

## Bill Turner Cup and Trophy – Information for Coaches and Managers



Welcome to the 46th year of the Bill Turner Cup and 34th year of the Bill Turner Trophy. Thanks very much for being part of it.

The website [www.billturnersoccer.com.au](http://www.billturnersoccer.com.au) includes the draws, rules and other information needed.

Squad sheets are available under Downloads. Check dates of birth from school records. Do not rely on the student's word. Players must not turn 16 or older any time this year. There are no exceptions. It can be

helpful for coaches to have a copy of the squad sheets at matches in case any dispute arises over a player's age.

Team Sheets are also found under the Downloads tab, and we encourage you to use this customised form.

The competition rules are found on the website to read or download. It is worth familiarising yourself with them – including the determination of home and away games, and the extra time rules.

Some schools play their early round matches as part of a gala day, organised by the area manager. It can be worth checking with your area manager regarding this. Gala days can be good fun and costs are shared by the competing schools.

Most schools play their early round matches by organising a time with the other school, as per the draw, and as per the rules. Coaches of home teams are reminded they must offer the away coach a choice of three dates. Away teams are asked to co-operate with these dates. We strongly recommend agreeing on a back up date at the same time. This is essential as many schools need weeks for approval of any variation of routine.

It is strongly recommended that you utilise referees that are not associated with either school. Call your local area referee association. If you are really having trouble finding a referee, contact your area manager – they may be able to help.

Make sure referees are aware of the extra time rules as these are unique to our competition. We recommend that referees follow the lightning, jewellery, and weather policies of their football association.

Please plan match dates as early as you can - preferably well before the Play-by dates in the draw. NAPLAN is 12–24 March, 2025. Three weeks are allowed for both Round 2 and 3, so all schools should be up to date by the end of Round 3.

Occasionally matches need to be postponed. There are a few acceptable reasons, including ground washed out or referee not turning up. There are many unacceptable reasons, including your best player being unavailable, forgotten school events, coach not working that day, dog ate the teamsheet etc.

When the home ground chosen is not a school ground and its use incurs a charge ie council, club or federation, this cost is to be covered by the home school. The home team covers the costs of referees.

It is strongly advised that all schools include a section on insurance on all permission slips. It is the responsibility of all players and teachers to organise their own insurance cover. We suggest that schools rework the sample permission slip found under Downloads with the insurance section on page 2.

Should a serious injury occur during a match, your State Manager is to be contacted within 24 hours with details of the injury. The State Manager is also to be informed of the progress of the student's recovery.

Players can only play for one school during the year. If they represented their school in the Bill Turner competition and they change school, they are ineligible to play for the new school.

The Bill Turner Cup is an open competition, generally played by boys, but it is open to anyone who can make the team. The Trophy is for girls only.

The Team Sheet for each match is to be conveyed to your Area Manager within 24 hours by the winning Coach, so that draws can be updated promptly. If several days pass and the results are not updated on the website, then please contact Lindsay Hewison with the score.

Schools must be prepared to travel as their draw dictates, especially from the area finals and beyond, which can include significant distances and strict play-by dates. Queensland finals, Northern NSW finals, Victoria/Southern NSW finals are all 2 day commitments.

Keep in contact with your Area Manager. Let them know of any problems, so that solutions can be worked out as early as possible. If there are any problems, the State Manager or the Executive will be consulted. Managers and Coaches must accept the rulings made by members of the Executive.

Bill Turner was a school teacher who worked hard to give students opportunities with sport. He believed in fun, fitness and fair play. Thanks for being part of that.

