



Vikings NSW Futsal Indoor Soccer

A.B.N. 48 602 811 944

Correspondence: Vikings NSW Futsal

Postal Address: PO Box 353 Smithfield West NSW 2164

Operations Office: Michael Wenden Aquatic Centre

Address: 62 Cabramatta Avenue Miller

Email: nswinfo@vikingsfutsal.com

Website: www.vikingsfutsal.com

Phone: 02 9825 0997

Fax: 02 9825 0662

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Dear Club Secretary, Coaches, Players and Parents,

Re: National Registration Regulations letter from Football NSW Ltd

I'm sending you this letter in response to Damian Brigg's directive to your club and to assure you that it's contents are ridiculous and not applicable.

Please note.

1. Dual registration is where a player is registered and plays for two teams or associations where those teams or associations are both affiliated to the same governing body.

NSW Vikings Futsal Indoor Soccer is NOT affiliated with Football NSW or Football Federation Australia so it would not apply to those who wish to register and play in any Vikings competition.

2. As a club you are not responsible for your players' other sporting activities such as swimming, netball, cricket or any other sport outside your own sporting association and/or sporting governing body.

NSW Vikings Futsal Indoor Soccer is a stand-alone sporting association and is affiliated to the Australian Futsal Indoor Soccer Association Inc. with a current player base 45,000 strong.

3. The "powers that be" purposely created this situation by organising their national Futsal championships on identical dates as the Vikings equivalent, hoping players would choose theirs over ours. Result? Players prefer ours. This situation could and should have been avoided.

Vikings Futsal regrets the situation players, parents, coaches and clubs have been placed in. Whatever decision you take we at Vikings will fully respect.

4. Why discriminate against Premier League and Super League players and why deny them the opportunity to compete in a proper national competition where they will have the opportunity to be selected in a national touring team?

Vikings National Futsal Championships offers a large state team competition component, individual club team components and Australian representative team selections including national senior women and men's teams. The Australian Women's national team flew out on Monday for China to compete in a 6 nation's tournament. This is in preparation for next year's Women's World Cup in Argentina.

5. Why would an entire club, the ACT Boomerangs be permitted to dual register under the FFA banner to play in the Super League in NSW for insurance purposes. Also those players from the ACT whom choose to test their skills week in week out in Premier and Super League are actually 'dual registered' by both Capital Futsal and Football NSW Futsal.

Vikings Futsal stands by the player's right to choose to participate in any sport/organisation they choose. We at Vikings fully support a player's right to better themselves in any competition they choose to play. We encourage players to participate in any activity which may assist them in their own personal development.

6. If this is to be enforced in total, ALL players registered to play in any Private centre across NSW would also be required to be banned. Including centres such as five dock leisure centre, all PCYC players and various centres throughout Wollongong area.

Vikings Futsal believes this is a sad day for the sport when players are the ones whom are targeted and threatened as to where and when they can and can not play. This ruling will effectively spell the end of the 2009/2010 premier super league as many teams will have to forfeit games due to lack of player numbers.

7. At no stage have referee's been targeted or criticised for refereeing on both sides of the game. Is this because legally they can't be challenged?

Vikings Futsal supports an individuals right to choose. Whether they are a referee, player, administrator, staff member or club official. Each person has the right to make their own choices to better improve their skills.

Vikings Futsal reminds Football NSW that a similar event occurred in 1988, where a Futsal player (Richie Bernard) was pressured by the then Australian Soccer Federation, by prohibiting him to play in an indoor soccer competition. (During that period the ASF did not recognise indoor soccer). The case was heard by the Brisbane Supreme Court and the player was found in favour. Therefore Football NSW's threats are baseless and nothing more than scare tactics in a desperate attempt to salvage their diminishing numbers.

In order to attempt to resolve this Football NSW created debacle, Vikings Futsal has decided to accept players currently registered with the FFA into its 2009/2010 tournaments without the need to re-register with us. Vikings Futsal will cover the insurance component for this period. Hence, no player will be registered with our organisation to play in the national championships in Sydney.

Please do not be intimidated by Football NSW.

If you need to discuss any of these issues please don't hesitate to contact me during office hours on 02 9825 0997.

**Bob Raso
CEO NSW Vikings Futsal**