

WAFC COMPRULES.9-10: Year 9 – Year 10 Male Competition Rules

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 9 – Year 10 Male Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.9-10
Adapted by:	JH.
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BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. In addition to the AFL Laws of Australian Football, the below local rules apply to all Year 9 – Year 10 competitions to ensure fair and even competitions. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 7 - Year 8 competitions to Year 9 – Year 10 competitions have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	Ground sizes increase as per WAFC POL.15A
1b. Football	Size 4 leather footballs
1d. Match length	Match length increases.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. General	Rules as per AFL Laws of Australian Football with no restrictions on kicking the ball off the ground, number of bounces allowed etc.

COMPETITION RULES

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1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes should be set as follows: Year 9 - 15-a-side : 120m – 150m (L) x 90 – 120m (W). Year 10 - 15-a-side & 18-a-side : 135m – 185m (L) x 110m – 155m (W).
1b. Football	Size 4 leather footballs
1c. Number of Players	18-a-side: Northern Conference Year 10 only i. Maximum of 7 players on the bench 15-a-side: Year 9 - All Conferences Year 10 - Southern, Peel & Central Conferences ii. Maximum of 5 players on the bench o Upon request to the WAFC, exemptions may be granted for a team wishing to utilise 7 players on the bench The below rule applies to both 15 and 18-a-side formats: iii. Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 20-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. General	Rules as per AFL Laws of Australian Football
2b. Positions	15-a-side: i. Soft zone resets at centre bounces: ii. 5 forwards, 5 midfielders & 5 defenders 18-a-side: iii. As per AFL Laws of Australian Football Zone resets at centre bounces: 5 forwards, 3 midfielders, 2 wings & 5 defenders.
2c. Out of Bounds	15-a-side & 18-a-side: Last Possession Rule: iv. From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. v. If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. vi. If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. vii. If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2d. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2e. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. COMPETITION ROLES	
3a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any year group or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: i. Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season, unless directed to do so by the WAFC under WAFC POL.10A 4b. This rule does not apply for "Temporary Play Ups". ii. If a player does play for another team in the same Club and year group after Round One, they will be deemed an ineligible player. This rule does not apply for "Temporary Play Ups". iii. Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.

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3b. Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Scoring and match results are permitted. ii. Premiership points and ladders are permitted. iii. Finals are played
3c. Awards	<p>Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded at this level.</p>
4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY	
4a. General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. No player may play more than 4 games across the teams of an older year group without approval from the WAFC Competition Team. ii. Once a player has been approved to play a 5th game in an older year group within a junior competition, they shall be deemed to be a part of that older year group for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger year group. iii. If a player has played for multiple teams in the higher age group, the WAFC will determine which team that player is now a part of. iv. If a player plays a 5th game without WAFC approval, the player will be deemed ineligible, and the match will be recorded as a forfeit. v. Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFC State Program Matches, may will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played most matches in the current season. vi. Any Colts player who plays a match at WAFL level, is deemed ineligible to play Youth football on the same weekend.
4b. Finals Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To be eligible to take part in any finals match all non-WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of five matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season. ii. A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the WAFC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the WAFC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is six or more consecutive matches. iii. Players may only compete in one finals series with the one team. <p>WAFL Colts Players</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of seven matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season to be eligible for finals. v. WAFL Colts players who have played at least three quarters of the total matches of the qualifying rounds of the WAFL Colts season are ineligible to play with a junior club/team during junior finals.

MATCH DAY ROLES

5. COMPETITION ROLES	
5a. Field Umpires	<p>The WAFC will appoint umpires for all matches. The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint an adult any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes. An umpire appointed under this rule must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. be 18 years or older. b. be named on match documents, and shall receive normal match payments. c. be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. d. be compliant with all WWC Checks (Working With Children). ii. The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.151 – Stretcher Policy. iii. The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
5b. Boundary Umpires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Each team competing in an 18-a-side competition from Year 9 and above shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. ii. Boundary umpires are not required for any 15-a-side matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply as per 2c. Out of Bounds.

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<p>5c. Goal Umpires</p>	<p>Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Goal Umpires will wear appropriate the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. ii. The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with the Interchange Stewards/independent scorer at the conclusion of each quarter. major breaks. iii. At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire. iv. The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) v. The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players. vi. Goal Umpires are not permitted to enter the playing field during the game unless instructed to do so by the Field Umpire.
<p>5d. Timekeeper</p>	<p>The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire and be deemed to be the official timekeeper.</p>
<p>5e. Interchange Steward</p>	<p>Both the home and away teams are responsible for providing an Interchange Steward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. ii. In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.
<p>5f. Independent Scorer</p>	<p>The listed Home Team shall provide an independent scorer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Independent Scorer is permitted to be the same person as the Interchange Steward. ii. The Independent Scorer shall carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game iii. The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter. iv. Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.
<p>6. TEAM ROLES</p>	
<p>6a. Coaches</p>	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions, and fines. ii. Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches. iii. Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals (refer to WAFC POL.04)

	<p>Accreditation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. v. All head coaches and assistant coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match. vi. If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. vii. All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. <p>Coaches Box</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> viii. All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. ix. Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head Coach • Assistant Coach • Runner (see next page) • Medical Trainer • Team Manager <p>*Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.</p>
<p>6b. Team Manager</p>	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. ii. The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. <p>Coaches Box</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Team managers are permitted inside the coach’s box.

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<p>6c. Runners</p>	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Teams are only permitted to have one runner. ii. Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved uniform. iii. Runners are not permitted to carry water. iv. Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the coach’s box via the interchange area. v. Team runners are not permitted to ‘coach’ whilst on the ground. vi. Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area. vii. Team runners must be 18 years or older. should be an adult. viii. Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. ix. Team Runners are under no circumstances allowed to make physical contact with umpires, opposition players or officials. <p>Coaches Box</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The team runner is permitted inside the coach’s box.
<p>6e. Medical Officer/Trainer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current HLTAID011 Provide First Aid (formerly HLTAID003). – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). ii. The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identifiable. identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. iii. The team medical officer/sports trainer must not remove a player on a stretcher unless they have necessary formal training and qualifications to do so. (e.g., SMA Level 1 Sports Trainer) be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. iv. Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. <p>Coaches Box</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coach’s box.
<p>6f. General</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School, or Interstate competition. i. Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players, umpires, or opposition officials, under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations

WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity

WAFC POL.10A – Team Nominations

WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation & WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy