**BLUES INVITATIONAL SHIELD RULES**

* There will be up to 16 teams for Senior Men and 8 teams for Senior Women.

* Playing times shall be as per the pre-determined draw, and subject to the amount of teams entered.
* Official referees will be provided for all games pending availability however all **participating** **clubs will be required to provide linesmen, two marshals and 2 match balls for each game.**
* Match points will be awarded as follows: 3 points for a win.

1 point for a draw.

0 points for a loss.

* The competition will be a two-tiered tournament. Each team will play an opposing team once within their respective pools. The leader/winner of Group ‘A’ and Group ‘B’ and the leader/winner of Group ‘C’ and Group ‘D’ will play a semi final. Winners of the two semi finals will play in the final to determine the Champion of 2020.
* Groups of 4 teams will play 40 minute games, 2x20 half’s with 2 minute half time. Groups of 5 teams will play 30 minute games, 2x15 minute half’s and 2 minute half time. Groups of 6 or more teams will play 24 minute games, 2x 12 minute half’s, with 2 minute half time. All games will restart on the referees instructions. The game time structures for different grades ensure all teams are playing similar time of football on the day.
* The final will be 2x20 minute halves with a 5 minute break between halves, with an additional 2x5 minutes halves for a drawn full time score, a standard competition penalty shoot-out will determine the winner if necessary after extra time in the event of a drawn final.
* The winner of the final shall be the side with the highest goal score at full time. In the event of a drawn score, extra time will be played. If still drawn after extra time, a penalty shoot-out will be conducted to determine the winning team.
* Teams are restricted to a squad of 20 players. All players must be registered with their respective Association. No player currently serving a suspension is eligible to play. Season 2019 and current WNPL/NPL 1 and 2 registered players are not eligible to play in the tournament.
* The tournament will be **UNLIMITED INTERCHANGE** however a player can only enter the field during a break in play and once the referee gives permission, or at the half time change over.
* Players receiving two (2) yellow cards in the tournament will be ineligible to play in the next game of the tournament. A third (3) yellow card will mean disqualification from the remainder of the tournament.

* Players receiving a red card will be disqualified from taking any further part in the competition and subjected to their Associations normal disciplinary procedures.
* Games are required to start promptly, any team not on the field and ready to start within 5 minutes of the nominated starting time will forfeit the game. Forfeited games will be recorded as a 2-0 result in favour of the non-forfeiting team.
* Any team that has entered the competition and forfeits the day shall forfeit their entry fee.
* Prize money shall be as follows.
  + **$500** shall be awarded to the winner of the tournament.
  + **$250** shall be awarded to the runner up of the tournament
  + A perpetual trophy will also be awarded to the winning team on the day (remains with the Brindabella Blues FC) along with a trophy for the winners to take with them.
  + The referee’s of the grand final of both grades will determine the man of the match award.
* The above rules are a summary only and in the event of any dispute the decision of the competition organizers shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
* The organisers reserve the right to alter the rules, conditions and the draw prior to the commencement of the first game without notice, when taking in consideration the weather conditions and the availability of teams.