



TRIBUNAL CHARTER

1. Status and Authority

- 1.1 This Tribunal Charter is issued by the Board of Lacrosse South Australia Incorporated ("the Association") pursuant to the powers conferred by the Constitution.
- 1.2 This Charter constitutes a written instrument of delegation made under Clause 8.1(d) (Delegation of Authority), Clause 8.25 (Delegations), and Clause 6.1 (Discipline, Disputes and Tribunals).
- 1.3 The Tribunal established under this Charter is a properly authorised tribunal of the Association and exercises delegated authority on behalf of the Board within the limits set out in this Charter.
- 1.4 The Tribunal is the sole body responsible for determining disciplinary matters referred under the LSA Bylaws and Regulations.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of the Tribunal is to provide independent, impartial, and procedurally fair determination of matters that cannot properly be determined by the Board due to conflicts of interest, complexity, or governance requirements.
- 2.2 The Tribunal exists to ensure compliance with the Constitution and Regulations, consistency of eligibility and dispute decisions, and protection of the reputation and integrity of the Association.

3. Jurisdiction

- 3.1 The Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and determine matters including, but not limited to:
 - a. Player eligibility and registration disputes.
 - b. Eligibility-based protests or challenges.
 - c. Disputes between Affiliate Members and/or participants relating to eligibility, registration or participation.
 - d. Interpretation and application of Regulations and policies governing eligibility or participation; and
 - e. Matters referred to the Tribunal by the Board or Executive Officer pursuant to delegated authority.
- 3.2 The Tribunal's jurisdiction extends only to matters referred in accordance with this Charter or Regulations.
- 3.3 The Tribunal does not receive or manage complaints or reports directly and may only act on matters formally referred to it.

4. Delegated Powers

- 4.1 Subject to this Charter, the Tribunal is delegated full authority to:
 - a. Hear and determine matters within its jurisdiction.
 - b. Receive submissions, documents and relevant information.
 - c. Make findings of facts relevant to the matter.
 - d. Interpret and apply the Constitution, Regulations and policies.
 - e. Determine eligibility or ineligibility of a participant.
 - f. Impose eligibility-related consequences or sanctions authorised by Regulation.
 - g. Give directions incidental or necessary to the determination of the matter; and
 - h. Make binding first-instance decisions.
- 4.2 Tribunal decisions are decisions of the Association for the purposes of Clause 5.12 of the Constitution.

5. Limits on Authority

- 5.1 The Tribunal must not:
 - a. Amend or suspend the Constitution or Regulations.
 - b. Delegate its powers to another body or person.

- c. Exercise any function reserved by law or the Constitution to Members in General Meeting.
- d. Determine matters beyond the scope of its jurisdiction; or
- e. Act contrary to the Objects of the Association.

6. Composition

- 6.1 The Tribunal shall consist of not fewer than three (3) and not more than five (5) members, appointed by the Board.
- 6.2 One Tribunal member shall be appointed Chair.
- 6.3 Members must be appointed having regard to independence from affected clubs, governance competence, understanding of sport administration, and absence of conflicts of interest.
- 6.4 Tribunal members do not act as representatives of clubs or stakeholders and owe their duties to the Association alone.

7. Independence and Conflict of Interest

- 7.1 All Tribunal members must declare any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest upon appointment and prior to hearing any matter.
- 7.2 A Tribunal member must not participate in a matter if they:
 - a. Hold an office-bearing role within a club affected by the matter.
 - b. Have a direct or indirect personal, financial or competitive interest; or
 - c. Have any relationship that would reasonably give rise to apprehension of bias.
- 7.3 A conflicted member must disclose the conflict immediately and withdraw from participation in the matter.
- 7.4 Conflicted members are excluded from quorum calculations.
- 7.5 No person involved in the administration of a matter may participate in its determination.

8. Quorum

- 8.1 The quorum for the Tribunal is a majority of appointed, non-conflicted members, provided that no fewer than two (2) members participate.
- 8.2 If quorum cannot be achieved due to conflicts, the Board may appoint one or more additional members for that matter only.

9. Procedure

- 9.1 The Tribunal may regulate its own procedures subject to this Charter, the Regulations, the Constitution, and principles of Natural Justice.
- 9.2 Proceedings are not bound by strict rules of evidence but must be fair, transparent and reasonable.
- 9.3 The Tribunal may conduct proceedings in writing, by electronic means, or by in-person hearing, as appropriate.
- 9.4 The Tribunal must not undertake investigative or administrative functions in relation to matters prior to referral.
- 9.5 Upon referral of a matter, the Tribunal Chair is responsible for:
 - determining the procedure to be followed,
 - appointing the Tribunal panel for the matter (if required),
 - setting timelines for submissions and hearings, and
 - ensuring the matter is heard and determined in accordance with this Charter and principles of procedural fairness.

10. Natural Justice and Procedural Fairness

- 10.1 The Tribunal must comply with Clause 6.2 of the Constitution.

- 10.2 At minimum, procedural fairness requires:
- Identification of the issue(s) to be determined.
 - Identification of relevant rules or policies.
 - Reasonable notice to affected parties.
 - Opportunity for parties to be heard and respond.
 - Impartial consideration of material; and
 - Decision based on evidence and submissions.
- 10.3 Proceedings must be conducted as efficiently as possible while ensuring fairness, independence, and impartiality in all decisions.

11. Decisions

- 11.1 The Chair presides over deliberations but has no casting vote unless expressly authorised by Regulation.
- 11.2 Decisions take effect immediately unless stated otherwise.
- 11.3 Decisions are made by majority vote.

12. Written Reasons

- 12.1 All determinations must be recorded in writing.
- 12.2 Written reasons must include the issue determined, relevant provisions applied, findings of fact, and the decision reached.
- 12.3 Written reasons must be provided to affected parties and the Board.

13. Appeals (if applicable)

- 13.1 Appeals may only be made in accordance with Regulations or a separate Appeal Tribunal Charter.
- 13.2 Appeal Tribunal members must not have participated in the original decision.

14. Relationship with the Board

- 14.1 The Tribunal operates independently in decision-making.
- 14.2 The Board may receive decisions and reasons, monitor compliance with this Charter, and revoke or amend this Charter prospectively.
- 14.3 The Board must not direct outcomes in individual matters.
- 14.4 The Board has no authority to determine, vary, or overturn individual Tribunal decisions, which are final and binding subject only to applicable appeal rights.

15. Term of Appointment

- 15.1 Tribunal members are appointed for a term of one year, renewable at Board discretion.
- 15.2 Members may be removed by the Board for cause, including misconduct or breach of this Charter.

16. Confidentiality

- 16.1 Tribunal proceedings and materials are confidential unless disclosure is required by law or Regulation.

17. Review and Amendment

- 17.1 This Charter may be reviewed or amended by Board resolution, provided amendments remain consistent with the Constitution.

18. Commencement

- 18.1 This Charter takes effect on 28 July 2026.