



## **COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT ON THE 2020/21 NSW COMMUNITY SPORT SEASONS**

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT**

For context, the Agreement by and between the AFL NSW/ACT; Football NSW (excluding those regions governed by Northern NSW Football); NSW Rugby League; NSW Rugby Union and Cricket NSW ('the Participants') notes:

- 1.1. That Australian Football (AFL), Rugby Union, Football and Rugby League are broadly classified as sports conducting 'Winter' competitions within NSW (April-September);
- 1.2. That Cricket is generally conducted as a 'Summer' competition within NSW (October-March);
- 1.3. That the overwhelming majority of NSW's community sportsgrounds and facilities are shared by the Participants during their respective competition seasons; and
- 1.4. The desire of the Participants to collaborate and form a united agreement to amend the conduct and changeover of the Participants 2020/21 community sport seasons across NSW in response to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions delaying the start of the 2020 Winter sport competitions.

### **2. GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1. The Agreement seeks a simplified and united consensus for NSW winter sport community competitions conducted and/or affiliated with the Participants **to conclude no later than 11 October 2020** (including completion of finals); and the conduct of community cricket affiliated competitions **to conclude no later than 5 April 2021** (including completion of finals) in line with previous seasons;
- 2.2. The Agreement acknowledges that the Participants will continue to work together to manage exceptions to ground access and the agreed season changeovers; particularly with regard to the conduct of higher-level, premier and state representative sport competitions;
- 2.3. The Agreement acknowledges that in instances where there is no cross over of use between the Winter sports and Cricket at a particular sporting facility, those facilities are not governed by the dates and obligations agreed in this document; and
- 2.4. The Agreement respects the sovereignty of NSW Local Council's and their respective local sport associations and does not seek to retrospectively replace mutual arrangements that may have already been agreed to for the forthcoming seasons and prior to the collaborative agreement between the Participants.

### **3. EXPECTED BENEFITS**

- 3.1. Leadership and aligned agreement will alleviate any potential duplication of efforts by Participants and NSW Local Council's and reduce the burden of negotiation and potential conflict between volunteer sporting associations and clubs for the 2020/21 season.
- 3.2. The Agreement provides a roadmap for the Participants and Local Government to revert back to traditional changeover arrangements between sports for the winter 2021 season and beyond.



#### 4. OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

- 4.1. The Agreement is non-legally binding in nature, but it is the strong intent of the Participants to promote cooperation and collaboration for fair and mutual ground access and benefit to their respective stakeholders and participants;
- 4.2. The Winter sport Participants will endeavour to incrementally reduce the number of grounds required to be used in each progressive week of September 2020 to facilitate the recovery and preparation requirements for sport changeover; and
- 4.3. Cricket will similarly seek to incrementally reduce the number of grounds required to be used in each progressive week of March 2021 in order to facilitate the recovery and preparation requirements for sport changeover.

#### 5. EFFECT AND AMENDMENT

This Agreement will come into effect upon signature by all Participants and will continue in operation until 5 April 2021. This Agreement may be amended at any time, by mutual consent of the Participants.

Signed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2020 by and between

**FOR AFL NSW/ACT**

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**FOR NSW RUGBY UNION**

[Paul Doorn \(Jun 4, 2020 21:45 GMT+10\)](#)

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**FOR FOOTBALL NSW**

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**FOR NSW RUGBY LEAGUE**

[David Trodden \(Jun 5, 2020 12:24 GMT+10\)](#)

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**FOR CRICKET NSW**

[Lee Germon \(Jun 3, 2020 19:32 GMT+10\)](#)

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