

General Information on League Operation

Draws and Fixtures

Draws for the season can be found under “Competitions” then “All Draws” on the WBOPJFC website at www.wbopjuniorfootball.org.nz. This site should be checked regularly before each round for any changes. There will be few but they may happen for reasons beyond the control of the JFC.

Only fixtures for Term 2 are confirmed at this stage as all divisions may be subject to changes due to promotion or relegation of teams at the half way stage.

Friendlies

In order to have only complete rounds count towards league placings, divisions with either 7 or 8 teams will start the season with 2 friendlies (no league points awarded) and then play a complete round. This will be the same in Term 3 whether the teams in the division have changed or not.

Awarding Points

3 points are awarded for a win, 1 for a draw and 0 for a loss.

Defaulted Games

The defaulting team will be considered to have lost the game by 1 goal to nil and will receive no points. The other team will be awarded 3 points. The defaulting club may be fined at the discretion of the JFC.

Goal Difference

League placings will NOT be decided by goal difference, except in the exceptional instances given below.

(Note that this is designed to remove the incentive to run up huge scores against weaker opposition teams. Goal difference in games against weaker teams will NEVER count towards winning a division!)

League/Division Placings

League placings will be determined by the total number of points gained. Should two teams be level on points at the end of the season (or round if promotion and relegation are to take place) then they are considered to be equal.

However, if either winning a division, promotion/relegation, or which part of a splitting division the teams are placed into depends on determining which team(s) is above the other(s) in the league then the following shall be considered in order:-

- 1) The points gained in the matches between the teams.
- 2) The goal difference in the matches between the teams.

- 3) The number of goals scored in the matches between the teams.
- 4) The number of goals scored away from home in matches between the teams.

Should all of these still fail to separate the teams then they may be requested to have a play-off to determine relative position in the league.

(Note that these measures only come into play when necessary. For example, if two teams are level on points but behind one other team at the end of the season, then they are second equal.)

Promotion/Relegation

At the end of the first half of the season teams may ask their club to request promotion or relegation for them. This will be considered by the JFC and if it is considered appropriate and feasible then it will be granted. Feasibility may require agreement of a team from the division above to accept relegation.

If teams from a division above are granted relegation then they will be replaced by either 1) teams in the division below that have requested promotion, or 2) the top teams in the division below. Hence a team may be required to move up one division half way through the season.

Teams will not be required to move down a division to allow for promotion unless they have been placed in a higher division than they requested at the start of the season.

Those teams that have been required to play in the division above that requested at the start of the season will be granted relegation if they ask for it, provided they are at the bottom of their division. If, for example, 3 teams have been required to “play up” then a request from any or all of those teams would be granted if they are in the bottom 3 places of the division.

Catch-up Games and Play-offs

For most Grades and Divisions, 26 June and 3 July have been reserved for catch-up games in the event of postponements (bad weather or similar circumstances). In the event of an entire round being postponed then this round will be moved to 26 June or 3 July.

Otherwise, catch-up games need only be played for Division 1 matches, or where league winners, promotion or relegation issues may depend on the results.

The JFC has the final say on whether a catch-up game must be played or not.

Should play-offs be needed to determine league winners, or to settle promotion or relegation issues then either or both of these days (26 June and 3 July) may be used.

The JFC has the final say on whether a play-off game is needed or not.

Points Carry Over to Second Half of the Season

If the teams in a division remain unchanged (no promotion/relegation at the end of Term 2) then points will carry over to the second half of the season and the winner of the division will be the team that has acquired most points over the entire season.

If promotion and relegation occur then all points are zeroed at the half way stage of the season and a new competition begins.

If different teams win Division 1 (of any Grade) in the first and second halves of the season, then the overall winner will be determined by(in order):-

- 1) The total number of points gained over the season (assuming completion of rounds / same number of games played against the same opposition. Points gained in Division 2 do not count.).
- 2) The number of points gained in matches between the teams in question.
- 3) The goal difference in the matches between the teams.
- 4) The number of goals scored in the matches between the teams.
- 5) The number of goals scored away from home in matches between the teams.

If none of the above separates the teams then a play-off may be required.

Trophies

Trophies will be awarded to the winners of Division 1 in each Grade.