

JUNIOR DISPENSATION GUIDELINES



OVERVIEW

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide all stakeholders with a clear and concise process for dispensation requests amongst the BV community competitions.

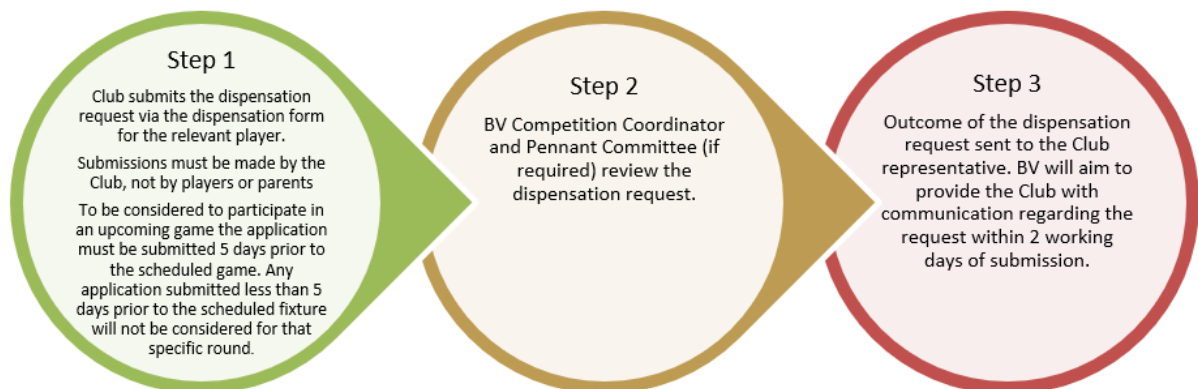
This policy allows Clubs to submit a request for a player(s) to be granted exemption by BV to participate in competitions that they would otherwise not be eligible to.

Dispensations **will not** be granted to players over 18 years to play in the U18 competition under any circumstances.

To ensure all requests receive due consideration in line with the policy, denied applications can be reviewed by the Pennant Committee.

BV at its sole discretion may amend any part of the dispensation policy as required from time to time.

DISPENSATION PROCESS



DETERMINING A DISPENSATION APPLICATION

There are a range of various factors BV consider when determining the outcome of a dispensation application.

A number of these factors may include and are not limited to.

- Maintaining the integrity of BV competitions
- Playing history of the player
- Alternate reasonable opportunities for the player to participate at the Club in an age eligible age group
- Alternate reasonable opportunities for the player to participate at a Club within reasonable age brackets in an age eligible age group
- The number of requests made for a certain team
- The number of requests made for a certain Club
- Supporting documentation from a certified medical practitioner
- The Club being able to provide the player with the assistance needed to prepare the player to play in an age eligible age group the following year
- Dispensation history of the player
- The submission being made in line with the stipulations surrounding the relevant dispensation category
- The wellbeing and safety of all participants
- Any other relevant circumstance or relevant supporting documentation

SUBMITTING A DISPENSATION APPLICATION

All dispensation requests must be submitted by the Club on behalf of the relevant player. Submissions from individual parents/guardians/players will not be accepted.

To be considered to participate in an upcoming fixture the application must be submitted 5 days prior to the scheduled fixture date. Any application submitted less than 5 days prior to the scheduled fixture will not be considered for that specific round.

It is important to note that Clubs submit dispensation application requests in accordance with this policy, however approval is not guaranteed, nor should the Clubs anticipate approval prior to the dispensation request being considered and determined by BV through the defined process.

Should the dispensation request be approved – the approval is only applicable for the competition season relevant to the year in which the request is made and the provided approval letter by BV must be readily available on match day.



JUNIOR U12 – U18 COMPETITIONS

MEDICAL DISPENSATION

BV recognises that it may be necessary in some circumstances to provide dispensation for an individual to play in an BV competition a maximum of one (1) year below their age due to a physical disability, mental disorder or physical size development consideration as identified and diagnosed by a certified medical practitioner.

A certified medical practitioner is a medical specialist who has attained the appropriate qualifications and accreditations to practise and includes both sports physicians and paediatricians.

The club must provide BV with the following documentation in support of their application for medical dispensation.

- a supporting letter from the players parent (s) or guardian
- current (within 12 months of the application unless evidencing a chronic condition) medical evidence to support the application from the players medical specialist detailing the need for dispensation
- any other information the club wishes to submit in support of the application.

FIRST YEAR DISPENSATION

A first-year dispensation may be granted to a player who has not previously been registered with BV. This form of dispensation is to allow an individual to play in an BV competition for which the usual eligible age is a maximum of one (1) year below the player's age and is only valid for one competition season. Dispensation is only granted for players to play down one age group. Requests to play down two (2) or more age groups are not permitted. This dispensation cannot be reapplied for the following competition season or any other season following the player's first season participating in a BV competition.

BV may in its sole discretion refuse to grant a dispensation request under this regulation in circumstances where the player in question has played baseball in school or other competitions not administered by BV. BV may seek further information from the Club in question before deciding under this regulation and the club must submit that information as part of the dispensation request.

A first-year dispensation may be refused or revoked by BV acting in its sole discretion if BV later discovers that the club did not provide relevant and/or requested information without a reasonable excuse.

PLAY BASEBALL DISPENSATION

A play baseball dispensation may only be granted in exceptional circumstances where there are no reasonable alternatives available to the player and in the opinion of BV, it benefits the interests of one or more of the following to allow the dispensation:

1. the player
2. the team
3. the club
4. the league in which the team participates
5. baseball in Victoria in general.

Play baseball dispensation is only granted for players to play down one age group. Requests to play down two (2) or more age groups are not permitted.

If granted, the play baseball dispensation is a one year 'bridging dispensation' to allow the club to take reasonable steps to prepare the player to play in their rightful age group the following season. It is envisaged that this dispensation will not be required for the following year.