DOPING POLICY

Issued by the Joint Board of Directors of Macquarie Football Limited, Newcastle Football Limited and Hunter Valley Football Incorporated.

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POLICY ON DOPING
1.0 MEANINGS

In this policy the following words shall have the meanings set forth below:-

1.01 “ASDA” - means Australian Sports Drug Authority and includes any other drug testing authority accredited to the International Olympic Committee.

1.02 “doping” - means the doping practices and doping agencies that are prohibited by the International Olympic Committee.

1.03 “official” - means an official, coach, medical practitioner, sports scientist, psychologist and other person associated with the sport of football.

1.04 “player” - means a Member of the Zone Association or any person competing in a competition under the jurisdiction of the Zone Association or its affiliates.

1.05 “responsible authority” - means the Australian Sports Commission, Australian Governments (both Commonwealth and State), the Australian Olympic Federation, the International Olympic Committee, National Sporting Organisations, FIFA, Australian Institute of Sport, Australian Sports Drug Agency, Football Federation Australia, any State Federation including Northern NSW Football, any Zone Associations.

1.06 “NNSWFL” - means the Northern NSW Football Limited.

1.07 “Zone Association” - means the Zone Association – Macquarie Football, Newcastle Football, Hunter Valley Football.

2.0 DOPING

2.01 Doping in football is strictly prohibited. Any person using it or encouraging its use shall be severely punished.

2.02 The term “doping” covers any attempt to increase performance by irregular means.

3.0 APPLICATION

3.01 This policy applies to all players and officials.
All players are liable to doping controls/examinations which shall be conducted in conformity with the rules of the IOC Medical Commission.

Doping control examinations and testing shall be conducted by the Australian Sports Drug Agency either (i) during competition or (ii) out of competition. Players are liable to any number of doping control examinations in any year, whether in or out of competition.

**4.0 ACTION ON DOPING**

4.01 Any player who is found to have contravened the ‘doping provisions’ shall be suspended from all competition for a period of
(i) two years for a first offence;
(ii) life for any subsequent offence.

4.02 Any person serving a suspension for a first offence may be subject to drug control examinations, at their own expense, during the suspension.

4.03 Any official or other person who aids, abets, counsels or procures or is knowingly involved in a player’s breach of the doping provisions shall be subject same penalties as set out in Regulation 4.01.

4.04 If already selected in a representative team, the player and/or official shall be immediately removed from the team upon any breach of the doping provisions.

4.05 Any decision of the Disciplinary Committee of the Zone Association to impose a lesser penalty than prescribed in Regulation 4.01 shall be at its sole discretion.

4.06 Any player or official who contravenes the ‘doping provisions’ of any ‘responsible authority’ shall be subject to the penalties as set out in Regulation 4.01.

4.07 Any person who contravenes the ‘doping provisions’ shall have the right of appeal to be heard by the Appeals Tribunal of the Zone Association. Any such appeal must be in writing and lodged with the Zone Association in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

4.08 Any player who refuses to submit to a doping control examination shall be subject to the penalties as set out in Regulation 4.01.

4.09 It is the intent of this policy that any doping control examinations shall be conducted in conformity with the rules of the IOC Medical Commission but any failure to do so shall not of itself invalidate the findings of any such doping control examination.

**5.0 PLAYER AGREEMENT**

For any player registering with the Zone Association, signing the registration form constitutes an agreement by the player to submit to the provisions of this policy including submitting to the drug control examination and testing if this is applied.

**6.0 DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY**

The Zone Association shall be responsible for the administration of this policy and shall continue with the development of the policy as it provides an ongoing monitoring of developments in the area of doping.