

## MEMO: 80 - 21

**TO:** All Clubs  
**FROM:** Damien Bresic  
**DATE:** 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Return to Games Information

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Dear Colleagues,

Thank you all for being patient during these difficult times and we hope that you are all staying safe.

We apologise for the delay in providing you with this information but with the constant changing of the situation around the whole Covid matter and trying to deal with two Governments it has been a challenge to settle on a uniform and consistent approach around what will be happening to our competitions for the remainder of the season. As you are well aware, currently the Qld border is shut with only essential workers able to cross and the Tweed region is in full lockdown till at least midnight Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August. With those two factors in mind, we have outlined below a roadmap on how we will complete the season.

Our season will recommence this weekend as stated in our previous memo but please understand, as we are consistently told the Covid situation is fluid and can change from day to day. We need clubs (and teams) to accept the real possibility that even this roadmap may change but for now we believe we have covered most situation and are comfortable with the outcome. We acknowledge that the decisions we have made may not suit everyone and may disadvantage an individual team, however, we have looked at multiple scenarios and feel what we have come up with is the fairest and most equitable to the greater majority. As such we ask for club understanding and cooperation as we try and conclude our season.

### **Mini Roos**

Due to the current situation in NSW and the QLD border closure, we have decided to group all NSW teams in their own divisions and as such they have taken those teams out of divisions where there was a mix of QLD and NSW team. This change has had an impact on a number of divisions, as QLD teams may have been moved to accommodate this change. All effected divisions are listed below, so I urge you all to please ensure that your coaches and managers check SportsTG to confirm the status of their division.

- **U6** – No change
- **U7 – Wolves, Red Devils**
  - Tweed Red, Purple & White have been removed from Red Devils
  - Red Devils to become a 5-team division consisting of QLD teams
- **U8 – Beckham, Buffon, Suarez**
  - Buffon has become a NSW only division
  - Beckham – Kingscliff Green has been removed
  - Suarez – Tweed White, Green and Kingscliff Yellow have been removed
  - Buffon – Palm Beach Yellow, Purple & Orange have been removed and placed into Suarez



- **U9 Joeys – All divisions**
  - A new NSW only division will be created
  - Uruguay - Bilambil Black & Red have been removed
  - Argentina – Nerang have been removed from Argentina and placed into Uruguay as Nerang Red
  - Italy – TSS Blue have been removed from Italy and placed into Argentina
- **U9 Wallabies – England, Brazil**
  - England will become a NSW only division
  - England – Palm Beach Green, Black & Tallebudgera Blue have been removed and placed into Brazil
- **U9 Kangaroos – Spain**
  - Spain – Kingscliff & Tweed have been removed from Spain and into a NSW only division
  - Spain – GCU Yellow has been removed all together.
- **U10 Joeys – Wanderers**
  - Wanderers – Tweed and Bilambil have been removed and placed into a NSW only division
  - Wanderers to become a 5-team division consisting of QLD teams
- **U10 Wallabies – Glory, Jets**
  - Glory – Palm Beach Red & Yellow have been removed and placed into Jets
- **U10 Kangaroos – Roar**
  - Roar – Tweed and Kingscliff have been removed and placed into a NSW only division
- **U11 Joeys – Cahill**
  - Cahill – Bilambil Red & Black have been removed and placed into a NSW only division
- **U11 Wallabies – Rogic, Mooy**
  - Rogic – Tallebudgera Black & Yellow have been removed and placed into Mooy
- **U11 Kangaroos – Milligan, Ryan**
  - Milligan – GCU White, Kingscliff, Murwillumbah Green, Red & Black have been removed and placed into a NSW only division
- **U11 Girls**
  - Girls – Kingscliff Green & Yellow have been removed and placed into a NSW only division.

#### **ALL Competition Divisions (including Juniors, Metro, PL and CL)**

Premiership trophies will still be awarded to all teams that finish the season on top of the ladder and the final series will be contested in all divisions.

The following conditions will apply to all competition divisions where we are playing for points and contesting for a Premiership and Finals series.



1. All games to resume this coming weekend 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> August (there a few catch up games scheduled for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August)
2. As NSW is currently in full lockdown which isn't due to be eased until midnight on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August, all games scheduled this weekend involving NSW team will not go ahead, and will be rescheduled if we have confirmation of the lockdown ending and border restrictions easing prior Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 5.00pm. If not item 5 will be invoked.
3. All games involving QLD v QLD teams and NSW v NSW teams will proceed as scheduled.
4. Should a NSW team have enough QLD residence in a team and can fulfil their obligations then this game will proceed and played at the opposition venue. Clubs will be notified as per item 7 below.
5. All games that cannot be played when scheduled (unless item 2 is applied) due to the border restriction / potential future lockdowns (NSW v QLD) will result in the game being declared a 0-0 draw ensuring both teams will be awarded 1 point on the ladder.
6. This situation will be assessed weekly and clubs will be notified by a memo if the games for the coming weekend will proceed.
7. Memo's will be sent to clubs at midday: -
  - a) Tuesdays for games scheduled on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
  - b) Thursday for games scheduled on Monday and Tuesday
  - c) Friday for games scheduled on Wednesday
  - d) Referee appointments for these games will be sent with above mentioned Memo's.
8. Should the border restrictions ease and people allowed to cross the border to participate in community sport then the competitions will resume as scheduled from that point in time.
  - a) Please note: - if the border opens, any game that was recorded a draw under item 5 will not be rescheduled and the result will stand.
9. If a player was due to serve a suspension (accumulation yellow cards or red card) in their next game/s and that happens to be a game against a NSW team that will be recorded under item 5, then that game/s will be counted as games missed.

#### **All Finals format for Juniors and Senior Competition**

1. Finals will be contested in all Division on dates as set in revised schedule.
2. As a matter of clarity, we wish to clear up a typo in Memo 79-21 in regards to the dates of the Men's Metro Div 1 Final Series, will commence on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> and Grand Final Oct 6<sup>th</sup>.



3. In an effort to give teams an extra game and in same way to alleviate the anomaly with “non contested draw results” ALL division with 11 or less teams will contest a Top 4 finals series and Divisions with 12 or more teams will play a Top 6 Final series.
4. Should a NSW team make the finals series and not be able to participate due to the border restriction Football Gold Coast will elevate all teams in that competition to fill the vacant spot/s
5. Should NSW teams finish the season in the Top 2 spots, then no finals series will be contested for that division and the two NSW team will play the Grand Final in NSW.

As there has been a number of draw changes in all competitions, and may continue to be, can you please ensure that all your coaches and managers regularly checks our website and SportsTG to ensure they have the latest schedule.

All draws are uploaded on SportsTG and will become live this afternoon.

I can appreciate there is a lot to take in and if you have any questions, issues or concerns please don't hesitate to contact our office and we will only be too happy to assist.

As previously mentioned, this whole situation isn't ideal and our decisions will have a greater impact on some teams while other will remain unaffected. Please understand we have considered a number of scenarios and options and we feel this is the best result for the majority while still leaving the door open for our NSW friends to rejoin the competition if the situation changes.

Please enjoy the return to football, ensure you follow Government's Covid protocols and most importantly stay safe.