



Far North / Eyre Peninsula Zone

KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIPS' DUE DATE POLICY

Background

SSSSA conducts a number of its competitions as Knockout Championships. When a draw is compiled the School Sport Officers take into account the date of the finals and also the amount of time between each round. Usually there is a minimum of two (2) weeks between rounds and more if possible.

When a match is played after the due date of the round, the impact on other schools that have played their matches on time can be significant. On occasions, SSSSA has not known which schools were playing in a final until the day before or even on the day and have at times needed to postpone the final. This has been unacceptable.

Policy

1. SSSSA will make every reasonable effort to allow for as long a time between rounds as possible.
2. All matches are to be played by the due date as advertised in the draw.
3. Should one of the schools not be able to play by the due date, that school will forfeit and a forfeit fine imposed. The school which is able to play by the due date will advance to the next round.
4. If the two schools can't agree on a date nor one school concede, both will be removed from the competition.
5. If, on the day following the due date of the round, a result has not been received at the SSSSA office, both schools will be withdrawn from the competition and forfeit fines imposed on both.
- 6. It is the responsibility of and best practice for the schools involved to come to a resolution. Only in exceptional circumstances will the SSSSA office be involved in adjudicating a decision.**

Notes

- Schools should carefully consider their entry in to the knockout competitions and be aware that camps, excursions, exams, etc could clash with the due date of a round. Consideration of these events must be worked into the planning of match dates.
- Schools may need to play their "second best team/individual" instead of their best team/individual in order to meet date deadlines.
- Schools should negotiate with the opposing school as early as possible to arrange a date for matches to be played.

Inclement weather is always a possibility. Schools should therefore arrange to play matches early in the allotted time to allow for a re-match to still occur by the due date.

- Both schools should make an attempt to get in touch with each other rather than wait for one school to make contact with the other.
- It is the responsibility of both schools to send through a result to the SSSSA Office. This can be phoned to the SSSSA Office on 8416 5920.

KNOCKOUT CHAMPIONSHIP'S DUE DATE POLICY

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES TO MANAGE IT

1. Play early in the allocated time for the round.

As there is generally a consistent number of weeks allocated per round, it is a useful strategy to organise matches early in the allotted time so that if a problem arises there is still time to reschedule and stay within the due date. If a match is organised to be played late in the allocated time and is then delayed, there is no alternative but to play the match after the due date - this is not an acceptable excuse to play after the due date.

2. Contact the opposition ASAP.

Schools must contact the opposition ASAP to arrange match dates. The later the contact is made, the fewer days are available.

3. Don't wait for the other school to contact you.

A school is normally nominated as the home team/organiser. Although it is generally accepted practice for them to initiate contact with the 'away' school, the 'away' school should not wait for the home team to contact them as this can lead to time being lost for the arranging of a playing date. .

4. You may need to compromise in some way.

Schools are very busy places and have a multitude of things which will make the determining of an agreeable date difficult. Schools will sometimes need to compromise on Plan #A to still be able to play within the due date. Eg. The unavailability of star players or the coach (who is a Year 12 teacher) are not acceptable reasons to play after the due date.

5. Arrange matches as far ahead as possible.

If a school waits until they have won a round to make contact with their next opponent, time is lost very quickly and the ability to play in the first week of the allocated time is often impossible. It is a very good idea (before a round is played), to contact both of the next round potential opponents and have that date already in place.

6. Arranging another date after a postponement.

If it is necessary to postpone a match, the two schools must arrange the next date immediately and not let more time go past before they discuss the new date.

7. Avoid a hectic start

Don't wait until the draw comes out to begin organising teams. .

