

2023 SMJFL Rule Variation Matrix								
	Girls							
	U8, U9 & U10	U11 (Excluding Div 1)	U11 Div 1 and U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U18
Regulations								
Ground size	Modified (approved)	Modified (approved)	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard
# players on ground	9 (12)	9 (12) *	12 (16) **	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	16 (18)	16 (18)
Ball type	Syn only	Syn only	Syn/Leather	Syn/Leather	Syn/Leather	Syn/Leather	Leather	Leather
Ball size	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Quarter duration (mins)	10	12	15	15	15	15	15	17
Break length 1/4 - 1/2 - 3/4 time	3-6-3	3-6-3	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5
Scoreboard	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Results	Yes (not published)	Yes (not published)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Best & Fairest/Goals	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Finals	Lightning Carnival	Lightning Carnival	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laws								
Tackling	Modified	Modified	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bumping	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stealing the ball	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barging	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smothering	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fending off	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shepherding	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bouncing the ball	1 max	1 max	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Kicking off the ground	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ball ups	Nominated players of equal size		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Throw-ins	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Distance over which marks are paid	0m (reasonable attempt)	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	15m
Distance penalty	10m	10m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m
Play on whilst advancing	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓
Zones	✓	✓	*	*	*	*	*	*
Deliberate out of bounds	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓
Deliberately rushed behind	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓
Wait for flag after point	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
Set playing positions	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Umpires								
# field umpires	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2
Boundary umpires*	*	*	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	✓ (League Appt Div 1 & 2 only)	✓	✓	✓
*In U11 Division 2 and below: if both teams have at least 17 players on the team sheet at the start of the game, both teams must play with 15 players on the field.								
**If both teams have at least 20 players on the team sheet at the start of the game, both teams must play with 18 players on the field.								

2023 SMJFL Rule Variation Matrix										
	U8	U9 & U10	U11	Mixed			U14	Boys		
				U12	U13			U15	U16	U17
Regulations										
Ground size	Modified (approved)	Modified (approved)	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard
# players on ground	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)	14 (18)
Ball type	Syn only	Syn only	Syn / Leather	Syn / Leather	Leather	Leather	Leather	Leather full size	Leather full size	Leather full size
Ball size	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
Quarter duration (mins)	10	12	15	15	15	15	15	20	20	20
Break length 1/4 - 1/2 - 3/4 time	3-6-3	3-6-3	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-8-5	3-10-5	3-10-5	3-10-5
Scoreboard	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Results	Yes (not published)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Best & Fairest/Goals	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Finals	Lightning Carnival		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laws										
Tackling	Modified		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bumping	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stealing the ball	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barging	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Smothering	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fending off	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shepherding	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bouncing the ball	1 max	1 max				Unlimited				
Kicking off the ground	*	*	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ball ups	Nominated players of equal size		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Throw-ins	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Distance over which marks are paid	0m (shows control)	0m (shows control)	15m	15m	15m	15m	15m	15m	15m	15m
Distance penalty	10m	10m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m	50m	50m
Play on whilst advancing	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zones	✓	✓	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Deliberate out of bounds	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deliberately rushed behind	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wait for flag after point	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	*
Set playing positions	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Umpires										
# field umpires	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Boundary umpires*	*	*	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	Club Appointed (2)	✓ (League Appt Div 1 & 2 only)	✓	✓	✓
**If both teams have at least 20 players on the team sheet at the start of the game, both teams must play with 18 players on the field.										
Where no SMJFL Boundary Umpire is appointed, the field umpire will conduct a ball up 10 metres inside the field of play adjacent to where the ball crossed the line.										