



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN



ANU Women's Football Club Environmental Sustainability Action Plan

Endorsed September 2026

Purpose

ANU Women's Football Club is committed to operating responsibly and reducing our environmental impact wherever it is practical and proportionate to do so.

ANUWFC does not own or operate the facilities used for training and matches. Our grounds, buildings, lighting, water systems and waste infrastructure are primarily managed by ANU Sport and other facility providers.

Accordingly, this Action Plan focuses on the areas that ANUWFC can reasonably influence: club operations, purchasing, travel, events, waste reduction, digital administration and advocacy.

Our objectives

Between 2027 and 2030, ANUWFC will aim to:

- reduce unnecessary waste
- make environmentally responsible purchasing choices where practical
- minimise unnecessary printing and physical administration
- encourage lower-impact travel where appropriate
- improve recycling and waste practices at club activities
- reuse equipment and resources wherever possible
- consider sustainability when planning club events and activities
- work constructively with facility providers on environmental issues outside the club's direct control.

Action Area 1: Digital First

Our commitment

ANUWFC will continue to use digital systems wherever practical to reduce paper use, duplication and unnecessary printing.

Actions

We will:

- distribute club communications electronically wherever possible
- use digital registration, forms and surveys
- maintain committee records and club documents electronically
- use online meeting and collaboration tools where appropriate
- avoid printing agendas, reports and promotional materials unless there is a clear need
- provide electronic copies of policies, guides and player information.

Measure

By 2030:

- routine club administration will remain predominantly digital

- printing will be limited to situations where there is a practical, accessibility or operational need.

Action Area 2: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Our commitment

We will aim to reduce waste generated through club activities and make better use of resources we already have.

Actions

We will:

- reuse training equipment for as long as it remains safe and serviceable
- avoid unnecessary replacement of equipment solely for cosmetic reasons
- reuse signage, event materials and decorations where practical
- encourage members to use reusable drink bottles
- minimise single-use items at club events where practical
- use existing recycling facilities at venues
- avoid unnecessary giveaways or promotional items that are likely to become waste
- responsibly dispose of or recycle equipment that can no longer be used.

Where appropriate, usable equipment that ANUWFC no longer requires may be donated, redistributed or made available to members rather than discarded.

Measure

By 2030:

- reusable alternatives will be the default for club-owned event and operational materials where practical
- major club events will consider waste reduction as part of event planning.

Action Area 3: Responsible Purchasing

Our commitment

ANUWFC will consider environmental impact alongside cost, quality and operational requirements when making purchasing decisions.

Actions

Where practical and financially reasonable, we will:

- purchase durable products that can be used across multiple seasons
- avoid unnecessary single-use products
- consolidate orders to reduce repeated deliveries
- prioritise suppliers that minimise excessive packaging
- consider recycled, recyclable or lower-impact products when options are comparable in price and quality
- reuse existing materials before purchasing new ones
- include sustainability as one consideration when selecting suppliers and merchandise.

Environmental sustainability will be considered alongside affordability. ANUWFC is not expected to choose significantly more expensive products solely because they are marketed as sustainable.

Measure

Sustainability considerations will be incorporated into relevant club purchasing and procurement decisions.

Action Area 4: Transport and Travel

Our commitment

We recognise that travel to matches, training, meetings and club activities contributes to our environmental impact. We also recognise that football participation requires travel and that members have different transport needs, schedules and accessibility requirements.

Actions

We will:

- encourage carpooling to away matches and club activities where practical
- provide public transport information for major club events where useful
- encourage active transport such as walking or cycling where it is safe and realistic
- use online meetings where an in-person meeting is not necessary
- coordinate travel for tournaments and other major activities where practical.

Participation in lower-impact travel options will always be encouraged rather than mandated.

Measure

- Transport options will be considered when planning major club events and travel.

Action Area 5: Sustainable Events

Our commitment

ANUWFC will consider simple environmental improvements when planning club events without creating excessive cost or workload for volunteers.

Actions

For major club events, we will consider:

- digital ticketing and communications
- reusable or venue-provided crockery and glassware where available
- minimising printed materials
- avoiding unnecessary single-use decorations
- making recycling options visible where the venue provides them
- selecting appropriate quantities of food and materials to minimise waste
- reusing event signage and resources across multiple events.

Measure

- A simple sustainability check will be incorporated into planning for major club-run events.

Action Area 6: Uniforms and Equipment

Our commitment

Football kits and equipment represent a significant area where community sporting clubs can reduce unnecessary consumption.

Actions

We will:

- continue using playing kits and training equipment for their reasonable useful life
- avoid replacing entire kits where partial replacement is sufficient
- retain spare playing apparel for replacement and emergency use
- investigate opportunities to redistribute or donate usable superseded kit
- encourage members to reuse club apparel across seasons
- consider durability when purchasing new uniforms and equipment.

Measure

- Uniform and equipment purchasing decisions will prioritise useful life and reuse where practical.

Action Area 7: Facilities and Advocacy

Our operating context

ANUWFC does not own or control the facilities used for training and matches. The club therefore has limited ability to directly influence:

- field lighting
- water consumption and irrigation
- building energy use
- heating and cooling
- waste collection systems
- bathroom and changeroom infrastructure
- renewable energy installations
- major facility upgrades.

Responsibility for these matters rests primarily with ANU Sport and other relevant facility owners and operators.

Our commitment

Where facility-related environmental issues affect ANUWFC, we will raise them constructively with the appropriate provider.

Actions

We will:

- report unnecessary lighting, water leaks or other obvious environmental issues when observed
- use existing recycling and waste infrastructure appropriately
- avoid leaving waste at training or match venues
- include environmental sustainability in relevant discussions with ANU Sport or other facility providers
- support practical sustainability initiatives introduced by facility operators
- advocate for environmentally responsible facility improvements where appropriate.

Measure

- Environmental sustainability will be included as a consideration in relevant facility discussions and stakeholder engagement.

Action Area 8: Awareness and Club Culture

Our commitment

ANUWFC will promote environmental responsibility in a way that is positive and proportionate. We do not expect members or volunteers to be environmental experts, and we will avoid placing unrealistic responsibilities on individuals.

Actions

We will:

- share occasional practical sustainability reminders with members
- encourage teams to leave grounds and facilities clean
- promote reuse and responsible waste disposal
- include environmental sustainability in relevant committee induction and planning materials
- recognise that small, consistent actions are more useful than ambitious commitments the club cannot realistically deliver.

Governance and Review

The ANUWFC Committee will oversee implementation of this Action Plan.

Environmental sustainability will be considered as part of normal club decision-making rather than requiring a standalone sustainability committee or portfolio.

The Plan will be:

- adopted by the ANUWFC Committee
- reviewed annually as part of the club's planning cycle
- formally reviewed at the end of 2030 or earlier if there are significant changes to the club's facilities, operations or environmental responsibilities.

Progress may be reported through the club's annual reporting or Club Changer activities.

Our 2030 sustainability commitment

By 2030, ANUWFC will have maintained a practical, low-cost approach to environmental sustainability by reducing unnecessary waste, operating digitally, reusing resources, making thoughtful purchasing decisions and encouraging sustainable choices where practical.

We will focus our efforts on the areas we can control and use our relationships with facility providers to advocate for improvements in the areas we cannot.

Our aim is not to place additional burden on volunteers or members, but to make environmental responsibility a normal consideration in how ANUWFC operates.

Small actions, consistently applied, can help us run a stronger and more sustainable club.

Version control

Version 1.0 drafted August 2026.