**Key changes to 2023 WABL by-laws**

**3.0 Playing Rules (page 3)**

10 second backcourt rule has been implemented for Under 12s Divisions 2–5

* Article 28 – In Under 12s Divisions 2–5, the 8 second restriction in the back court will be increased to 10 seconds.

The following were both under “rules not adopted by WABL”. Both notes have been removed from this section and will be adopted.

* Article 37 – disqualifying foul – a player shall be disqualified when he is charged with two (2) unsportsmanlike fouls.
* Article 38 – technical foul – falling down to fake a foul.

**4.0 Premiership Table (page 4)**

Head-to-head has been made more clearer

1. If two (2) or more teams have the same number of premiership points, the ladder order for the tied teams shall be decided by;
   1. Head to head only if all teams equal on premiership points have played identical number of games against one another.
   2. Overall percentage for/against of all regular season games.
   3. Largest win margin percentage for all regular season games.

If these criteria still cannot decide, a draw shall decide on the classification.

**6.0 Timing (page 6)**

Half time interval for U16s and above has been reduced to 8 minutes

Overtime for U12s and U14s has been reduced to 3 minute periods

6.2 For all age groups Under 16 and above, games will consist of four quarters of ten (10) minutes each, fully timed, with a half time interval of no more than eight (8) minutes,and a two (2) minute break at the end of the first and third quarter.

For the Under 12 and Under 14 Age Groups, games will consist of four quarters of eight (8) minutes each, fully timed, with a half time interval of no more than five (5) minutes, and a two (2) minute break at the end of the first and third quarter.

* 1. Each team is allowed two (2) charged time outs at any time in the first half (first and second quarter). Three (3) charged time outs are permitted in the second half (third and fourth quarter). A maximum of 2 timeouts are allowed in the last 2 minutes of the fourth quarter. An additional time out is allowed in any extra period.

6.4 If the game is drawn at the conclusion of the playing time for the fourth period, a two-minute break will be taken before overtime commences. For Under 12s and Under 14s, the extra periods will be three (3) minutes. For Under 16s and above, the extra periods will be five (5) minutes. This will continue until a result is achieved.

**9.0 Players and Forfeits (page 7)**

Playing up within an age group has been given a clear rule

9.5     Within an age group, players may participate as a fill-in in a higher grade for a maximum of 3 games. Once a 4th game is played that player is considered to have moved to the higher graded team and may no longer represent the lower graded team.

All COVID-related leniencies from 2022 have been removed.

**13.0 Finals Format (page 9)**

Inclusion of 1v2 in Week One of Finals for all Under Age WABL Divisions

13.1 For all Under Age WABL Divisions, the Finals Format will consist of Three Weeks with the top six teams in each competition participating.

* Week One (Qualifying and Elimination Finals) QF: 1v2; EF: 3v6 and 4v5
* Week Two (Semi-Finals) Winner QF v lowest seeded EF winner, & Loser QF v highest seeded EF winner
* Week Three (Grand-Finals) Winners Semi Finals

**16.0 Officials – Duty Teams (page 10)**

Home referee rostering coming into effect in 2023

16.1 Under Home Rostering Rules, the home association will be responsible for supplying two referees per game with a minimum Level one accreditation (Under 16 Div 2 and above) or an Association Beginner Referee (Under 16 Div 3 and below)

The home association will also be responsible for covering any neutral games fixtured at their venue.

**Failure to supply two referees Forfeit + $50.00 fine**