

Memo: 06 - 18

TO: All Clubs
FROM: Damien Bresic
DATE: 31st January 2018
SUBJECT: Women's Structure Update

Further to Memo 03-18, I understand that the final date for nomination is Monday 5th February however I can inform clubs that following frank, honest and open conversation with clubs it seems likely that the below teams will nominate for the 2018 season.

PREMIER LEAGUE

1. Broadbeach
2. Robina
3. Southport
4. Musgrave

COAST LEAGUE

1. Broadbeach
2. Robina
3. Southport
4. Nerang
5. Kingscliff
6. Tweed Heads
7. Musgrave
8. Palm Beach

- Please note :- at time of writing this Memo Musgrave and Palm Beach were not 100% certain that they will have numbers but with the extra time they are hopeful of entering a team in Coast League. There is also a slight chance that Mudgeeraba might get the numbers required if given more time.

As you can see we only have 4 teams nominated for PL and possibly a maximum of 8 teams (or minimum of 6) in the CL. As was stated in Memo 70-17 section 4 we required a minimum of 6 teams for a competition to be viable and if we didn't achieve this then we stated that we would combine the leagues.

During our board meeting on Monday night the following three options were discussed.

1. **OPTION 1** :- run a 4 team Premier League – clubs would be required to play each other 5 or 6 times (for 15- 18 games), this could be supplemented with a “Pre Season” comp.
2. **OPTION 2** :- ask our 4 PL clubs to join the Football Brisbane PL competition. – this option had some merit and FB would be keen to accommodate us, however FB would insist that the teams join the Brisbane Premier League which currently has 8 teams and to play in this division would require teams to enter firsts and reserves. Previously when this was first considered an option we spoke to our PL clubs who made it clear to FGC that their players would be reluctant to travel and thus not making this a viable option. This option was clarified and made available to FGC at 9.30am on 31st January.
3. **OPTION 3** :- **favoured by the board.**
 - a. Combine the two divisions creating a 12 team competition (possible 10 depending on Musgrave and Palm Beach.
 - b. All PL teams to play each other 3 times (9 games)
 - c. All CL teams to play each other 2 times (14 games)
 - d. All PL team play every CL team once (extra 8 games for PL – total 17 games and extra 4 games for CL team – total 18 games)
 - e. With the CL playing the PL once it would allow the CL teams the opportunity to gauge their ability against the PL with the view of possibly entering the PL from 2019 season.

- f. In ALL games, PL clubs will be required to adhere to the standard substitution rule while the interchange rule will apply to all CL teams. (this will apply to all games, including games where a PL team is playing a CL team.)
- g. Final standings on the ladder will be determined by the number of points each team accumulates during the season. Should we have teams equal on points then goal difference WILL NOT be used to determine the higher placed team but rather the results between the two teams during the season.
- h. At the end of the season the top ranked PL team will be declared the Premiership winner and win a spot in the Grand Final (which they will host) and the second spot in the Grand final will be determined by the winner of a Preliminary Final between team 2 and team 3 from the PL
- i. At the end of the season the top ranked CL team will be declared the Premiership winner.
- j. At the end of the season the top 4 ranked CL clubs will contest a final series that will see
 - i. Team 1 v Team 4 and Team 2 v Team 3
 - ii. The two winners will progress to the Grand Final.
- k. Clubs will still be permitted to nominate which day they would prefer to play their home games.
- l. Season proper would start on April 20th / 21st and if clubs had a desire for some extra games earlier then FGC would organise a small “pre-season” competition for those clubs that would like some competitive games to prepare for the season.

We understand that this isn't the greatest of outcomes but we believe if you consider the numbers that have nominated that option three is the most viable option for the Gold Coast and will be, what we hope a stepping stone to a solid future. We realise that some clubs might face some short term pain but opting for option three would deliver us some long term gain in the development of women's football.

We ask all club to please consider all options and provide your feedback (positive or negative) by **Friday 2nd February** so that we can then plan the next step.

Can all responses please be emailed to admin@footballgc.com.au.

Should you require any further information or wish something clarified please don't hesitate to contact this office.

