

# **FINALS QUALIFICATION RULES**



**2023 VICLEAGUE & SUPERLEAGUE  
CRICKET**

# CRICKET

## **FRIDAY NIGHT CRICKET**

### **MENS 1 FRIDAY**

Players must play a minimum of 5 games in either MENS 1, 2 or a combination of these teams to be eligible for MENS 1 finals.

If clubs have 2 teams in the same grade, any players that have played a combination of 5 games between both teams are eligible for the team they have played more games for.

Players that are qualified for Mens 2 finals are eligible to play Mens 1 finals.

### **MENS 2 FRIDAY**

- a) Players must play a minimum of 5 games in MENS 2 team to be eligible for MENS 2 finals. If clubs have 2 teams in the same grade, any players that have played a combination of 5 games between both teams is eligible for the team they have played more games for.

OR

- b) Any player who has played 1 or 2 games in MENS DIV 1 or a combination of teams if they have 2 teams in that division, must play a minimum of 3 or 4 games in MENS DIV 2, or a combination of teams if they have 2 teams in that division to be eligible for MENS DIV 2 finals. This would mean a minimum of 5 combined games played with more games played in Div 2 than in Div 1 and that player is eligible for finals.

- c) Players who are only qualified in MENS DIV 1 cannot play in MENS DIV 2 finals under any circumstances.

## **SATURDAY CRICKET**

### **VICLEAGUE MENS**

Players must play a minimum of 4 games in either VICLEAGUE MENS DIV 1, 2, 3, 4 or a combination of these teams to be eligible for VICLEAGUE MENS finals.

### **MENS DIV 2**

Players must play a minimum of 4 games in either MENS DIV 1, 2, 3, 4 or a combination of these teams to be eligible for MENS DIV 2 finals.

OR

Any player who has played 1 to 5 games in VICLEAGUE, MENS DIV 2 or a combination of these teams must play a minimum of 3 games in MENS DIV 2, 3, 4 or a combination of these teams to be eligible for MENS DIV 2 finals.

- d) Players who have played 6 games or more in VICLEAGUE cannot play in MENS DIV 2 finals.

### **MENS DIV 3**

- a) Players must play a minimum of 4 games in either MENS DIV 3, 4 to be eligible for MENS DIV 3 finals.

OR

Any player who has played 1 to 5 games in VICLEAGUE, DIV 2,3 or a combination of these teams you must play a minimum of 3 games in MENS DIV 3, 4 or a combination of these teams to be eligible for MENS DIV 3 finals.

- b) Players who have played 6 games or more in VICLEAGUE, MENS DIV, 2 or a combination of these teams cannot play in MENS DIV 3 finals.

### **MENS DIV 4**

- a) Players must play a minimum of 4 games in MENS DIV 4 to be eligible for MENS DIV 4 finals.

OR

Any player who has played 1 to 5 games in VICLEAGUE, 2, 3,4 or a combination of these teams must play a minimum of 3 games in MENS DIV 4 to be eligible for MENS DIV 4 finals.

- b) Players who have played 6 games or more in VICLEAGUE, 2, 3 or a combination of these teams cannot play in MENS DIV 4 finals.

## **WOMENS**

Players must play a minimum of 4 games in WOMENS to be eligible for WOMENS finals.

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

## **1. Tournament Types and Finals Eligibility**

- a) The basic tournament types are: Mens,
- b) Players must play 5 of the games fixtured (not including Byes) in one tournament grade or combination of grades to be eligible to play finals in that tournament.
- c) Games played in one type of tournaments, eg MENS, cannot be added to games played in another type of tournament, eg. MIXED, to make the player eligible for finals.

## **2. Participation**

- a) Minimum Periods  
To have a game count towards qualification for finals, players must participate on court for the following minimum periods. (Note: there is no allowance for injury during these minimum periods):  
**Cricket:** One innings (players must at least bat in one innings or bowl & field in one innings).  
**Netball:** One quarter  
Interchange / Substitute Players
  1. Interchange / Substitute players must sign the Team Sheet and have their names initialled by the match Umpire to confirm they participated on court for the above minimum periods if the game is to count towards their finals qualification. When this does not occur, the players will be presumed not to have played the minimum period.
  2. It is the Captain's responsibility to ensure that Umpires initial the names of interchange / substitute players who legitimately participated.
- b) A player cannot participate as a substitute or interchange player if they have participated in another game in the same round of matches. If this rule is violated, the penalty will be as described in By-Rule 16 – ineligible players.
- c) Substitute / Interchange players cannot play in a later game scheduled in the same round of matches.

## **3. Games Per Round**

- a) Players can only play in one finals game per round per sport except when playing in two (2) grades (eg Mixed & Womens in netball) is permitted. If this rule is violated, the game a player first plays in will be valid. Their second game will cause the team to be penalised as per By-Rule 16.
- b) A player cannot play a Home & Away and Finals game in different grades in the same week.
- c) Players can play In Friday night R-League finals and Saturday Vicleague & Superleague finals in the same week.

## **4. Definition of Finals Rounds**

- In a Final 4 series, the Elimination Final is categorised as the same round as the Qualifying Final.
- In a Final 5 or 6 series, the Elimination Final is categorised as the same round as the Qualifying Final, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Semi Final is categorised as the same round as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi Final.
- Preliminary Finals and Grand Finals are separate rounds.

## **5. Finals Eligibility Not Appealable**

Ignorance of the Finals Qualification Rules, personal commitments, business commitments, holidays, illness, accident, change of personal circumstances or club selection policies will not be accepted as reasons for unqualified players to have special exemption from a particular grade's Finals Qualification criteria. There are no appeals under this rule.

## **6. Teams Short of Players / Insufficient Players to Take Court For Finals**

- a) If only the minimum number of players are qualified and available to play in a particular grade, then that team must play with those players only.
- b) If less than the minimum number of players are qualified and available, then the final will be forfeited to the team they are scheduled to play.

## 4

### 7. Forfeited Final

- a) A team who forfeits or withdraws or is excluded for any reason will be prohibited from further participation in the series but will not be replaced by a substitute team.
- b) Forfeited finals or finals where teams were disqualified will not be replayed.

### 8. 8 Game Rule

- a) Once a player has played in 8 games in any higher or combination of higher grades during the season, regardless of club, permission must be sought from the Administrative Office by 5:00pm, Friday, before that player can be selected to play in a lower grade. The penalty for failure to gain permission will be as described under By-Rule 16 – “Ineligible Player”. Teams will be penalised irrespective of the violation being intentional or made through ignorance. Any late team changes should be made only if they fit within the rules and only after reference to the club’s 8<sup>th</sup> Round Qualification List.

### 9. Player Qualification Lists

- a) The Administrative Office will provide lists showing the games played by all players after round 10 in each club prior to the Finals or earlier upon request. These lists are determined from the Team Sheets and Registration/Clearance Forms submitted by the host centres. They are the official records. The Qualification Lists will indicate which grade's finals each player is qualified to participate in. It is the responsibility of each club to contact the Office in the event of any query prior to team selection. Teams should only be selected after reference to these lists. Playing unqualified players will result in penalties, including forfeiture of games.
- b) Team Captains are entitled to check the host centre Qualification List if there is a query against any of their team’s players.
- c) The ultimate responsibility is with the **Club** to ensure all players playing are qualified.

### 10. Finals Selection Options When A Club Has More Than One Team In Finals On The Same Day

**EXAMPLES** (Teams in bold are in finals on the same day)

**SELECTION OPTIONS**

<b>MENS A</b>	<b>MENS B</b>	Mens C	Mens D	Mens E	Mens A can play Mens B.
<b>MENS A</b>	<b>MENS B</b>	<b>MENS C</b>	Mens D	Mens E	Mens A can play Mens B.
					Mens B can play Mens C.
					Mens A cannot play Mens C.
Mens A	<b>MENS B</b>	<b>MENS C</b>	Mens D	Mens E	Mens B can play Mens C.
Mens A	<b>MENS B</b>	<b>MENS C</b>	<b>MENS D</b>	<b>MENS E</b>	Mens B can play Mens C.
					Mens C can play Mens D.
					Mens D can play Mens E.
					Mens B cannot play Mens D or E.
					Mens C cannot play Mens E.
<b>MENS A</b>	Mens B	<b>MENS C</b>	Mens D	Mens E	Mens A cannot play Mens C.
Mens A	<b>MENS B</b>	Mens C	<b>MENS D</b>	<b>MENS E</b>	Mens B cannot play Mens D or E.
					Mens D can play Mens E.

Mens A      **MENS B**    Mens C      **MENS D**      Mens E              Mens B cannot play Mens D.

**Notes:**

- i) Higher grade players taking advantage of this rule cannot drop more than one grade at a time.
- ii) Lower grade players are entitled to play in higher grades (eg. MENS C to MENS B or MENS A).
- iii) A = your club's Firsts, B = your club's Seconds, etc.