

MEMO: 27-20

TO: All Clubs
FROM: Alan Marquez
DATE: 25th June 2020
SUBJECT: Senior Structure



Dear Colleagues,

After an extensive review by our Board of Directors, FGC and consultation with our stakeholders, Presidents, Coaches and Players, the makeup of our Senior Men's Competitions for the 2020 season and beyond has been finalised. The below outlines a number of changes moving forward within our Premier League and Coast League competitions.

Football Gold Coast will endeavour to reach a 12 team Premier League and Premier League Reserve Grade Competition over the next 4 years.

The factors that have brought the premise of a 12-team premier league to the forefront is a stronger, sustainable competition, bringing a sense of prestige to our highest competition and to continue to be at the top of competitions throughout the SEQ region.

The plan formulated is something that we will strive to build and nurture, with the idea of strengthening the second-tier competition to ensure a solid system across the board.

The below is the structure for the FGC Premier League

2020- 8 teams
2021- 10 teams
2022- 10 teams
2023- 12 teams
2024- 12 teams

Season 2020

The 2020 season structure is as follows;

- 8 team Premier League and 6 team Coast League competition
- Competition to resume from the weekend of Friday the 31st of July
- Final round to be played on Saturday 24th of October
- Premier League and Coast League will resume where the season left off with all games already played counting towards the final standings
- Premier League competitions to be 2 rounds with each team playing each other twice (including fixtures that have been played). Coast League competition to be 3 rounds with each team playing each other 3 times (including fixtures that have been played)
- Automatic promotion granted to the top 2 Coast League teams to expand to a 10-team competition
- 8th place in the Premier League to play a two-legged play-off for the final spot in 2021 against the 3rd place of Coast League



- Play-off scheduled for Tuesday 27th of October and Saturday the 31st of October
- Finals format to be a straight knockout and begin on the weekend of Friday 6th of November
 - 1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3, with winners to play on Grand final Day
- Grand Final Day- Saturday the 14th of November

Please note if the borders remained closed, Kingscliff and Tweed have confirmed that all their players, coaches etc will attain border passes for them to be able to participate in the Coast League competition. They will play all their games away (unless they can acquire a field on the Gold Coast) and be responsible for referee fees when their allocated home games are played.

Unfortunately, Bond Uni cannot provide 2 teams for the Coast League as most of their players have returned home during COVID-19. Their 1 team will participate in the Metro Division 1 Competition for the 2020 season.

Affiliation fees (nomination, media & marketing) will be reduced to the following

Premier League - \$1000

Coast League - \$300

The below is a brief overview of the Premier League and Coast League from 2021 to 2024 (FGC will send a detailed explanation of this in the next few weeks).

Season 2021

Premier League

- 10 team Premier League and Premier League Reserves- home and away season (18 games)
- Local Cup competition to be conducted midweek and commence towards the end of FGC clubs FFA Cup commitments
- 10th place of Premier League to be automatically relegated to Coast League
- 1st place of Coast League to be automatically promoted to the Premier League
- Top 4 finals series

Coast League

- Coast League will only require one senior team (two will be permitted) to open up the possibility of attracting new clubs that may only be able to field one team
- No reserve team required to participate in Coast League
- Premier League clubs will be allowed to enter additional teams in the competition
- The idea behind reshuffling the Coast League will ensure that the league is a strong competition and opportunities for new clubs to enter



- If the Coast League team earns promotion, they will have to prove that they can field two teams in the following season (with a second team in senior competitions, U18 team coming through etc.)
- Top 4 finals series

Season 2022

The 2022 season will be identical to the 2021 season with the only change being the format of promotion and relegation.

- 10th place of Premier League will play a home and away play-off with 3rd place from Coast League
- 1st and 2nd place of Coast League to be automatically promoted to the Premier League

Season 2023

- 12 team Premier League and Premier League Reserves- home and away season (22 games)
- 12th place of Premier League will be automatically relegated to Coast League
- 1st place of Coast League to be automatically promoted to the Premier League
- 11th place of Premier League will play a home and away play-off with 2nd place from Coast League
- Local Cup competition to be conducted midweek and commence towards the end of FGC clubs FFA Cup commitments
- Top 4 finals series