

PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS - Finals

Qualifications for Finals General Qualifications

- a. To be eligible to play in Finals matches with an Affiliated Club in the Open Age Competition or the Under Age Competitions, a player must play for the Affiliated Club in at least four (4) home and away matches played on separate weekends during the Football Season.
- b. A player who is eligible to play in Finals matches with an Affiliated Club may play in Finals in any Open Age Competition or Under Age Competitions for which he or she is eligible by age. However, the player remains subject to the requirements of By-Laws 3.1(c), (d), (g) and (h).

Open Age Competition

- c. If an Affiliated Club has a Reserves team and/or a Third Senior team playing in a Final or Finals in the Open Age Competition, to be eligible to play in a lower division team, that is, the Reserves team or the third Senior team, a player must have played with the lower division team or teams, more times than with the higher division team or teams during the current home and away Season unless the next highest division team is also competing in a Finals match on the same weekend.

Examples:

1. A player plays in 9 home and away games in their Club's Senior team and 9 home and away games in their Club's Reserve team. The Reserve team has qualified to play Finals but the Senior team has not. The player is precluded from playing with the Reserve team in the Finals series.

2. A player has played in 9 Senior games during the home and away series and 9 Reserves Games in the home and away games, and both the Senior and Reserve teams are in the Finals on the same weekend. The player is permitted to play in the Reserves team in the Final. However, if the Reserves team wins and the Senior team loses and is eliminated, the player is not able to play in the Reserves team in the next Final.

3. A player plays 3 games in the Senior team, 3 games in the Reserves team and 3 games in the Third Senior team in the home and away Season. The Third Senior team is the only

team which qualifies to play Finals. The player would be unable to play in the Third Senior Team Finals. However: i. if only the Reserves team made the Finals the player would be able to play in the Reserves team; ii. if both the Reserves team and the Third Senior team made the Finals on the same weekend, the player would be permitted to play in the Third Senior team Final. If the Third Senior team won and the Reserves team lost and was eliminated, the player would not be able to play in the Third Senior team in the next Final.

- d. In Finals, an eligible player may only play in one of the Affiliated Club's Finals teams in the Open Age competition over the same weekend unless the player obtains the approval of the Chief Executive Officer of the EDFL or the most Senior EDFL Official officiating at the Finals venue.
- e. If an Affiliated Club has teams in different Divisions of the Open Age competition playing in both Finals and home and away matches on the same weekend, a player is permitted to play in any of the Affiliated Clubs teams on that weekend, provided that the player proposing to play in the team playing in the Finals meets the requirements of By-Laws 3.1(a), (b) and (c).
- f. A player shall not play in the EDFL and VFL on the same weekend except where otherwise approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the EDFL. [added April 2016]

Under Age Competitions

- h. If an Affiliated Club has a lower division Under Age team in an Under Age competition playing in a Finals match, to be eligible to play in the lower division Under Age team the player must have played with the lower division Under Age team or any other lower division Under Age teams in the same Under Age competition more times than with the higher division team or teams in the same Under Age competition during the home and away matches in the current Season unless the next highest division team is also competing in a Finals match on the same weekend.

Examples:

1. A player plays in 7 home and away games in his/her Club's Under 11 Division 1 team and 7 home and away games in their Club's Under 11 Division 4 team. The Under 11 Division 4 team has qualified to play Finals but the Under 11 Division 1 team has not. The Player is precluded from playing with the Under 11 Division 4 team in the Final series.

2. A player has played 7 games in his/her Clubs Under 11 Division 1 team during the home and away series and 7 games in their Club's Under 11 Division 4 team in the home and away series and both the Under 11 Division 1 team and the Under 11 Division 4 team are in the Finals on the same weekend. The player is permitted to play in the Under 11 Division 4 team in the Finals. However, if the Under 11 Division 4 team wins and the Under 11 Division 1 team loses and is eliminated, the player is not able to play in the Under 11 Division 4 team in the next Final.

3. A player plays 3 games in his/her Clubs Under 11 Division 1 team, 3 games in his/her Under 11 Division 4 team and 3 games in his/her Under 11 Division 6 team in the home and away Season. The Under 11 Division 6 team is the only team which qualifies to play Finals. The player would be unable to play in the Under 11 Division 6 team Final. However:

(i) If only the Under 11 Division 4 team made the Finals the player would be able to play in the Under 11 Division 4 team;

(ii) If both the Under 11 Division 4 team and the Under 11 Division 6 team made the Finals on the same weekend the player would be able to play in the Under 11 Division 6 team Final. If the Under 11 Division 6 team then won the Final and the Under 11 Division 4 lost the Final and was eliminated the player is not able to play in the Under 11 Division 6 team in the next Final.

- i. In Finals an eligible player may only play in one of the Affiliated Club's Finals teams in the same Under Age competition over the same weekend unless the player obtains the approval of the Chief Executive Officer of the EDFL or the most senior EDFL Official officiating at the Finals venue. j. If an Affiliated Club has teams in different Divisions of the same Under Age competition which are playing in both Finals and home and away matches on the same weekend, a player is permitted to play in any of the Affiliated Clubs teams on that weekend, provided that the player proposing to play in the team playing in the Finals meets the requirements of By-Laws 3.1(a), (b) and (dd). For the avoidance of doubt, no player can play in more than one finals game on the same weekend in the same underage competition.
- n. Any player who plays 12 or more games in AFL Victoria's Under 18 Competition in any one Season, shall not be illegible to play in the League's Under Age Finals matches. If a player has played less than 12 games in AFL Victoria's Under 18 Competition he must still comply with the requirements of By-Law 3.1(a), (b) and (dd) to qualify for Finals matches.