



**NSFA CLUB CIRCULAR
20/ 16**

ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS & SECRETARIES

All Competition Football

Dated 31st March 2016

EXPLANATION OF “TECHNICAL AREA”

Dear All,

As you are all aware the NSFA Regulations have been amended this season to require all clubs to mark out “Technical Areas” at all fields that hold competition-age matches.

The purpose of the Technical Area is to provide a designated area where only a team’s substitutes and officials may sit or stand during a match. There are 2 Technical Areas; one on each side of the halfway line on the same side of the field.

At some grounds these areas will be marked out by the relevant council. However at grounds where the Technical Area has not been marked clubs will need to do so with cones.

There are no set dimensions of a Technical Area. The only requirements are that the front edge of the Technical Area is no closer than one (1) metre from the sideline and that the width extends no more than one (1) metre either side of any benches or other seating provided. There is no maximum depth but we would recommend that the area extends no more than one (1) metre behind the benches or other seating.

The conditions of the Technical Area are as follows:

- 1) The only people permitted to sit in the Technical Area are the substitutes or interchange players listed on the match card for that match (maximum five (5) except in Men’s 35 and Men’s 45 where some extra players are permitted) and up to four (4) officials.
- 2) Where seating has been provided only one (1) person is permitted to stand at any one time.
- 3) Substitutes are permitted to leave the Technical Area to warm up but must wear a bib or other item at all times which disguises the playing strip.
- 4) Only one (1) person is permitted to “coach” from the Technical Area and may only issue instructions from within the Technical Area.
- 5) All people within the Technical Area are subject to all sanctions from the referee.

We appreciate that there will be some teething problems initially so some tolerance will be allowed in the first 3-4 weeks. However we would expect all clubs to be complying fully from May the 2nd onwards.

I have included a diagram kindly provided by St Ives FC President Penny Howell to illustrate where the Technical Areas should be placed.

If you have any issues or questions please contact me at damian@nsfa.asn.au.

Damian Miles

Competitions Manager

NSFA

