

ELAINE WATSON CUP



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RULES OF COMPETITION
2021

Elaine Watson Cup 2021

Football Brisbane will conduct a competition for teams participating in the Brisbane Womens Premier League and Womens Capital League 1. This competition will be known as the Elaine Watson Cup.

A random draw for the groups in the Group Stage, as well as the ties for each of the knockout rounds, will be conducted by Football Brisbane. Each of these draws will be published on Football Brisbane's social media channels.

A combination of mid-week evening matches and weekend matches will be played.

Midweek Matches:

If the designated home team does not have the facilities to play night matches or is unable to provide an alternative venue, the match will be played at the ground of the second drawn team. If neither team has the facilities to play night games, the match will be played at a neutral venue. Travel distances and regular season competition fixtures may need to be considered in the scheduling of cup matches.

In the event of a clashes with other scheduled fixtures, the Elaine Watson Cup will take priority.

For Group Stage Round 1, 2 and 3, Football Brisbane will schedule a friendly match between the Reserves teams from both clubs, to be played before the Elaine Watson Cup fixture.

There is no nomination fee for the Elaine Watson Cup.

COMPETITION FORMAT

*NOTE – Dates listed are subject to change

Group Stage

10 teams

The Group Stage of the Competition will consist of teams from Womens Capital League 1, who will be randomly drawn into two (2) groups of five (5) teams. This means each of the team will have four (4) matches and one (1) BYE in the Group Stage of the competition. These teams in each group will play each other once (Home Team to be decided by luck of the draw), in a round robin format on the following dates:

- **12 – 14 March** – Group Stage Round 1
- **19 – 21 March** – Group Stage Round 2
- **26 – 28 March** – Group Stage Round 3
- **13 – 14 April** – Group Stage Round 4
- **11 – 12 May** – Group Stage Round 5

Results from these fixtures will contribute towards a ladder for each group. The teams who finish in the top four positions of this ladder for their group will progress to the Knockout Stage. The ladder positions will be determined by the following:

- Points (3 for a Win, 1 for a Draw, 0 for a Loss)
- If points are equal, then Goal Difference will be used
- If Points and Goal Difference are equal, then the highest number of Goals For will be used
- If the above are all equal, then the result of the match between the two teams will be used
- If teams are still equal after considering all the above, then lots will be drawn

These eight (8) qualifying teams, as well as the eight (8) teams from the Brisbane Womens Premier League, will progress to the Knockout Stage.

Knockout Stage Round 1 – 8th/9th June

16 teams

The sixteen (16) teams that progressed from the Group Stage will be randomly drawn to play sixteen (8) matches. The first drawn team in each match will be designated as the home team. The winners of these matches will progress to Round 3.

Quarter-Finals – 6th/7th July

8 teams

The eight (8) teams that progress from the Group Stage will be randomly drawn to play four (4) matches. The first drawn team in each match will be designated as the home team. The winners of these matches will progress to the Semi-Finals.

Semi-Finals – 3rd/4th August

4 teams

The four (4) winners from the Quarter Finals will be randomly drawn to play two (2) matches. The first drawn team in each match will be designated as the home team. The winners of these matches will progress to the Final.

Final – 4th September

2 teams

The final is to be played at a venue to be determined by Football Brisbane. The winner of the first Semi Final (as drawn) will be designated as the “Home” team in the event of a clash of colours.

RULES OF COMPETITION

1. These rules must be read in conjunction with the Football Brisbane Rules of Competition. In the event of an omission or inconsistency between these Rules and the Football Brisbane Rules of Competition, Football Brisbane will determine and rule on the interpretation.
2. If Football Brisbane engages a sponsor, a condition of entry is that clubs are required to uphold any requirements stipulated in the sponsorship contract. Such requirements may include signage, the display of logos on club websites, use of designated balls etc.
3. There will be only one team per club involved in the Cup competition and as such any player that is registered with that club will be eligible to play.
4. The team entered will be deemed to be the highest eligible team within that club.
5. Players are only eligible to play for one club during the Cup competition, so if they transfer clubs they cannot play for their new club.
6. Each team will be permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes, with a maximum of six (6) listed on the team sheet (including reserve goalkeeper). To reduce the disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game. Substitutions may also be made at half-time, which will not be counted as a stoppage in play. If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) substitution opportunities for each team. Should any Knockout fixtures proceed to extra time, teams are permitted to make one additional substitution (whether or not the team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes or substitution opportunities).
7. A player shall only be deemed to have played in a Cup match if she starts the match or comes on as a substitute. If her name is listed as a substitute on the team sheet and she does not take the field of play during the fixture, she is not deemed to have played in the match.
8. In the event there is a clash of colours, it will be the responsibility of the **visiting/away team** to change into an alternative strip.
9. Footballs and all other match day requirements are provided by the home venue.
10. Match Officials' fees for all Elaine Watson Cup matches will be invoiced to the competing clubs (who will share the cost equally). However, the Elaine Watson Cup Final will be paid by Football Brisbane.
11. A result shall be obtained from every game played in the Knockout Stage.
 - Games are to be 2 x 45-minute halves
 - After normal time in each half, the match official may add on Injury/Stoppage Time as they see fit
 - If the scores are equal at full time, then 2 x 15-minute extra time periods will be played in full
 - Should the scores still be equal after extra time, then penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner

12. As the Elaine Watson Cup will run in conjunction with the normal fixtures, any player who incurs a suspension in a match prior to a Cup Round will miss that Cup tie in lieu of the following fixture. For example, if player X is sent from the field or incurs a Yellow Card suspension – this suspension will be served in the club’s next available competition match, which may be either a Cup match or a regular fixture match (this is presuming that the player’s suspension was only one game). The player must have incurred the suspension in the first team of that club.

NOTE: for FFA Cup disciplinary information please refer to the FFA Cup rules.