

# Curriculum activity risk assessment

## Football (Soccer)

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### Activity scope

This document relates to student participation in Football (Soccer) as a curriculum activity including the teaching of football skills, team training and competition matches conducted by schools.

### Risk level

This document is a guideline, the actual risk level will vary according to the specific circumstances of the activity and these **must** be considered when assessing the inherent risk level and planning the activity. As a starting point, ask the following questions:



- Which students will be involved?
- Where will the students be?
- What will the students be doing?
- Who will be leading the activity?
- What will the students be using?

Inherent risk level		Action required/approval
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium	Some chance of an incident and injury requiring first aid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Document controls in planning documents and/or complete this <i>Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment</i>.</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consider obtaining parental/carer permission.</li> </ul>

Teachers/leaders:

Activity description:

Start date:

Finish date:

No. of students (approx.):

Class groups:

Supervision ratio (approx.):

Listed below are the minimum recommendations for this type of activity. For any items ticked 'No', provide further information regarding the additional or alternate controls to be implemented for the safe conduct of the activity.

## Minimum supervision

Adequate adult supervision is to be provided. In determining what is adequate, consider the number of students, their individual needs, and the nature of the activity.

If an adult other than a registered teacher is engaged for instruction, a teacher should be present to take overall responsibility. [Blue Card](#) requirements **must** be adhered to.

- Registered teacher with minimum qualifications as outlined below  
**OR**  
 An adult with minimum qualifications as outlined below, in the presence of a registered teacher.

Further information:

## Minimum qualifications

*The qualifications listed in this section are minimums for each type of situation. Leaders are encouraged to seek training to raise their qualification level above the minimum listed.*

- Current first aid qualifications including Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or ready access to first aid facilities, including qualified personnel.
- Blue Card requirements met.

### For a registered teacher:

- [Get Active Queensland](#) Football (Soccer) Coaching Course  
**OR**  
 A Junior Licence from [Football Federation Australia](#) (FFA)  
**OR**  
 Competence (demonstrated ability/experience to undertake the activity) in the teaching of football (soccer).

A teacher could demonstrate a reasonable level of competence by two or more of the following:

- knowledge of the activity and the associated hazards and risks  
 experience (i.e. previous involvement) in undertaking the activity  
 demonstrated ability and/or expertise to undertake the activity  
 possession of qualifications related to the activity.

### For a leader other than a registered teacher:

- Get Active Queensland Football (Soccer) Coaching Course  
**OR**  
 A Junior Licence from FFA.

Competition games should be controlled by competent coaches and officials. The minimum requirements are:

- A registered teacher with competence (i.e. demonstrated ability) in refereeing the game of Football  
**OR**  
 A qualified referee with [FFA Level 4 accreditation](#).

## Minimum qualifications

The qualifications listed in this section are minimums for each type of situation. Leaders are encouraged to seek training to raise their qualification level above the minimum listed.

Further information:

## Minimum equipment/facilities *If 'No' is ticked, provide further information.*

Yes

No

First aid kit suitable for activity



Communication system:

phone-line at location

mobile phone

walkie talkies/UHF Radio

student/adult messenger

Other:

Sun safety equipment (hat, sunscreen, shirt etc)



Drinking water (students should not share drinking containers)



Shin guards for all players when playing. Shin guards **must** be covered entirely by the stockings (long socks) (FIFA rule).



Minimum clearance of 3 metres surrounding each field



Some suggested alternate controls where minimum boundary clearance is not met:

- reduce the size of the playing field to achieve an adequate clearance zone
- remove spectators/dangerous obstacles within the clearance zone
- provide instructions to the official/supervisors and players about the limited clearance zone
- station supervisors near any obstacles within the clearance zone.

Portable Goals Standards Australia Handbook (HB227-2203):

- No 'home-made' versions of these items as they may not be structurally sound or have sufficient anchor points.
- Securely anchor/counterweight Portable Soccer Goalposts (PSGs) at all times in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Unanchored goals can tip over causing serious injury or death.
- Net pegs should only be used to secure the net, not to anchor the goal structure.
- Never allow anyone to climb or hang from the netting or goal framework.
- Instruct all appropriate personnel on the safe handling of, and potential dangers associated with, PSGs.
- Structural integrity and proper connecting hardware should be checked before every use and ongoing maintenance ensured.
- PSGs should be safely stored to prevent unauthorised use/access and potential injuries.
- Safety warnings should be either in the form of a label or painted on the goal frame e.g. **'WARNING – ALWAYS ANCHOR GOAL – NEVER CLIMB ON GOAL OR HANG ON CROSSBAR'**.

Minimum equipment/facilities <i>If 'No' is ticked, provide further information.</i>	Yes	No
Further information:		

Governing bodies/associations <i>If 'No' is ticked, provide further information.</i>	Yes	No
Guidelines/codes of practice are established for this activity (see Football Federation Australia (FFA) and <a href="#">Football Queensland</a> ).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have these been considered during the planning of this activity?		
If you are organising competitions or other events, have you referred to <a href="#">Queensland School Sport Unit</a> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further information:		

## Hazards and suggested control measures

All persons engaging in this activity should:

- identify the hazards, including any additional hazards not mentioned here
- assess their significance
- manage the potential risks.

Listed below are indicative hazards/risks and suggested control measures. They are by no means exhaustive lists. After checking these, add details of any other identified hazards/risks and additional controls you intend to implement.

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan/ Additional controls
<b>Biological material</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body fluids (e.g. blood, saliva, sweat)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have sufficient and suitable containment material (bandages, etc) readily available.</li> <li>• Ensure that students do not share personal equipment such as mouthguards, towels and drink bottles.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan/ Additional controls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comply with <a href="#">HLS-PR-004: Infection Control and Management of Prescribed Contagious Conditions</a> and <a href="#">Infection Control Guideline</a>. Students with open cuts and abrasions are to be removed from the activity and treated immediately. If bleeding cannot be controlled completely, the participant should not be allowed to return to the activity. All clothing, equipment and surfaces contaminated by blood should be treated as potentially infectious.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Environmental conditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weather</li> <li>Surfaces</li> <li>Sprinkler heads</li> <li>Surrounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess suitability of playing field (level, debris, potholes/divots in ground, line markers, sprinkler heads, etc).</li> <li>Site activities away from buildings, pedestrians and traffic.</li> <li>Assess weather conditions before and during activity (temperature, storms, etc).</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Physical contact</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collisions</li> <li>Breaks/sprains</li> <li>Cuts, grazes and/or abrasions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cut or tape long fingernails.</li> <li>Ensure that all items of jewellery (watches, necklaces, rings, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, studs etc) are <b>removed</b>. Taping is not acceptable (<a href="#">Mandatory FIFA rule</a>).</li> <li>Ensure that match footballs are sized according to the age of the players: (10yrs-13yrs size 4, 14yrs and older size 5). Footballs that have lifted panels, protruding inflation points, loose or broken stitching, or are out of shape should be discarded.</li> <li>Note that game equipment, should comply with age standard levels appropriate to the laws of the game (e.g. footballs, goals for small-sided games).</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan/ Additional controls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="354 262 778 474">• Note that players wearing any form of stiff /solid fracture/ sprain casts <b>must</b> remove them before playing. The casts are NOT to be covered by foam or any other soft protective material.</li> <li data-bbox="354 495 746 707">• If spectacles need to be worn during matches and training sessions, ensure they have plastic frames and plastic lenses. A band should also hold the spectacles on securely.</li> <li data-bbox="354 728 772 806">• Corner flags or markers should be made of non-injurious materials.</li> <li data-bbox="354 826 769 1010">• Note that it is recommended that correctly sized and fastened shin pads, and correctly fitted mouthguards should be worn for playing and practising.</li> <li data-bbox="354 1028 746 1171">• Ensure that when playing, all players wear footwear. Footwear is to be suitable for running and for kicking a football. <b>Please note</b> that footwear sold in shops suitable for playing football includes boots/shoes with moulded studded soles, screw in studs (metal or plastic), 'blades' and dimples.</li> <li data-bbox="354 1189 778 1975">• Ensure that boots or shoes are inspected before each match. Boots or shoes with loose, sharp-edged or excessively worn studs and sharp-edged soles should not be worn. If the footwear has tags, the tags <b>must</b> be checked to ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="405 1659 762 1749">○ the tags are not sharp on the edge (i.e. nylon screw in tags)</li> <li data-bbox="405 1760 743 1794">○ the tags are not tapered</li> <li data-bbox="405 1805 772 1861">○ the tag is not pointed (e.g. a track shoe)</li> <li data-bbox="405 1872 778 1975">○ the metal screw is not protruding through the tag creating a two-part pointed tag.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan/ Additional controls
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal-keepers should defend their goal against one ball at a time only during skills practice.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Physical exertion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strains and sprains</li> <li>Cramps</li> <li>Exhaustion and fatigue</li> <li>Organised game times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cover rules, safety procedures and prerequisite skills before students play the game.</li> <li>Rules regarding body contact should be enforced to ensure the safety of students.</li> <li>Procedures should be established for the management of any student receiving an injury to the head.</li> <li>Have appropriate warm-up and warm-down activities.</li> <li>Students should have progressed through the skills and knowledge areas associated with mini soccer before participating at a level governed by the full laws of the game.</li> <li>Follow progressive and sequential skill development, skills training is encouraged for 9-11 year age groups.</li> <li>Note that it is recommended that fixtured game times should comply with FFA/Football Queensland recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-12yrs, a maximum 25 minutes per half, 5 minutes (or more) half time break</li> <li>13yrs-max 30min per half, 5 minutes (or more) half time break</li> <li>14yrs-max 35min per half, 5 minutes (or more) half time break</li> <li>15yrs-max 40min per half, 5 minutes (or more) half time break</li> <li>16yrs or more, max 45min per half, 10minutes (or more) break.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Modify games to match the skill and fitness levels of students.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Hazards/risks	Control measures	Yes	No	Implementation plan/ Additional controls
<b>Students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student numbers</li> <li>• Special needs</li> <li>• High risk behaviours</li> <li>• Medical conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain parental permission, including relevant medical information.</li> <li>• When students with medical conditions are involved, ensure that relevant medical/ emergency plans and medications are readily available (i.e. insulin, Ventolin®, Epipen®, etc).</li> <li>• Refer to Individual Education Plan/Educational Adjustment Plan/Behaviour Management Plan and other student documents.</li> <li>• Where necessary, obtain advice from relevant Advisory Visiting Teachers or Specialist Teachers.</li> <li>• Ensure there is adequate adult supervision.</li> <li>• If there is reason to believe that a student is injured, remove the student from the field of play.</li> <li>• Ensure that students do not return to playing after an injury until it is clear that the injury has healed. If there is any doubt, the student should not play until medically cleared.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>	

Additional control measures	
<i>These would relate to the specific student needs, location and conditions in which you are conducting your activity.</i>	
Hazards/risks	Control measures



<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
List the names of those who were involved in the preparation of this risk assessment.	

Approval	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved as submitted:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved with the following condition(s):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved for the following reasons(s):
By:	Designation:
Signed:	Date:
Once approved, activity details should be entered into the <b>School Curriculum Activity Register</b> by administrative staff.	Reference No.

<b>Monitor and review</b> <i>To be completed during and/or after the activity and/or at the completion of the series of activities.</i>	Yes	No
Are the control measures still effective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have there been any changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are further actions required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details:		

## Important links

- HLS-PR-003: First Aid  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr003/>
- HLS-PR-004: Infection Control and Management of Prescribed Contagious Conditions  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr004/>
- Infection Control Guideline  
[http://education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/infection\\_control\\_guideline.pdf](http://education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/infection_control_guideline.pdf)
- HLS-PR-005: Health and Safety incident recording and notification  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr005/>
- HLS-PR-013: Developing a Sun Safety Strategy  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr013/>
- HRM-PR-010: Working with Children Check - Blue Cards  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/hr/hrmpr010/>
- SCM-PR-002: School Excursions  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/schools/scmpr002/>
- Australian Standards - Portable Soccer Goalposts  
<http://www.saiglobal.com/PDFTemp/CustomizedDownload/hb227-2003.pdf>
- FIFA  
<http://www.fifa.com/>
- Football Federation Australia  
<http://www.footballaustralia.com.au/>
- Football Queensland  
<http://www.footballqueensland.com.au/index.php>
- Football Queensland Accreditation Information  
<http://footballcoachqld.com.au/index.php?display=cat&id=3>
- Get Active Queensland Accreditation Program  
<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/sportrec/community-programs/education-and-training/get-active-queensland-accreditation-program>
- Health and Safety - Safety Alert - Portable Soccer Goalposts  
<http://education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/portable-soccer-goalposts.pdf>
- Queensland School Sport Unit  
[http://www.learningplace.com.au/default\\_suborg.asp?orgid=128&suborgid=788](http://www.learningplace.com.au/default_suborg.asp?orgid=128&suborgid=788)

### Further information

For further information on incorporating risk management strategies into curriculum activity planning refer to [HLS-PR-012: Managing Risks in School Curriculum Activities](#) and the associated list of [Curriculum Activity Risk Management Guidelines](#).

For further support with risk management training and advice, contact trained staff in schools such as Workplace Health and Safety Officers (WHSOs) and Workplace Health and Safety Representatives (WHSRs), and regional staff such as Senior Health and Safety Consultants.