



MERCY RULE

Implemented for the U12 Competitions from Rounds 9-15, 2023

Purpose:

The purpose of this rule is to help create a fairer and even contest once an U12 team has a significant lead in a match.

How it will work:

- The Mercy rule will apply to U12 Competitions and will be invoked by the umpires if the score differential in a match is sixty (60) points or greater. Once invoked the rule will remain in place for the remainder of the match.
- After a goal is scored by the winning team, play is restarted with the losing team given possession of the ball in the centre circle.
- All players (both teams) must remain in their positions and on-ballers/wingers must stay behind the centre circle away from the kicker. Penalty for non-compliance is a 50m penalty.
- After a point is scored by the winning team, the losing team will take the kick-in from the 50-metre arc adjacent to where the point was scored.

Compliance:

There is no discretion for club officials to not agree to implement this rule on game day. The NTJFA expects all team officials, players, and supporters to adhere to the spirit of this rule and reserve the right to monitor all matches to ensure clubs are meeting their responsibilities.

The Mercy rule will not apply in any finals match.