

AFL RIVERINA COMPETITIONS REVIEW

Summary of project and proposed key recommendations



Background

Australian Rules Football has a rich heritage in the Riverina and Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area (MIA) regions of Southern NSW and which dates back to the late 1800's. Over that time there has been a number of changes to leagues, clubs and competition structures.

The current competitions of the Farrer Football Netball League, Riverina Football Netball League, South West Junior Football Netball League and the Wagga & District Junior Football Netball League have evolved into what they are today.

In November 2009, AFL Riverina was formed on the back of a review conducted by AFL NSW/ACT.

AFL NSW/ACT recognises the importance of local clubs and how they are an integral part of the community, providing positive environments, people to connect through the physical benefits of playing Football and Netball, as well as the social benefits of being part of a community.

AFL NSW/ACT's strategic themes are to use data and innovation with a focus on delivering quality experiences through Community Football.

Further, AFL NSW/ACT identified a number of priority areas for Community Football in 2018, including the enhancement of competition structures and competitive balance mechanisms across all leagues, including AFL Riverina.

In late 2018 and 2019, AFL Riverina and AFL NSW/ACT jointly undertook a comprehensive review of community football in the Riverina & MIA regions and engaged independent consultant, David Burgess to lead the review. The aim of the review was to identify the various strengths and weaknesses of the current competition structures, and identify recommendations relating to future structures for the sustainable long-term benefit of AFL Riverina stakeholders.

Consultation across the AFL community in the Riverina was a critical element of the project. In doing so, we met with and surveyed thousands of representatives from all levels of football and netball, junior and senior level, as well as key national and state stakeholders.

The involvement and input from key stakeholders across AFL Riverina were invaluable and enabled us to better understand the opportunities and challenges,

and to help shape the future direction.

The research phase featured extensive analysis of data including the engagement of external consultants to test the key insights and help to develop the various recommendations, before refining these emerging recommendations with key stakeholders.

The project has identified 14 key recommendations – to guide the future direction of AFL competition structures in the Riverina.

We thank everyone who has contributed to the project and we look forward to working with you all as we lay the foundations for the next phase of growth of AFL Riverina into the future.

AFL RIVERINA COMPETITIONS REVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A thorough consultation process commencing in August 2018 and continuing through to September 2019.

AUG 2018 – SEP 2018

FRAMING

Frame the key areas of focus

- ✓ Discussions between AFL NSW/ ACT and AFL Riverina Board regarding future direction
- ✓ Hold initial meetings with key stakeholders and obtain preliminary information
- ✓ Identify the Terms of Reference including the Project Scope and Project Mission
- ✓ Establish Project Working Party and key consultants
- ✓ Announce Project and distribute the Terms of Reference

SEP 2018 – APR 2019

ANALYSIS

Consult key stakeholders

- ✓ Undertake initial research
- ✓ Conduct online survey with key stakeholders
- ✓ Review data to identify gaps
- ✓ Identify specific issues and common themes
- ✓ Meet with key stakeholders (Clubs, Club Presidents/Committee members, Competition Management Committees. etc)

APR 2019 – SEP 2019

KEY FINDINGS

Identify and test key findings

- ✓ Identify the key findings based on information/data
- ✓ Test key findings with AFL staff, AFL Riverina Board, clubs and key stakeholders
- ✓ Determine strategic priorities and implementation timetable
- **Draft and distribute proposed key recommendations for feedback**
 - Finalise key recommendations
 - Develop operational implementation plan

- ✓ Analyse relevant information and test initial findings

The case for change

- **Some regions have experienced low to negative population growth over past 15 years**
 - Narrandera LGA, Leeton LGA, Temora LGA
 - Wagga Wagga LGA & Griffith LGA regions have experienced, and are forecast to experience population growth
- **High participation rates and ageing population are limiting the size of our growth pool**
 - Narrandera LGA, Coolamon LGA & Temora LGA have the highest Participation Rates Vs Population Rates across male groups
 - Narrandera LGA, Coolamon LGA & Temora LGA also have the highest median age (total population) @ 44–46
- **Current competition structures don't allow for growth or sustainable retraction**
 - Growth opportunities in Wagga and Griffith LGAs

- **2% decrease in Senior Football participation over 5 years (2019), compared to 9.2% increase across senior competitions in NSW**
- **Over half of clubs acknowledge that there will be a smaller number of clubs in 5 years**
- **Operating costs, Lack of Volunteers, Ability to recruit Players & Excessive Player Payments – are all challenges that are impacting clubs**
- **Clubs want to play at a level that suits their club size and supports their community**
- **There is strong support for female football, however all decisions need to be considerate of Netball**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 1

Implement Under 16s junior competition, and change Senior Club entry Point to Under 18s to maximise transition and retention

WHAT

- Change Junior football exit point to Under 16s, and Senior club entry point to Under 18s
- Retain Junior netball exit point at Under 15s, and Senior netball entry point at Under 17s
- All clubs to develop Youth Development Pathway Plan (supported by AFL Riverina in terms of structure template) as a requirement in competition minimum standards
- Clubs to schedule playing some Under 16 games on their senior game day

WHY

- Under 15s transition rate (into senior clubs) is 60%, compared to other age groups retention rate of 75% (average)
 - There is a strong view that the Under 15s to Under 17.5s age difference was deterring players moving into senior clubs
- Under 16s removes concerns that post Under 15s players are too young to enter a senior football club environment
- Changing Junior exit and senior entry age groups provide a consistent 2-year age group structure (see recommendation 3)
- Development of a Youth Development Pathway Plan will provide clubs with clear actions to build a sustainable club environment.
 - Enhances senior club connection, and provides junior players (and parents) with a clear and trusted pathway
 - Clubs recognise that a structured junior pathway was critical to club future/sustainability
- Under 16s playing on senior game day develops player connection between junior and senior clubs, and reduces congestion on junior game day for larger clubs

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**

Proposed Recommendation

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 2

Reduce on-field player numbers across all junior and youth football competitions to generate scale and enhance player experience

WHAT

- Mandate a maximum of 16 players a team on field across all junior and youth football competitions
- Utilise local by-law variations to appropriately manage numbers through various age groups
- Reduce the quarter lengths and breaks to accommodate 16-a-side

WHY

- Generates scale enabling greater number of teams to participate
 - Reduces forfeits
- Addresses team depth differential and enhances competitive balance
- Increase opportunity for all players to be involved in the play
 - A key factor in player enjoyment
 - Leads to improved player retention and participation
- Create less congested and a more free-flowing match
 - Improve skill development
 - Reduces likelihood of injury

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 3

Revise Wagga & District Junior FNL junior football competitions age group structure to manage differences in club participation numbers to ensure stability

WHAT

- Restructure WDJFNL football competitive age groups into a 2-year age group structure
- Retain existing Netball Single Year age groups – observe and manage continued growth trends
- Raise top end age group (for all competitions) to Under 16s, followed by Under 14s, Under 12s
- Retain maximum on junior football field player numbers at 16
 - Utilise local by-law variations to appropriately manage numbers through various age groups
- Support Joint Venture opportunities for junior clubs in geographically challenged areas
- WDJFNL will remain primarily a Sunday Competition unless agreed upon by AFL Riverina & participating clubs

WHY

- > 60% of participants support 2-year age structure, including a majority of WDJFNL clubs
 - Over half of WDJFNL football teams have less than 16 players in a single year age group
- Restructure into a 2-year age group structure to enables smaller clubs to be competitive.
- Joint Ventures will provide consistency of competition structures and maintain junior transition for smaller clubs.
- Supports smaller clubs' ability to field teams in all age groups - removing the damaging age gap issue
 - Recruitment pressure on smaller clubs will be reduced
- Provides consistent 2-year age gap moving into Under 18's - conditions players when transitioning between Under 16 & Under 18 football
- Retention of netball single age group structure driven by consistent and strong numbers across a majority of clubs

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 4

South West Junior FNL junior football age group structure to align with Under 18s and maximise player retention and transition

WHAT

- Raise top end age group (for all competitions) to Under 16s, followed by Under 14s and Under 12s, and Retain 2-year age group structure
- Set maximum on junior football field player numbers to 16
 - Utilise local by-law variations to manage numbers through various age groups
- Netball is to remain a 2-year age group structure
- Hold meeting with SWJFNL clubs to workshop future opportunities to stabilise and sustain this competition
- Support Joint Venture opportunities for junior clubs in geographically challenged areas
- SWJFNL to remain primarily a Saturday Competition unless agreed upon by AFL Riverina & participating clubs
- Consider renaming the SWJFNL to connect to regional location and geographical footprint

WHY

- > 60% of participants and nearly all SWJFNL clubs support 2-year age structure
- Most participants supported a Under 11, 13, 15 structure, yet felt the transition age into senior club was too young
- Provides consistent 2-year age gap moving into Under 18's - conditions players when transitioning between Under 16 & Under 18 football
- Supports smaller clubs' ability to field teams in all age groups - removing the damaging age gap issue
- Joint Ventures will provide consistency of competition structures and maintain junior transition for smaller clubs
- Retain netball single year age group structure given consistent and strong numbers across a majority of clubs

Proposed Recommendation

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 5

Revise senior football competition structures into a club based tiered model to ensure club growth and sustainability, and enhance competitive balance and player retention

WHAT

- Introduce a multi-tier Senior Competition structure that provides clubs of all size, strength, ambition and capability to participate at their level. E.g. Premier, Platinum, Community and/ or Platinum 18s
- Develop a club participation criteria, including minimum standards, to support multi-tiered competition structure
 - Club participation criteria is to be used to assess a Clubs suitability for participation in the Premier competition
 - Minimum standards are to be used across all senior football competitions, linked to sustainable club behaviours and best practices
- Develop and outline the process for the promotion of clubs to AFL Riverina Premier Division
 - To provide transparent criteria and guidelines for aspirational clubs
- Platinum & Community competitions to be structured to provide for clubs to field single or multiple teams
 - Enabling new clubs to enter the competition or smaller communities to participate with a single team
- Netball remains linked to the AFL Riverina football competition structures

WHY

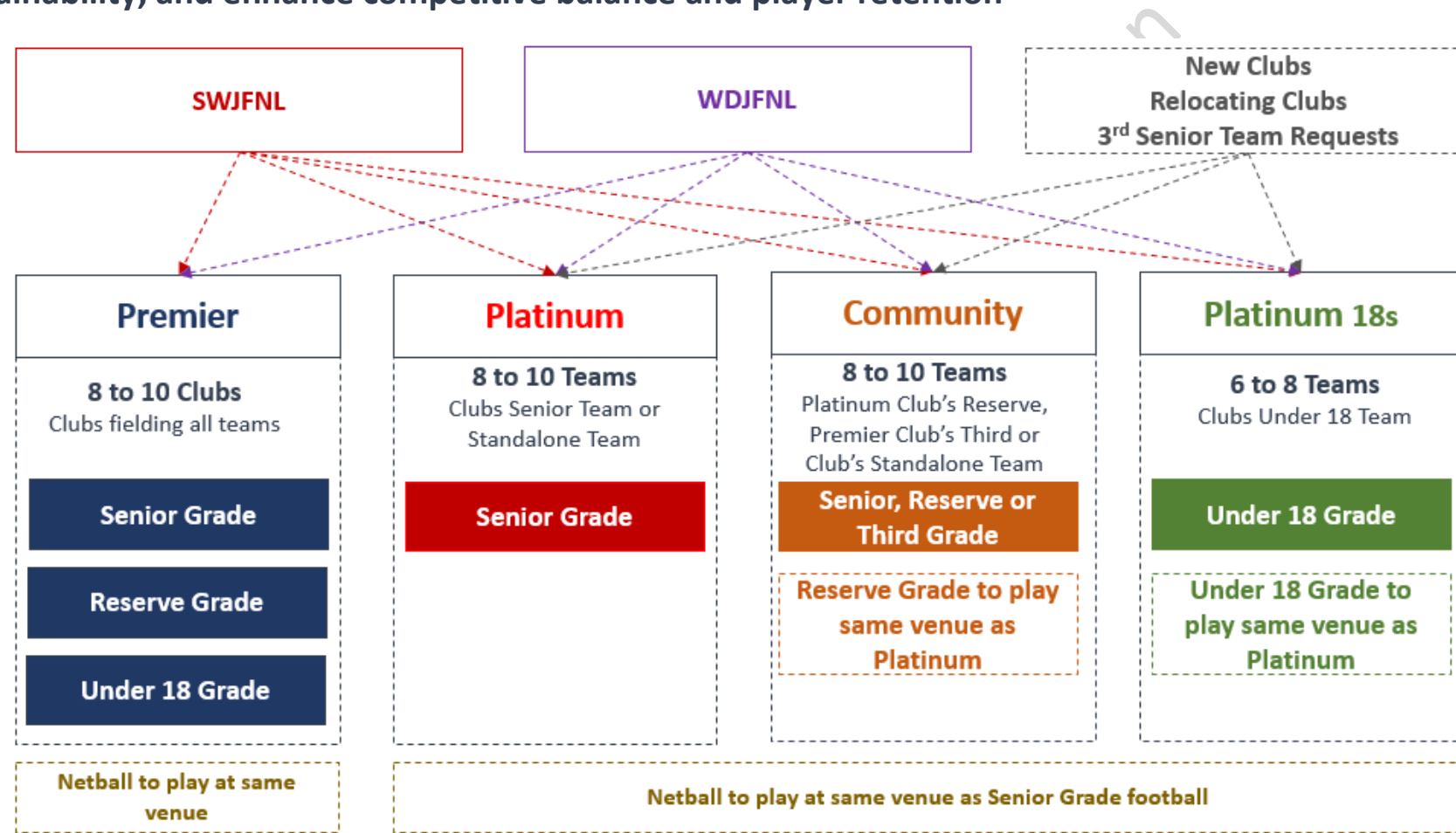
- Supports the changing population and demographic changes, and caters for variations in club sizes and competitive ambitions
 - Neither current senior competition model (Riverina or Farrer) has the flexibility to cater for changing demographical/geographical trends
- Enables standalone senior and junior clubs to participate in competitions where they currently do not participate
- Enhances Competitive Balance outcomes by teams playing against teams of comparable standard
- Enables smaller communities to retain a local football connection instead of folding or merging
- Supports club structures, financial positions and volunteer size

- Netball to continue enhance club culture and family friendly environments

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 5

Revise senior football competition structures into a club based tiered model to ensure club growth and sustainability, and enhance competitive balance and player retention



competitive balance and

RECOMMENDATION 5

football competition structures into a club based tiered model to ensure club growth and enhance competitive balance and player retention

and participants (online

where clubs stated:

Competition Model: Club Criteria Tiered Model

There needs to be a new model that allows for club growth (i.e. growth) and sustainability

Wagga and Griffith have the capacity to grow

a 2% decrease in Senior Football participation over 5 years (2019), compared to 9.2% increase across senior competitions in NSW
if the clubs don't believe the same number of clubs will around in 5 years - clubs believe change is inevitable and expected

model which reduces travel but impacts competitive balance was least popular model of senior clubs and (online survey)

s in NSW.

ected

3 of Competitive Balance was reinforced at the club forums where clubs stated:

... r to play at our own level"

"Competition success is not the priority of smaller clubs – a strong community-based football club is more important."

"Travel is not an issue when playing Premium football".

4. Small clubs made it clear that they simply wanted to exist and play 'at their level'

"Develop a competition structure that supports smaller clubs".

"We are safe and comfortable playing at this level"

"We don't want to play against the bigger Riverina clubs"

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 5

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**



Revise senior football competition structures into a club based tiered model to ensure club growth and sustainability, and enhance competitive balance and player retention

Objective – Principles (in order of priority)		Current Model (Traditional)	Geographical Model (Wagga & MIA)	Promotion/ Relegation Model (Automatic)	Recommended Model (Club Criteria Tiered Model)
1	Competitive Balance				
2	Flexibility for Clubs (Less Teams, i.e. single team clubs)				
3	Supports Growth (i.e. New Clubs and Teams)				
4	Same Day Football				
5	Alignment to Junior Pathway				
6	Ability to Distinguish Competition (Premier/ Community)				
7	Reduced Travel				



Meets objective



Partially meets objective



Does not meet objective

Note: Not automatic promotion and relegation, but subject to criteria for participation.

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 6

Develop criteria for club participation and club minimum standards to provide a framework for aspirational clubs, enhance standards and drive club development and improvement

WHAT

- Develop and enforce minimum standards for club participation in AFL Riverina Premier & Platinum competitions across governance, facilities, teams, coaching, youth development, medical, brand & inclusion measures
- Minimum Standards to be achievable and phased in over a period of 4 years
- Initially, Minimum Standard will be applied to all competitions equivalent to current compliance obligations

WHY

Minimum Standards will:

- Ensure a minimum standard for AFL Riverina clubs across senior competitions
- Enhance standards of top tier competitions
- Support the continued development of AFL Riverina clubs
- Provide targets for aspirational lower tier clubs
- Align with best practice
- Plan to phase in minimum standards over a 4-year period:
 - Stage 1: 2020 (base level)
 - Stage 2: 2021 (further progress)
 - Stage 3: 2022 (further progress)
 - Stage 4: 2023 (full implementation)

To be confirmed

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 7

Enable club Joint Ventures to manage the impacts of changing population and demographical trends to enhance retention club sustainability

WHAT

- Determine triggers and a criteria-based approach to identify at risk clubs
 - Three identified options to initiate a Joint Venture of Clubs:
 - Club Initiated (preferred option)
 - AFL Initiated (club supported)
 - AFL Forced (least preferred option)
- Develop a structured and controlled process to enable existing clubs to engage in and deliver on joint venture opportunities
- AFL Riverina and AFL NSW/ACT to provide incentives for clubs to implement Joint Venture opportunities
e.g. financial subsidies, governance consultation, jumper redesign etc
- AFL Riverina to work with small junior clubs to identify Joint Ventures opportunities

WHY

- Provides clubs with guidelines to enter into Joint Venture (Merge) discussions at the appropriate time and within an agreed framework
- Clubs better recognise there will be a need to form partnerships with other existing clubs
- Timely and appropriate planning will enable clubs to better control outcome
- Supports management of changing population and geographic trends, including reduced junior player numbers at some clubs
- Retains AFL involvement in process – providing support through out process and ensures AFL brand representation is maintained

Proposed Recommendation

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 7

Enable club Joint Ventures to manage the impacts of changing population and demographical trends to enhance retention club sustainability

1st Preference – Club Initiated (Preferred)

1. Clubs identify need/Opportunity
2. AFL facilitates the process through the provision of a Joint Venture template:
Includes Process, timings, checklist, documentation, MOU etc
 - AFL to support development of new club identity
 - Name, Colours, Emblems, Venue/s
 - Availability of some Seed Funding
 - Equality in contribution, roles & outcomes is priority

2nd Preference – AFL Initiated

1. AFL identify need/opportunity
2. AFL works with clubs, but drives process including:
Includes Process, timings, checklist, documentation, MOU etc
 - AFL to support development of new club identity
 - Name, Colours, Emblems, Venue/s
 - Availability of some Seed Funding
 - Equality in contribution, roles & outcomes is priority, but may not be guaranteed – will be assessed based on clubs

3rd Preference – AFL Forced (Least Preferred)

1. AFL lead and determine all elements of the venture:
 - AFL to determine identity – Name, Colours, Venue/s etc
 - AFL to set the agreement and requirements of club/s
 - AFL Representative/s liaising with club/s
 - Club/s to report to AFL on all clubs matters

This preference may be delivered either through a merging of existing clubs, or through the development of a new club

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 8

Establish new clubs in areas with population growth and low penetration rates

WHAT

- Develop a structured and controlled process to enable new club opportunities to be identified and established
- AFL Riverina, AFL NSW/ACT and local football community to capitalise on population growth and/or low penetration rates
 - Immediate Opportunities include: Establish 2nd Junior club in greater Griffith – possibly linked to a surrounding club
 - Future opportunities include: Establish 2nd Senior club in greater Griffith – possibly linked to a surrounding club
- AFL Riverina to understand potential population growth in the Northern Suburbs of Wagga Wagga, and determine new opportunities
- AFL Riverina, AFL NSW/ACT to provide incentives to support the establishment of strategically important new clubs
e.g. financial subsidies, governance consultation, jumper redesign etc

WHY

- Planned and controlled approach required to provide best opportunity for success, retain positive brand position and ensure positive participant experience
- Both Griffith and Wagga are experiencing population growth and have low AFL participation rates.
- Proposed competition model enables New clubs to enter a competition at the appropriate level
- Clear process and options support the establishment of new clubs
- Provides potential clubs with confidence to develop and progress 'new club' opportunities

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2021**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 9

Encourage same day competition to enhance game day experience where possible

WHAT

- Facilitate/encourage same day competition opportunities (where possible)
 - Understanding that same day competition may not always be possible
- Create minimum standards for the hosting of a same day matchday
- Structure draws/competition alignment to best support same day opportunities – based on clubs needs (where appropriate)
- WDJFNL to remain a Sunday Competition - unless agreed upon by AFL Riverina & participating clubs
- SWJFNL to remain a Saturday Competition - unless agreed upon by AFL Riverina & participating clubs
- Senior Competitions to be considered Saturday/Sunday Competitions

WHY

- High interest in same day competition during consultation process
 - A majority of clubs and participants support same day opportunities and believe same day competition is achievable in the future
 - However, less than half of participants believe playing on the same day is achievable under the current competition structure
- Delivers a strong single club brand
- Development of closer junior/senior relationships and supports the development of junior players
- Reduces commitment on volunteers that are stretched across both senior and junior football/netball commitment
- Reduces weekend football travel commitment on families, improving family experience
- Utilised neutral venues to maximise same day competition opportunities
- Utilise grounds with suitable lighting to run late afternoon/evening games

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2020**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 10

Adjust game timings to facilitate same day competition opportunities and new competition structures

WHAT

- Shortened length of matches (where required) to be to facilitate same day competition opportunities, and the introduction of new competition structures
 - Change of timing for quarters and breaks between quarters and between games to create increased ground availability time, (This may not be possible at all venues)
- Reduce player numbers– to create greater opportunity for clubs to field teams, with smaller number of participants and ground sizes (where appropriate)
 - If game times are reduced, then player numbers should also be reduced to enable same level of activity to be retained
- Utilise the opportunity for game variations to be tested
E.g. boundary umpires replaced by last touch rule in and/or 10-metre ball up rule

WHY

- Clubs support small changes to game time to facilitate same day competition opportunity or the introduction to proposed competition structures
 - > 70% of clubs and participants support same day opportunities
- Reducing match times reduces the key challenges in delivering same day football concept
 - Increases ground availability
 - Reduction in game length helps with competitive balance
- Supports the introduction of 2-year age groups within the WDJFNL competitions
 - Reducing match times enables larger clubs with multiple teams (in 2-year age group) to play at the same venue
- Reducing player numbers enables smaller clubs to continue to field teams

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2020**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 11

Continued focus on equalisation measures to enhance club sustainability and competitive balance

WHAT

- Retain Salary Cap and player points system mechanisms for both senior competitions within the new competition structure
- Introduce a Home Player Quota to Premier Senior Competition
 - Applicable to Premier Division only, as clubs should develop ongoing focus on youth development
 - AFL Riverina to review the current participation data to determine manageable Home Player Quota and appropriate timing of implementation
- Reduction of Salary Cap and player points cap overtime
 - Considerate of leagues external to AFL Riverina – based on current NSW Regional Model

WHY

- Clubs supportive of Competitive Balance Mechanisms – recognise need to regulate (recruitment and player payments)
 - Ongoing concern over club operating costs
- Clubs recognise the need to incentivise/reward youth development and retention – whilst providing exception for those with limitations in this space
 - Heavy reliance on external (non-local) recruits, clubs recognise this as unsustainable for longevity
 - Provides controlled recruitment cost - competitiveness of recruitment is unsustainable
- Retains focus on developing junior pathways, junior/senior club relationships and junior recruitment.
 - Drives improved engagement between Junior & Senior sections of clubs - required to lift transition into senior football
 - Home Player Quota drives and rewards club Youth development

Proposed Implementation: **Ongoing**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 12

Fully integrate Female Football Competitions within AFL Riverina and its clubs

WHAT

- Integrate all female football competitions under the management and governance of AFL Riverina
- All female football competitions- Women's, Youth, & Junior Girls to be aligned to establish a consistent female football season
 - Preferred timing is for 6 to 8-week season February to April - calendar not to clash with Netball season
 - At the appropriate time (managed transition) move Wagga Girls competition to align with Southern NSW Women's & South West Juniors
- All Premier Clubs to field women's teams as part of minimum standards: to support female football development
 - Female football participation targets to be included in senior competition minimum standards
 - Timeline to be set to have structured female football competition in place
- AFL Riverina & AFL NSW/ACT to reinvest funds to incentivise and create quality environments for female football

WHY

- Female Football is seen as a future part of AFL Riverina competitions; however, all decisions need to be considerate of Netball
 - 70% of participants support the introduction of senior women's football structure
 - 90% of netballers support the introduction of senior women's football structure – but at a different time to netball
- Maximise the interest and growing popularity in female football
- Inclusion in the senior competition 'Minimum Standards' motivates clubs to commit to female football
- Provides senior pathway for growing number of junior players
 - Strengthens woman's football brand in Riverina/MIA
- Timing does not impact netball/current match day experience

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2020**

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 13

Enhance the recruitment & retention of umpires through the creation of a regional training base in MIA

WHAT

- Development of a regional training base in Griffith/Leeton to support the development of existing umpires and the recruitment of new umpires from the MIA region
 - Possible rotation of training base to maximise spread of contact
- The appointment of suitable qualified umpire coach to manage MIA base
- Implementation of a junior club recruitment strategy, including Club Umpire Ambassador roles, to ensure even spread of growth across the Wagga and MIA regions
- Set umpire participation targets – equivalent of 1 umpire per registered team (ultimate goal)
 - Ideally not attached to the home club team, but affiliated to the club and managed by AFL Riverina
 - Targeting and promote umpiring opportunities with former players
- Understand and manage the future availability of the older tier of umpiring

WHY

- Umpire growth and support in MIA region is urgently required
- There is only one umpire training base in Riverina & MIA region, which is in Wagga Wagga
 - 131 of 153 registered umpires are based in the Wagga region, 22 of 153 registered umpires are based in the MIA region
 - Wagga Region has 1:6 umpire/player ratio, compared with Griffith 1:20 umpire/player ratio
- Umpire base needs to be broadened to ensure there is adequate (and experienced) umpires in the future
- Umpiring is not embedded in junior clubs
 - Club Appointed umpire numbers – large proportion of umpires from MIA are not registered league appointed umpires

- Manages aging umpire demographic: 13-18 years = 77, 19-30 years = 13, 31-55 years = 49, 55+years = 17

PROPOSED KEY RECOMMENDATION 14

Ensure Netball remains integrated in the AFL Riverina football competition structures to safeguard community club culture

Proposed Implementation: **Season 2020**

WHAT

- Netball to be protected through the establishment of female football
- Junior netball competitions to remain under current structure
 - Under 15 Junior exit and Under 17 Senior club youth competition entry
 - WDJFNL netball competition structures to remain single year age groups
- AFL NSW/ACT and AFL Riverina to work with Netball NSW to endure greater support and input
- Netball NSW to co-fund the delivery of resourcing, with a focus on: Operational, Game Development, Umpiring & Coaching

WHY

- Strong support for Netball to remained linked to football competitions
 - Netballers are an integral part of the club environment – enhancing family environment and club structure
- There is considerable opportunity to enhance the management of Netball under AFL Riverina
 - AFL Riverina pays affiliation fee to Netball NSW. Netballers are registered through Netball NSW systems
 - AFL Riverina netball administration sits in the AFL Riverina head count and costs
- There needs to be increased support from Netball NSW into the AFL Riverina Netball Competitions



AFL Riverina Competitions Review Next Steps: Finalising Recommendations

18th August:	Communicate Proposed Recommendations to Clubs
19th August:	Communicate Proposed Recommendations to Media Outlets
19th August:	2 Week club written submission period commences
2nd September:	2 Week club written submission period closes
12th September*:	Approval by AFL NSW ACT Executive
19th September*:	Approval by AFL Riverina Board
3rd October*:	Final Recommendations released (including implementation plan)

* To be confirmed following written submission period.

Please note: The contents of this document remain in draft form, and when finalised, will part of the project's final report.
The final report will also include AFL Riverina SWOT and Strategic Overview information.