



GRIDIRON AUSTRALIA

American Football – The Australian Way

SANCTIONING POLICY

This is a Policy made under the Gridiron Australia Constitution

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ATTACHMENTS

Gridiron Australia Sanctioning Application Form

REVIEW HISTORY OF THIS POLICY

Version	Scope	Status	Board Approval Date	In Effect Date
1	Public	Approved	11 December 2017	1 January 2018



1. PURPOSE

Gridiron Australia sanctions events to maintain a consistency of approach towards events for event organisers. Sanctioning events provides:

- regulation and of Gridiron as a sport;
- a standardised approach to organising gridiron events;
- access to coverage by the Gridiron Australia Insurance Program;
- a consistent approach in the presentation of the game; and
- protection of our members.

The types of events that may require sanctioning are:

- **Games:** played between different teams for league ranking, prestige, or other prize.
- **Training:** where players practice or demonstrate Gridiron like activities, including scrimmages and coaching clinics.

Meetings, functions, fitness or weight training, and promotional events are not within the scope of this policy. Events that wish to make use of GA logos should seek Board approval.

2. EVENTS THAT DON'T REQUIRE SANCTIONING

Games and Training organised by a Member League or Club and involving only players of a single State or League do not require sanctioning. Examples include:

- regular league games and finals
- club training
- scrimmage matches involving clubs from a single state
- state team training sessions
- coaching clinics with visiting coaches



All players and coaches must be registered for games, and ideally during training. Teams should get returning players to register as early as possible during preseason training. Organisers are expected to show good governance of the sport and protection of the members. Games must be conducted according to approved rules under the competent supervision of qualified coaches and officials. If games are to be played under an alternate set of rules, sanctioning must be obtained. Leagues must not organise games or teams of unregistered players.

Notwithstanding that these events do not require prior approval by Gridiron Australia, the GA board may issue a direction halting or altering the conditions of these events.

3. EVENTS REQUIRING SANCTIONING

3.1. Hosting

Clubs and Leagues that wish to host or participate in games or training that require interstate or international travel, or games under an alternate set of rules, or events organised by non-GA members, must receive written approval from Gridiron Australia prior to it occurring. Such events are encouraged as they may promote the growth of the sport, but sanctioning is required to ensure that:

- they don't conflict with the strategic objectives of the sport;
- they don't create a scheduling conflict with other events;
- they don't create a financial burden on participants that may weaken other events;
- they will be conducted according to governance standards acceptable to GA; and
- any other concern of GA due to the unique nature of the event is addressed.

Where the host of the event is a GA member, the host should obtain the sanctioning authorization and provide it to GA members attending.

Hosting Sanctioning should be obtained before booking facilities or advertising an event.

3.2. Visiting

Where the host is not a GA member, then the visiting team should complete their own sanctioning request. Visiting sanctioning should be obtained at least 7 days before an event, and ideally as early as possible.



4. SANCTIONING FOR INDIVIDUALS

Sanctioning does not apply to individual members. Private coaching clinics or tours organised by non-GA members that are attended by individuals (and not clubs posing as individuals) are not within the scope of this policy. Leagues and Clubs should not promote these events unless the organisers have received sanction from GA.

Individual members are advised to ensure that the event they wish to attend has appropriate insurance coverage, and that the event supports the objectives of the sport. Individuals are reminded that engagement in activities detrimental to Gridiron or its members may result in suspension or other disciplinary action.

5. BENEFITS OF SANCTIONING

5.1. Insurance Coverage

Sanctioned events may apply for and may be granted access to the Gridiron Australia Insurance Policy to cover their event. This reduces the cost of the event and simplifies the job of the organisers. Event organisers that host events without insurance may have difficulty obtaining venues and may expose themselves and participants to claims.

5.2. Use of Gridiron Australia Logos

With board approval, sanctioned events may use GA logos.

5.3. Beneficial Activities

Activities that are judged detrimental to Gridiron, our members, or IFAF, will not be sanctioned by GA. Participants in sanctioned activities support the sport.

5.4. Governance Standards

Sanctioning ensures that events will be supervised by accredited coaches. Games will also be played under the supervision of officials accredited by Australian Gridiron Officiating.

5.5. Support of programs

Sanctioned events support the objectives of the sport and don't conflict or detract from other events.



5.6. Communication

Gridiron Australia and State Leagues need to be aware of the events occurring that affect them. Events may be placed on State or National calendars. GA and the States will attempt to avoid creating conflicts through sanctioning. Several similar unrelated events may indicate that a larger event encompassing all should be created.

6. PENALTIES FOR NOT OBTAINING SANCTIONING

Undertaking sanctionable activities without sanction creates a risk for the sport as a whole. In addition to not realising the benefits above, the GA board may impose penalties on Clubs and Leagues that fail to properly sanction events or attend unsanctioned events. These include but are not limited to:

- Deduction of existing or future competition points or ban on post-season games.
- Refusal to sanction future events.
- Ban on members participating in National or International programs.
- A fine not exceeding \$500 for Clubs or \$2000 for Leagues.

7. APPLYING FOR SANCTIONING

Fill in the attached form and email to secretary@ga.org.au.



GRIDIRON AUSTRALIA SANCTIONING APPLICATION FORM

Application Date:

SECTION 1 (to be completed by Host State)			
Host state		Visiting state	
Date of event		Time of event	
Venue address			
Event description			
Admission fee	Yes / No	Amount if Yes	
Event manager name			
Event manager email			
Event manager phone			
SECTION 2			
Membership status of host state	Full Member / Other*		
Membership status of visiting state	Full Member / Other*		
Will AGOA officials be officiation this game?	Yes / No		
Will all participating members of both state bodies?	Yes / No		
Will a recognised judiciary be in place for this event?	Yes / No		
Will insurance be required for this event?	Yes / No		
What insurance will be in place for this event?	GA Insurance Policy / Other*		
SECTION 3			
Event sanctioned by the following states			
Event not sanctioned by the following states			
Sanctioning fee	Yes / No	\$	Waived
Sanctioning officer			
Date of decision			

*Please state details on separate sheet

