SAASL CUP AND SHIELD COMPETITION RULES

1. The following rules (the "Cup Rules") are applicable to the Cup Competitions under the jurisdiction of the South Australian Amateur Soccer League Inc. ("SAASL"), namely:

1.1 SAASL CHALLENGE CUP ("Challenge Cup")

1.2 SAASL RESERVE CUP ("Reserve Cup")

1.3 SAASL OVER 35's CUP ("Over 35's Cup')

1.4 SAASL C team CUP ('C team Cup')

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Any team playing in any division of the SAASL league championship shall be eligible to enter the Challenge Cup.

2.2 Any team playing in any division of the SAASL reserve championship shall be eligible to enter the Reserve Cup

2.3 Any team playing in any division of the SAASL over 35's championship shall be eligible to enter the Over 35's Cup.

2.4 Any team playing in the Premier C division of the SAASL championship shall be eligible to enter the C's Cup. Clubs who have teams in divisions two, three and four who have a C team entered in the corresponding C team competition, will be able to apply to participate in the C team Cup Competition each year.

2.5 For the avoidance of doubt, where any club affiliated with the SAASL has more than two teams entered in the SAASL league championship or the reserves championship, then:

2.5.1 All teams from that club that play in a division of the SAASL league championship shall be eligible to enter the SAASL Challenge Cup.

2.5.2 All teams from that club that play in the SAASL reserve championship shall be eligible to enter the SAASL Reserve Cup.

2.5.3 All teams from that club that play in the SAASL Over 35's championship shall be eligible to enter the Over 35's Cup.

2.5.4 All teams from that club that play in the SAASL C team championship shall be eligible to enter the C team Cup.

3. ENTRY TO COMPETITION

3.1 All teams playing in either the senior divisions, reserves divisions or the Over 35's divisions shall automatically be included as entrants to the appropriate cup competition.

3.2 All teams playing in the Premier C divisions, shall automatically be included as entrants to the Premier C's Cup. Clubs who have teams in divisions two, three and four who have entered teams in the corresponding C team competition, will be able to express their interest to enter the C team Cup Competition each year.

4. WITHDRAWALS

4.1 Any club withdrawing a team from a cup competition prior to the draw for the first round being made, shall be fined in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines, as published from time to time.

4.2 Any club withdrawing a team from a cup competition after the draw for the preliminary round/first round has been made, shall be fined in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines, as published from time to time by the League.

4.3 Any club withdrawing the senior team (A team) after the draw for the preliminary round / first round shall automatically forfeit the club Reserve Cup and C team Cup draws (if applicable).

4.4 Any club withdrawing the reserve team (B team) after the draw for the preliminary round / first round shall automatically forfeit the club C team Cup draw (if applicable).

4.5 The League reserves the right to substitute a team to replace a team withdrawing from the competition.

4.6 Any club withdrawing their C teams after the draw for the preliminary round/first round and/or any subsequent rounds, may be suspended from participation in the C team Cup for the following season and be subject to any fines in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines, as published from time to time.

4.7 Any club withdrawing their RESERVE team after the draw for the preliminary round/first round and/or any subsequent rounds, may be suspended from participation in the Reserve Cup for the following season and be subject to any fines in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines, as published from time to time.

4.8 Any club withdrawing their SENIOR team (A team) after the draw for the preliminary round/first round and/or any subsequent round, may be suspended AS A CLUB from participation in any cup competition for the following season, and be subject to any fines in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines as published from time to time.

5. CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

5.1 Fixtures throughout the cup competition shall be decided by a draw made by the League and the first of every two teams drawn out during the draw shall be known as the Home team and the second of every two teams drawn out during the ballot shall be known as the Away team.

5.1.1 The Reserves Cup will be aligned to the Senior Team and a separate draw will not be conducted.

5.1.2 Clubs with Senior Teams that progress through the rounds of the Cup, will host the Reserve match on the same day and may host a C's Cup match (which may be different Clubs)

5.1.3 The Over 35's Cup will be run independently of any other cup competition as scheduled by the League.

5.1.4 The C team Cup will be run independently of any other cup competition as determined by the League.

5.2 Semi-finals and Cup final matches shall be played on grounds nominated by the League.

5.3 All rounds shall be conducted on a knock-out basis and once a club has been defeated it shall take no further part in the competition.

5.4 The winning teams from each round (except the final round) will enter the next round.

5.5 The winner of the final round shall be known as the Cup Winner and the loser of the final round shall be known as the Cup Runner Up.

5.6 The final round (when only two teams are left in the cup competition) shall be known as the Cup Final and the round immediately preceding the cup final (when only four teams are left in the competition) shall be known as the Cup Semi-Finals.

6. BYES

No team shall receive more than one bye in the competition.

7. VENUES, DATES AND TIMES OF PLAY

All venues, dates of play and kick-off times shall be as directed by the League. They may be varied from round to round, and may be applied to all teams, to any one team, or to a selection of teams in either or both of the cup competitions.

8. DURATION OF MATCH

8.1 The duration of a match shall be:

Cup	Halves	Half time Break
Challenge & Reserve Cup	2 x 45 Minutes	10 Minutes
Over 35's & C team Cup	2 x 40 Minutes	10 Minutes

8.2 In the event of that a match is drawn after normal time, and extra time:

Cup	Extra Time	Penalties
Challenge & Reserve Cup	2 x 15 Minutes	If Match is drawn after extra time
Over 35's & C team Cup	N/A	If Match is drawn after normal time

8.3 Where required, penalty kicks in sets of five shall be taken. If still a draw, single penalty kicks shall be taken until such time as a decision is reached. The kicks shall be taken in turn by the two teams and by different players. Note: No player can take a second kick until such time as all players in the team who are on the pitch at the conclusion of extra time, have had their turn.

9. WALKOVER

9.1 If a match does not start within 30 minutes of the specified kick-off time due to a team failing to appear or in the opinion of the referee, failing to be ready to commence play in the game, then upon receipt of the referee's report, that match shall be considered a walkover to the team present and ready to commence play at the time.

9.2 Any club whose team is found to be the cause of a walkover shall not progress to the next round of the Cup and may be fined in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines as published by the League.

9.3 The team awarded the match will progress to the next round of the Cup.

10. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

10.1 Players taking part in the competition shall be properly registered with the League.

10.2 Players competing in the Semi-Final and the Final rounds shall be registered with the club concerned before the last cup round preceding the Semi-Finals.

10.3 Any player who has competed in a cup round fixture with a team of one club shall not be eligible to play for a team of another club in either of the cup competitions for any of the remaining rounds of the cup competition during that season.

10.4 Any player listed on the match sheet who has crossed the line of play in a Challenge Cup round shall not be eligible to play in any subsequent Reserve Cup, C team and Over 35's Cup rounds

during that season and will be considered cup tied to the Challenge Cup team.

10.5 Any player listed on the match sheet who has crossed the line of play in a Reserve Cup round shall not be eligible to play in any subsequent C team Cup or Over 35's Cup round during that season.

10.6 Any player listed on the match sheet of the C team Cup will be deemed to have crossed the line of play and have participated in the match and shall not be eligible to play in any subsequent round of the Over 35's Cup rounds during that season.

10.7 For any club that has entered more than one team in the Challenge Cup, Reserve Cup, C team Cup and Over 35's Cup, any player of that club who has played for one of those teams in a Challenge Cup round or Reserve Cup or C team Cup or Over 35's Cup round is NOT eligible to play for the other of the club's teams in any subsequent Cup rounds of the respective Cup.

10.8 Players listed as substitutes on the Reserve Cup or Challenge Cup match sheets, will be considered Cup tied when they crossed the line of play. The only exception being that of the named Reserve Goalkeeper, noted 'RGK' on the team sheet. Providing the Reserve Goalkeeper does not enter the field of play they will still be eligible to play in either competition, i.e. Reserve Cup or Challenge Cup. There is no special consideration for the Reserve Goalkeeper – if they cross the line of play, they will be considered cup tied.

10.8.1 A Club cannot seek to gain an unfair advantage in relation to naming a regular field player as the Reserve Goalkeeper (RGK) on the team sheet. The listing of a field player as a Reserve Goalkeeper to avoid 'cup tying' a player will be investigated by the League and the Players' eligibility may be reconsidered under these rules.

10.9 Any club fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match concerned and shall be fined/sanctioned in accordance with the League's rules and may be excluded from any cup competition in the forthcoming season.

11. CUP MATCHES - PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

11.1 Challenge and Reserve Cup teams can name up to six (6) substitutes and one (1) Reserve Goalkeeper (RGK) on their match sheets. If no goalkeeper is listed, only six (6) substitutes may be submitted on a match sheet. Of the seven (7) substitutes, a team may only use a maximum of five (5) in normal time.

11.2 The following will be permitted in all Challenge and Reserve Cup matches:

11.2.1 Five (5) players may be replaced by substitutes during the course of a match.

11.3 Teams will only be permitted to make substitutions as follows:

11.3.1 Substitutions will only be permitted at three (3) stoppages during the match.

11.3.2 If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team.

11.3.3 Substitutions during the half time interval can be made with no effect on the three (3) stoppage rule.

11.3.4 Substitutions at all times are subject to the discretion of the Referee.

11.4 In the event of extra time in a Challenge or Reserve Cup Match, teams will each have one (1) additional substitution. For Clarification, if the game goes into extra time, the team can use a total of six (6) substitutes. Substitutions may also be made before the start of extra time and at half time in extra time.

11.5 For C team and Over 35's Cup matches only, six (6) players are permitted to be listed on the match sheet as interchange players.

11.6 Refer to Rule 22 for additional Over 35 Cup Rules.

11.7 Refer to Rule 24 for additional C team Cup Rules.

12. REFEREES AND REFEREE ASSISTANTS

12.1 Referees and Referee Assistants shall, subject to availability and the League's policy, be appointed to each fixture.

12.2 The official Referees and Referee Assistants' fees shall be shared equally by both teams in all rounds before the Semi-Final round, subject to the following:

12.2.1 In a completed fixture or an abandoned fixture, the Referee and Referee Assistant shall be entitled to the full scheduled fee.

12.2.2 If the match is postponed, then the match officials shall be entitled to one half of the scheduled fees.

12.2.3 If the match is declared a walkover, the match officials shall be entitled to the full scheduled fee.

12.2.4 If neither the official Referee nor an official Referee's Assistant aren't present at the scheduled kick-off time,

12.2.4.1 Challenge and Reserve Cup Matches will not proceed and will be rescheduled at the League's discretion.

12.2.4.2 Over 35's and C team Cup matches shall proceed under the provisions of League Championship Rule 23.

12.3 Fees for matches conducted by official Referees and official Referees Assistants remain the responsibility of the Clubs.

12.3.1 Fees for Cup games are as per the Referees Fees for each Season.

12.3.2 The official Referees/Assistants will continue to be appointed in accordance with their Appointment requirements and processes.

12.3.3 The League, on behalf of the Clubs/Teams, will process the payments to the appointed official Referee/Assistants.

12.3.4 The Clubs will be invoiced after the Cup round and will be required to reimburse the League the cost of their official Referee/Assistant fees within fourteen (14) days of notification. Clubs failing to reimburse the League as required, may find their Club fixtures suspended.

12.4 The League will pay the fees of match officials in both Cup Semi-Finals and Cup Final rounds.

13. EXPENSES

13.1 Ground and all other expenses except Referees and Referees Assistants' fees shall be paid by the Home club except in the Semi-Finals and Final rounds.

14. SPONSORSHIP

14.1 The terms of any sponsorship of the cup competition shall be negotiated by the League.

15. GATE TAKINGS

15.1 The League shall retain all gate takings and sponsorship money.

16. TROPHIES

16.1 The Cups shall be played annually. The winning club will be presented with the perpetual trophy and will be permitted to hold the Cup until the League requests that it be returned.

16.2 The winning Club will be held responsible for the safe keeping of the perpetual trophy and for its return to the League.

16.3 The Cups shall at all times remain the property of the League. It shall be the League's responsibility to suitably inscribe the Cups to commemorate the occasion.

17. OTHER RULES

17.1 The following League Championship Rules shall apply to this competition:

Rule 8 - Match Sheets

Rule 9 - Player Identity

Rule 10 - Checking Identity of Players

Rule 11 - Players

Rule 12 - Number of Players

Rule 15 - Grounds, Ground Equipment and Appurtenances

Rule 16 - Team Colours and Equipment

Rule 17 - Discipline & Appeals Procedure

Rule 18 - Players Cautioned or Sent Off

Rule 19 - Clubs and Club Officials' Conduct

Rule 20 - Appeals

Rule 23 - Club Referees and Referees Assistants

Rule 24 - Laws of the Game

Rule 26- Official Starting Time

Rule 27 - Late Start

Rule 29 - Postponed and AbandonedFixtures

Rule 30 - Results

Rule 31 - Draw of Fixtures and Venues

18. AMENDMENTS TO RULES

18.1 These rules may only be altered, amended, added to or deleted by the League, provided that such alterations, amendments, additions or deletions are made and approved by the Board not later than 30 days prior to the commencement of the first round of the cup competition to which they shall first apply.

19. MATTERS NOT COVERED

19.1 Any matter not provided for in these rules shall be at the discretion of the League and all matters concerning the planning and management of the cup competitions shall be determined by the League.

20. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

20.1 Disciplinary Sanctions arising out of Cup Competitions in relation to Yellow Cards and Send Off offences shall be as detailed in the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules.

20.2 The SAASL Challenge Cup, The SAASL Reserve Cup, Over 35's, C's Cup and the Australia Cup are deemed as Competitive Matches in relation to the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules.

20.3 Refer to the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules for the definition of Non-Competitive and Competitive Matches.

21. PLAYER OF THE MATCH

21.1 The Player of the Match for the Challenge Cup will be awarded the **Templin Medal**.

21.2 The Player of the Match for the Reserve Cup will be awarded the **Coppola Medal**.

22. THE OVER 35'S CUP

22.1 Players are permitted to play in the higher grades for their respective registered Club subject to being Cup tied.

22.2 A Player who has played in a Challenge or Reserve Cup Round is no longer eligible to play in any subsequent Over 35's Cup or C team Cup Rounds.

22.3 Interchange rules are permitted as per Rule 13 (b) Substitutes in the League Championship Rules

22.4 The Goalkeeper eligibility remains as per Rule 10.6 of these Cup Rules.

22.5 Players who are over 35 years of age are only eligible to participate in the Over 35's Semi-final or Cup Final if they have played at least five League and/or Cup matches prior to the Cup Semi-final.

22.6 For underage players (their minimum age of 30 years of age) to be eligible to play in the Cup Round after the Cup Quarter Finals they must have played a minimum of five (5) League Competition Matches.

22.7 Further to the above rule, the same rule applies to the Cup matches regarding the two underage players (their minimum age of 30 years of age), being permitted to be listed on the team sheet and participate in any one match.

22.8 The Player of the Match will be awarded the **Tony Delo Medal.**

23. THE ALEX CICHANOWSKI SHIELD

23.1 The Cichanowski Shield is conducted as a pre-season match between the previous year's winners of the Saturday and Sunday Premier Divisions.

23.2 The venue for the match will be determined by the League.

23.3 The League shall bear the costs of the Referees and Referee Assistants for this match.

23.4 In the event of the match being drawn at the conclusion of normal time, the match result will be determined by the taking of Penalty kicks.

23.5 This match is deemed as a Non-Competitive match in relation to the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules.

23.6 The Player of the Match will be awarded the **Alex Cichanowski Medal**

24. THE TEMPLIN CUP

24.1 The HJ Templin Cup is played as a pre-season competition and participants are determined by application or invitation of the League

24.2 The Rules and Policies are published prior to the Templin Cup Competition prior to the competition commencing.

24.3 Players must have played in at least one match prior to the Cup Semi-final to be eligible to play in the Cup Final Series of the HJ Templin Preseason Cup.

24.4 In all other respects, the SAASL Championship and Cup Rules and Disciplinary and Appeals Rules shall apply.

24.5 This match is deemed as a Non-Competitive match in relation to the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules.

24.6 The Player of the Match will be awarded the **Templin Medal.**

25. C TEAM CUP

25.1 Players are permitted to play in the higher grades for their respective registered Club.

25.2 A Player who has played in a Challenge, Reserve or Over 35's Cup Round is no longer eligible to play in any subsequent C team Cup Rounds.

25.3 Interchange rules are permitted as per Rule 13 (b) Substitutes in the League Championship Rules

25.4 The Goalkeeper eligibility remains as per Rule 10.6 of these Cup Rules.

25.5 The Player of the Match will be awarded a Medal.

Record of Amendments

Date	Clauses Amended	Description of Change	Date
February 2026	1	Added C's Cup	24th February 2026
	2.4	Added information about C's Cup EOI	
	3.2	Added information about C's Cup	
	4.4 & 4.6	Added clarification	
	5.1.4	Added rule in about C's Cup being run independently	
	8	Added in tables to make duration of matches clearer	
	10.5	Added in rule about cup tied players for C's Cup and Over 35's Cup	
	11.5	Added in reference to C's Cup and updated	
	12.2.4.2	substitutes	
	17.1	Added in reference to C's Cup	
	20.2	Corrected new name of section	
	23	Added in reference to C's Cup	
	25	Removed the word memorial	
		Added C's Cup Rules in	