



Shepparton Junior Soccer Association

2025 Finals Information Package

FINALS FORMATS

All age groups & divisions will play the same finals format

UNDER 12 BLUE

- 4 team, 2-week finals

UNDER 12 GIRLS

- **Week 1: Saturday August 30th**

UNDER 12 GOLD

- Semi Final 1 – 1st v 4th - Winner progresses to Grand Final
Loser bows out of finals

UNDER 12 GREEN

UNDER 12 ORANGE

- Semi Final 2 – 2nd v 3rd - Winner progresses to Grand Final
Loser bows out of finals

UNDER 12 RED

UNDER 12 WHITE

- **Week 2: Saturday September 6th**

UNDER 14 GREEN

- Grand Final - Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner of Semi Final 2

UNDER 14 ORANGE

UNDER 16

OPEN GIRLS

Note: SJSA Squads are not eligible to contest finals. If they place in the top four teams, teams placing below them will move up on the ladder.

FINALS RULES

Match Rules:

- Under 12: Modified Under 12 Rules
- Open Girls: FIFA Rules
- Under 14: FIFA Rules
- Under 16: FIFA Rules

Minimum Players:

- Minimum players as per rules are required for the match to proceed.
- If a team cannot field that number of players, the match will be forfeited to the opposing team.
- If one team cannot field a full team, the opposing team will not be penalised - a full side can take to the field & all players listed on their team sheet will be able to be interchanged throughout the match.
- Match Officials will be provided for all matches.

Eligibility to play Finals:

- Players must be registered with the SJSA for the 2025 season.
- Players must have played a minimum of 5 games throughout the 2025 season.

Match Record:

- **Team Managers must submit their team sheet to the SJSA administration area 30 minutes prior to all finals matches – matches will not start until match records have been submitted..**
- The team sheet will contain the names of all players' names on the team entry sheets to the SJSA during the 2025 season. It may also include any player who has played five (5) matches for the team & therefore qualifies to play.

- Any player who is not eligible to play (whose name has not been submitted to the SJSA on the 2025 team entry sheets of that school or has not qualified to play with the team) will not be permitted to play.
- Number of players permitted to be named on the finals team sheet:
 - Under 12: 14 players
 - Under 14: 16 players
 - Under 16: 16 players
 - Open Girls: 16 players
- Coaches & Team Managers names must be included on the finals team list sheet.
- If more than one player will be playing goalkeeper, all players who will be playing keeper must be clearly indicated & must have an individual shirt number as well as the keeper's number.

Length of Matches:

- Under 12: 30-minute halves & 7-minute half time
- Open Girls: 35-minute halves & 7-minute half time
- Under 14: 35-minute halves & 7-minute half time
- Under 16: 40-minute halves & 10-minute half time

Match Ball:

- The match ball will be provided by the SJSA & will be brought to the ground by the referee
- Under 12: Size 4
- Open Girls: Size 5
- Under 14: Size 5
- Under 16: Size 5

Interchange:

- The interchange rule shall apply to all age groups.
- Interchanges can only be made at time of a side ball throw-in.
- No player is to enter or leave the field without the permission of the referee.
- **ALL** players must have a minimum of 20 minutes game time in all finals.

Technical Area:

- A technical area for each team will be marked on each ground.
- Only coaches, team managers & players are permitted to be in the technical area.
- Spectators **ARE NOT** permitted inside the technical area.
- Coaches **MUST** remain in the technical area throughout the game unless making an interchange, giving a player a drink or attending to an injured player.
- Bench players must remain in the technical area unless they are warming up prior to being interchanged.

Drawn Match:

- If at the end of the match, there is a draw the following will take place in order until a clear winner is declared:
 1. Extra Time
 - Under 12: Five minutes of additional play from each end
 - Open Girls: Ten minutes of additional play from each end
 - Under 14: Ten minutes of additional play from each end
 - Under 16: Ten minutes of additional play from each end
 2. Penalty shoot-out.

Yellow & Red cards:

- **Any player still under suspension from a red card during the home & away season will be ineligible to play in the finals series until that suspension is served in full.**
- All players yellow card tallies will be reset at zero for the finals series.
- If a player receives a direct or indirect (two yellow cards) red card in any finals match they will be excluded from the remainder of that match & the next match they are scheduled to play; this includes the grand final.

Code Of Conduct:

- All players, coaches & team managers and spectators will abide by the SJSA Code of Conduct.

Shirts:

- **Players are NOT to change shirts during the match.**
- It is the responsibility of all schools to ensure they have the correct number of shirts.

Spectators:

- ALL spectators are to remain in designated spectator areas - THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.
- **All spectators must abide by the SJSA Code of Conduct. Any spectators who are found to be abusing the players, referee or team officials in any way will be asked to leave the ground.**

Team Marshal:

- **Each team is to provide a marshal who will ensure that all spectators remain in allocated areas & that there no offensive behaviour from spectators.**
- The team marshal must remain outside the fence with the spectators – they are NOT to sit on the bench.
- The team marshal must wear a fluoro-jacket to enable them to be easily identified during the match.
- The team official will be approached by an SJSA official if there is a problem with a spectator associated with the team.

OTHER FINALS INFORMATION

Presentations:

- Presentations will take place following the completion of each final & will be made to:
 - Trophy for Golden Boot winner
 - Trophy for Best & Fairest winner
 - Trophy for the Player of the Match
 - Medals for Grand Final Runner Up team
 - Medals & Trophy for Grand Final winning team
 - Photographs will be taken following presentations
 - Official photographs taken following presentations
 - These photos will be made available to delegates who will be responsible for distribution of the photographs to those players who wish to obtain copies

Canteen & BBQ:

- All teams (or schools/clubs) contesting grand finals must supply two (2) volunteers to help in the canteen/BBQ during the day for a one (1) hour time slot.
- The Team Manager will be notified of the time slot & asked to provide the name & contact numbers of the volunteers.
- Volunteers will not be rostered on during their child's match.

SJSA Officials:

- SJSA officials will be present & can be approached or contacted on the following numbers at any time throughout the day.
 - **Peter Hill: 0490 012 103**
 - **Kylie Adams: 0483 018 136**
 - **Karen Hocking: 0490 147 050**
 - **Mark Stevens – SJSA Marshall**
- SJSA officials will be identified by
 - Black & green jackets with the SJSA logo
 - Yellow vests

The above-mentioned information & rules have been implemented after a great deal of thought & deliberation by the SJSA executive to ensure that the Finals Series is free from any ugly incidents that will spoil the day for the players.

The philosophy of the SJSA has always been centred on participation & fun. While playing finals does bring a more competitive edge to the game, we would ask you to please always keep in mind that our competition is not about parents, it is about the fun & enjoyment of the players.

Thank you for participating in the 2025 season, congratulations on making finals & best of luck for the finals; we hope you have a Finals Series!