



## Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

### Division of Seasons and Occupation of Crown Lands used as grounds for Australian Rules Football competition and Cricket competition

---

#### DETERMINATION

In view of the differences which have arisen between Cricket authorities and Australian Rules Football authorities in regard to the respective lengths of the cricket and football seasons and arrangements for pre-season ground preparation and practice for each sport on playing grounds in Victoria which are Crown Lands and the desirability in the public interest that a determination be made to define the seasonal arrangements, I, the Hon Martin Pakula, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events for the State of Victoria, hereby determine the following terms and conditions in respect of such grounds. This determination applies from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022 (inclusive) and is only applicable where there is joint tenancy of football and cricket users.

#### **1 FOOTBALL**

##### **1.1 *The Football Season***

1.1.1 The football season shall be confined to the period beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> September in each year.

##### **1.2 *Home and Away Games***

1.2.1 During the football season each Football Club shall have full and unrestricted use of its home grounds until the end of the home and away matches. Access may be limited by the relevant responsible body tasked with preparing the Ground (hereinafter called the "Ground Manager").

1.2.2 The Cricket club may, with consent of and subject to conditions of the Football Club, use the ground for cricket practice. This may also require permission of the Ground Manager.

##### **1.3 *Finals***

1.3.1 Upon completion of the home and away games, the Football Club may continue to use the ground for semi finals and final matches and for practice whilst any club teams that regularly train at the venue are still contenders for the appropriate championship, or if the ground is a designated venue for the final series of the league. Such designation to be made by the local controlling body no later than 30 days prior to the use of such venue and controlling councils so informed.

- 
- 1.3.2 Practice for football shall be limited to alternate days determined by the Football Club.
- 1.3.3 In order for the Football Association to preserve its entitlement it shall nominate the actual finals venues or those venues most likely required as finals venues. Such nomination shall be made to the Ground Manager no later than one month prior to first such scheduled game.
- 1.3.4 During the whole or part of the finals series the Cricket Club, with the consent of and subject to such conditions as are imposed by the Football Club, may use the ground for cricket practice. Access may be limited by the Ground Manager.
- 1.3.5 If turf wickets are involved the Cricket Club and/or Ground Manager should be entitled to rope off the centre wicket area and one practice wicket area. The parties will meet in July / August of each year to identify grounds that are used for State League Football (VFL/TAC Cup) where the tenant club is likely to be participating in the finals series. The purpose of this meeting will be to maximise the utility of available grounds to enable turf wickets to be prepared in the minimum amount of time while maximising use by both football and cricket (including training for both sports) and reducing the level of disruption to both seasons. Similarly, the parties will meet in February /March of each year to monitor the use of grounds by both cricket and football to ensure this use adheres to the terms and conditions set out in this determination.
- 1.3.6 If finals matches are played on the ground all obstructions must be removed from the playing arena to allow unrestricted play.

## **2. CRICKET**

### **2.1 *The Cricket Season***

- 2.1.1 The Cricket Season shall be confined to the period beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> October and ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> March in each year.

### **2.2 *Home and Away Games***

- 2.2.1 During the Cricket Season each Cricket Club shall have full and unrestricted use of its home grounds until the end of the home and away matches. Access may be limited by the relevant responsible body tasked with preparing the ground.
- 2.2.2 The Football club may, with consent of and subject to the conditions of the Cricket club, use the ground for football practice. This may also require permission of the Ground Manager.

### **2.3 *Finals***

- 2.3.1 Upon completion of the home and away games, the Cricket Club may continue to use the ground for semifinals and final matches and for practice while any club teams that regularly train at the venue are still contenders for the appropriate championship or if the ground is a designated venue for the finals series of the association.

- 
- 2.3.2 Practice for cricket shall be limited to alternate days determined by the Cricket Club.
- 2.3.3 In order for the Cricket association to preserve its entitlement it shall nominate the actual finals venues or those venues most likely required as finals venues. Such nomination shall be made to the Ground Manager no later than one month prior to the first such scheduled game.
- 2.3.4 During the whole or part of the finals series of the cricket season the Football club, with consent of and subject to conditions as are imposed by the Cricket Club, may use the ground for football practice. Access may be limited by the Ground Manager.
- 2.3.5 If turf wickets are involved the Cricket Club and/or Ground Manager should be entitled to rope off the centre wicket area and one practice wicket area.
- 2.3.6 If finals matches are played on the ground all obstructions must be removed from the playing arena to allow unrestricted play.

### **3. VARIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 3.1 Variations to the foregoing provisions may only be made by mutual agreement between the parties co-named. The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events and relevant Ground Manager should be advised of any such variation forthwith.
- 3.2 Should a dispute arise between AFL Victoria and Cricket Victoria the matter will be referred to an agreed facilitator appointed by Sport and Recreation Victoria.

### **NOTES**

1. The Venues defined as "most likely" in clauses 1.3.3 and 2.3.3 are either those venues already predetermined by the respective leagues/association to host finals matches or those clubs most likely to be hosting finals matches, whilst recognising that results in the closing weeks of home and away matches may cause alterations to the fixturing and that these principles should be followed by associations/leagues in determining finals venues as distinct from simply nominating all venues for finals.
2. In the spirit of cooperation, AFL Victoria and Cricket Victoria recommend application and adherence of these terms to affiliated clubs and associations of each sport, and to local governments in all municipalities in the State of Victoria.

---

Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH 2019



**THE HON MARTIN PAKULA MP**  
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Signed for and on behalf of all Victorian AFL competitions:



**MR RICKY BELL**  
Head of AFL Victoria

Dated: 25/2/2019

Signed for and on behalf of all Victorian Cricket competitions:



**MR ANDREW INGLETON**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cricket Victoria

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019