



PORT LINCOLN FOOTBALL LEAGUE Inc.

Postal Address: PO Box 1517 Port Lincoln S.A 5606

Phone: (08) 8682 1915 Centenary Oval Mobile: 0428 837 535

Email: portlincolnfl@sanflcfl.com.au Web Site: www.plfl.com.au

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CENTRE BOUNCE (BALL-UP) STARTING POSITIONS – AFL LAW 13.1

Following reports of variation of *interpretation* to set starting position requirements, the following information is to clarify the application of this Law (often referred to as the “666” rule).

13.1 STARTING POSITIONS

When the field Umpire commences their approach to the Centre Circle to bounce or throw up the football to start a quarter, or recommence play after a Goal has been scored, the following shall apply:

- (a) Six Players from each Team are permitted in each area defined by the Boundary Line and the Fifty Metre Arcs.
- (b) Of these six Players referenced in 13.1(a), at least one Player from each Team is positioned within both Goal Squares.
- (c) Four Players from each Team are permitted in the Centre Square.
- (d) Of these four Players referenced in 13.1(c), one Player from each Team will be the Ruck and is positioned within the Ten Metre Circle in their defensive half.
- (e) One Player from each Team is positioned in each shaded area in Diagram 2.
- (f) If a Team is unable or elects not to have 18 Players on the Playing Surface, the requirements stated in 13.1(a),(c) and (e) are modified such that the number of relevant Players for each starting position can be reduced but not exceeded.

(g) After a Goal has been scored, if a Player is injured and making their way from the Playing Surface with the assistance of doctor, trainer or any other person treating Players of a Team, the field Umpire may wait a reasonable period to allow the replacement Player to take up position before recommencing play. A replacement Player may enter the Playing Surface while the Player that they are replacing is leaving the Playing Surface.

Further to 13.1 (g) and PLFL By-law, players being escorted from the ground due to injury by a trainer may exit the playing surface at the nearest vantage point (the closest area of the boundary line). The replacement player may enter the playing surface whilst the injured player is exiting the playing surface. Injured players escorted over the boundary by a trainer may return if required.



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Wingmen

To clarify, further to recent incidents regarding wingmen, wingmen may position themselves anywhere within the shaded area shown in Diagram 2 to be within the zone as required.

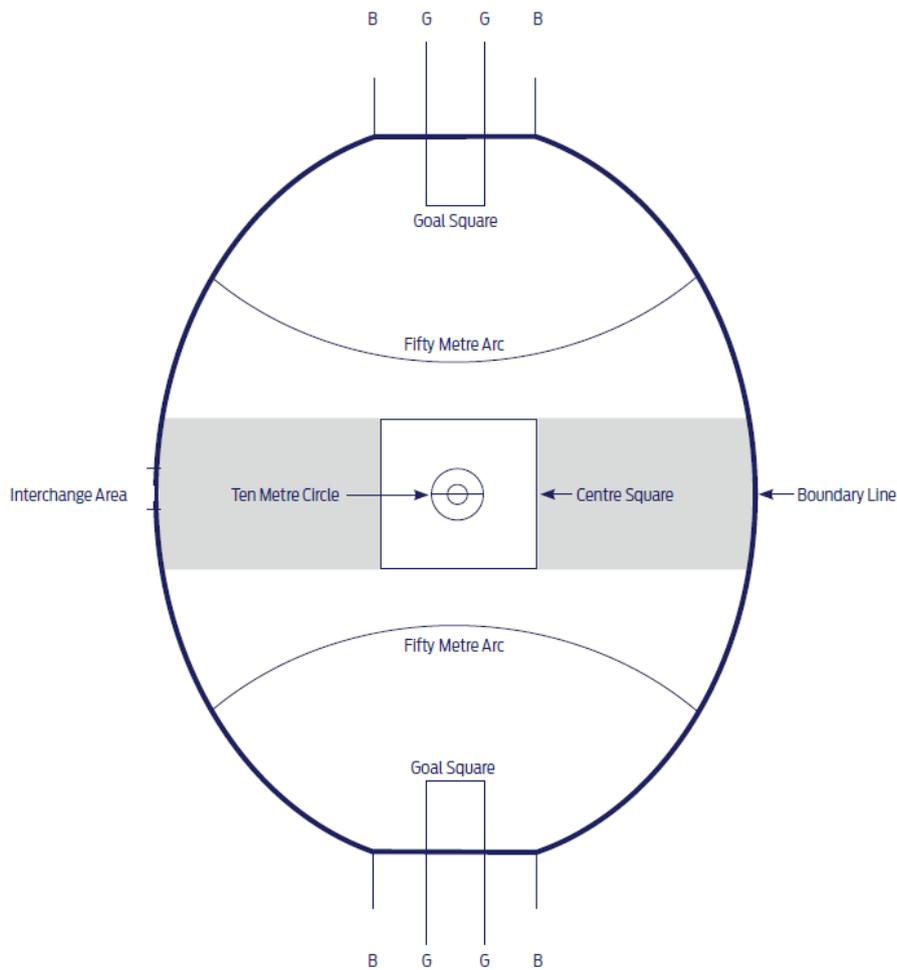


DIAGRAM 2

Application of set starting positions Law

Players that are making an effort to enter their zone will be provided adequate time to do so. Players that fail to enter an applicable zone following direction by an umpire will incur a free-kick and 50m penalty against their team.

Players that are positioned within their zone but breach the line early will incur a free kick (no 50m penalty) against their team.

The set starting positions Law should not be unreasonably difficult to apply, it has been applied well in most circumstances this season. Should clubs or coaches have questions regarding the application of Laws, they are encouraged to contact the Umpires Association.