FORMAT

- **Competition Format:** 6v6 competition (includes 5 on field players and 1 goalkeeper of your choice) and run for 10 Weeks.
- **Competition Dates:** The competition will kick off on Friday the 10th of October and run for 10 weeks, concluding on Friday the 12th of December. Additionally, there will be a wet weather round scheduled for Friday, the 19th of December for any washout weeks.
- **Competition Updates:** Weekly updates will be made to the tables and results tab on the website. Other updates on the competition will be sent to team managers via email.

9. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- **Game Duration:** Games consist of two 14-minute halves with a 1-minute halftime break. There are no stoppages for injuries or other delays.
- **Competition Fixtures:** The draw is set prior to competition start and weekly tables updates will be available on our website under the “fixtures and tables page”.
- **Scoring & Points:** Teams earn 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, and 0 points for a loss. A forfeit results in a 3-0 score and 3 points for the non-forfeiting team.
- **Competition Fixtures, Results and Tables:** Team managers will have access to tables, fixtures and results via www.nbsf.com.au under the “fixtures and tables page”. These will be updated weekly.
- **Football Sizes:** Different age groups use specific ball sizes, ranging from Size 3 for U6 to U10 and Size 4 for U11 +

4. REGISTRATIONS

- **Player Registration:** No team can register or play more than two "Rep" players. A "Rep" player includes those from Manly United or Youth League players, Skill Acquisition Programme (SAP) players, or those from other representative programs as determined by the NBSF Committee.
- **Additional Registrations:** Extra players may be registered at any point during the competition.
- **Multiple Teams:** Players who wish to register in more than one team must seek permission from the NBSF Committee.
- **Unregistered Players:** Teams with unregistered or suspended players will forfeit the game and lose competition points, with repeat offences resulting in expulsion from the competition without a refund.

5. PLAYING STRIP

- **Required Uniform:** Players must wear the full official competition playing strip: a team colour shirt, black shorts, and black socks. Players must also wear appropriate footwear, such as moulded plastic sole boots, and approved shin pads.
- **Shirt Colour Clash:** In the event of a shirt colour clash, the home team (listed first in the draw) will wear white or different coloured bibs, whichever provides the best contrast.
- **Goalkeeper Attire:** Goalkeepers will wear a coloured bib supplied by NBSF, whichever contrasts best with the team shirts.

6. BORROWED PLAYERS

- **Under 8 and Below:** A maximum of three borrowed players can be used in a single game, with the goal being to bring the team up to seven players.
- **Under 9 and Above:** A maximum of two borrowed players can be used, and the team can only borrow enough players to reach six. If the missing player arrives, the borrowed player must be substituted off.
- **Team Limit:** Teams cannot field more players than their registered number. Borrowed players must be written on the match card and identified to the opposition manager.

7. FORFEITS

- **Forfeiting Games:** Teams that do not have at least four players available 4 minutes at the scheduled start time will forfeit the game. All forfeits must be reported 48 hours in advance.
- **Forfeit Penalties:** A forfeited game will result in a 3-0 win for the non-forfeiting team. Teams forfeiting twice without notice will be disqualified from the competition.

8. CAUTIONS, RED CARDS & TEAM FOULS

- **Aggression & Forceful Challenges:** Players must avoid unnecessary aggression or forceful challenges. Slide tackling or tackling from behind will result in a free kick and possible yellow or red cards

9. PARENT AND PLAYER BEHAVIOUR

- It is our priority to ensure we have a safe and fun environment for participants, spectators referees alike. To ensure this we have various sanctions from the committee in place as a result of any behaviour deemed to be aggressive or threatening to the players, spectators or referees safety.
- **Players Behaviour:** NBSF doesn't tolerate physically aggressive or verbally aggressive behaviour from players. Players and teams who do so may face various sanctions from the referee/NBSF Committee. These include: red cards, suspensions, match disqualification and in serious cases removal from the NBSF competition
- **Parent Behaviour:** NBSF doesn't tolerate physically aggressive or verbally aggressive behaviour from parents/spectators. It is our priority to ensure we have a safe environment for participants. Any inappropriate or aggressive behaviour will result in various consequences as decided by the NBSF committee.

10. FINALS

- **Tiebreakers:** If teams are equal on points, rankings will be determined by the following criteria: goal difference, goals scored, and head-to-head results.
- **Final Matches:** The Major Final will be between the top two teams at the end of the final round, there will be no semi finals. If the Major Final ends in a draw, the team finishing higher in the competition will be declared the winners. Other finals will occur simultaneously for teams finishing lower on the tables on the final week (eg: 3v4, 5v6 etc)
- **Eligibility for Finals:** To play in the Major Final, a player must have participated in at least three games for their team or obtained approval from the NBSF Committee.

11. REFEREES

Official referees will be appointed for all games. In the absence of an official referee, teams may mutually agree to provide a referee. If no agreement is reached, the game will be abandoned with no points awarded.

12. RULES CHANGES

The NBSF Committee reserves the right to alter these rules at any time. No discussions will be entertained regarding changes made to the rules.

13. WEATHER

Games may be canceled due to extreme weather conditions such as storms, extreme heat, lightning, or poor air quality.

There will be a wet weather round week for any rained out matches scheduled on Friday the 19th of December 2025.

Ground closures by the NB Council may affect if games are scheduled to go ahead. Decisions on wet weather will be made at approximately 3pm on the day when ground closure status is updated.

14. TEAM MANAGER

Each team must have a nominated Team Manager who serves as the point of contact between the NBSF Committee and the team. Team Managers must provide their email address and mobile phone number, and they must hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) for all teams from U6 to U12.

15. COVID-19

All players, officials, managers, coaches, and spectators must comply with the current NSW Government COVID-19 health orders and the NBSF COVID-19 Safety Plan.

