



MEMORANDUM

To: **State / Territory CEO's and Community Football Managers**

Cc: **Sam Graham, Andrew Hughes, Tony Costanzo**

From: **Andrew Dillon**

Date: **18 June 2020**

Re: **Transfers and Permits for Community Football in 2020**

Dear State / Territory CEO's and Community Football Managers,

As a result of the impact the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the associated Government restrictions have had on community football, the AFL has introduced certain processes in respect of player transfers and permits under the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations, which will apply for the duration of the 2020 community football season. These processes are outlined in the attached Addendum to the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations at Appendix 1 and follow lengthy consultation with all States and Territories. Also attached at Appendix 2 is a User Guide to assist clubs and leagues implementing these new processes.

Please share both the Addendum and User Guide throughout your football network.

If you have any queries, please contact your State Community Football Manager.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Dillon', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Dillon
General Manager – Game Development
Australian Football League



Addendum to the National Player Registration & Transfer Regulations 2020

Introduction

This Addendum is made pursuant to Regulation 3.24 of the AFL National Player Registration & Transfer Regulations (published February 2020) (**Regulations**). Definitions used in this Addendum have the same meaning as given in the Regulations.

The purpose of this Addendum is to provide for certain processes in respect of player Transfers and Permits during the 2020 community football season introduced as a result of the impact the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and the associated Government restrictions have had on community football (**COVID-19 Transfer and Permit Processes**). This Addendum will apply for the duration of the 2020 community football season following which it will have no force or effect.

To the extent of any inconsistency between the Regulations and this Addendum, this Addendum will prevail.

COVID-19 Transfer and Permit Processes

The following processes will apply for the duration of the 2020 community football season:

1. Transfer Periods

Pursuant to Regulation 3.7.1 of the Regulations, a Transfer Request may be lodged between 1 November to 30 November or 1 February to 30 June in each calendar year.

In respect of the ACT, New South Wales, the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia only, the Transfer Period from 1 February 2020 to 30 June 2020 will be extended to 31 July 2020. The Transfer Periods will not change for South Australian, Tasmania and Victoria.

Transfers will be permitted into and out of the ACT, New South Wales, the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australian from 1 February 2020 and up to and including 31 July 2020. Transfers will not be permitted into or out of South Australia, Tasmania or Victoria after 30 June 2020.

2. COVID-19 Type 2 Permit

A new national COVID-19 Type 2 Permit will be introduced from 22 June 2020 to allow the movement of players (on loan) in circumstances where their League or Club is not participating in an Australian football competition in the 2020 season.

Where a player's Club or League either does not submit any teams or does not otherwise participate in the 2020 community football season, that player will be eligible to apply for a COVID-19 Type 2 Permit no later than 31 July 2020. In such circumstances, the COVID-19 Type 2 Permit will allow the player to move to another club for the duration of the 2020 community football season and that player will then revert back to their original Club on 1 November 2020.

The differences between the COVID-19 Type 2 Permit and a normal Type 2 Permit (Local Interchange Permit) are as follows:

- A normal Type 2 Permit requires an Interchange Agreement between the relevant Leagues. There is no requirement for an Interchange Agreement for a COVID-19 Type 2 Permit.
- A normal Type 2 Permit is available to players in all Leagues and Clubs provided that an Interchange Agreement is in place. A COVID-19 Type 2 Permit is only available to a player where the player's League or Club is not participating in the 2020 season.
- The timings for a normal Type 2 Permit are determined in accordance with the relevant Interchange Agreement. A player must apply for a COVID-19 Type 2 Permit by 31 July 2020.



User Guide

Changes to transfers and permits in 2020 due to COVID-19

To help manage the movement of players given the unique circumstances 2020 presents for community football, this guide outlines the process for the following changes:

1. Extension of transfers to July 31 in ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA
2. Introduction of a national COVID-19 Type 2 Permit

1. Extension of transfers to July 31 in ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA

The transfer window for players to move permanently to another club typically closes on June 30. This has been extended to July 31 in several States and Territories:

- SA, TAS and VIC – transfers will close at midnight on June 30
- ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA – transfers will close at midnight on July 31

Transfers will be permitted into and out of ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA throughout July. Transfers will not be permitted into or out of SA, TAS and VIC throughout July.

Please note that, during July, Clubs in ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA will be able to lodge transfer requests through Footyweb for players in any State despite SA, TAS and VIC closing transfers on June 30. Therefore, Clubs in SA, TAS and VIC should continue to monitor their inbox during July and deny any of those transfer requests. Transfers requesting players from SA, TAS and VIC during July will also be denied at State level should they be approved at their Club and / or League level.

Under the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations, if a Transfer is requested, the Community Clubs (and their League) have the opportunity within 6 business days to either Approve or Deny the Transfer request. Under our National Player Registration & Transfer Regulations the transfer can only be denied for the following 3 reasons:

- i. Player is Under Contract
- ii. Owes Club Money
- iii. Has Club Property (e.g. jumper)

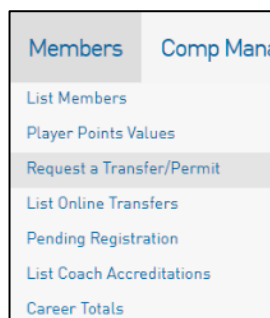
2. Introduction of a national COVID-19 Type 2 Permit

A national COVID-19 Type 2 Permit will be introduced at 5pm on Monday 22nd June to allow the movement of Players (on loan) in the case where their League or Club is not participating in a competition in the 2020 season.

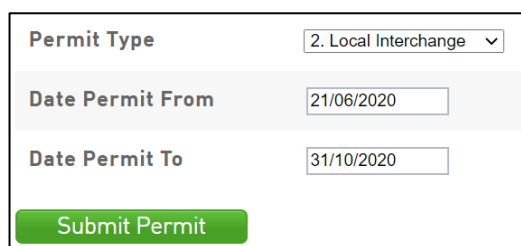
In the case of a player moving from one club to another due to their existing Club or League either not submitting teams, or not participating in 2020, a player will be eligible for a Type 2 permit for the 2020 season and will revert back to their original club at October 31st 2020. These requests must be lodged by no later than July 31.

To lodge a COVID-19 Type 2 Permit request a club should follow these steps:

1. Log in to your club Footyweb Dashboard
2. Hover of the 'Members' menu item and click on - request new permit



3. Search for and select the player your club wish to play for your club on permit
4. Scroll down to the permit section and select 2. Local Interchange from the drop down under Permit Type and enter the current date in the 'date permit from' field and 31/10/2020 in the 'date permit to' field and click submit permit.



Please note the following points related to COVID-19 Type 2 Permits:

- Normally, a Type 2 Local Interchange Permit requires that Leagues must enter into an Interchange Agreement. However, a COVID-19 Type 2 Permit does not require an Interchange agreement to facilitate the movement of players.
- A COVID-19 Type 2 Permit is only available where a League or Club is not participating in a 2020 season whereas a normal Type 2 Permit is also available where a League or Club is participating.
- A COVID-19 Type 2 Permit can only be denied for the following reasons:
 - i. The player is trying to permit from a League or Club which is participating in 2020 and there is no existing interchange agreement in place between those leagues
 - ii. The player owes money or has club property
- Should any League wish to maintain the integrity of their existing Interchange Agreements in place for Type 2 Permits, the strong recommendation is to ensure all Inbound and Outbound Player movements from their League using the existing Type 2 Local Interchange functionality in Footyweb require manual approval from the League rather than auto-approval.

Summary of player movement options

	Transfers	Permits
June 22 – June 30	Allowed nationally	COVID-19 Type 2 permit (if Club or League is not participating in 2020 season) Normal Type 2 permit (where an interchange agreement exists)
July 1 – July 31	Allowed in ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and WA <u>Not</u> allowed in SA, TAS and VIC (except in exceptional circumstances as determined by the State Body)	COVID-19 Type 2 permit (if Club or League is not participating in 2020 season) Normal Type 2 permit (where an interchange agreement exists)
Aug 1 – Oct 31	<u>Not</u> allowed nationally (except in exceptional circumstances as determined by the State Body)	Normal Type 2 permit (where an interchange agreement exists)