



# South Australian Player Registration

From November 1st, 2021 SANFL will increase the Player Registration Fee by \$5 for all registered Club Participants in Football in SA. The fee will be charged at the time of registration on the PlayHQ Membership platform and will be compulsory for all players across SA to become registered for the upcoming season.

The fee will be charged in two categories – Senior Football Player (18 and above) and Junior Football Player (below 18) based on the players age at Jan 1 in the year of competition.

## Senior Player Registration Fee - \$20

## Junior Player Registration Fee - \$15

The Fee was introduced in Season 2020 and capped for two seasons with a review to be conducted at the end of Season 2021. SANFL has sought feedback from key stakeholders across Community Football which was provided to the SA Football Commission for consideration prior to finalising the proposed increase.

### Why increase the fee to players?

Players are a key stakeholder in the game and the future growth and sustainability of Football in South Australia is a team effort.

Currently SANFL invests overall \$3M per year into Grassroots Football through staff and programs that support the growth and sustainability of Football across the State. This investment is via staff resources and systems including:

- Community Football - Facilities, Government Funding and Relations, COVID Protocols, SA Health and SA Pol liaison, Governance and Compliance
- Representation (where regional players are selected)
- Football Operations and Administration
- Insurance
- Game Development – Auskick, Schools & Carnivals
- Systems support - Sports TG / PlayHQ
- Commercial – Apparel, THINK! Road Safety, Fleurieu Milk, Thomas Foods
- AFL / SANFL Talent Payments.

Other support is provided includes access to:

- Integrity, Tribunals, Human Resources and Member Protection
- Umpiring development
- Talent pathways and programs
- Events, Media and Marketing

SANFL is also restructuring the Game Development Program. This will see a greater focus on Club Development, Coaching and increased one on one meetings with clubs during Season 2022 to identify support required at the Club level.

### SANFL Cost Structure

Income received via the Player Registration Fee, inclusive of the \$5 increase, equates to \$160,000. All of which is invested back into Community Football to support the growth of the game. The shortfall in investment is addressed via commercial opportunities and SANFL investment.

During COVID SANFL has sustained considerable revenue loss including a \$1.3M decrease in AFL funding and significant downturn in Adelaide Oval revenue, which has long supported (previously Football Park) football in South Australia.

Despite this loss, SANFL has committed to no change to current resourcing in Community Football. In fact, further investment is being made into the GAME Development team to support Club Development, Umpiring and Coaching.



# South Australian Player Registration





By paying a Player Registration Fee, players are supporting these programs and the future sustainability of football in SA.

## Supporting the Future of Football in SA

The increase of the Player Registration Fee will enable SANFL to continue its investment in supporting Community Football and the Player Registration Fee contributes significantly to our ongoing capacity to meet this commitment.

## By Comparison\* ....

Football is the number 1 Club participation sport in the state and has long been the most affordable sport to play in SA. Despite the increase of the Player Registration Fee, Football will continue to be the most affordable club sport in SA and South Australia will continue to be the cheapest State in the country for Australian Rules Football.

 Australian Rules (SA)	 Netball	 Soccer	 Australian Rules (VIC)
\$20 Senior player \$15 Junior player	\$57 Senior player \$47 Junior player	\$33 Senior Male player \$82 Senior Female player \$65 Junior player	\$69.50 Senior player \$41.50 Junior player \$29 Junior player (U12)

\* Fee comparison is based on fees paid directly to the state sporting bodies. Information has been provided by participants and may vary.



# South Australian Player Registration

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **How will this benefit leagues and clubs?**

Funds raised from the player registration fee will be invested directly back into Community Football to support the growth of the game.

### **Is this fee only for select Leagues?**

This is a state-wide fee with no exemption, everyone who plays Football in SA is contributing to the resourcing and future sustainability of Football in SA. The fee structure applies to every player regardless of their competition structure or the length of season. From SANFL League to U8's we are all part of the same team!

### **What happens if a player has a permit or transfers?**

A player will only be charged when they register for the new season. Any matches played on permit or after a transfer will not attract a fee.

### **Will coaches and officials be charged a fee?**

No. The fee only applies to players.

### **How will SANFL collect payments from players?**

Payments will be collected at the time of registration via the PlayHQ online membership portal. A compulsory fee of \$20 for a senior player or \$15 for a junior player will need to be paid before the registration is completed and activated.

### **Registrations open soon, will the system be ready to take registrations?**

SANFL have made the required changes to the PlayHQ membership portal and staff will be available to assist clubs with any difficulties between November 1 and competitions commencing.

### **Football has always been affordable will this change?**

Football is and will continue to be the most affordable sport in SA under this model and compares favourably with other sports who have already adopted a player affiliation model. Football in SA is also comparatively cheaper than in any other state across Australia.

### **Will there be financial transparency?**

Through consultation with the Regional Football Advisory Committee and Regional League Presidents SANFL have committed to financial transparency with regard to the funds generated and invested from the increase to the player registration fee. SANFL are committed to detailing the financials of the registration fee and how it has been invested back into Community Football via annual League Forums.

### **Is there anyone available to provide further detail?**

Community Football Management have already begun to meet with Clubs and Leagues through League delegate meetings and invite any opportunity from remaining League's or Clubs to discuss the increased Player Registration Fee in further detail. A FAQ page on the Community Football website will also be updated regularly.

### **Can our club request membership fees at registration as well?**

Yes. Club Membership fees can be made available online at registration and can be either voluntary or compulsory like the Registration Fee. For assistance in setting up online Club Membership fees please email community.

### **Does our club need to collect membership fees online now?**

No, your club does not need to collect membership fees online, but the South Australian Player Registration fee will be compulsory and collected online at the time of registration.