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# FOREWORD

Junior Football is the foundation of the sport in Western Australia, and it is continuing to grow and develop. It is imperative that we continue to create the right environments for our children to play Australian Rules Football, and this is the responsibility of everyone. Whether it is the parent on the sideline, the youth coach, the canteen manager or the club president, we all play a role in ensuring that we create safe and positive environments that assist clubs in recruiting and retaining participants.

The critical role that football plays in our community is well understood by the broader West Australian community. The game has the ability to draw communities together, it has the passion to ignite emotion and it has the platform to deliver important social messages that few other sports can provide.

These attributes are never more evident than in the junior football sector of our game. Through the 9 District Football Development Councils and the 8 Regional Football Development Councils that support and deliver our game in metropolitan and Regional Western Australia, the opportunity to positively impact our community is a responsibility that all stakeholders take seriously. The role that these important stakeholders play as custodians of the game is absolutely critical and the WAFC acknowledges this role as integral to the ongoing success of the code.

Football in WA is in a strong position with participation numbers at record highs, our two AFL clubs performing well on and off the field and a state league competition that is well resourced and supported.

Whilst these strengths are acknowledged, it is also critical that we accept the inevitable challenges that face our game. Whilst

overall participation numbers are encouraging, we do face challenges in the youth sector. We face challenges in how we develop our coaches, umpires and club volunteers and ensuring that they receive the necessary support to fulfil their critical club and league focussed roles. We face challenges in determining our future funding model that will alter significantly with the introduction of the new Perth Stadium in 2018.

These are just a few of the challenges that the game is currently working on. No doubt, there will be more to come. The WAFC looks forward to working with all our junior football stakeholders in tackling the key issues and partnering in a collaborative fashion to ensure the health of our game.

On behalf of the WAFC, can I take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers and staff who play a role in the delivery of junior football in 2016. Your time, effort and passion is greatly appreciated by everyone in the football family.



**JON HAINES**

General Manager Football Affairs  
West Australian Football Commission

# WELCOME TO THE 2016 JUNIOR FOOTBALL SEASON

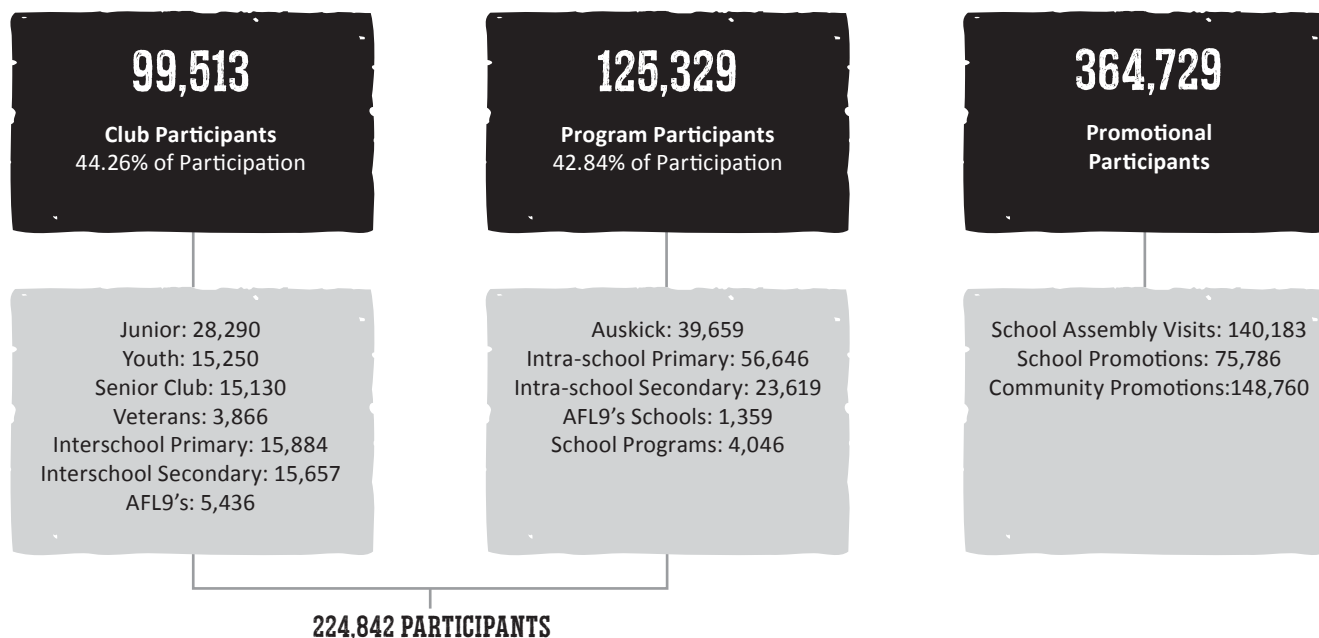
Why do kids play sport?

This is the question that everyone involved in Junior Football needs to understand the answer to, as it is critical in ensuring that the game is able to recruit and retain as many children in the sport as possible. **The number one reason why kids play sport is to have fun with their friends.**

Junior Football is not about us as adults, it isn't about our aspirations – Junior Football is, and must, be about the kids and ensuring that they have the best possible environment. It is imperative that as adults watching and enjoying Junior Football, we fully understand this and let this guide and direct our behaviours and attitudes.

**By-Law 1 - The Spirit of Junior Football** is critical when it comes to Junior Football in Western Australia and fully understanding the premise of what this sport at a Junior level is all about. I would encourage all of you to become strong advocates for By-Law 1.

Football continues to grow and develop across all levels of the game maintaining its presence as WA's Number 1 Participation Sport, primarily driven by the thousands of volunteers that assist week in and week out. Thank you to everyone that volunteers in football – your efforts are appreciated.



Congratulations to Mazenod JFC who won the 2015 WAFC State Championships, in what is becoming a highly successful competition that will continue to grow and develop.

2016 will again be a big year for Junior Football and I wish you all the best for the season.



## TROY KIRKHAM

Participation Manager  
West Australian Football Commission

# CONTACTS – METRO

## METRO NORTH West Perth, Claremont, Subiaco

Community Development Manager	Andrew Ridley	aridley@wafc.com.au	0402 794 016
District Operations Manager	Matt McNally	mmcally@wafc.com.au	0400 361 188
<b>CLAREMONT</b>			
Development Officer	Sam Cousens	scousens@wafc.com.au	0438 838 768
DFDC Chairperson	Paul Donovan		0418 921 254
Competition Director	John Thurtell		0427 388 209
<b>SUBIACO</b>			
Development Officer	Callum Warner	cwarner@wafc.com.au	0438 994 412
DFDC Chairperson	Cindy Dunham		0419 557 503
Competition Director	Gavin Oliphant		0438 995 614
<b>WEST PERTH</b>			
Development Officer	Graham Mills	gmills@wafc.com.au	0409 084 483
DFDC Chairperson	Chris Erikson		0418 882 015
Competition Director	Natalie Sharman		0409 404 054

## METRO CENTRAL East Perth, Swan Districts, Perth

Community Development Manager	Isaac Stewart	istewart@wafc.com.au	0429 000 347
District Operations Manager	Scott Faulkner	sfaulkner@wafc.com.au	0411 113 088
<b>EAST PERTH</b>			
Development Officer	Corey Ranger	cranger@wafc.com.au	0430 868 512
DFDC Chairperson	Luke McNeice		0400 128 665
Competition Director	Angelo Barbaro		0437 807 820
<b>PERTH</b>			
Development Officer	Chris Brown	cbrown@wafc.com.au	0412 676 857
DFDC Chairperson	Sean Collingwood		0429 084 413
Competition Director	Justin Sambell		0403 574 938
<b>SWANS</b>			
Development Officer	Daniel Curtis	dcurtis@wafc.com.au	0430 969 906
DFDC Chairperson	Ian Westmore		0434 075 481
Competition Director	Trevor Gosatti		0419 918 449

## METRO SOUTH Peel, East Fremantle, South Fremantle

Community Development Manager	Bradd Gardiner	bgardiner@wafc.com.au	0438 953 055
District Operations Manager	Tom Atkinson	tatkinson@wafc.com.au	0433 117 568
<b>PEEL</b>			
Development Officer	Elly Lambkin	elambkin@wafc.com.au	0438 677 700
Development Officer	Emma Swanson	eswanson@wafc.com.au	0479 159 589
DFDC Chairperson	Brett Lee		0427 220 660
Competition Director	Shane Poppert		0417 929 655
<b>EAST FREMANTLE</b>			
Development Officer	Daren Bell	dbell@wafc.com.au	0438 952 487
DFDC Chairperson	Geoff Wolfenden		0447 711 933
Competition Director	Mindi Thompson		0400 217 705
<b>SOUTH FREMANTLE</b>			
Development Officer	Regan Atkinson	ratkinson@wafc.com.au	0437 587 161
DFDC Chairperson	Stephen Goodall		0421 022 664
Competition Director	Shane Harding		0403 584 143

# CONTACTS – COUNTRY

<b>GOLDFIELDS REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Gemma Harrison Kyran O'Donnell	gharrison@wafc.com.au kyran.o'donnell@police.wa.gov.au	0417 179 463
<b>GREAT SOUTHERN REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Tom Moir Peter Watson	tmoir@wafc.com.au	0428 428 440 08 9841 8799
<b>KIMBERLEY REGION</b> Garnduwa Football Contact	Mick Albert Michael Farmer	albert@garnduwa.com.au michael.farmer@garnduwa.com.au	0418 938 167 0407 658 698
<b>MID WEST REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Steve Broberg Jerry Dawson	sbroberg@wafc.com.au	0429 914 220 0429 086 701
<b>MIDLANDS REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Glen Collins Milton Milloy	gcollins@wafc.com.au	0417 920 817 0400 603 962
<b>PILBARA REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Vicki Agnew Daryl Mansfield	vagnew@wafc.com.au	0455 661 633 0415 998 896
<b>SOUTH WEST REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Glenn Omodei Mark Blakely	gomodei@wafc.com.au	0419 955 173 0419 947 168
<b>WHEATBELT REGION</b> Regional Manager RFDC Chairperson	Mitch Harvey Craig Gmeiner	mharvey@wafc.com.au	0419 859 576 0429 647 651

## FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK



**WA Football** - @WAFootball  
**NAB AFL Auskick WA** - @AFLAuskickWA  
**AFL 9's** - @AFL9sWA  
**Female Football** - @femalefootywa



**WA Football** - <http://www.facebook.com/wafootball>  
**NAB AFL Auskick** - <http://www.facebook.com/NAB.AFL.Auskick>  
**AFL9's** - <http://www.facebook.com/AFL9sWA>  
**Female Football** - <http://www.facebook.com/femalefootywa>

Join the conversation #WAFooty

# ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

For enquires and questions please follow the following communication protocol:

1. Contact your Club Official (i.e. President, Committee),
2. Contact your District Competition Director,
3. Contact your Development Officer, District Manager and/or Regional Manager,

However, should you require further assistance, please use the below to address your enquiries.

## **General Manager Community Football**

Warren Nel  
wnel@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5541

## **General Community Football enquiries, please contact:**

Josh Bowler  
jbowler@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5558

## **Participation enquiries, please contact:**

Troy Kirkham  
tkirkham@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5594

## **Fox Sports Pulse enquiries, please contact:**

Tim Marley  
tmarley@wafc.com.au  
08 9381 5518

## **Club Development & Coaching enquiries please contact:**

Kane Benson  
kbenson@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5551

## **Football Education (school & tertiary programs) enquiries, please contact:**

Kane Benson  
kbenson@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5551

## **Indigenous & Multicultural enquiries please contact:**

Paul Mugambwa  
pmugambwa@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5502

## **School Competitions based enquiries, please contact:**

Darren Davis  
ddavis@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5547

## **School Ambassador enquiries, please contact:**

Kane Benson  
kbenson@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5551

## **Auskick enquiries, please contact:**

Jayden D'Vauz  
jdvauz@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5588

## **Female Participation enquiries, please contact:**

Allana Dickie  
adickie@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5557

## **Umpiring enquiries, please contact:**

Dean Margetts  
dmargetts@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5546

## **AFL 9's enquiries, please contact:**

Josh Bowler  
jbowler@wafc.com.au  
08 9287 5558

## **High Performance enquiries, please contact:**

Adam Jones (Male)  
ajones@wafc.com.au  
0488 084 300  
Alison Moore (Female)  
amoore@wafc.com.au  
0430 868 145

## **For all other general enquiries, please contact:**

The West Australian Football Commission General Line  
www.wafootball.com.au  
08 9381 5599



## W AFC PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

The WAFC has a number of preferred suppliers that as an organisation we would encourage Junior Clubs, leagues and competitions to utilise their services when appropriate. These organisations provide ongoing support to the WA Football system.

### **Burley Sekem**

For over one hundred years the West Australian Football League (WAFL) has been playing with a Burley football. Currently Burley Sekem is involved not only with the WAFL but also with many other Australian and international sporting organizations. In addition to its involvement with the WAFL, Burley Sekem is the exclusive supplier of apparel and footballs to the WAFC. For more information about Burley Sekem visit: <http://www.sekem.com.au>

### **Kennards**

With over 149 branches in Australia and New Zealand, Kennards remains proudly Australian and family-owned. Their aim has always been to provide excellent service and be the best hire company, not the biggest. For all your Hire needs please visit <http://www.kennards.com.au/>

### **Grand Cinemas & Ace Cinemas**

Locally owned and operated Western Australian cinema companies, Ace and Grand Cinemas support the WAFL Little League Competition, which gives future football champions the opportunity to play at half time in front of WAFL club crowds. For session times, Fundraising opportunities and the location of your nearest Grand Cinema or Ace Cinema visit: [www.grandcinemas.com.au](http://www.grandcinemas.com.au) or [www.acecinemas.com.au](http://www.acecinemas.com.au)

For more information about the WAFL Little League contact:

Jayden D'Vauz

Phone: (08) 9381 5599

### **Pila Goalposts**

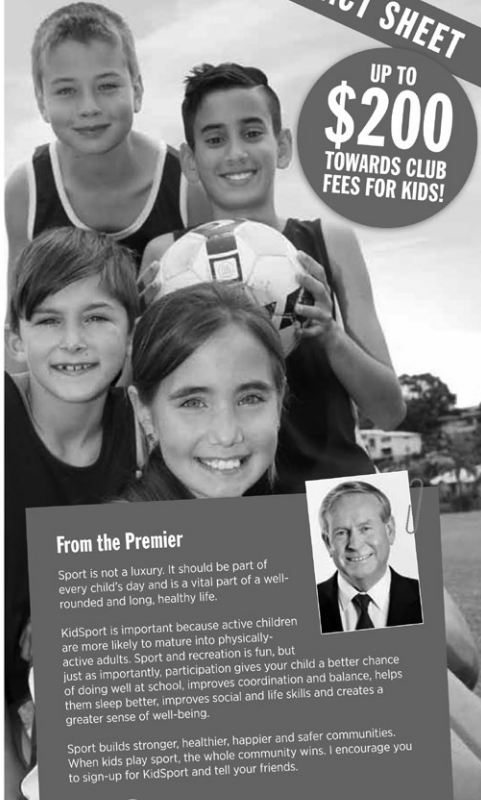
Pila Group is Australia's leading manufacturer of structural aluminium sports goal posts. They supply some of the biggest sporting venues around the country and internationally. They are a family owned and operated business that is now the largest manufacturer of its kind in Australia. They are a preferred supplier for WA Football. For further information please visit [www.pilagroup.com.au/](http://www.pilagroup.com.au/) or call 1300 745 247.

# KIDSPORT



FACT SHEET

UP TO  
**\$200**  
TOWARDS CLUB  
FEES FOR KIDS!



### From the Premier

Sport is not a luxury. It should be part of every child's day and is a vital part of a well-rounded and long, healthy life.

KidSport is important because active children are more likely to mature into physically active adults. Sport and recreation is fun, but just as importantly, participation gives your child a better chance of doing well at school, improves coordination and balance, helps them sleep better, improves social and life skills and creates a greater sense of well-being.

Sport builds stronger, healthier, happier and safer communities. When kids play sport, the whole community wins. I encourage you to sign-up for KidSport and tell your friends.



*Col Barnett*  
Hon Colin Barnett MLA  
Premier

BIGGER PICTURE  
SPORT

[www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport](http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport)



### Referral agents - who they are, what they do:

- Referral agents identify those who would benefit from KidSport.
- They can include, but are not limited to school teachers, doctors, police, social workers, local area coordinators and other community organisations and agencies.
- Referral agents can assist with the completion and lodgement of KidSport application forms with participating local governments on behalf of parents/guardians.
- Referral agents are ideal to promote KidSport to their community, but if wanting to refer children to the program should contact local governments to register.
- Local governments can advise where KidSport application forms are available and supply further information.

## KIDSPORT OVERVIEW

KidSport enables eligible Western Australian children aged 5-18 years to participate in community sport and recreation by offering them financial assistance towards club fees. The fees go directly from the local government to the registered KidSport clubs participating in the project.

### What are the eligibility criteria?

- Applicant must be aged 5-18 years.
- Applicant must have a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card OR be referred by a recognised referral agent. (local government discretion on referral agent)
- Applicant's primary place of residence must be in the local government area where they are applying.

### What else?

- Funding will cover the cost of fees to join the nominated sport or recreation club and this may include other related costs identified by the club).
- Maximum of up to \$200 per child per calendar year.
- Fees are only for the nominated registered season.
- No retrospective fees will be paid.
- No limitation to applications per family as long as the criteria is met.

### Schools - How can they be involved?

As referral agents, school teachers can identify children who would benefit from KidSport as well as complete and lodge application forms with local governments. Teachers can also assist in identifying suitable clubs and sport or recreation activities for children to be involved in. Schools can obtain KidSport application forms from participating local governments.

There are numerous benefits for children and their families getting involved and participating in sport and recreation clubs:

- Physical activity improves children's health, school performance and decision making skills.
- Club membership provides positive role models and opportunities for new friendships and community engagement.

### Sport and recreation club criteria:

Sport and recreation clubs can get involved in KidSport by registering as a KidSport club with their participating local government. To be eligible clubs can be a:

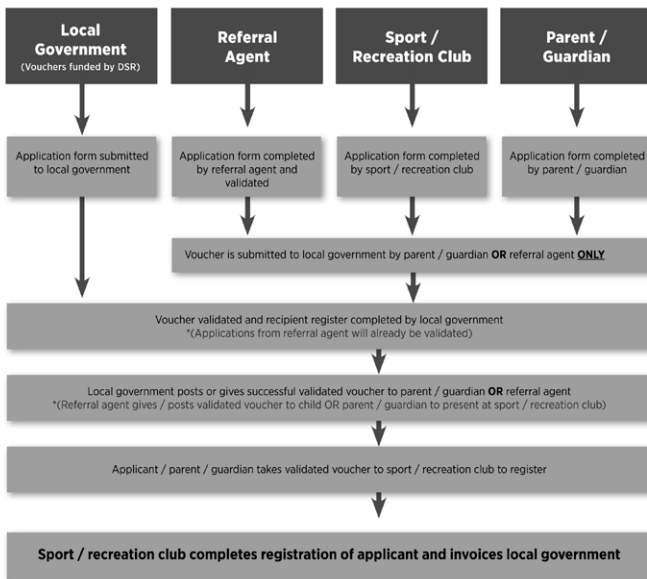
- Not-for-profit sport or recreation club and affiliated with a recognised State Sporting Association or have affiliation through a State organisation.
- Business/privately owned BUT individual members MUST be affiliated with a recognised State Sporting Association or have affiliation through a State organisation.

When we play sport the whole community wins

Once registered, KidSport clubs receive applications and then invoice the local government for the cost of the applicant's fees and other identified costs. All KidSport vouchers must be submitted and validated by the local government before being accepted by the club as payment for fees. Local governments can assist with the invoicing process for KidSport vouchers.

Clubs can promote KidSport to their members by linking with their participating local government to access application forms. Hand them out at registration days, during workshops or by directing parents/guardians to the KidSport website. Information can also be distributed via club newsletters and through club and State Sporting Association websites. Ask your local government for promotional material.

## PROCESS FLOWCHART



KidSport application forms have been translated into alternative languages, please contact the department at [kidsport@dsr.wa.gov.au](mailto:kidsport@dsr.wa.gov.au)



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How do I get a KidSport application?

Contact your local government to find out where you can pick up an application form OR visit the Department's website for a generic application form and contact your local government to validate.

### What if the club fees for the season are more or less than \$200?

KidSport funding is up to \$200 per applicant per calendar year. Clubs can only invoice the local government for the total amount of their set fees. If these fees are less than \$200 then the lesser amount should be invoiced.

### Can an applicant use the KidSport funding to play more than one sport?

Yes, as long as the total applied for is not more than \$200 per calendar year.

### What if an applicant requires a uniform or some equipment to take part in the activity?

This needs to be approved by the local government prior to invoicing by the club and is on a case-by-case basis. Many local governments are happy to receive applications that include the cost of uniform and equipment, but this is an individual local government decision, so contact yours before applying.

### What if the child turns 19 during the season?

If the eligible applicant is 18 at the time of registration they can apply for KidSport funding for that whole season.

### Can an applicant register halfway through the season?

Applicants can access KidSport funding at any time of the year. Clubs should use discretion in registering applicants to participate within a season (i.e. it would not be beneficial to the applicant to register with only a few games left). They may be encouraged to register the following season.

### When do clubs invoice the local government?

This is decided by the local government. The club must contact their local government to arrange the invoicing process and is usually within 30 days.

### How do clubs check if the applicant is eligible to access KidSport funding?

Clubs should only accept application forms that have first been validated by local government. They will confirm if applicants are eligible by validating and registering the voucher.

### Can an applicant participate at a club that is not in the local government area they reside in?

Yes, but the KidSport application must be lodged with the local government where the applicant lives.

### Does the applicant have to provide a copy of their Health Care Card or Pension Card?

Yes, this must be attached to the voucher when submitting to the local government unless the voucher is completed and signed by a referral agent. The applicant's name must be listed on the card and the card must be current.

For more information contact your local government office or visit [www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport](http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport) or email [kidsport@dsr.wa.gov.au](mailto:kidsport@dsr.wa.gov.au).



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The West Australian Football Commission (WAFC) would like to thank the following companies for their continued support of junior football. You can help grow the game by supporting the companies who make community and grassroots football possible in Western Australia.

## **The Domain Group**

Through their naming rights to Domain Stadium, The Domain Group, Australia's largest real estate media business, has become an invaluable supporter of community and grassroots football in Western Australia. For information on The Domain Group visit <http://www.domain.com.au> or download their smartphone app.

## **Australian Football League (AFL)**

The AFL provides funding and program support to the WAFC. For further information visit: [www.afl.com.au](http://www.afl.com.au)

## **WA Department of Sport and Recreation**

The Department of Sports and Recreation financially supports WAFC initiatives and programs designed to not only expand the game but also improve the experience for everyone involved. For more information, including how to contact the Department of Sport and Recreation visit: <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au>

## **Fremantle Football Club**

The Fremantle Football Club sponsor a number of grassroots competitions in Western Australia and are fantastic supporters of Community Football. For more information visit: <http://www.fremantlefc.com.au>

*Interested in becoming a member?*

Contact: Phone: (08) 9433 7111 or 1300 88 20 77

Email: [membership@fremantlefc.com.au](mailto:membership@fremantlefc.com.au)

## **West Coast Eagles Football Club**

The West Coast Eagles Football Club supports a number of programs in Western Australia including the Eagles Cup for Primary School children. The West Coast Eagles continue to be fantastic supporters of Community Football in WA. For more information visit: <http://www.westcoasteagles.com.au>

*Interested in becoming a member?*

Phone: (08) 9388 4566

Email: [membership@westcoasteagles.com.au](mailto:membership@westcoasteagles.com.au)

## **National Australia Bank**

The National Australia Bank's continued sponsorship is essential to the development of football in Western Australia, including the NAB AFL Auskick program. For more information about the National Australian Bank visit: <http://www.nab.com.au>

## **Sunday Times**

The Sunday Times sponsorship of the Volunteer of the year Program has been integral to the continued growth and promotion of what is regarded as a World Class Volunteer Recognition program. <http://www.perthnow.com.au/>

## **1Life**

The West Australian Football Commission has formed a strong partnership with the State Government's Western Australian Suicide Prevention Strategy, to implement suicide prevention programs in partnership with One Life. The partnership will include grass roots, community and workforce involvement to help grow the 'Suicide Prevention – Everyone's Business' message. <http://www.onelifewa.com.au/>

# ABOUT THE JUNIOR CLUB MANUAL

This Junior Club Manual is published by the West Australian Football Commission to assist every volunteer who manages our game. The content is put together in a way that will assist Presidents and Committee persons to promptly clarify any issue they may be confronted with on the middle of an oval on a match or training day.

It is difficult to include every word of every policy and as such we have posted complete versions of all policies on the internet by visiting [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au). The entire Junior Club manual is available on the website for download free of charge as a resource to everyone involved in Junior Football in WA.

The Junior Club Manual has been compiled by the WAFC Participation Manager in consultation with the nine metropolitan Competition Directors, the WAFC Program Managers, District and Regional development staff and a wide range of key stakeholders including Junior Club Presidents and Managers.

Your feedback on the continued layout and manual contents is always welcomed.

Please email your feedback to [tkirkham@wafc.com.au](mailto:tkirkham@wafc.com.au)

The Junior Club Manual may be downloaded free of charge from the [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au) website.

# ABOUT FOOTBALL IN WA

The West Australian Football Commission is the caretaker of football throughout the State and responsible for the overall development of the game.

The rich history of football in the community of Western Australia stretches back to 1895. Today it is the most popular sporting code in Western Australia with more than 220 000 active participants each weekend during the season. This is more than double any other sport. On top of this football clinics are provided to approx. 300 000 West Australian Children every year throughout our schools and communities across our state.

The WAFC plays an important role in funding the ongoing development of football in all communities. This ensures that football is the best resourced sporting code in the State and can have the most active role in building better communities through various development programs.

The WAFC is a not for profit sports association. It is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act and governed by a volunteer board that oversees the operation of all football activities throughout the State.

The WAFC's role includes ownership of the State's two AFL teams - West Coast Eagles and Fremantle Football Club (Dockers), guiding the West Australian Football League (State league competition), overseeing community football, managing umpiring and football development through participation and the talent pathway and acting as the manager of Domain Stadium (through Perth Stadium Management). Most importantly the WAFC plays a key guidance role in the ongoing enhancement of the District Development model.

This results in a significant social benefit and the creation of better communities through the active promotion of the sport and its associated values of teamwork, responsibility, respect, leadership, commitment and community participation. Advocating healthy participation for every player, volunteer, official, administrator, coach, umpire and spectator is at the forefront of our strategic priorities.



# INTRODUCTION

WA Football refer to the 7 Development Objectives below in the strategic development of our game.

The WAFC collaborates with our District affiliates based on a philosophy of “State objectives, local solutions”.

## 1 PARTICIPATION

To develop and support appropriate pathways for all segments from AFL Auskick to Open age that maximise participation.

## 2 COMMUNITY

To support well managed leagues, clubs and schools to motivate volunteers, umpires, coaches, teachers, school ambassadors and sports trainers for all levels of Australian football to promote quality environments and competitions.

## 3 WAFL & TALENT PATHWAYS

To develop the talented player, umpire, administrator and coaching pathway. Promote and enhance the talent pathway systems and structures to capture talented participants

## 4 FACILITIES

To collaborate on facility development for the community football network of leagues & clubs

## 5 ENGAGEMENT

To utilise Australian football as a vehicle to promote social inclusion, community engagement, education, leadership and employment initiatives, particularly in female, Indigenous and multicultural communities.

## 6 FANS

To build the relationship with community and school players, coaches, umpires, teachers, ambassadors and volunteers to develop them as fans of the AFL /WAFL Competitions and AFL /WAFL Clubs.

## 7 PEOPLE & CULTURE

To attract, develop and retain quality staff and develop a high performance culture in line with our values.



## WA FOOTBALL DISTRICT STRUCTURE

Both metropolitan and regional areas are divided into different geographic Districts that have an affiliation with one of the nine West Australian Football League (WAFL) clubs.

Each football District in Western Australia is governed by a District Football Development Council (DFDC) in the metropolitan area and a Regional Football Development Council (RFDC) in the regional centres. These councils are responsible for strategically planning the growth of all levels of football in the area, which includes all players, coaches, umpires, administration and volunteers.

This ensures competitions and football environments of a consistently high level of administration, opportunity for players of all levels to play and the development of a talent pathway for players to reach elite levels of football, such as the WAFL or AFL competitions.

The DFDC and RFDC have members representing all stakeholder groups within the area, including Local Government Agencies, WAFL, seniors, juniors, schools, umpiring and coaching. Each Council has a Junior Competition Committee (JCC) or league which is responsible for the conduct of the junior competition within the district.

Each District and Region has development staff. The Community Development Manager, the District Operations Manager and the Development Officer, who are based strategically in both metropolitan and regional locations and are directed by the respective District Football Development Councils. The Development staff are your key liaison point for football participation and development programs in your local area.

## AFL GAME DEVELOPMENT

AFL Game Development is the national development body of football in Australia. Whilst the Australian Football League (AFL) runs the major League, AFL Game Development coordinates the development of all other levels of football in Australia. It is responsible for:

- The National Development Plan and National Participation Policies,
- Coaching Accreditation,
- Umpire Accreditation and Development,
- National Championships 16's / 18's and Women's,
- Programs to promote mass participation,
- Expanding the most comprehensive set of resources in Australian sport.

# WA FOOTBALL COMMISSION FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (FAC)

The FAC is the governing body of community Junior Football in Western Australia.

Its membership comprises four (4) members. The FAC will be chaired by a selected WAFC Commissioner with two additional Commissioners acting as committee members.

A General Manager Football Affairs of the WAFC will act as the Executive Officer of the FAC. The WAFC has the power to co-opt other members as required. The General Manager of Community Football along with the General Manager of WAFL will conduct business on behalf of the FAC.

## FAC OBJECTIVES:

- To oversee and foster the development of football in the state of Western Australia through the District Development program.
- To improve the quantity and quality of participation at all levels in football, including players, coaches, teachers, umpires, volunteers and administrators.
- To liaise with other bodies that coordinate football competitions within and outside the State of Western Australia.
- To assist volunteers in providing a quality environment for all our participants through the District Development Program.

## POWERS / MANDATES / TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the WAFC on Junior Development Issues.
- Establish junior football policy.
- Amend the Rules and Policy for the conduct of organised competitions by affiliated associations.
- Apply and ensure compliance with these rules and perform all such acts and responsibilities to the attainment of the objects of the Committee.
- Ensure all DFDC/RFDC By-Laws reflect such junior policy.
- Mediate or arbitrate on issues impacting on the overall development of the game in WA.
- Commission reports on specific development matters.
- Develop the WAFC Football Development Plan for endorsement by the WAFC.
- Monitor the outcomes of the Development and Operational plans.
- Make recommendations and advise the WAFC on development matters.
- Make recommendations to the WAFC regarding the allocation of funding.
- Via General Manager of Community Football facilitate Investigative processes either referred to it by DFDC's or other recognised affiliates

## ADMINISTRATION

- To provide the structure, finance and recruiting techniques essential to long term success and stability of Community Football.
- The WAFC recommend Junior Football Administrators should avail themselves of every opportunity / resource to fulfil their role to the highest possible standard.
- The FAC will conduct, in conjunction with the Districts, administration courses for Volunteers. These courses will include our range of Club, Coach and Volunteer development sessions along with the seven key modules of the AFL's Club Development Program and they will provide the ideal structures to achieve improved administration in junior football. Other resources will be utilised in our Club and Volunteer development programs.
- The FAC will advocate the support of umpires whereby administrators will be encouraged to understand that it is essential to provide a quality environment for each of our participants.
- Encourage every district to facilitate pre-season meetings for administrators, coaches, managers and umpires.

# JUNIOR FOOTBALL POLICIES

## MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY (MPP)

The Member Protection Policy has been designed to be user friendly based around five key pillars:

Child Protection, Health & Safety, Privacy, Discrimination & Harassment and inclusive Practices

The National Member Protection Policy will be available for download at: <http://www.wafootball.com.au> Click on Resources and then Club Development

### What is Member Protection?

Member protection is a term used by the Australian sports industry to describe the practices and procedures that protect an organisation's members - both individual members such as players, coaches and officials, and the member organisations such as clubs and other affiliated organisations. It involves:

- protecting members from harassment, abuse, discrimination and other forms of inappropriate behaviour
- adopting appropriate measures to ensure the right people are involved in an organisation, particularly in relation to those involved within junior sport
- providing education
- promoting and modelling positive behaviour

Why does the WAFC need a Member Protection Policy?

- Helps to clarify responsibilities and expectations of all members - individual and organisational
- To comply with State and Federal legislation
- Fulfil moral obligations
- Insurance purposes
- Raises awareness of fun, safe and inclusive football environments
- Outlines WAFC complaints handling procedures





## SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

*The organisation' refers to the West Australian Football Commission and to Junior Football Clubs.*

*'Members' refers to administrators, clubs, club members, coaches, officials, registered players, sponsors, support personnel, spectators, parents and umpires.*

The Internet and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) devices / equipment bring great benefits to all users and can contribute to the effective operation of the organisation and its members through the ability to disseminate information, the ability to promote the sport and clubs and to provide members with the ability to connect with others within the organisation.

The West Australian Football Commission (WAFC) has an obligation to ensure that affiliated clubs maintain a safe physical and emotional environment for its members and this includes cyber safety and the safe and responsible use of ICT. Individual members also have a responsibility to use ICT in a safe and responsible way.

Junior Football stakeholders including clubs and its members will create a cybersafe environment by:

- Using the organisation's name, motto, crest and/or logo only in an appropriate way in line with the organisation's guidelines,
- Using the organisation or affiliated club's websites to provide information about competitions, committees, policies, rules, social events or other important sport related issues,
- Using SMS and/or email by officials, managers, coaches etc to communicate organisation business and organisation sanctioned social events (via parents in the case of juniors),
- Using the organisation or affiliated clubs social network pages to promote positive organisation news and events (with permission obtained from featured individual(s) and via parents for juniors),
- Ensuring content of posts or electronic communication doesn't breach any organisation policies or codes of conduct,
- Ensuring content of posts or electronic communication doesn't breach state or commonwealth law. This includes not engaging in 'sexting' where a member sends or is in possession of an inappropriate sexualised image of a person under the age of 18 years – this is a criminal offence in WA and the Police will be informed immediately,
- Not engaging in cyber bullying, including but not limited to:
  - harassing, teasing, intimidating or threatening another person via electronic means,
  - sending or posting inappropriate digital pictures or images, email / instant / phone / text messages, or website postings (including social network sites ie Facebook or blogs) and is irrespective of whether the page could be viewed by the wider public or not,
- Members will remain responsible for and be vigilant of the content and security of their individual accounts such as email, social networking (ie Facebook), micro blogging (ie Twitter), video sharing (ie YouTube), picture sharing (ie Instagram) and mobile phones.

The West Australian Football Commission and Junior Clubs take any breaches of the policy seriously. Any person (including, but not limited to, players, officials, coaches, members, umpires, spectators, and parents) or clubs who breached this policy can be called before the controlling bodies tribunal under the **By-Laws** and can be charged for *'misconduct of a serious nature'*.



## SPONSORSHIP POLICY

Sponsorships that could involve football in controversial issues or expose football to adverse criticism must be avoided. All potential sponsors must have company values that are in line with and complement the values of Australian football. These are:

- To be determined by executive meetings,
- Egalitarianism (social equality),
- Participation,
- Integration and inclusion,

The following sponsors are regarded as inappropriate:

- Political or religious organisations,
- Programs that denigrate exclude or offend minority community groups,
- Sponsors that may present a hazard to the community (including cigarette companies),
- Sponsors that create environmental hazards,
- Sponsors that do not reflect community standards,
- Companies and organisations that conflict with existing WAFC sponsors,
- Companies and organisations that conflict or may conflict with sponsors of the Fremantle Football Club and West Coast Eagles or has the ability to erode their revenue.

Sponsorships and explicit endorsement of products and or services of a sponsor must be in the public interest and must be approved via the management process.

The WA Football Commission has a Corporate Relations Team which manages all central football sponsorships and reviews sponsorship policies, templates and proposals. They are able to offer their expertise and experience if your club requires advice in this area. Please feel free to contact Nikki Bower on (08) 9381 5599 should you have any enquiries.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

The FAC will ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.

Individuals may participate in all levels of football. Players moving from AFL Auskick (modified rules) to open rules (full contact) must be fully informed (in writing) of the changes regarding the physical nature of open rules before participating at this level.

Single sex (all girl / boy competitions) are preferred if teams can be arranged within the schools or junior districts and / or country regions. Alternatively females are able to participate with males until the age of fourteen.



## ALCOHOL POLICY

There is absolutely no place for Alcohol within Junior sporting environments, and subsequently:

### THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT JUNIOR FOOTBALL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

It is important to note that this refers to game day matches (including scratch matches) and during all training sessions. Junior Football Clubs need to have clear policies, procedures and Memorandums of Understanding (MoU's) that addresses this issue of alcohol sales and consumption, particularly when attached to Sporting clubs or Senior Football Clubs. Shires and local councils should also have specific policies, procedures and MoU's in place.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In managing risk, consideration must be given to environmental factors and their impact on participants. Sometimes extreme weather conditions (e.g. heat, cold, rain, wind or lightning) make it best to postpone training and/or competition. The umpires, in consultation with JCC Officials as required, shall determine if a game should be delayed or abandoned due to inclement weather as per the AFL Laws of the Game and the AFL Junior Football Match Guide. Please also refer to the By-Laws section.

## SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

The DFDC and the WAFC greatly appreciate the support of the wider football family by supporting the Smoke Free Environments at football grounds around WA. This Smoke Free environment can be maintained and implemented into all areas of our game by the following strategies –

- Smoke Free change rooms – Please ensure player changing areas are smoke free at all times
- Smoke Free club rooms (social halls, canteens, etc.) – please ensure the club rooms, social hall, kitchen and canteen are smoke free at all times
- Smoke Free interchange benches, including coaches and managers area – Please ensure there is no smoking by any person in the interchange area where the coach, manager and interchange players sit or stand.
- Smoke Free viewing areas – Please ensure the following areas are Smoke Free during matches and other events; Club room verandas, interchange benches, seated outdoor viewing areas, areas close to where juniors are coached.
- Smoke Free NAB AFL Auskick – Our youngest players are the future of our club and game. Please ensure there is no smoking in any area where the NAB AFL Auskick activities are taking place.
- Smoke Free Area acknowledgement – to assist promote your sporting area as smoke free, the following announcements may be utilised *“WA Junior Football Clubs support smoke free sporting venues for all members and supporters. Please observe the smoke free areas which include change rooms, club rooms, verandas, interchange benches, outdoor seated viewing areas and areas close to where juniors are coached”*.

## PREGNANCY POLICY

Sports Medicine Australia has developed guidelines entitled *“Participation of the Pregnant Athlete in Contact and Collision Sports”*. The guidelines are intended to provide recommendations to the pregnant athlete and sporting organisations on safe participation in contact and collision sports during pregnancy.

Summary of the guidelines follows:

Football is classified as an unlimited contact and collision sport;

- Contact or collision is frequent and maybe quite forcible,
- A high risk of falls, blows to the abdomen and contact with a projectile exists,
- In a normal pregnancy, participation can only be recommended during the first trimester.

Recommendations:

- Display a copy of the summary of the statement issued by the Medicine and Science for Women in Sport committee of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation on club notice board so that players can make an informed decision about playing,
- Encourage any player that is pregnant to seek the advice of a medical professional,
- Provide a safe environment for all footballers.

Insurance and the Pregnant Player

- The pregnant player is provided with the same personal accident policy that is provided for all registered members of the football leagues. However, the player is not covered if the resultant injury is found to be due to the pregnancy. NO cover is provided for the unborn baby.



## PLAYER ROTATION POLICY – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The on-field rotation of players is a policy developed to enhance the participation and skill development of all players in NAB AFL Auskick (5-12 years) through to Youth participants (13-18 years).

The rotation of all players through a variety of positions in a game and season is designed to allow players to experience the skills and roles required in different positions, and to ensure all players are provided with equal opportunity.

The policy states that every player in a team should play at least half a game, and that no player should spend more than half a game in any one position. Further, every player should experience playing on each of the five lines of field position over a three match period.

The Australian Football Match Policy document clearly states that to ensure all players feel an essential part of the team, regardless of their age, size, sex, ability or the competition they are playing in, it is critical they have an equal amount of time on the field during the season. This will keep players in the game and reduce the likelihood of them leaving to pursue other sports. It also satisfies parents expectations that their child will be given a fair go. It is recommended that all coaches keep records of weekly game time of each player to ensure each has had equal time. There are also a number of IT programs or Apps available that can support coaches and teams in ensuring that all players play 50% game time.

*Note: players should be rotated through a variety of positions on the field in each line, not straight up and down the “spine” or only on the left or on the right side of the field. Coaches and Team Managers must ensure that this policy is adopted and relates directly to **BYLAW #1 – The Spirit of Junior Football**.*

***Coaches can be cited and/or deregistered for not adhering to this policy.***

### **‘PLAY AFL’ RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES**

The FAC will oversee a comprehensive and coordinated recruitment program which may include the following strategies in partnership with each District Council and Clubs.

- Advertisements in the state and local newspapers when possible,
- Community Service Announcement on various media when available,
- School promotional clinics involving AFL and WAFL players through the year,
- Junior and senior club roadside signage (February) – approved by local councils,
- A mass ‘Open Day’ (Registration Day) promotion (February/March),
- Distribution of NAB AFL Auskick posters (February/March),
- Distribution of football registration flyers/pamphlets to every school child (February/March),
- NAB AFL Auskick TV adverts – coordinated by AFL (when available),
- Radio adverts (when possible),
- Identification of promotional opportunities,
- Creation of a “Rego Pack” for Clubs, Schools and Districts,

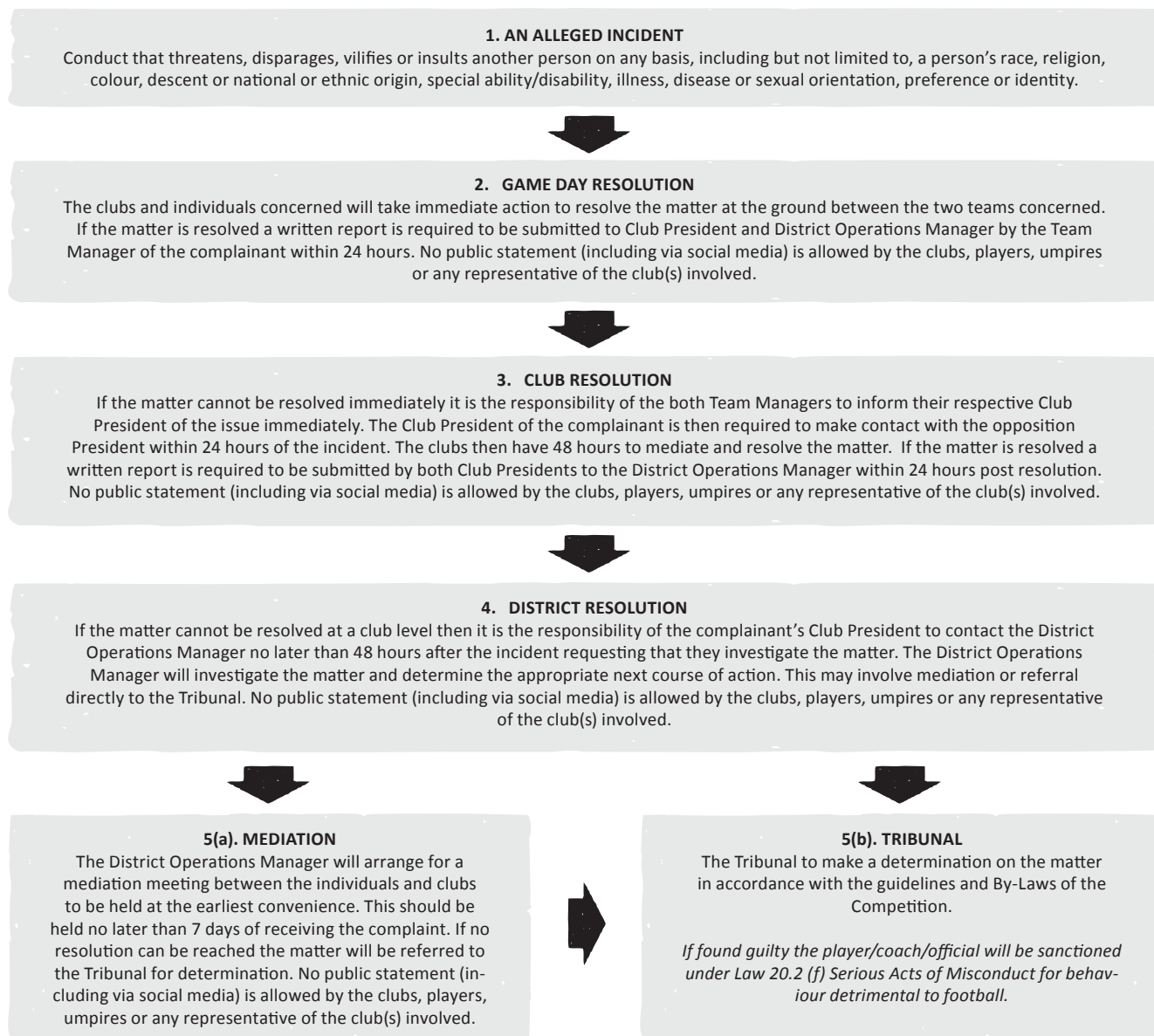
Feedback is continually sought from Clubs and Districts on ways in which we can continue to enhance the PLAY AFL Recruitment Campaign strategies. Feedback can be forwarded to the WAFC through your District Competition Director.

## VILIFICATION POLICY

Vilification to any degree is totally unacceptable at any level of football (including Junior Football) and refers to any person including, but not limited to, players, officials, coaches, members, umpires, spectators, and parents that acts towards or speaks to any other person in a manner, or engages in any other conduct, which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person on any basis, including but not limited to, a person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, illness, disease or sexual orientation, preference or identity.

All those involved in Junior Football have the right to be involved in an environment that is free from vilification and/or harassment. The Junior Competition should take an extremely firm stance on eliminating this type of behaviour from the game.

The vilification resolution process is:



Any adult that is found to have vilified a person at Junior Football, or has been found to have encouraged others to vilify other people, should receive significant penalties from the Tribunal.

**There is absolutely no place for vilification of any nature in Football!**

## PROHIBITED PERSONS DECLARATION FORM (PPD) - POLICY

1. The WA Football Commission Football Affairs Committee is committed to providing an environment that is safe for participation in junior football physical activities. The FAC will not tolerate the criminal act of child sexual maltreatment, which occurs when a child (defined as a person under the age of 18 years) has been exposed or subjected to sexual behaviors or acts which are exploitative and/or inappropriate to his or her developmental level. Such behavior involves a wide range of sexual activities which exploit children and includes forcing, tricking, bribing, threatening or pressuring a child into sexual activity.

2. The Prohibited Persons Declaration forms conveys a message to all members and prospective members, responsible for junior football activities, particularly those involving members under 18 years of age, about minimizing risk exposure. Managers, coaches, officials, leaders, trainers and management personnel, have a responsibility to provide safeguards dedicated to the well-being of those under the age of 18 years (youth).

3. The abuse of youth members, by other members of external source, is not acceptable and FAC encourages all incidents of such abuse as described above to be reported immediately to the appropriate authorities.

4. Working with Children Legislation will be adhered to. All volunteers must sign a PPD. For specific details on the Prohibited Persons Declaration Forms for junior football please refer to the WAFC website [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN LEGISLATION POLICY

West Australian Football Commission acknowledges that our staff, members and volunteers provide a valuable contribution to the positive experiences of our juniors. The West Australian Football Commission is committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of its junior participants through the implementation of its Child Protection Policy.

WAFC aims to minimize the risk of harm to children by ensuring clubs adhere to screening procedures when employing people in positions (paid or voluntary) whose usual duties involve, or are likely to involve, contact with children (those under the age of 18 years). Clubs are required to:

1. Request all people in these positions obtain a Working with Children check, in accordance with the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004.

### Working with Children Checks

The Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 was implemented in 2006 and makes it compulsory under legislation for all people in 'child-related' work (paid, volunteers or self employed) to obtain a Working with Children check.

Some exemptions apply such as:

- Parents (see website for a definition of parent) volunteering in a club or certain activity in which their child is also involved or is ordinarily involved (this exemption does not apply to overnight camps)
- Volunteers under 18 year of age
- Employers of children, or adult employees who merely have contact with a minor as a fellow employee in the workplace, unless the job otherwise involves 'child-related' work

The Working with Children Check is a comprehensive criminal record check for certain people working with children in Western Australia.

The Working with Children Check aims to increase the safety of children in our community by helping to prevent people who have a criminal history that indicates they may harm children from working with children.

This is legislation and effects volunteers as well as paid personnel. Please check the website [www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au](http://www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au) for more information.

2. Obtain completed Prohibited Persons Declarations from all persons in 'child-related' work.
3. Check a person's referees (verbal or written) and interview a person about his/her suitability for the role and his/her suitability for working with children for both paid and voluntary positions.

For the full WAFC Child Protection Policy please refer to the WAFC Member Protection Policy at [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

## PRIVACY POLICY

All information collected by the WAFC will be kept in a secure location and compliant with the privacy act. The FAC's Privacy Policy Statement for junior football clubs can be found at [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

## PHOTOS & VIDEO POLICY

The WAFC recognises the privacy concerns of certain participants and requests that at all times it can be demonstrated that all reasonable efforts have been made to secure the consent of WA Football participants where images may be captured on photo or film prior to these images being taken. Parental permission should be sought for the publishing of any image by any Junior Football Club.

Most people taking photos of children at sporting events are doing so for acceptable reasons and are using appropriate methods, for example, a parent videoing their child at a trophy presentation or photographing their child on the field during play or a professional photographer taking photos for a club/competition.

The following information and suggested strategies (adapted from [www.playbytherules.com.au](http://www.playbytherules.com.au)) have been provided for Football Clubs and competitions to consider when acquiring and displaying images of children and young people on web sites and in other publications. It is not intended to restrict people taking photos for legitimate reasons.

Please note that this information is not intended to be, nor should it be relied upon as a substitute for legal or other professional advice. Organisations and individuals should seek legal advice in relation to these issues if required.

### The Law

In Australia, generally speaking, there is no law restricting photography of people (including children) in public spaces as long as the images are not:

- Indecent (photographs taken covertly in change rooms or toilets),
- Being used for voyeurism or made for the purpose of observing and visually recording a person's genital or anal region,
- Protected by a court order (eg. child custody or witness protection),
- Defamatory,
- Being for commercial purposes (person's likeness is used to endorse or entice people to buy a product).

Photos of a child (including your own child) also contravene Criminal Codes and censorship laws if the child is photographed in a provocative or sexual manner.

Where a sporting event is held on a club's private property, privately owned land, a school or council owned facilities, the owner of private property or venue is able to restrict, ban or require permission of photography anywhere in their venue (e.g. some council owned facilities will not allow mobile phones or cameras in change rooms or toilets). Where a sporting event is held on private property not owned by the organisers, it is good practice to determine a mutually agreed photographing policy.

If a person is taking photographs inappropriately (e.g. breaching the restrictions or ban in place for that private property or venue), then venue management can request the person to stop. If the person refuses, the police or security may be called to escort them off the property.

### Potential Strategies - Acquiring Images

- Clearly outline and publicise what is considered appropriate behaviour in obtaining images and what is considered appropriate image content.
- Do not allow photographers (professional photographers, spectators, fans, coaches or members of the media) unsupervised access to children.
- Ensure the coach informs any athlete and parent(s) if the coach wants to video the athlete as a tool to analyse and improve performance.
- Obtain the consent of parent /guardian and their agreement to be present before approving photo/video sessions outside the event venue or at the home of a child. Where possible, have the photo taken at the event venue.
- Provide details of who to contact within the club or organisation if concerns or complaints of inappropriate behaviour in taking images or content are raised. Ensure that the contact person understands the application of relevant legislation and policies.
- Provide members of the media and professional photographers with an identification pass to be worn for the duration of major/large events.

## Potential Strategies - Displaying Images

- Consider using models or illustrations for promotional / advertising purposes.
- Obtain permission from the child's parent/guardian prior to taking the images of a child or young person. Ensure that all concerned are aware of the way in which the image is to be used and how long the image will be displayed.
- If an image is used avoid naming the child. If this is not possible avoid using both a first name and surname.
- Avoid displaying personal information such as residential address, email address or telephone numbers if images are being posted on websites or distributed in publications.
- Do not display information about hobbies, likes/dislikes, school, etc as this information has the potential to be used as grooming tools by paedophiles or other persons.
- Only use appropriate images of the child, relevant to the sport or activity, and ensure that the athlete/child is suitably clothed. Images of athletes participating in sports or activities that involve minimal clothing (e.g. swimming and gymnastics) or unusual body positions/poses could potentially be misused.
- Reduce the ability for direct copying of pictures from a website to another source (i.e. disable the 'right mouse click' function).
- Clearly outline in a written contract to photographers who are contracted or paid to take photos, who will retain the images taken, include arrangements made for negatives, digital file and proofs and outline any restrictions for use and sale.
- Provide details of who to contact and what to do if concerns or complaints of inappropriate image use are raised.

## RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

All Junior Football Clubs should have a Risk Management Policy in operation at their club. A detailed copy of the WAFC Risk Management Policy for Junior Football Clubs can be found at [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

Junior football clubs should refer to their district by-laws for regulations covering infectious diseases.

To gain a copy of the recommended Infectious Diseases Policy for junior sporting clubs please refer to The Department of Sport and Recreation website at [www.dsr.gov.au](http://www.dsr.gov.au)

## INSURANCE POLICY

**It is recommended that all clubs investigate upgrading the insurance coverage for their teams.**

The West Australian Football Commission has negotiated in conjunction with the AFL, an Australian national insurance program with Insurance Brokers Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT). The program covers four critical areas of insurance:

- Player and Volunteer Personal Accident,
- Public Liability,
- Asset protection (theft and/or damage), and
- Associations (Directors and Officers Liability)

The national scheme covers each junior club from Jan 1 to Dec 31 at the base bronze level for Personal Accident. Upgrades to higher levels and therefore higher returns on claims are available after contacting JLT direct.

**PLEASE NOTE: At the start of every year, a club representative needs to register the club for the upcoming season online at the JLT website.**

Clubs wishing to contact JLT can do so on 1300 130 373 or via the website [www.jltsport.com.au](http://www.jltsport.com.au)

Junior Clubs should ensure the following:

- Adequate insurance cover is essential for the protection of young players in the event of injury; serious or otherwise.
- It is also becoming increasingly necessary in order to protect clubs, coaches, sports trainers, umpires and administrators against the possibility of legal action as a result of their activities – the level of cover over the base bronze level is totally at the discretion of the Club.
- All clubs should seek incorporation under the Association Incorporation Act 1987.
- The levels of your Club's insurance is to be disclosed to your players
- All clubs should accept the responsibility of insuring themselves and their officials and players in at least the following areas:
  1. Sports Liability: including Public Liability, First-Aid Treatment Risk, and Coaches Indemnity, to at least \$10 million.
  2. Death and Disablement.
  3. Non-Medicare Medical Expenses.
  4. Income protection is recommended for players in age groups where players have full time employment.

The JLT scheme covers the first 3 at the Bronze level which currently is set at the 50% reimbursement level. It is important to note that it is illegal for any insurance scheme to fully cover a participant at the 100% level.

## Overview

All clubs are insured at a basic Bronze level coverage and should investigate upgrading their level of cover.

	BRONZE COVER	SILVER COVER	GOLD COVER	PLATINUM COVER
<b>Non-Medicare Medical Costs</b> (examples include: Ambulance, Physio, Dental, Chiro, Private Hospital Accommodation)	50% Reimbursement \$2,000 Max. per claim \$100 excess per claim	75% Reimbursement \$2,500 Max. per claim \$75 excess per claim	90% Reimbursement \$3,500 Max. per claim \$50 excess per claim	90% Reimbursement \$7,500 Max. per claim \$50 excess per claim
<b>Capital Benefits</b>	\$20,000 for players under 18	\$30,000 for players under 18	\$40,000 for players under 18	\$50,000 for players under 18
Quad / Para Benefit	\$250,000 maximum	\$250,000 maximum	\$250,000 maximum	\$250,000 maximum

This table is to provide a brief overview. For full information regarding coverage and any changes to the policy please visit <https://afl.jltsport.com.au/community.aspx>

## MANAGING COMMUNITY CLUB FINANCES – A GUIDE

A Community Club Committee is responsible for overseeing the finances of the club and for ensuring that the club operates within a responsible, sustainable financial framework.

### Reporting

- Annual Budget – incorporating income from all sources (fees, sponsorship, fundraising and grants) less all operational costs. Any surplus from operations can be put towards saving for a rainy day or to pay for capital items for the club such as clubroom improvements or purchasing equipment. The size of the surplus will be determined by what the club has in its future plans.
- Monthly Finance Report consisting of:
  - Profit and Loss Statement with a Budget v Actual comparison
  - Balance Sheet
  - Debtors and Creditors listing (if available)
  - Copy of the latest bank statement
- Annual financial statements that are audited

GST (extract from the ATO website [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au))

### Due dates for lodging and paying your BAS

The due date for lodging and paying is displayed on your business activity statement (BAS). If the due date is on a weekend or public holiday, you can lodge your form and pay on the next business day.

### Quarterly BAS reporting

Quarter	Due date – paper	Due date – online *
1 – July, August and September	28 October	11 November
2 – October, November and December	28 February	28 February
3 – January, February and March	28 April	12 May
4 – April, May and June	28 July	11 August

\* Using the ATO Business Portal is a secure and easy way to lodge your BAS return [www.bp.ato.gov.au/](http://www.bp.ato.gov.au/)

### Monthly BAS reporting

The due date for your monthly BAS is usually on the 21st day of the following month. If the due date is on a weekend or public holiday, you can lodge your form and make any payment due on the next business day.

If you are unsure of a business's ABN or GST registration status, you can check their details on the Australian Business Register [www.abr.business.gov.au/](http://www.abr.business.gov.au/)

### Useful Financial Management Programs

Excel (for very basic accounts only)  
 MYOB ([www.myob.com.au](http://www.myob.com.au)) – offers a 30 day free trial  
 Quicken ([www.quicken.com](http://www.quicken.com))  
 Xero ([www.xero.com/au/](http://www.xero.com/au/)) – offers a 30 day free trial

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Joondalup	08 9300 2411
Malaga	08 9249 9343
Mandurah	08 9581 9922
Midland	08 9274 6500
Myaree	08 9317 2934
North Perth	08 9443 1222
Rockingham	08 9529 2555
Wangara	08 9306 7800
Traffic Balcatta	08 9240 6990
Test & Measure Balcatta	08 9208 3600
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Lift & Shift Belmont	08 9478 2222
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Consider using the cloud version of the program and then your data can be retrieved via an internet connection and the password. It's a secure way to store your data in one place and allows a seamless handover when there is a change of Treasurer.

### Checks and Balances

- Prepare an Annual Budget and monitor it through your monthly finance reports
- Have an insurance policy in place to protect your assets (this includes your bar and canteen equipment and stock) from fire, theft and spoilage. For more details on the AFL National Insurance Program visit <http://afl.jltsport.com.au/>
- Reconcile your bank account every month
- Ensure you have two authorisers for all your payments. Online banking is a secure and easy way to pay accounts and download bank statements. Most banks issue security tokens (think of them as an electronic signature). **Never ever EVER** sign a blank cheque.
- Issue receipts for all monies received and bank all cash received on the day it is received. Cash must be stored safely if you can't get to the bank.
- Put in place a range of financial management and financial control policies spelling out who can authorise payments, what expenses can be reimbursed and what constitutes an acceptable use of equipment.
- Consider criminal records checks for those who have control of the finances and anybody who handles significant cash.
- Have your annual financial statements audited.

### Some Useful Resources

AFL Community:  
[www.aflcommunity.com.au](http://www.aflcommunity.com.au)

Advice for Treasurers:  
<https://www.ourcommunity.com.au/files/DamnGoodAdvice.pdf>

Department of Sport and Recreation Organisational Development:  
<http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/support-and-advice/organisational-development>

## GROUND LIGHTING

Junior Football in Western Australia applies the Australian Standard (AS2560.2.3-2007) in terms of lighting for football:

- Junior and Senior Community **training** minimum lighting standards – 50 lux
- Junior and Senior Community **game** minimum lighting standards – 100 lux
- WAFL **game** minimum lighting standards – 200 lux
- AFL **game** minimum lighting standards – 500 lux

## BALL SIZE

The following ball sizes are to be used in junior football:

- Auskick (PP- Year 3)            Size 1
- Year 4 – Year 5                Size 2
- Year 6 – Year 7                Size 3
- Year 8 – Year 10               Size 4
- Year 11 – Year 12              Size 5

Burley is the supplier of footballs throughout all WAFC endorsed Football competitions

## PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT POLICY

### Mouth guards

It is strongly recommended that all players wear a mouth guard when either at training or playing football.

### Goal Post Padding

In order to prevent injuries to players, officials and spectators, all fixed goal posts must be padded and PVC or plastic posts replace all portable steel posts.

### Protective Head Gear

A player who desires to wear protective head gear during a match must wear head gear approved in writing by a sports physician or doctor.

Associations should adopt policies to cover:

- (a) Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical conditions; Whereby the player is required to produce a certificate that the player will, in the view of a medical practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective head gear.

# CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT IN AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL

Concussion refers to a disturbance in brain function that results from trauma to the brain. The changes are temporary and the majority of players recover completely if managed correctly.

## Key Components of Concussion Management

1. Recognise the injury
2. Remove the player from the game
3. Refer the player to a medical doctor for assessment
4. Ensure the player has received medical clearance for a graduated return to training

There should be a trained first aider at every game and the principles of first aid, including management of the cervical spine, should be used when dealing with any player who is unconscious or injured.

## Recognise Concussion

### 1. Visible clues of suspected concussion

Any one or more of the following visual clues can indicate a possible concussion:

• Loss of consciousness or responsiveness	• Lying motionless on ground / Slow to get up
• Dazed, blank or vacant look	• Grabbing / Clutching of head
• Unsteady on feet / Balance problems or falling over / Incoordination	• Confused / Not aware of plays or events

### 2. Signs and symptoms of suspected concussion

Presence of any one or more of the following signs & symptoms may suggest a concussion:

• Loss of consciousness	• Headache	• Seizure or convulsion	• Nervous or anxious
• Dizziness	• Balance problems	• Confusion	• Neck Pain
• Nausea or vomiting	• Feeling slowed down	• Drowsiness	• "Don't feel right"
• "Pressure in head"	• More emotional	• Blurred vision	• Sensitivity to noise
• Irritability	• Sensitivity to light	• Sadness	• Difficulty remembering
• Amnesia	• Fatigue or low energy	• Feeling like "in a fog"	• Difficulty concentrating

## Manage Concussion

- ✓ Any player who has suffered a concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must be **IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM PLAY** and medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury. **They must not be allowed to return to play in the same game or practice session.**
- ✓ A concussed player must not return to school or return to training or playing **before having a formal medical clearance.**
- ✓ A concussed child (player aged 5-17) is not to return to play or sport until they have successfully returned to school/ learning, without worsening of symptoms. Symptom assessment in the child often requires the addition of parent and/or teacher input.
- ✓ The concussion rehabilitation program should be supervised by the treating medical practitioner and should follow a graded, symptom limited progression.

In the best practice management of concussion in football, the critical element remains the welfare of the player, both in the short and long term.

**"IF IN DOUBT, SIT THEM OUT"**



**AFL Research Board  
AFL Medical Officers' Association**

## Pocket CONCUSSION RECOGNITION TOOL



To help identify concussion in children, youth and adults



FIFA®



FEI

### RECOGNIZE & REMOVE

Concussion should be suspected if one or more of the following visible clues, signs, symptoms or errors in memory questions are present.

#### 1. Visible clues of suspected concussion

Any one or more of the following visual clues can indicate a possible concussion:

Loss of consciousness or responsiveness  
Lying motionless on ground / Slow to get up  
Unsteady on feet / Balance problems or falling over / Incoordination  
Grabbing / Clutching of head  
Dazed, blank or vacant look  
Confused / Not aware of plays or events

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- Amnesia
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- Sensitivity to noise
- Headache
- Balance problems
- Feeling slowed down
- More emotional
- Sensitivity to light
- Fatigue or low energy
- Neck Pain
- Difficulty remembering
- Seizure or convulsion
- Confusion
- Drowsiness
- Blurred vision
- Sadness
- Feeling like "in a fog"
- "Don't feel right"
- Difficulty concentrating

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### 3. Memory function

Failure to answer any of these questions correctly may suggest a concussion.

"What venue are we at today?"

"Which half is it now?"

"Who scored last in this game?"

"What team did you play last week / game?"

"Did your team win the last game?"

Any athlete with a suspected concussion should be IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM PLAY, and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed medically. Athletes with a suspected concussion should not be left alone and should not drive a motor vehicle.

It is recommended that, in all cases of suspected concussion, the player is referred to a medical professional for diagnosis and guidance as well as return to play decisions, even if the symptoms resolve.

### RED FLAGS

If ANY of the following are reported then the player should be safely and immediately removed from the field. If no qualified medical professional is available, consider transporting by ambulance for urgent medical assessment:

- ▶ Athlete complains of neck pain
- ▶ Increasing confusion or irritability
- ▶ Repeated vomiting
- ▶ Seizure or convulsion
- ▶ Weakness or tingling / burning in arms or legs
- ▶ Deteriorating conscious state
- ▶ Severe or increasing headache
- ▶ Unusual behaviour change
- ▶ Double vision

### Remember:

- In all cases, the basic principles of first aid (danger, response, airway, breathing, circulation) should be followed.
- Do not attempt to move the player (other than required for airway support) unless trained to do so.
- Do not remove helmet (if present) unless trained to do so.

from McCrory et. al, Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport. Br J Sports Med 47 (5), 2013

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- (b) Players not suffering from any known disabilities or medical conditions; Whereby the parent or guardian is required to submit a certificate to state that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical conditions which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the protective head gear.

There is no definitive scientific evidence that helmets prevent concussion or other brain injuries in Australian football. There is some evidence that younger players who wear a helmet may change their playing style, and receive more head impacts as a result. Accordingly, helmets are not recommended for the prevention of concussion.

## SPECTACLES POLICY

Junior footballers who wish to wear spectacles during matches and training sessions should wear spectacles with PLASTIC FRAMES and PLASTIC LENSES. The spectacles must also be held on securely by a band. This will minimize the risk of injury to the player, team mates and opposition players. **Please also refer to the Protective Gear By-Law.**

## CONCUSSION POLICY

Concussion occurs when, after a blow to the head, there is brain injury with some immediate disturbance of brain function. Any player showing the signs or symptoms of concussion should be removed from the field immediately and referred to a medical practitioner. A player who has suffered concussion with or without loss of consciousness should not participate in any match or training session until he/she is fully recovered and has been cleared by a thorough medical examination.

**All players sustaining a concussion require a medical clearance before the resumption of training or playing.**

### Key Considerations

- Any player who has suffered a concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury and must not be allowed to return to play in the same game or train in the same practice session. **If in doubt, sit them out!**
- There should be a trained first aider at every game and the principles of first aid should be used when dealing with any player who is unconscious or injured.
- A concussed player must not be allowed to return to school or return to training or playing before having a formal medical clearance.
- The child is not to return to play or sport until they have successfully returned to school/learning, without worsening of symptoms. Symptom assessment in the child often requires the addition of parent and/or teacher input.
- It is reasonable for a child to miss a day or two of school after concussion, but extended absence is uncommon.

For the updated Concussion Management Document please visit: [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)



## FOOTBALL TRAINERS POLICY

The Sports Trainer is the first contact the player has upon injury and the trainers assessment and handling of such situations is vital to the welfare of the individual.

Junior Football bodies should ensure that suitably qualified persons attend regular competition matches. Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) provide an Accreditation Scheme from Level 0 to Level 2 and also run concussion workshops for sports.

All Football Trainers are encouraged to join the WA Football Trainers Association (WAFTA). Membership of WAFTA is free and is available for all trainers within WA irrespective of which level of football the person is involved with and irrespective of the experience of the person.

WAFTA run free education sessions for its members throughout the year and also sends out regular newsletters and can provide career opportunities for those who wish to advance and develop within the trainer's role.

Contact Noel Johnstone C/- PO Box 275 Subiaco WA 6904, President Ph: 0433 955 226, Secretary Ph: 0466 969 279, Email: mail@wafta.org.au. For further information, simply email the WAFTA with your name, club and contact details.

## E-POINT

The establishment of positive Game Day Environments is critical to the ongoing growth and development of Junior Football across Western Australia. In 2006, a number of districts began piloting and implementing game environment initiatives known as E-Points and S-Points, and in 2012, given the success that the model had in improving the environment and shifting the focus away from winning at all costs, all Districts implemented E-Point structures in their competitions.

The E-Point and S-Points are recognised strategies that are having dramatic impact on the environments in Junior Football. In essence, these point variations remove the focus of winning at all cost to guide a healthier understanding of the values of team work, winning and losing with dignity, fairness, equality and respect. The E-Point is targeted at Youth competitions and the S-Point is focused on juniors.

The WAFC DFDC Council of Chairs unanimously indicated that all Districts and Regions must adopt the E-Point Base Model; however through discussion with their district stakeholders can also further develop the base model to suit their specific needs and requirements. **Please see the Global By-Laws at the end of this manual for the E-Point Base Model.**

## UMPIRES HANDSHAKE POLICY

Coaches are expected to shake the hand of the match day umpires both pre and post game.

This mark of respect will reinforce our commitment to influencing positive game day environments, and stands as an excellent example of behaviour from the Coach to Players and Spectators. Coaches should also shake each other's hand both pre and post match.

# CODES OF CONDUCT

The major objective of Junior Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment (Fun). The following Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our junior game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective. The West Australian Football Commission Football Affairs Committee strongly advises that all persons involved be issued with copies of the appropriate code of conduct. WA Football supports acts of sportsmanship (hand shaking etc) between players, coaches, administrators, umpires etc.

## RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter

Protecting and enhancing our Game Environment will always be a strategic focus for Football. In 2016, we will see the ongoing enhancement of a Game Environment Filter, **RED FLAG**. This will assist in monitoring all football segments, and the standard of the environment and the spirit in which they are played. To this end an online filter has been developed whereby key football stakeholders are able to identify and bring to the attention of governing bodies any undesirable behaviours and actions that may breach any of the Codes of Conduct or By-Law 1 “The Spirit of Junior Football”.

The Red Flag notification is completed online with confidentiality assured within the process. Issues that are flagged that require official intervention will be overseen by the WAFC Participation Manager in consultation with the specific League Officials and WAFC District/Regional Staff. The Red Flag filter will apply to everyone involved in Football from coaches, spectators, and players to volunteers and Club Administrators.

Club Presidents, District Officials, Umpires and WAFC Game Development Staff will have authority to access the filter via a special password and link. Please contact the WAFC Participation Manager Troy Kirkham to secure your access.

## ADMINISTRATOR’S AND VOLUNTEERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 ‘The Spirit of Junior Football’**.
- Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.
- Actively promote Positive Game Day Environments with Junior Football and the importance of E-Point structures to the game.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
- Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
- Remember that children participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.
- Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
- Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
- Ensure promotion, well-being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
- Ensure positive player/umpire relationships are continually developed.

## COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

It is imperative that coaches understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 ‘The Spirit of Junior Football’**.

As a coach, I understand that as an integral component of my accreditation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the game and the players/staff in my care.

In representing myself in an honest manner, and without bringing the coaching profession or the Game into disrepute, I will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of my ability:

1. I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
2. I will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of my Club, District and League/Association.
3. I will be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the players in my care, having due consideration for their health and well-being.

4. I will be supportive at all times and I will refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in my care.
5. I will have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of my players when designing practice schedule, practice activities and involvement in competition.
6. I will avoid overplaying the talented players aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability. Where I am responsible for players in the 5-18 year old age group, I will strive to ensure that all players gain equal playing time.
7. I will stress and monitor safety always.
8. In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, I will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the return of injured or ill players to training.
9. I will endeavour to keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of my players.
10. I will at all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practise fair play.
11. I will display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.
12. I will ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
13. I reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy.

*Note: This "Coaches Code of Conduct" is to be signed and conformed to as part of the accreditation requirements of the AFL. Coaches should be aware that, in addition to this Code, they may be obliged to sign a further Code of Conduct/Ethics with their Club and/or League or State Sports Association (WAFC).*

## PARENT'S & SPECTATOR'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- Encourage children to participate, if they are interested.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by all teams.
- If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and helpers
- Remember that children play organized sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the umpire's decisions.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches, umpires or volunteers.





## PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an umpire or an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach or teacher after the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
- Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit so will you
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team, opponent or the other team.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would no competition.
- Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
- Avoid using derogatory language.
- Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.

## RUNNER'S/WATER STEWARDS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- The runner **SHOULD BE AN ADULT**.
- The runner must be clearly identified.
- The runner's name must be entered in both team books.
- No abusive language or swearing.
- Support the decision of the umpires at all times and never question decisions.

## UMPIRE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
- Compliment all participants on their efforts.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all infractions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Ensure that the "spirit of the game" for children is not lost by using common sense and not over emphasizing errors.
- Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour. Actions speak louder than words.
- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
- Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.



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## AFL KIDS FIRST

Today's parents have an important role in the delivery and support of sporting activities for their own and other children. With it comes a clear responsibility to act in a constructive and encouraging manner at all times, parents must at all times work with coaches to uphold and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.

Barracking and wanting your child to perform well is human nature, but it is critical that this should be done in a responsible manner avoiding the ugly parent syndrome at all times.

The AFL Kids First is a program that has been designed for leagues and associations to guide parents so that both they and their children obtain the maximum benefit and enjoyment from their participation in junior programs and matches.

AFL Kids First includes recommendations for leagues, associations and their clubs to manage situations where parents become over-enthusiastic and risk having a negative impact on their children's activities.

The basic principles of AFL Kids First are to remind parents that:

- Sport for children is a vital part of their growing up.
- Children like to win, but more importantly, they want to have fun.
- Parents need to set the right example at the sports ground, not just at home.
- Parents should be proud of their child's efforts irrespective of the result.
- Sport is important to children's self-esteem.

The AFL has produced an operational manual for leagues, associations and clubs to drive these principles, and to remind parents of the vital responsibilities and to outline appropriate procedures in the event problems arise.

The manual outlines the program's objectives, presents the code of conduct appropriate to all parents, describes the education process for junior leagues and associations, and the conduct of an information session, the appointment of a coordinator to manage process, and the role and duties of the coordinator, parents, and administrators.

The continued growth and health of the game depends on junior programs and matches being conducted in a positive, encouraging and fun environment. AFL Kids First provides guidance for achieving this objective.

# FOOTBALL CLUBS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In the event of an emergency the following procedures should be followed for proper protocol.

## REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PLAYER HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the Emergency Action Plan;

1. If a player is injured, the “assigned person” should immediately attend the injured player and determine the seriousness of the injury. Adopt the Stop, Talk, Observe, Prevent Further Injuries regime.
2. If the assigned person considers the injury to be serious, stop the game immediately. If it is necessary to hold-up or abandon the game whilst the player is being attended to, then this action will be fully supported by the Club, DFDC and WA Football Commission.
3. If at any time a player is injured and is unconscious or has limited movement he/she should not be moved onto a stretcher, unless under the direction of someone who has **sound knowledge** of first aid.
4. Medical advice received by the Club is “If a person cannot get onto the stretcher unaided they should not be moved, except by qualified personnel”.
5. Commence appropriate first aid as quickly as possible after the accident or injury has occurred. Try to remain calm and think your actions through.
6. Make sure that one person is in control of the situation: i.e. the assigned person or coach, first aid person, to avoid any confusion with procedures and / or control bystanders.
7. Contact the ambulance service (dial 000) and inform them of the situation.
8. What to tell the ambulance personnel:
  - Address of the oval, nearest entrance or other relevant information.
  - The type and seriousness of injury and whether the player is conscious or unconscious.
  - Where to gain admittance, eg south side of Clubrooms at (club insert details) Oval.
9. Ensure the “assigned person” stays with the injured player until the ambulance arrives and takes control of the situation.
10. Make sure someone is assigned to wait in front of the main entrance of the Clubrooms or oval to meet the ambulance (you may have to unlock the chain so the ambulance can get onto the oval). Assigned person should know where key is kept.
11. Ensure the impact area is cleared for easy access for the ambulance personnel.
12. The assigned person should gather eyewitnesses in a central location (statements may need to be taken at the end of the match depending on the nature and seriousness of the injury).
13. Provide any additional assistance as required e.g. notifying parents, collecting personal belongings etc.

## ACCIDENT / INJURY REPORTING

The last step following a serious injury or incident is documentation. An accident / injury report must be filled out for risk management and liability purposes.

- a) The “assigned person” attending the injured player is to complete the accident / injury report form and hand it to the Club Secretary on the day of the injury.
2. Parents should refer to the insurance policy for details on making an insurance or medical claim.
3. The reports will be kept by the Club and reviewed by the Committee on a regular basis for risk management and liability purposes.
4. Copies of the reports are to be forwarded to the DFDC by the Club (use information sheet until report forms have been developed).

# FOOTBALL DISTRICTS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In the event of an emergency or serious incident the following procedures should be followed for proper protocol.

## REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PARTICIPANT HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the District Emergency Action Plan;

1. Identify what has happened? Make as many notes as possible.
2. Is this a medical or operational emergency?

## MEDICAL

- a) Is anyone injured?
  - I. If yes - has medical assistance been arranged?
  - II. If not - arrange medical attendance by calling 000
- b) Where is the person now?
- c) Is anyone else involved?
- d) Who is managing the incident?
  - III. Do they require support?
  - IV. Can you or designated person attend the incident?
  - V. Has the incident Manager contacted relevant persons eg Police, Medical, Parent, Partner, Other, etc
- e) Notify your next level of District Management as soon as practical.
- f) Inform an appropriate Manager at the WAFC of major incidents.
- g) Monitor the circumstances, and brief others where necessary.
- h) Conduct a review of incident including reaction and follow up process.

## OPERATIONAL

- a) If any injuries follow the Medical emergency action plans as well.
- b) What has happened? Make as many notes as possible.
- c) Who has been involved?
- d) Where are they from?
- e) Who is managing the incident?
- f) Do they require additional support?
- g) Can you or a designated person attend?
- h) If required to make any on the scene decisions can you consult with any other officials.
  - Make sure your actions do not bring the game of football into disrepute
- i) Has the incident Manager contacted relevant persons?
  - District Officials, Police, Medical, Parent, Partner, Local Govt or Other
- j) Notify your next level of District Management as soon as practical.
- k) Inform an appropriate Manager at the WAFC of major incidents.
- l) Monitor the circumstances, and brief others where necessary.
- m) Conduct a review of incident including reaction and follow up process.

## BOTH

- a) If contacted by any outside agency, e.g. Media or public make no comment what so ever without consultative permission from the District Chairman and WAFC representative.
- b) If uncertain of any part of this process and you cannot contact a District Management official, refer to WAFC contact list (in club manual) and contact a WAFC official for advice and support.

# FIRST AID BASICS

The following basic steps outline a First Aid Protocol;

- D** – Danger (*Check for any danger to yourself, others or the patient*)
- R** – Response (*Check the patient for any signs of a response*)
- S** – Send for Help (*send someone for help or to call 000*)
- A** – Airway (*Check clear the airway*)
- B** – Breathing (*Check the patient for breathing*)
- C** – CPR (*Begin CPR*)
- D** – Defibrillation (*utilise a defibrillation machine if you have one*)



## FIRST AID PERSONNEL

Please note that First Aid personnel should wear a bib that contains a green cross (and not a red cross) – see example. The red cross emblem is the universal emblem of protection in armed conflict, its use is restricted under international humanitarian law and specifically by Australian law – Section 15 of the *Geneva Conventions Act 1957* (Cth).

# CLUB & VOLUNTEER APPOINTMENTS

It is strongly recommended that all clubs follow a comprehensive interview and selection process for all roles and positions at the club (including coaches), that incorporates the checking with referees. Once this process has been completed then every person involved must either complete a Working with Children Check, and sign a Prohibited Person Declaration (if exempt from a WWCC then they MUST still sign a Prohibitive Persons Declaration). It is also strongly advised that clubs request national police clearances where applicable for personnel that are either on the club committee or involved in a coaching capacity.

# COACHING

The coach has significantly more influence upon players than any other official person connected with football. It is critical that they are professionally educated in the best techniques and instilled with correct principles.

All persons placed in charge of junior footballers must have successfully completed an age appropriate AFL approved coaching course or be working towards completing the course by June 30 of the current season. If not, **they are not permitted to coach in Western Australia.**

**Please also note the relevant Global By-Law that applies to coaching.**

## COACH ACCREDITATION

### LEVEL I

The Level One Course is designed to give coaches at club level a basic understanding of coaching methods.

- A large part of the course is concerned with skill teaching, practical drills and the role of the coach.
- The course is conducted in NAB AFL Auskick (Years PP-3), Junior Football (Year 4-7), Youth (Year 8-12) or seniors (18+) playing groupings.

#### Competency Based Assessments

- At the conclusion of this Course, the coach will be able to plan, prepare and conduct a training session in a safe and appropriate environment.

Should you require any information regarding this course contact your District Operations Manager or Development Officer.

### LEVEL II

This course is designed to give the committed coach a broad background in the sports sciences and a higher level of knowledge in football coaching.

- The course will introduce the coach to the latest trends and developments in coaching.
- You need to have at least 2 years' experience as a Youth or Senior coach before applying.

Any enquiries can be directed to you Regional or District WAFC staff member.



### **LEVEL III**

This is the highest qualification currently available to football coaches.

Level Three coaches must have extensive coaching experience and a high standard of knowledge in the sport at Youth or Senior level with priority given to State, WAFL and AFL level coaches.

Enquiries can be directed to the Manager Coaching Kane Benson on (08) 9381 5599.

### **REACCREDITATION / UPDATING**

Coaches are required to maintain behaviours in accordance with the code of conduct at all times and to keep up to date with recent developments in coaching. Accreditation automatically expires after four years.

The WAFC endeavours to notify all expiring coaches via email and provide links to the re-accreditation forms. Reaccreditations are not automatically given and the District/ Regional WAFC staff member along with the WAFC Manager Coaching will determine if the candidate is suitable for reaccreditation. Eligibility for reaccreditation relies on current coaching experience, ongoing coach education and behaviour history of the applicant.

### **AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION (AFCA)**

Coordinated by WAFC Community Team, the AFCA Coach Education process is a series of seminars which utilize a range of presenters to deliver interactive and informative coach education sessions. These sessions are again communicated to district coaches via their Development Officers, and through the Coaches Edge newsletter.

AFCA hosts an Excellence in Coaching Awards Event to present each football coach who have shown excellence and measurable achievements through quality coaching techniques over the past season(s).

From these nominations the “JJ Leonard Medal” for Coach of the Year, “Ken Armstrong Community Coach” of the Year and the “Greg Brehaut Memorial Scholarship” will be selected. These awards are presented in recognition of three stalwarts of our national game in Western Australia.

This year “Coach of the Year” awards will also be awarded in the following categories;

- Auskick,
- Modified Rules,
- Youth,
- Senior Community
- Female.

All nominations/applications must be submitted through the appropriate nomination form.

### **COACH EDUCATION IN YOUR DISTRICT**

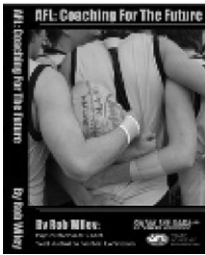
Whilst the accreditation aspect of being a coach in our great game is an integral component of coach education, there are other ongoing opportunities for aspiring coaches to develop their understanding of our game.

By making contact with their respective District Development staff, coaches will be able to tap into a range of coach seminars, coach mentoring and other coach development opportunities that will enhance their coaching knowledge

## COACHING RESOURCES

The WAFC has a wide range of coaching resources to cover any coach's needs. Samples of some of the resources are below. For a complete listing and a resource order form, visit the WAFC website [www.wafootball.com.au/coaching/resources](http://www.wafootball.com.au/coaching/resources)

Alternatively visit the AFL National Community Coaching website [www.aflcommunityclub.com.au](http://www.aflcommunityclub.com.au)



### **AFL Coaching for the Future: DVD by Rob Wiley \$25**

A total package that can help set up an effective training session /program. This DVD not only has a wide range of skills and drills but concentrates on kicking technique, tackling technique and core stability exercises.



### **Style of Play: DVD by Rob Wiley - \$15**

Rob challenges our understanding of the key elements of modern football, including; Forward entries, Stoppages, Defensive strategies, Kick-ins and zones, Switches and Style of play.



### **Les Fabre Physical Presence DVD 2009 Edition - \$25**

Football with a fun, safe and physical presence focus. This DVD is designed by Les Fabre for coaches of Auskick, Junior, and Youth Football teams and also provides valuable guidelines for coaches at the senior level. For more information go to [www.drfabre.com.au](http://www.drfabre.com.au)



### **Game-Day Coaching: DVD by Neale Daniher - \$15**

Neale Daniher looks at four areas of Game-day Coaching including mid-week preparation, pre game, game on and post game.



### **Skills of Australian Football – Tips from the stars of the AFL - \$25**

Skills of Australian Football analyses the skills of the game one by one as the stars show how it is done and explain how they made it to the top. These are gifted athletes but their breathtaking skill hasn't happened by accident – this is the result of years of toil and sweat on the training track. Some of the best in the business strut their stuff including Gary Ablett, Matthew Richardson, Jonathan Brown, Cameron Ling, Dean Cox, Brent Harvey, Lenny Hayes and many others.

# WA COACHES – DEREGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Deregistration means the withdrawal of AFL Coach Accreditation for a set time (suspension) or permanently.

Under the WA policy of mandatory accreditation for coaches, deregistration will mean a person who has their accreditation suspended or withdrawn will not be able to engage in coaching activities in any affiliated organisation during that time (Australia Wide).

Coaches who are sanctioned under this policy may also be subject to the disciplinary rules and processes of the Australian football organisations in which they are actively involved, including referral to the League tribunal or other properly constituted disciplinary mechanisms.

In accordance with the spirit of the Code of Conduct, a three-stage citation process, in line with accompanying flow chart, is recommended by the AFL for dealing with breaches of the AFL Coaches' Code of Conduct.

The operation of the process will be administered by the WAFC State Coaching Manager who retains discretionary powers to convene a Deregistration Panel, at any citation level. In other words, a coach can be deregistered, without going through this citation process, to deal with a coaching disciplinary matter.

	Stage 1 Club Consultation	Stage 2 Mentoring	Stage 3 Disciplinary
<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>MONITORING PROCESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>League Official</li> <li>Umpire (if not reportable offence)</li> <li>Red Flag Delegates</li> </ul>	<b>MONITORING PROCESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Random monitoring by Governing Body or appointed persons.</li> <li>WAFC Staff/Approved Coach Coordinator to observe all coaches issued with level 1 citation.</li> </ul>	<b>MONITORING PROCESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Random monitoring by Governing Body or appointed persons.</li> <li>Development Officer/Coach coordinator to observe all coaches issued with level 2 citation.</li> </ul>
<b>- Coaches Code of Conduct Breached</b>			
<b>Procedure</b>	1.1 Coach issued with a Code of Conduct Citation 1. 1.2 Breach to be outlined in accordance with Coaches Code of Conduct 1.3 Coach to meet with Club Management Committee 1.4 Coach to undertake remedial training as required	2.1 Coach issued with a Code of Conduct Citation 2 2.2 As per 1.2 2.3 Coach must attend a panel meeting to discuss coaching practices 2.4 WAFC Manager: Coaching, to issue notification of ramifications of a further breach to a coach. 2.5 Development Officer / Coach Coordinator to counsel and assist with strategy to coach delivery and behaviour. 2.6 Coach to undertake remedial training as required	3.1 Coach issued with a Code of Conduct Citation 3. 3.2 As per 1.2 3.3 Coach's record to be presented to State Coaching Manager 3.4 Coach to be de-registered from National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS)
<b>Action Responsibility</b>	> WAFC State Coaching Manager to issue citation notice > Club to counsel coach > Club to reply in writing to State Coaching manager and Governing Body longer than 1 week after meeting, outlining action and/or approach adopted.	> WAFC State Coaching manager to issue citation notice > Game Development Staff /Coach coordinator or appointed Level 3 Coach to facilitate implementation of strategies to modify behaviour.	> WAFC State Coaching Manager to issue citation notice > WAFC State Coaching Manager: Coaching to administer appropriate penalty > National Coaching Development Manager advised.

## Note – District tribunals can suspend coaches PRIOR to Deregistration

If clubs have concerns about a coach then the correct mechanism is for the President to complete a Red Flag notification.

# FOX SPORTS PULSE

Fox Sports Pulse is our primary Competition Management and Registration Database for football nationally and it provides a number of different functionalities to support Clubs, Competitions and Leagues. Fox Sports Pulse has a vast reporting system, allowing you to customise the exact information you wish to retrieve.

For assistance with Fox Sports Pulse please contact the WAFC on (08) 9381 5599 or alternatively visit the below websites/email.

User Guides: <http://foxsportspulse.knowledgeowl.com/help>

FSP Helpdesk Website: <https://sportingpulse.zendesk.com/home>

Email: [support@foxsportspulse.com](mailto:support@foxsportspulse.com)

## AFL COMMUNITY CLUB IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



Congratulations to the clubs who are currently involved in the AFL Community Club Improvement Program, at either the Quality Club or Gold accreditation level.

The concept of the AFL Community Club Improvement Program is to provide an opportunity for all community football clubs in WA to work towards improving their Club operations and sustainability.

Creating a quality environment will be of enormous benefit to your football club as a whole and all of your members. Some of the benefits of being involved with this program include:

- Providing an atmosphere that will help to attract new participants, officials and members (& retain those you already have);
- Providing an environment that will be attractive to sponsors and help your club promote itself amongst the community and particularly to your local Council;
- Minimising many risks associated with running a sporting club;
- Creating a best practice guide for your current Committee and all future Committees
- Participating in a sport that can continue to promote itself as a leading sport where quality is valued highly.

Clubs can achieve the following levels:

- Quality Club – A level to recognise good club administration
- Gold Quality Club – A level to recognise exceptional club administration

You can download the Club Improvement Program Documentation at [www.aflcommunityclub.com.au](http://www.aflcommunityclub.com.au) or complete the program at [www.afl.com.au/cip](http://www.afl.com.au/cip)

For more information contact your District Operations Manager or your Regional Development Manager – refer to Contacts page.







## WAFC MULTICULTURAL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

The Multicultural population of Western Australia continues to grow at rapid rates and it is important that the football industry continues to embrace this growth and welcome new and emerging communities to our great game.

The WAFC Multicultural Football Program is now a key component of our strategic plans and our vision to provide a positive experience unmatched by any other sport that generates significant community benefits.

At present the WAFC Multicultural Football Program features more than 30 programs and over 4,000 participants each year. Through our programs and events we have the ability to engage a wide range of multicultural communities and in turn use football as a vehicle to assist communities integrate into the wider community.

Key Multicultural Programs include:

- Multicultural Auskick Centres & transition programs,
- Multicultural School Program & Gala Day,
- Cultural Awareness Sessions,
- AFL Multicultural Ambassadors & Community Ambassadors.

To find out more about the WAFC Multicultural Program contact Paul Mugambwa on (08) 9381 5599 or [pmugambwa@wafc.com.au](mailto:pmugambwa@wafc.com.au)

# W AFC ABORIGINAL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

The W AFC has witnessed firsthand the positive impact football has on the Aboriginal community. This impact extends beyond participants to include families, friends and the community as a whole.

The W AFC Aboriginal Program plays a pivotal role in utilising football as a vehicle to engage the Aboriginal community and encourage participation, community harmony, reduce anti-social behaviour, improve health, support education and enhance employment opportunities.

The W AFC Aboriginal Football Program features more than 30 programs and events, reaching over 5,000 people each year.

Key Programs & Events include:

- Nicky Winmar Carnival,
- Kirby Bentley Cup,
- NightFields,
- Coaching & Umpiring Development Program,
- Cultural Understanding/Awareness training,
- NAIDOC Round,
- AFL Indigenous Round.

To find out more about the W AFC Aboriginal Football Program contact Paul Mugambwa on (08) 9381 5599 or [pmugambwa@wafc.com.au](mailto:pmugambwa@wafc.com.au)

## W AFL LITTLE LEAGUE – proudly sponsored by Grand Cinemas and Ace Cinemas

The W AFL Little League competition is conducted at half time of all W AFL matches (primarily to promote and enhance the affinity with W AFL Clubs).

It is primarily designed for 11 and 12 year old age group; however each individual district may differ slightly in its approach in regard to the allocation of teams. The teams will be selected from clubs or schools within the District metropolitan and Regional country boundaries and play in respective W AFL club colours.

The rules will be as per NAB AFL Junior Rules (as outlined in this document NAB AFL Junior Rules for the Year 6 & Year 7 Year groups).

The Little League competition is a W AFL competition, which is organised and overseen by the respective District Development Staff and each W AFL Club Little League Team Managers (approved and appointed by the W AFC). The competition will run for the duration of the W AFL season (including W AFL finals).

The W AFC recommends that all players through Junior Football should be encouraged and be given the opportunity to participate in W AFL Little League.





## **NAB AFL AUSKICK** – AFL GRID GAMES

During half time of every AFL game at Domain Stadium, the AFL has allocated NAB AFL Auskick centres the opportunity to participate in Grid Games on the oval. This fantastic opportunity, proudly supported by the NAB, gives Auskick kids the opportunity to play football on the 'big stage', just like many of their AFL heroes.

As there are only 22 opportunities (excluding AFL Finals) each year, the process for allocating NAB AFL Auskick centres is one that is managed by each District and/or Region. Each District/Region is allocated one AFL game during the season to provide NAB AFL Auskick representatives for. It is the decision of the District/Region who attends these games. If your club/centre is selected to participate at half time of an AFL game your Development staff member will contact you and forward through all the relevant information. For further information on this process please contact your District Development staff.

## **AFL LITTLE LEAGUE GAMES**

The AFL also provides an opportunity for two Year 6 teams (11 Year olds) to play against each other during half time of all AFL Games at Domain Stadium. Once again this opportunity is proudly supported by the NAB.

As there are only 22 games (excluding AFL Finals) each year, the process for allocating AFL Little League teams is one that is managed by each District and/or Region. It is the decision of the District/Region which teams attend these games. If your club/team is selected to participate at half time of an AFL game your Development staff member will contact you and forward through all the relevant information. For further information on this process please contact your District Development staff.

**Please Note: AFL Little League is for the Year 6 year groups, and no longer Year 7's.**



## SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY FOOTBALL

The WAFC sees the delivery of Australian Football as a partnership between schools and community groups.

Schools recognise that sport is an aspect of the school curriculum and is an integral part of an individual's development.

Community groups recognise the school system as an integral and positive part of football development and assist and encourage participation.

Schools and community groups/clubs should establish links to promote continuity of delivery. AFL School Ambassadors will be appointed in every school to facilitate the effective implementation of school football programs.

The use of existing school facilities by community groups is encouraged.

Schools should be receptive to interaction with community groups within and outside of school hours.

The WAFC works closely with key advisory groups;

- Education Advisory Group
- Primary School Football Advisory Committee
- Secondary School Football Advisory Committee

In designing and implementing quality football education programs.

The Education Advisory Group's foundation strategy is the induction of 1000 teachers to act as AFL School Ambassadors who will work actively in their school and cooperatively with community clubs to increase interest and participation in football.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE FOOTBALL

- The NAB AFL Auskick approach of modified involvement shall be adhered to from 5 to 11 years of age.
- Organisers, coaches and assistant coaches shall enter the AFL Coach Accreditation Scheme.
- Interschool competition, in the form of weekly games (Eagles Cup – Boys Competition), Fremantle Dockers Cup (Girls Competition) and one day Lightning Carnivals (Fremantle Dockers Shield) for years 6 and 7 conducted in the second and third terms of the school calendar year. Intra school competition (Eagles Faction Football) can be played all year round. (Freo Footy Skills) for years 4-6 conducted in term 2 is a health and Physical education based skill learning program.
- Competition organised and administered by the WAFC under guidance of Primary School Football Advisory Council.
- Designed to target students who play other sports at weekends or no sport at all.
- Encouragement is given to those introduced to football at school to register for community club football.
- A 'special points' criterion is used to encourage participation and discipline and not focus solely on winning.

# 2016 AFL SCHOOLS PROGRAM

## Calling all primary and secondary teachers!

Utilise Australian Football as an avenue to enhance skill development, leadership, healthy lifestyle choices, positive behaviour and attendance outcomes, academic achievement and/or as a student engagement vehicle at your school.

Thanks to Woolworths all active AFL School Ambassadors (AFLSA) will receive a football, fixture pen, key ring, lanyard and whistle by the end of Week 2, Term 2, 2016. To qualify each teacher must complete both steps below:

1. Contact or update your AFLSA details with your local Football Development Officer  
or  
Register online to become an AFLSA at [aflcommunityclub.com.au/index.php?id=393](http://aflcommunityclub.com.au/index.php?id=393)
2. Register for and participate in at least one recognised program and competition run during 2016 at [wafooty.com.au/forms/school-program-and-competition-registration](http://wafooty.com.au/forms/school-program-and-competition-registration)

NOTE: Some sponsored/partnered competitions and programs provide the school with free resources when registered for at [wafooty.com.au/forms/school-program-and-competition-registration](http://wafooty.com.au/forms/school-program-and-competition-registration)

Active AFLSAs are provided with resources according to their level of engagement to aid and enhance program and competition delivery. Active AFLSAs also have access to:

- a. subsidies for permanent goal posts, post padding, jumpers and travel subject to availability, eligibility and completion of required documentation;
- b. access to free/reduced cost endorsed professional learning
- c. nomination for the annual WA Woolworths AFLSA of the Year Awards (AFLSAotY)

Outstanding AFLSAs and AFLSAotY finalists may be offered the opportunity to:

- a. present at local, state and national conferences/forums
- b. manage and administer representative teams for School Sport WA

## AFL School Ambassador Tiers according to school level and engagement

AFLSA Level	Engagement (over 2 school years)	Resources (*subject to eligibility and availability)
Gold	4 or more endorsed programs/competitions/surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Silver Resources &amp;</li> <li>• Woolworths AFLSA apparel</li> </ul>
Silver	2-3 endorsed programs/competitions/surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bronze Resources &amp;</li> <li>• WAFL pass*</li> </ul>
Bronze	1 endorsed program/competition/survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football, fixture pen, key ring, lanyard, whistle</li> <li>• Access to free curriculum resources</li> <li>• Access to free/reduced cost Professional Development*</li> <li>• Access to AFL Schools Grants for permanent posts, post padding and jumpers*</li> <li>• Access to WAFC/AFL travel subsidy*</li> <li>• Eligibility to nominate for 2016 AFLSA of the Year Awards</li> </ul>

For information on School Football and the AFL School Ambassador Program please go to [wafootball.com.au/](http://wafootball.com.au/) and click on Schools.



## AFL 9S

AFL 9s is the West Australian Football Commission's newest game. It's a fast, free-flowing game that involves 9 players on each team playing on a smaller field. Best of all, it's mixed 'touch football' with no tackling or bumping, making it suitable for people of any age or skill level.

It's a little bit different to the traditional game. Some of the key differences with AFL 9s include:

- It's 9 a side on a smaller field with three zones
- Players must start in their zones but can then run anywhere
- Forwards are the only players permitted to score but players rotate between positions throughout the game
- In mixed competitions males score 6 points for a goal whereas females score 9 points
- There is no tackling, it's 'touch football'.
- A mark is awarded irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled.
- If the ball hits the ground it is an automatic turnover.

**An AFL 9s competition will be running near your club. All you need to do is go to [www.afl9s.com.au](http://www.afl9s.com.au) and utilise the locator.**

If you wish to explore how to engage in AFL 9s, please contact Josh Bowler at [jbowler@wafc.com.au](mailto:jbowler@wafc.com.au)

**NON-CONTACT SOCIAL FOOTBALL**

GET FIT. HAVE FUN.  
[AFL9S.COM.AU](http://AFL9S.COM.AU)

AFL

# TALENT

Providing a clear pathway to the top in a sport with limited international opportunity is vital to ensure the talented “natural” athlete selects Australian Football at an early age.

The steps from junior mass participation to zone representation/opportunities at the Year 8 level, leading to functional talent identification at intrastate and interstate competition from 15-18 are clearly defined.

The pinnacle opportunity” could perhaps be changed to the primary opportunity for a junior Australian footballer for both optimal performance and identification is the National

Championships conducted annually for players competing in the State Schoolboys program (15 Year olds) and the WAFC & AFL endorsed 16’s and 18’s State academy programs .

The pathway leads from junior level to senior football via Country or State Leagues with the AFL as the clear destination for those wishing to achieve the ultimate. Players wishing to pursue an AFL career in WA must do so via the WAFL.

Following is the career pathway for talented players;

## Key Points

- Enter or leave pathway at the any level before being drafted by AFL,
- Inclusion In development squads give no guarantees, but an excellent opportunity to enhance football education,
- Level of training and play paramount,
- Plan and organise according to goals you have set,
- Understand there must be a balance - family, school/work, friends and sport,
- Seek advice - parents, teachers and coaches, WAFL Club Talent Managers.

## State Representation Policy

The talent pathway is quite clearly defined for our youth in Western Australia.

For our most talented young players, the opportunity to represent their state is an exciting and prestigious time in their development.

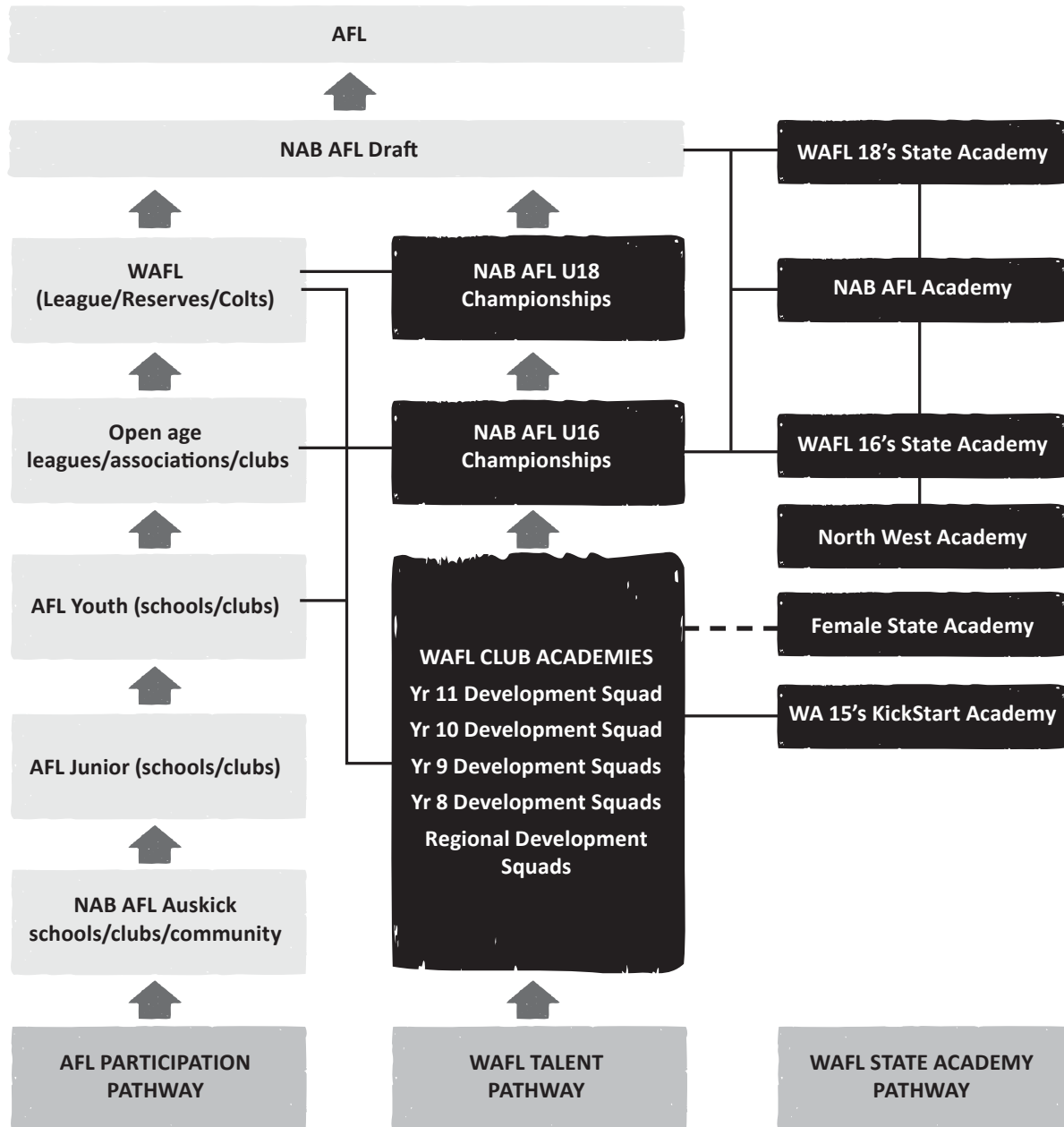
It should be noted that trials and practice matches are scheduled with community / country fixtures in mind and it is only on rare occasions that a clash results.

In reference to the official championship matches and State Academy Trial Matches, State representatives should be credited with local home and away games (i.e. two games) for the age group they were playing in prior to WA 16’s and State Schoolboys selection, in a similar fashion to the situation involving the WAFL and AFL clubs.

If you have any queries contact State Talent Manager Adam Jones or Talent Programs Coordinator Clayton Anderson at the WAFC on (08) 9381 5599.



# WAFL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY





# WAFC STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The WAFC State Championships provides an opportunity for the Premiership Year 12 community football team from each of the three conferences to play against each other in a carnival format to determine the WAFC State Champion Team. It is a fun and evolving competition that will continue to improve and grow in stature on the community football calendar.

Season	WAFC State Champions	District
2014	Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC	East Perth District
2015	Mazenod JFC	Swans District

## FEMALE FOOTBALL

**Did you know that in 2015 there were over 49,000 female participants in WA? Let's increase this number and get all your friends involved!**

#FollowOurDream @FemaleFootyWA

Unsure of which District you live in? Head to [www.playaflwa.com.au](http://www.playaflwa.com.au) to find your closest club!

The pathway for a player, coach, umpire and administrator continues to evolve due to the dedication of volunteers, visionary clubs and development staff.

### PARTICIPATION PATHWAY

#### NAB AFL Auskick

Girls have the ability to play Auskick between 5-8 years. To better cater for female participants clubs are encouraged to either set up an All Girls Auskick group within their centre that runs parallel to mixed gender Auskick or a standalone All Girls Auskick Centre inclusive for girls. For more information on All Girls Auskick Centres contact your District Staff.

#### Junior Girls

The Junior Girls Competition is for girls (Y4-Y6). In 2015 we had 27 junior girls' teams across Metro WA, with some Districts hosting standalone competitions. Junior Girls is a crucial step in the pathway assisting with the transition from Auskick and then to continue into Youth Girls Football.

Contact your District staff for more information on these competitions.

#### Youth Girls

WAFC Youth Girls Rogers Cup U18's Competition was launched in 2013 with 8 teams that quickly grew to 9 team competition that now features a team from every District. These include; Claremont Piranhas, East Fremantle, South Fremantle, Swan Districts, Peel Thunderbirds, Perth Angels, East Perth, Joondalup Falcons and the Coastal Titans.

This Competition was created to bridge the gap between Junior Football and Senior football for girls aged 13 - 17 years of age providing a complete pathway for girls to play.

In 2015 saw the implementation of U15 Competitions to support the female participation pathway so that the age range can be adjusted to U15 (Y7-Y9) and U18 (Y10-Y12) with the U15's run alongside mainstream Junior Football Competitions and U18's run centrally by the WAFC/WAWFL played on Sundays as curtain raisers to the WAWFL games.

This year both Metro South and Metro Central Conferences will be hosting U15's competitions, for more information on how to get involved in the U15's Youth Girls Competitions head to [www.playaflwa.com.au](http://www.playaflwa.com.au) for junior clubs that host female dedicated teams.

#### Senior Women's

West Australian Women's Football League is for women aged 17 and above, the final step in the Female Participation Pathway. There are 9 Clubs with 15 teams across two divisions. These include; Claremont Piranhas, East Fremantle Sharks, South Fremantle Bulldogs, Peel Thunderbirds, Swan Districts, Coastal Titans, Perth Angels, East Perth and Joondalup Falcons.

For more information on how to register please visit <http://www.wawfl.com.au> and if you are unsure on your closest club visit [www.playaflwa.com.au](http://www.playaflwa.com.au)

For those players aspiring to play football at the elite level through the talent pathway we encourage them to be playing football on a regular basis through our community club competitions. It is a great way to make new friends, have fun and try something different.



## FEMALE TALENT PATHWAY

The WA Female State program is an elite football environment that focuses on individual player development. The program also focuses on the development of a pathway for coaches to coach at an elite level and an opportunity to be mentored by more experienced coaches.

### State 15 Schoolgirls

This program is designed for those talented players aged between 13yrs and up to 15yrs of age. Players indicate their interest in the team by attending the selection trials as listed on the SSWA website.

### State U18 Youth Girls

This program caters for those girls aged between 16yrs and up to 18 yrs of age on the year of competition. This competition is usually played in May, with initial selections occurring in mid January each year. Players indicate their interest in the team by attending the selection trials.

### State U23 Women

This is a new program initiated in 2016 to allow younger players not selected for AFL teams to experience high quality state games. Players must be aged 19 – 23yrs on the year of the competition. Selectors choose 24 players. In late June 2016 WA has arranged to play QLD in Brisbane, QLD. Current AFL representative players are not permitted to trial for this team.

### State Open Women

This program caters for elite women aged 18+. Current AFL players and those seeking to be in an AFL team in the future who are experienced players or outstanding young players are often chosen for this team. Selectors choose 24 players.

After defeating Victoria for the very first time in Perth 2015, WA will travel to Victoria in 2016 in early June.

For more information on female football at any level please contact:

- Your local District Development Officer, or Regional Manager;
- WAFC Female Football Department: (08) 9381 5599
  - Female Football Coordinator – Allana Dickie [adickie@wafc.com.au](mailto:adickie@wafc.com.au)
  - Female High Performance Manager – Alison Moore [amoore@wafc.com.au](mailto:amoore@wafc.com.au)



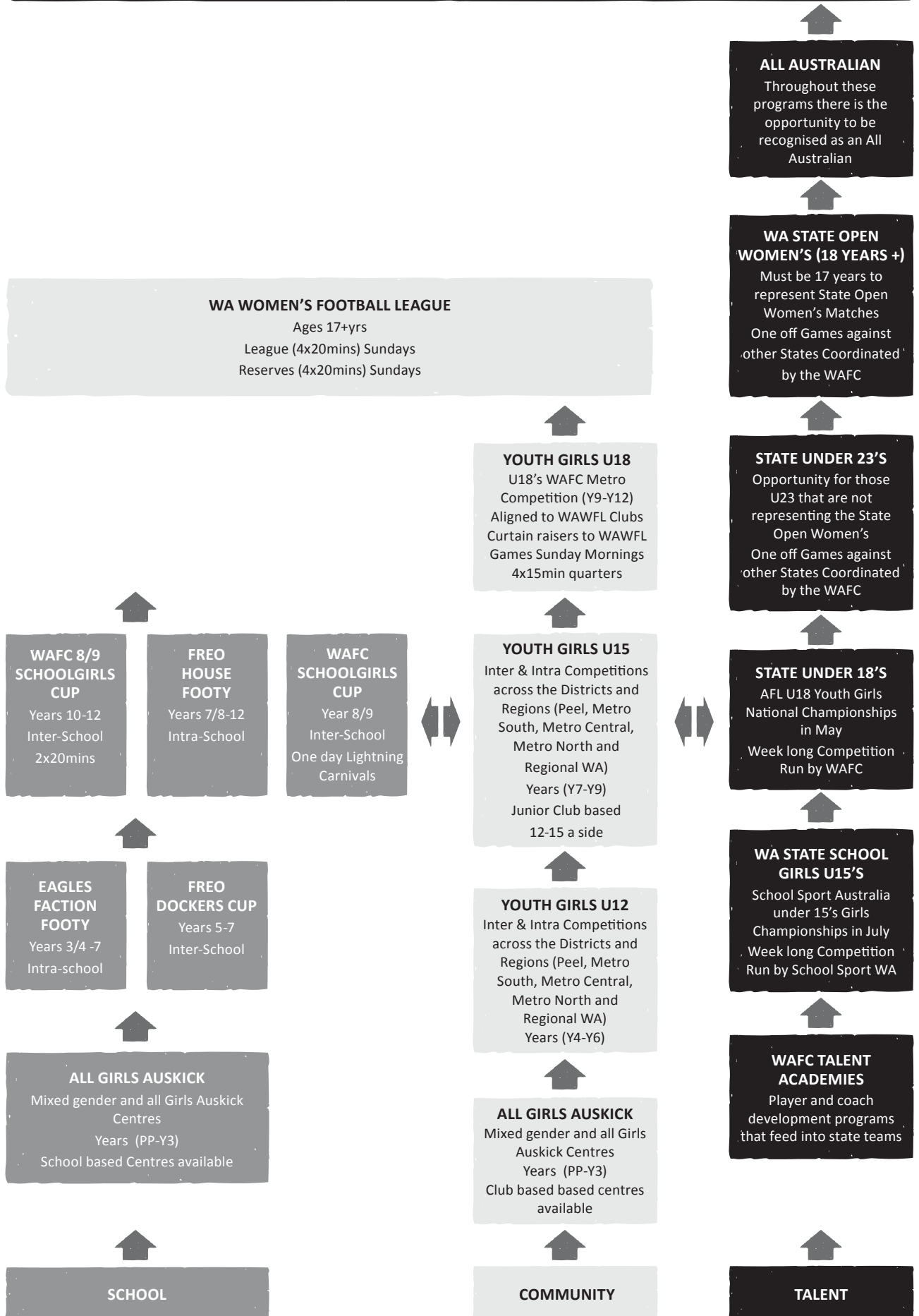
[www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

#FOLLOWOURDREAM

# FEMALE FOOTBALL PATHWAY

## AFL FEMALE COMPETITION

The past 3 years there have been Female Exhibition Matches between Melbourne and the Western Bulldogs. Curtains raiser to the AFL Matches. As of 2017 there will be a fully-fledged National Women's Competition





# SPECTATOR VIEW



# UMPIRE VIEW

**GET IN**  
**THE GAME**   
**BECOME AN UMPIRE**

If you love footy, you'll love being an umpire. Not only do you get the best view of the action, you also get paid for the privilege. Keep fit, be part of a team and learn leadership skills for both on and off the field.

[getinthegame.com.au](http://getinthegame.com.au)

# UMPIRING

To join a junior umpiring group, please log on to – [www.getinthegame.com.au](http://www.getinthegame.com.au)

For any further information, please contact your local District or the WAFC Umpire Development Manager Dean Margetts on (08) 9287 5546 or email [dmargetts@wafc.com.au](mailto:dmargetts@wafc.com.au)

## **Philosophy**

Umpiring's core values are: Professionalism, Teamwork, Leadership and Respect.

Our Team is prepared to deliver our game plan professionally, impartially and positively to ensure the game is played within the spirit of the laws.

## **Trainee Umpire Vest Programme**

The Trainee Umpire Vest Program aims to improve the recruitment, retention and development of learning umpires. The umpires wear a green vest to signify to players, coaches, officials and supporters that they are learning umpiring and are still gaining experience in how to umpire the game of Australian Football.

## **Accreditation**

The AFL National Umpiring Accreditation Scheme is a competency based vehicle for ensuring that umpires attain skills and knowledge demonstrated on match day. Accreditation of Umpires gives the umpire the confidence to better perform as an official, and provides the game with more competent persons to manage the laws and safe playing of our great game.

Level One Accreditation is provided through the District Umpiring Coaching structure to its umpires. Mentors assist the process as umpires become accredited as competent through their learning on match day and in off the field activities such as recorded diary reflections.

## **Junior District Umpire Coaching**

WAFC Umpiring invests in the 9 metropolitan WAFC Districts to cover umpire coach honoraria for the duration of the junior football season.

This honoraria payment is to ensure that the following key umpire development outcomes are attained across all of the 9 junior districts - Recruitment, In Season Training/Education, Game Day Appointments, Provide Game Day Coaching, Umpire Mentor Program, Accreditation, Uniform Distribution, Tribunal Guidance, Nominate Umpires for WAFL Talent Games, Gather Umpire District Intelligence and attend meetings as requested by DFDC.

WAFC Umpiring has in place Position Descriptions that cover all of the above whilst it also seeks to ensure that as a minimum all district umpire coach structures have the following personnel in place within each of the districts. Appointment of positions is via the DFDC and WAFC Umpiring (partnership). In season WAFC Umpiring provides each umpiring coordinator with consultative support as per the need;

1. Junior District Umpiring Coordinator
2. Open Rules Coach and Modified Rules Coach
3. Game Day Mentor / Match Day Coach`s.

## **Growing the Quality of Our Great Game**

The quality and competency of umpires adjudicating at district junior games remains one of the key essential ingredients given the pursuit of attaining and maintaining a quality game day environment. The standard and proficiency of umpiring at the junior competition level plays a fundamental role in player development and welfare whilst encouraging and promoting the value of sportsmanship.

Each "Junior District Umpire Coaching Team" remains responsible for the recruitment and educational training of their junior umpires however the challenge of umpire retention requires leadership from all junior game day stakeholders.

It is crucial that all appreciate the need for a "collective responsibility approach" in setting and maintaining a quality game day environment. WAFC Umpiring acknowledges the sound partnerships that have now developed across all junior districts and remains positively focused towards building even stronger links as we continue to strategically develop and enhance umpiring at the junior level of game participation.

## Talent Pathway

Like players, umpires are provided with the opportunity to progress along a “TALENT PATHWAY” that starts at the District Junior Competition Level. Within the Junior Community level there remains the opportunity for young aspiring umpires to be selected to join the Hendrie/Margetts Development Squad or Geoff Hayes Development Squad (Peel Region) where additional and more specialized coaching can enhance the development process prior to them moving into the Senior Community level of game participation.

Any young umpire not selected to join Development Squad can still take up the opportunity to advance up to the Senior Community level following a request being made to the Umpire Manager, Senior competitions who will assess each individual umpire prior to acceptance.

All umpires selected into the WAFL or Mike Ball Talent Academy is via the selection process of the High Performance Umpire Manager. This process primarily looks at match day performance of the umpire at the Senior Community level together with a number of key benchmarks being attained as per the need of our state league competition WAFL. Selection into the AFL is via the WAFC Umpiring Manager endorsement, with selection criteria driven from a state and national perspective.

# 2016 UMPIRE FEES

For Team Managers paying cash on the day – based on both teams paying half the match fee per Umpire

Age Groups	Umpire Status	Three Ump (2016)	Two Ump (2016)	One Ump (2016)
Year 12	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	\$ 80	\$ 100	\$ 140
	Accredited (Level 1)	\$ 70	\$ 85	\$ 125
	Non-Accredited	\$ 60	\$ 75	\$ 110
Year 11	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 80	\$ 120
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 70	\$ 105
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 60	\$ 90
Year 10	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 75	\$ 110
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 65	\$ 95
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 55	\$ 80
Year 9	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 70	\$ 105
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 60	\$ 90
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 50	\$ 75
Year 8	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 65	\$ 95
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 55	\$ 80
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 45	\$ 65
Year 7	Accredited	N/A	\$ 35	\$ 45
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 30	\$ 40
Year 6	Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 40
	Non-Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 35
Year 4 & 5	Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 35
	Non-Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 30

### Definition of Level 1 +50 games

For the purposes of the above table the “games” component of +50 games is defined as any WAFC recognised game of football that is 4 quarters in length. For example any junior game in the district (modified or open rules) or any senior game (amateurs) is included; games that are 2 halves (school football), carnivals or modified versions of the game (AFL 9’s) are not included. If any further clarification needs to be sort on this please contact the WAFC Umpire Development Manager.

### Umpire Uniforms

Uniforms for Umpires are available through BLK; however Umpires should speak with their own District or Regional Umpire Managers to determine the most appropriate way to order for their own specific District / Region. If you have any additional questions please contact WAFC Umpire Development Manager Dean Margetts on (08) 9287 5546 or email [dmargetts@wafc.com.au](mailto:dmargetts@wafc.com.au)

# BLK AFL UMPIRES RANGE



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## HOW TO ORDER

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# TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY

The below provides a clear recommendation to Junior Football Clubs and Coaches on what is recommended in terms of weekly training sessions and also in terms of Pre-Season Training. Any more than this and there is a real danger of players being burnt out and receiving overuse type injuries.

Year Group	Recommended Training Sessions per Week	Recommended Pre-Season Training timeframe	Notes
Auskick	Maximum 1 Training Sessions	No Pre-Season	70% Skills based activities / 30% Games
Super 8's	Maximum 1 Training Sessions	No Pre-Season	70% Skills based activities / 30% Games
Year 4	1 – 2 Training Sessions	1 – 2 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 5	1 – 2 Training Sessions	1 – 2 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 6	1 – 2 Training Sessions	1 – 2 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 7	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 4 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 8	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 4 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 9	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 4 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 10	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 4 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 11	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 6 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus
Year 12	1 – 2 Training Sessions	2 – 6 Week Pre-Season Max	Importance of a skill development focus

## JUNIOR & YOUTH FOOTBALL PHILOSOPHY

The underlying principle in Junior and Youth Football is to develop all players, and negating tactics such as Flooding and Tagging do not allow this to occur. Although these tactics occur at the elite level, there is no need for them in Junior and Youth Football and coaches should not employ them in their Game Plans.

They are contrary to the philosophy of providing an environment that maximises the desired fairness, fun, speed, skill and competitive elements of the game at this level. Clubs and Districts will work with all coaches to ensure that Junior and Youth Football meet the expectations of this philosophy. The WAFL Colts Competition, along with the State 16's and State 18's National Carnivals, also have in place a similar philosophy and rules.





## YEAR GROUP SUMMARY

Junior Football in Western Australia is aligned to school years with the primary purpose of this being so that kids can play football with the friends that they attend school with. Please refer to the By-Laws for the Year Group Breakdown.

As a recommended guide the following applies:

Year Group	Birth Date Range
Auskick Pre Primary	01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011
Auskick Year 1	01/07/2009 – 30/06/2010
Auskick Year 2	01/07/2008 – 30/06/2009
Auskick Year 3	01/07/2007 – 30/06/2008
Year 4	01/07/2006 – 30/06/2007
Year 5	01/07/2005 – 30/06/2006
Year 6	01/07/2004 – 30/06/2005
Year 7	01/07/2003 – 30/06/2004
Year 8	01/07/2002 – 30/06/2003
Year 9	01/07/2001 – 30/06/2002
Year 10	01/07/2000 – 30/06/2001
Year 11	01/07/1999 – 30/06/2000
Year 12	01/07/1998 – 30/06/1999

As indicated above this is a **GUIDE ONLY** and should not be applied as part of the By-Laws.

# GROUND SIZE SUMMARY

Grounds used for Australian Rules Football all vary in regards to length and width. The below summary table outlines the **maximum** ground lengths and widths, that should be utilised for each Year Group in Junior and Youth Football.

The ground size should be influenced by how many players are on the field (i.e. 12, 15 or 18 a-side). Junior Clubs should also consider that by utilising a full size oval in Year 7 and Year 8 competitions, it will negatively impact the amount of scoring that occurs.

Year Group	Oval Length	Oval Width	Notes
Auskick PP	80m	50m	Divide into 3 zones – 30m/20m/30m
Auskick Year 1	80m	50m	Divide into 3 zones – 30m/20m/30m
Auskick Year 2	80m	50m	Divide into 3 zones – 30m/20m/30m
Auskick Year 3 / Super 8's	90m	50m	Divide into 3 zones – 30m/30m/30m
Junior Football Year 4	110m	80m	Positional Structure – 5 lines of 3 players
Junior Football Year 5	110m	80m	Positional Structure – 5 lines of 3 players
Junior Football Year 6	110m – 120m	80m	Positional Structure – 5 lines of 3 players
Junior Football Year 7	120m (15 per side) – Full Length (18 per side)	100m (15 per side) – Full Width (18 per side)	
Youth Football Year 8	120m – Full Length	100m – Full Width	
Youth Football Year 9	Full Length	Full Width	
Youth Football Year 10	Full Length	Full Width	
Youth Football Year 11	Full Length	Full Width	
Youth Football Year 12	Full Length	Full Width	

**Note:** JCCs & Districts should work with clubs on the suitability of ovals in terms of size and width.



# JUNIOR FOOTBALL

## PRE-PRIMARY – YEAR 3 NAB AFL AUSKICK PROGRAM (5 – 8 Years)

**NOTE:** Children must turn 5 years of age before June 30th in the year they wish to participate to be eligible for the NAB AFL Auskick Program.

NAB AFL Auskick Program is the introduction stage to football for 5, 6, 7 and 8 year olds. NAB AFL Auskick Program is an introductory experience of coordination activities which prepares participants for the learning of skills for Australian football. It is primarily designed around free play, child centred activities involving basic skills and above all enjoyment.

### AIMS

- Ideal Environment
- Child Centred Activities
- Sequential Skill Learning
- Free Play and Enjoyment

### GUIDELINES

To be regarded as a Registered NAB AFL Auskick Centre, all clubs MUST purchase the required Auskick packs through the WAFC for each participant in their Auskick Program.

This ensures that the participants are eligible for all the benefits of the program and that they are covered by insurance.

- Sessions conducted once a week preferably on weekends, optional mid week session, for an hour to an hour and a half maximum.
- An NAB AFL Auskick Program session involves a majority (70%) of the time on football activities and the remainder 30% on minor games.

A typical session is as follows;

- a) An organised teaching session involving movement coordination and fundamental skills with parents acting as group leaders (ideally have one parent/adult per player or keep group numbers low, 5-6 per group).
  - b) An accredited coach coordinator should plan the skills to be taught and the activities to be used well before the players arrive at the oval.
  - c) At the conclusion of the skill session (for no more than 40 mins) the players can be divided into teams of 6, 9 or 12 to play NAB AFL Auskick matches.
- NAB AFL Auskick Program consists of weekly learning sessions (12-15 weeks).
  - Small sided matches between groups or teams within the host club or centre are a vital part of NAB AFL Auskick, occasional social matches against other clubs are appropriate but fixtured interclub games are totally inappropriate at this level.
  - Utilise a Skill Achievement program as a vehicle for skill development.
  - A child's initial involvement with Australian Football should be through an organised community based program, focusing on skill education and modified skill games.
  - Focus on building motor, personal and social skills, as well as enjoyment, participation and self esteem.
  - Structured/formal/fixtured competition is totally INAPPROPRIATE! Clubs will potentially face fines or sanctions if they breach the directions of the District or WAFC in regards to the delivery of Auskick.

*Note: Coach Accreditation is now compulsory in both metropolitan and country areas*

### TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS

The following guidelines should be adopted by all junior football coaches.

The NAB AFL Auskick program PP – Year 3: one additional mid-week training session to normal NAB AFL Auskick session (no more than one optional hour in duration).

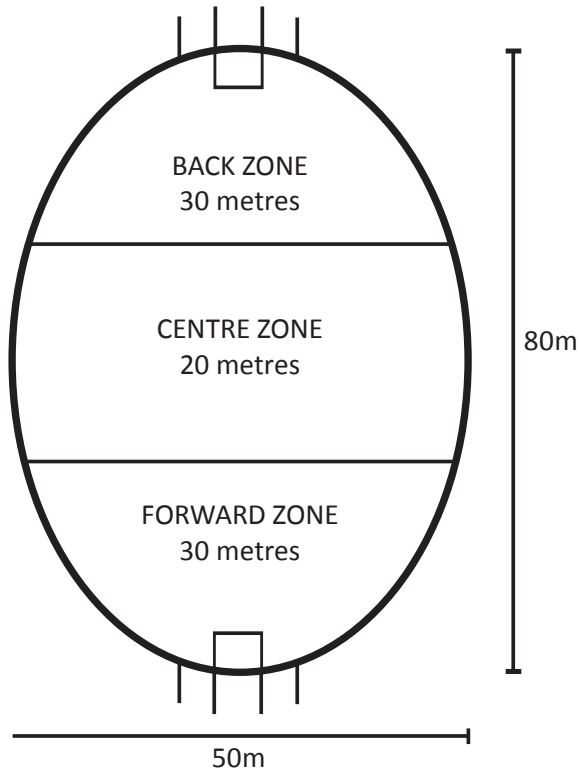
## NAB AFL AUSKICK - THE MODIFIED GAME: PRE-PRIMARY to YEAR 3

*NOTE: Children turning 5 years of age after June 30th are ineligible for the NAB AFL Auskick Program*

When participants have acquired the appropriate basic skills they should participate in modified games within the centre.

### FIELD:

As per NAB AFL Auskick zone marking. See diagram. <Insert Diagram of oval layout>



### FOOTBALLS:

Synthetic smaller footballs (size 1) should be used for these younger age groups.

### FIELD MARKERS:

Ropes, witches hats or collapsible dome markers can be used to help mark the field.

### PLAYING POSITIONS:

6-a-side, 9-a-side and 12-a-side minor games. Playing positions are restricted to zones. (Refer AFL Auskick zone markings). A suitable developmental scale would be: PP-Year 1 = 6-a-side; Year 2 = 9-a-side; Year 3 = 12-a-side

*NOTE: The preferred organisation for this stage is activity games rather than positional games.*

### UMPIRES:

- Parents (it is recommended to have one parent umpire in each zone).
- Feedback to player should involve encouragement and direction.
- Should understand the philosophy and rules of the NAB AFL Auskick program.

## Year 1 – Year 3 NAB AFL Auskick – Rules Flowchart

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

Please note that your individual District Competition Rules will override these general rules.

	NAB AFL Auskick Program for PP - Year 2	Year 3 (Super 8's)
1. Playing Field	Half senior size. Approx. 80m x 50m Divide into three zones –30/20/30m	Half senior size. Approx. 90m x 50m Grid with centre circle. Divide into three zones –30/30/30m
2. The Team	6 or 9-a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.	9 or 12 a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.
3. Playing Time	Up to 4 x 10 minute maximum quarters	Up to 4 x 10 minute maximum quarters
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.
5. After a goal	As in 4. Different players contest the ruck each time. Goals can only be kicked by players in forward zone.	As in 4. Different players contest the ruck each time. Goals can only be kicked by players in forward zone.
6. Scrimmage	No diving on ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.	No diving on the ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary D. Full possession rule.	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.
8. Tackling	Players cannot hold with hands, knock out of hands, push in side, steal the ball. Players given every opportunity to deliver ball i.e. No harassing.	<b>Modified Wrap Tackle rule. Wrap arms around player and hold feet. Do not drop to the ground. Strictly no slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player to the ground. Grabbing the arms is not permitted. Players once tackled have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball.</b>
9. Bumping	No deliberate bumping. No deliberate contact is permitted.	Strictly no bumping allowed.
10. Barging	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is NOT allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is <b>NOT</b> allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.
11. Stealing/ Smothering/ Harassing/ Possession rule	Not allowed. The ball is possessed by the act of catching it, grabbing it or placing two hands on it when it is on the ground. Once the ball is possessed, all other players must back off to allow the player with the ball to kick or handball uncontested.	<b>Not allowed. Modified wrap tackle only.</b>
12. Shepherding	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.
13. Mark	Any reasonable attempt to catch ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled. No standing on the mark. No playing on allowed.	Any reasonable attempt to catch the ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled. <b>Opposition player encouraged to stand on the mark. Playing on is allowed.</b>
14. Bouncing the Ball	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire discretion	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire's discretion

	NAB AFL Auskick Program for PP - Year 2	Year 3
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, umpire to instruct players to stay in zone.	To stop congestion, umpire to instruct players to stay in zone.
18. Coaches	Coach is allowed on the ground to teach.	Coach is allowed on the ground to teach.
19. Spirit of the Game	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.
20. The Game	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published.
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.	Automatic clearance.
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.

## NAB AFL JUNIOR RULES: YEAR 4 – YEAR 7 (9 - 12 Years)

### AIM

NAB AFL Junior Rules are designed to allow participants to learn and demonstrate the basic skills of Australian Football in a modified environment ensuring optimum individual development. The players' progress from the NAB Auskick Program and now become part of a set team playing in a fixtured interclub competition.

### Year 4 and Year 5

- Early foundation experiences of NAB AFL Auskick Program should be built on.
- Specific skills can be conveyed, introduced and coached.
- Child can be integrated into modified games.
- Refine skills in readiness for competition.
- Emphasis still on skill acquisition before competition. Skill Achievement Programs can be continued.

*\*Note: Coach Accreditation is COMPULSORY in both metropolitan and country areas.*

### Year 6 and Year 7

- Extension of specific skill as they relate to the game situation. Skill Achievement Programs are continued to ensure a focus on Skill Development.
- Consolidation of match participation.
- This period is critical to the development of positive self-attitude to ensure long term participation in sport.

*\*Note: Coach Accreditation is COMPULSORY in both metropolitan and country areas.*

### FOOTBALLS:

As many footballs as possible are required for practice sessions to assist in skill development e.g. synthetic skill balls are inexpensive and readily available. It is recommended that teams have one ball per 4 players. Various size match balls are available, depending on the players' ages. Synthetic footballs are recommended for games played in wet conditions.

- Year 4 & Year 5: Mini League/Mini Team - 50.5cm x 66cm (size 2)
- Year 6 & Year 7: Little League/Junior Team - 52cm x 68cm (size 3)

### TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following guidelines should be adopted by all junior football coaches.

Year 6 & Year 7 – one to two sessions per week (Maximum)

### FIELD MARKERS:

Witches hats or domes can be used to help mark the field.

### PLAYING POSITIONS:

Playing positions also depend on the number of players in each team.



#### **UMPIRES:**

- One field umpire, no boundary umpires required for Year 4 – Year 6. In the Year 7 competition Boundary Umpires can be utilised if available. Goal umpires supplied by participating teams.
- Coaches should be prepared to umpire if required.
- All umpires should give encouragement and positive feedback to all players.
- Coaches **MUST** at all times support the umpire.

#### **AWARDING OF POINTS – FINALS:**

##### **Year 4 – Year 6**

The recognition of individual domination and emphasis on winning, team ranking and the conduct of finals is considered inappropriate to the promotion of individual skills and development at the formative levels.

The following rules are to be implemented:

Up to and including Year 6's:

- No premiership points to be recorded,
- No finals series,
- No recording or publication of ladders,
- No recording or publication of match results,
- No Names published (i.e. No Best Players, Fairest and Bests or Goal Scorers)
- Special Carnival Days may be held at times during season (participation only recommended).

##### **Year 7**

In 2015, after a comprehensive review by the AFL and the states it was recognised as part of a transition phase for Year 7 footballers that although there is still a focus on team development and individual skill development, that incremental changes have been approved for this Year group.

The following rules have been implemented:

Year 7's ONLY:

- Premiership points can be recorded,
- A finals series can be held (*although various options could include the top team after the season wins the 'premiership', the top two teams play off or a regular finals series*)
- The recording or publication of ladders is permitted,
- The recording or publication of match results is permitted,
- No Names published (i.e. No Best Players or Goal Scorers)
- No Fairest and Best player voting (*The focus is still on team development as opposed to individual awards*)

#### **FEMALE PARTICIPATION:**

Junior Clubs are encouraged to have a Junior Girls team/s as a part of their normal team structure. Clubs may decide to either:

- Develop an All Girls team within the club to better cater for female participants.
- Combine girls and boys together up to the age of 14 years

## Years 4 & 5

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

Please note that your individual District Competition Rules will override these general rules.

	Rules	Notes / Explanation
<b>Standard</b>		
1. Playing Field	110m (length) x 80m (width) Maximum	
2. The Team	9, 12 or 15-a-side – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Equal game time rules applies (refer junior club manual)	Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) <b>Numbers on field should always be even.</b>
3. Playing Time	4 quarters x 12 minutes	It is strongly recommended that Year 4's & Year 5's play only 12 minute quarters. <b>Please refer to your Junior Competition Committee.</b>
<b>General Modified Rules for Year 4s&amp;5s</b>		
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approx. equal size. C. Full possession rule applies. (refer to notes) D. Max. 3 players from each team closer than 20m to ball up.	Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc) <b>"Full possession rule"</b> – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.
5. After a goal	Centre ball up as in 4. Different centre players should contest the centre ball up each time.	Umpire may choose alternative players of similar size where necessary.
6. Scrimmage	Umpire stops play. Send players back to positions and ball up used. Full possession rule applies. (refer notes in 4.)	Coaches should assist umpires by instructing players to move back to position. This will be in avoiding further congestion.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If there is doubt as to which team kicked the ball - ball up 10m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 10m in. D. Full possession rule. (refer notes in 4.)	Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
8. Tackling	Modified Wrap Tackle rule applies. A. Whereby a player applies a legal wrap tackle, the player with the ball must dispose of it correctly within three seconds or a free kick for "holding the ball" will be awarded. B. If player with the ball had prior opportunity to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, they will be deemed "holding the ball" also. C. If a player bounces the ball whilst being hand tackled, they will be deemed "holding the ball."	In a "wrap tackle" the tackler must wrap both arms around the opponent's body ensuring that it is not above the shoulder. <b>The tackling player cannot grab an arm of the opponent.</b> The "intent" of the tackler must not be to bring his/her opponent to the ground and if the umpire believes this was the case, a free kick will be awarded. If the player being tackled deliberately falls over in the tackle, they will be deemed holding the ball. Coaches should instruct players to keep their feet where possible.  <b>"Slinging"</b> a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession.
9. Bumping / Barging	A. Deliberate, incidental/accidental bumping is NOT allowed. B. If a player with the ball barges, fends off or chops past opponents a free kick will awarded against that player.	The only contact permitted via the "Wrap tackle".



	Rules	Notes / Explanation
10. High Contact	No contact above the shoulder is permitted.	Umpires are instructed to award free kicks for any high contact. A free kick will be awarded regardless of whether the high contact is intentional or unintentional.
11. Stealing/ Smothering	Player may attempt to snatch or steal the ball but if unsuccessful and contact is made a free kick will be awarded to opponent. This is to prevent the ball falling to the ground and a pack forming. No smothering is permitted. (refer notes)	A “smother” is whereby a player’s intent is to deliberately try to smother the ball off the boot whilst in the kicking action. It should not be deemed a smother if the ball is kicked into the man on the mark or an opposing player in general play.
12. Shepherding	Players are not permitted to push, shoulder or block an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.	The only contact permitted is incidental contact or via the “wrap tackle”.
13. Mark	Catch the ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled.	The marking player must control the ball directly from the kick. (i.e. the ball must not touch another player in flight) Consideration of weather conditions may be taken into account.
14. Bouncing the Ball (or touching the ball down)	A player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.	The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to <b>deliberately</b> kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground.	Whereby the foot makes <b>accidental</b> contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system.	Prescribed penalty process <b>does not</b> apply in these age groups.
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, <b>umpires &amp; coaches</b> should instruct players to stay in position.	Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.
18. Coaches	Coach allowed onto ground to coach in Year 4’s competition only.  In the Year 5’s competition Coaches are not permitted on the ground	<b>Runners are not permitted on the ground during Year 4’s competition.</b> Coaches should not carry coaching boards or clip boards on the ground during play for safety reasons.  <b>One Runner only</b> is permitted on the ground in <b>Year 5’s</b> competition; however they should immediately exit the ground after delivering a message.
19. Other Rules and Laws	As per AFL Laws of Football	

#### Other important information

20. The Game	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published. Skill clinics, carnival days to be held.	Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement.	
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.	
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is responsibility of club.	In the case of any disciplinary action handed down by a club, that club must forward to the JCC in writing the outcome of that hearing.
24. Spirit of the game	Umpire to instruct players and coaches to shake hands before and after the game.	The rules from NAB AFL Auskick through to Year 7’s football have been modified over time to assist junior players with skill development and understanding of the game. Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended. <b>Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football</b>

## Year 6 & 7 Flow Charts

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au)

Please note that your individual District Competition Rules will override these general rules.

	Year 6 Rules	Year 7 Rules
<b>Standard</b>		
1. Playing Field	110m – 120m (length) x 80m (width) Maximum	120m – Full (length) x 130m (width)
2. The Team	9, 12 or 15-a-side – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Equal game time rules applies (refer junior club manual) Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) <b>Numbers on field should always be even.</b>	12, 15 or 18 a side. The inclusion of rucks and rovers is dependent on the number of players available. Equal game time rules applies (refer junior club manual) Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) <b>Numbers on field should always be even.</b>
3. Playing Time	4 quarters, each of no more than 15 minutes	4 quarters, each of no more than 15 minutes
<b>General Modified Rules for Year 6's &amp; Year 7's</b>		
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approx. equal size. C. Full possession rule applies. (refer to notes) D. Max. 3 players from each team closer than 20m to ball up.  Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc)  "Full possession rule" – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.	A. Ball up between two ruckmen. B. Full possession rule applies. (refer to notes) Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc)  "Full possession rule" – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.
5. After a goal	Centre ball up as in 4. Different centre players should contest the centre ball up each time. Umpire may choose alternative players of similar size where necessary.	Centre Ball up as in 4.
6. Scrimmage	Umpire stops play. Send players back to positions and ball up used. Full possession rule applies. (refer notes in 4). Coaches should assist umpires by instructing players to move back to position. This will assist in avoiding further congestion.	Umpire stops play. Send players back to positions and ball up used. Full possession rule applies. (refer notes in 4). Coaches should assist umpires by instructing players to move back to position. This will assist in avoiding further congestion.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If there is doubt as to which team kicked the ball - ball up 10m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 10m in. D. Full possession rule. (refer notes in 4.) Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)	Boundary throw-ins where Boundary Umpires are available.  If no Boundary Umpires are available then the Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
8. Tackling	<b>Wrap around tackle is permitted.</b> A. <b>Whereby a player applies a legal tackle, the player with the ball must dispose of it correctly within three seconds or a free kick for "holding the ball" will be awarded.</b> B. <b>If player with the ball had prior opportunity to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, they will be deemed "holding the ball" also.</b> C. <b>If a player bounces the ball whilst being tackled, they will be deemed "holding the ball."</b>  Players may also bring their opponent to the ground in the tackle provided it is not via "slinging".  "Slinging" a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession. A sling free kick will <b>not</b> be paid if the umpire deems that the tackler <b>did not deliberately</b> or <b>aggressively</b> try to throw the player to the ground.	Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of the Game.  "Slinging" a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession. A sling free kick will <b>not</b> be paid if the umpire deems that the tackler <b>did not deliberately</b> or <b>aggressively</b> try to throw the player to the ground.

	Year 6 Rules	Year 7 Rules
9. Bumping / Barging	Bumping and barging is permitted as per AFL Junior Rules policy. A player may make contact with another player by using his hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open hands provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player. A player may also fend off an opponent using an open hand to the chest or side of the body provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player.	Bumping and barging is permitted as per AFL Junior Rules policy. A player may make contact with another player by using his hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open hands provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player. A player may also fend off an opponent using an open hand to the chest or side of the body provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player.
10. High Contact	No contact above the shoulder is permitted. Umpires are instructed to award free kicks for <b>any high contact</b> . A free kick will be awarded regardless of whether the high contact is intentional or unintentional.	No contact above the shoulder is permitted. Umpires are instructed to award free kicks for <b>any high contact</b> . A free kick will be awarded regardless of whether the high contact is intentional or unintentional.
11. Stealing/Smothering	Stealing or smothering the football whilst the opponent is in the process of kicking or has possession in general play is permitted.	Stealing or smothering the football whilst the opponent is in the process of kicking or has possession in general play is permitted.
12. Shepherding	Shepherding is permitted. A player is not permitted to shepherd more than 5 metres from the ball.	Shepherding is permitted. A player is not permitted to shepherd more than 5 metres from the ball.
13. Mark	A "mark" is paid when the player catches the ball directly from kick which has travelled a minimum distance of 10 metres. The marking player must control the ball directly from the kick. (i.e. the ball must not touch another player in flight)	A "mark" is paid when the player catches the ball directly from kick which has travelled a minimum distance of 10 metres. The marking player must control the ball directly from the kick. (i.e. the ball must not touch another player in flight).
14. Bouncing the Ball (or touching the ball down)	A player is permitted to bounce the ball <b>twice prior</b> to disposing of the ball. The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.	A player is permitted to bounce the ball <b>twice prior</b> to disposing of the ball. The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to <b>deliberately</b> kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground. Whereby the foot makes <b>accidental</b> contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.	Players are not permitted to <b>deliberately</b> kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground. Whereby the foot makes <b>accidental</b> contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system. Prescribed penalty process <b>does not</b> apply in these age groups.	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system. Prescribed penalty process <b>does not</b> apply in these age groups.
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, <b>umpires &amp; coaches</b> should instruct players to stay in position. Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.	To stop congestion, <b>umpires &amp; coaches</b> should instruct players to stay in position. Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.
18. Coaches	Coaches are not permitted on ground. <b>One Runner only is permitted on the ground in Year 6's &amp; 7's competition, however they should immediately exit the ground after delivering a message.</b>	Coaches are not permitted on ground. <b>One Runner only is permitted on the ground in Year 6's &amp; 7's competition, however they should immediately exit the ground after delivering a message.</b>
19. Other Rules and Laws	As per AFL Laws of Football	As per AFL Laws of Football

#### Other important information

20. The Game	<b>No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players not to be published. No Fairest &amp; Best Voting to occur. Skill clinics, carnival days can be held.</b> Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.	Scoring, Ladders and Finals are permitted. No Best players or goal kickers are to be recorded. No Fairest & Best voting to occur. No representative teams. Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement programs.	Participation, effort and skill achievement programs.
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.	Automatic clearance.
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is responsibility of club. <b>In the case of any disciplinary action handed down by a club, that club must forward to the JCC in writing the outcome of that hearing.</b>	No tribunal, discipline is responsibility of club. <b>In the case of any disciplinary action handed down by a club, that club must forward to the JCC in writing the outcome of that hearing.</b>
24. Spirit of the game	Umpire to instruct players and coaches to shake hands before and after the game. The rules from NAB AFL Auskick through to Year 7s football have been modified over time to assist junior players with skill development and understanding of the game. Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended and not attempt to find ways around the rules or loopholes. <b>Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football.</b>	Umpire to instruct players and coaches to shake hands before and after the game. The rules from NAB AFL Auskick through to Year 7s football have been modified over time to assist junior players with skill development and understanding of the game. Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended and not attempt to find ways around the rules or loopholes. <b>Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football.</b>

# AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL (YEAR 8 – YEAR 12)

- AFL Youth Football provides the critical link from mass participation AFL Junior Football to the adult game.
- A clear national direction is that AFL Youth Football should embrace the changing educational and social demands of adolescents, and provide a flexible timetable pursuant to those demands.
- AFL Youth Football players should be encouraged to be involved in the decision making process regarding their competition.

## AFL YOUTH AGE POLICY

The AFL Youth Policy aims to maximise the recruitment and retention of youth players (male and female) as they progress through the pathway to senior football and is based on positioning Australian Football for youth players in terms of the following qualities:

**Fun, Fast & Skilful** – The social interaction, fast pace of the game and the opportunity to play skilfully make the game fun for players. When players are able to execute their skills successfully on the field, they experience a sense of fun and mastery. The pace of the game engages their attention, adrenaline is stimulated in close competition, and success is experienced through skilful play, fulfilling team goals and coach aspirations, all of which are shared with their peers.

**Social Interaction** – Participants are drawn to the opportunity to socialize, develop / maintain friendships and to operate as a team, at an age where the peer group is of utmost importance. Football must provide an opportunity to feel a sense of belonging and acceptance.

**Competition** – Although on the surface players agree that winning is fun research reveals they are more concerned with the quality of the competition. The implication for leagues, clubs and schools here is clearly for well-graded competitions that match the skill level of opposing teams.

## FACTORS EFFECTING YOUTH DROP OUT

Over the past decade growth in sporting participation has been in recreational, non-traditional forms of sport. These sports cater to busy lifestyles and a desire to achieve fitness without the risk of injury. For teens, study, social and part-time work pressures are increasing, together with competing entertainment opportunities such as movies, music and online games.

Community leagues and clubs responsible for delivering AFL Youth football competitions need to be mindful of these social issues and consider strategies to alleviate the contributing factors affecting youth drop out. It is impossible for leagues and clubs to cater for the complex array of a young person's needs and attitudes. It is recommended that Clubs and Districts work together to find strategies to assist in the retention of Youth aged players. This could include:

- Changing traditional notions on the timing of games,
- Modifying the rules and team numbers,
- Altering the focus of coaching and offering broader life experiences,
- Offering flexibility in training, playing and club membership options.

## GRADING

Research reveals that while youth players agree winning is fun, they are more concerned with the quality of the competition. The implication for leagues, clubs and schools here is for well-graded competitions that match the skill level of opposing teams.

**Junior Leagues** - Where team numbers permit, junior leagues implement divisional competitions with an appropriate grading process. This will ensure all teams and players participate in a competition that matches their skills and ability.

**Clubs** - In the event a club enters more than one team in the same age group competition, players must be allocated to each team so that they are evenly matched.

Although the peer group is of utmost importance, as is the opportunity to develop and maintain friendships, this should not override the needs of the team and club when allocating players to appropriate teams. Youth players should be engaged in the decision-making process. The Conference Model will provide all Districts the opportunity for divisional play in the Year 11 & Year 12 age groups which will in turn provide participants with greater variety and also assist in preventing scoring blowouts in the majority of games.



# AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL (YEARS 8 – 9)

**15-a-side or 18-a-side: community club and school competitions**

## **Key Principles**

- Fun and safe,
- Play with mates,
- Focus on developing skills and tactics,
- Modified rules, playing area and equipment.

## **Purpose**

Learning how to train and consolidate the basic skills is the focus at this age level. Advanced technical and tactical skills start to be introduced, including decision-making in games and training, positional skills (competency in a position), and basic performance enhancing techniques, e.g. warm-up, cool-down, nutrition, hydration, recovery, goal-setting, pre and post-match routines.

It is important for players in this age group to feel an essential part of the team to develop self-efficacy, self-worth and a connection with the community, club and team. Commitment and loyalty to the club and team, and social responsibility on and off the field in line with adult standards should be engendered and acknowledged.

## **Spirit of the Game**

Prior to the commencement of play: all players, coaches and umpires should shake hands; and the umpire and coaches should ensure players are aware of the rules and procedures to be followed in the game.

The spirit and intention is to ensure all games are played in a competitive and fair manner, in an environment that:

- permits a player whose sole objective is to contest and gain possession of the ball, to do so in a safe and fair manner; rewards and acknowledges commitment and loyalty to the team, club and or school
- allows all players to feel an essential part of the team while enabling each individual to develop self-efficacy, self-worth and an identity within the community, their team, club or school
- fosters and reinforces community values and social responsibility.

The player whose sole objective is to contest the ball must be permitted to do so. Ethically it is the responsibility of coaches to provide the best possible teaching and learning conditions; therefore, the use of negative defensive tactics where the opposing player's sole objective is to prevent a player from gaining possession is strongly discouraged at this age level.

Tactics such as tagging and flooding are elements of the modern game; however, they are contrary to the philosophy of providing an environment that maximises the desired fairness, fun, speed, skill and competitive elements of the game at this level.

Umpires should at all times: endeavour to apply the laws of the game, awarding free kicks to players in preference to calling for ball-ups; understand the spirit and intention of the laws is to ensure a match is played in a fair manner and to protect players from injury. For this reason restrictions are placed upon tackling in this age group. At the end of the game, all players and coaches should shake hands.



### **Laws of Australian Football**

The Laws of Australian Football apply to the Year 8 & Year 9 year groups with the following modifications.

#### **The Ball**

A size 4 leather or synthetic football made specifically for this age group should be used. As many footballs as possible are required for training sessions. This may be maximised by players bringing their own football, support from a senior club, or fundraising.

It is recommended that teams have a minimum one ball per four players at training sessions.

#### **Tackling**

Tackling is permitted per the Laws of Australian Football, however: No player shall be deliberately slung, dumped or thrown to the ground in any tackle.

#### **Order-off rule**

To be applied at the umpire's discretion or by the competition's controlling body where applicable. Bad language, poor sportsmanship and disputing umpiring decisions should be actively discouraged.

#### **Field**

Refer to **Ground Size Summary**.

The ground size should be influenced by how many players are on the field. If teams are playing 15 a side then the oval should be shortened, however with 18 a side there is the option to play on a full size oval. Junior Clubs should also consider that by utilising a full size oval it will negatively impact the amount of scoring that occurs, particularly in the Year 7 & 8 Year groups.

#### **Playing Positions**

Community club and school competitions - 15-a-side or 18-a-side field plus interchange. Both may vary with regional agreements designed to ensure maximum participation. To ensure all players feel an essential part of the team regardless of their age, size, gender, ability or the competition they are playing in it is critical that they have an equal amount of time on the field over the course of the season.

**Note:** Country junior associations in some instances may have slight variations to age/year groups and the standard order off rule so please contact your Regional Development Manager for further clarification.

# AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL (YEAR 10 – YEAR 12)

## 18-a-side: community club and school competitions

### Key Principles

- Fun and fast,
- Play with mates,
- Continue developing skills and tactics.

### Purpose

The emphasis at this age level is to optimise the development of players' fitness levels and their individual, positional and team skills. Higher level competition skills should be developed and appropriate competitions provided to enhance players' learning and their chances of being identified for talent pathway programs.

It is important for players in this age group to feel an essential part of the team to develop self-efficacy, self-worth and a connection with their community, club and team. Commitment and loyalty to the club and team, and social responsibility on and off the field in accordance with community standards should be engendered and acknowledged.

Players in this age group may also benefit from social competitions such as AFL9's in order to meet their commitments away from football. Junior Leagues should investigate possible divisions that better cater to meet the needs of their participants.

### Spirit of the Game

Before the start of play and at the end of the game, all players, coaches and umpires should shake hands. The spirit and intention is to ensure all games are played in a competitive and fair manner, in an environment that:

- permits a player whose sole objective is to contest and gain possession of the ball to do so in a safe and fair manner; rewards and acknowledges commitment and loyalty to the team, club and school;
- allows all players to feel an essential part of their team, while enabling each individual to develop self-efficacy, self-worth and an identity within their community, team, club and school;
- engenders and reinforces community values and social responsibility.

The player whose sole objective is to contest the ball must be permitted to do so. Ethically, it is the responsibility of coaches to provide the best possible teaching and learning conditions. Therefore, the use of negative defensive tactics, where the opposing player's sole objective is to prevent a player from gaining possession, is strongly discouraged at this age level. Tactics such as tagging and flooding are elements of the modern game, however, they are detrimental to the philosophy of providing an environment that maximises the desired fairness, fun, speed, skill and competitive elements of the game.

The umpire should at all times: endeavour to apply the rules of the games, while awarding free kicks to players in preference to calling for ball-ups; and understand the spirit and intention of the laws is to ensure that a match is played in a fair manner and to protect players from injury.

### Laws of Australian Football

The Laws of Australian Football apply to all matches played in the Year 10 – Year 12 year groups.

### Order-off rule

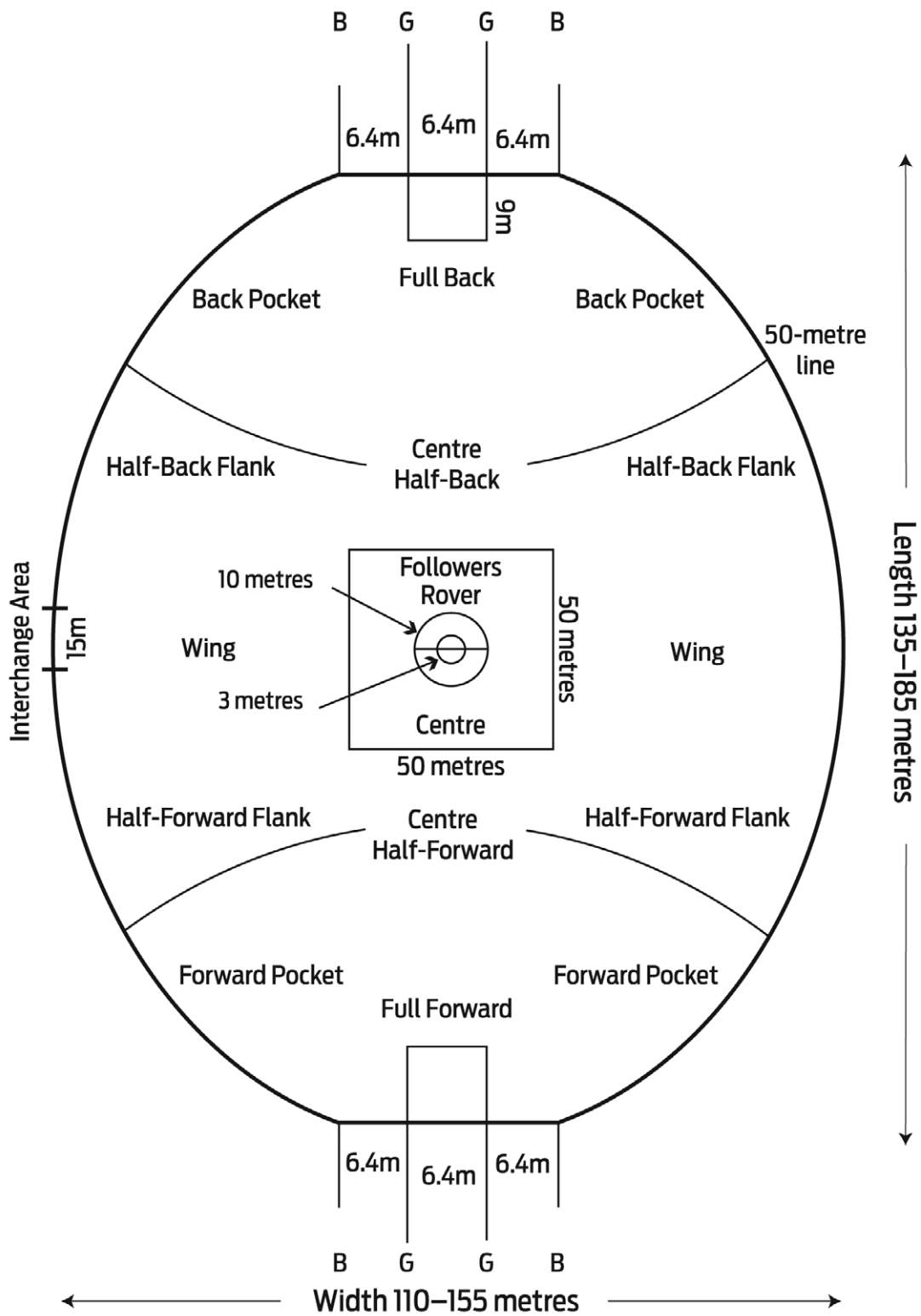
To be applied at the umpire's discretion or by the competition's controlling body where applicable. Bad language, poor sportsmanship and disputing umpiring decisions should be actively discouraged.

### Field

Refer to **Ground Size Summary**.

The ground size should be influenced by how many players are on the field. If teams are playing 15 a side then the oval should be shortened, however with 18 a side there is the option to play on a full size oval.

**Note:** Country junior associations in some instances may have slight variations to age/year groups and the standard order off rule so please contact your Regional Development Manager for further clarification.







# DISTRICT FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL JUNIOR COMPETITION COMMITTEE GLOBAL COMPETITION 2016 BYLAWS

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# INTRODUCTION

All matches played under the jurisdiction of the **District Football Development Council (DFDC)** shall be played according to the Laws of Australian football and the rules of the modified form of Australian Football known as 'Aussie Footy' as amended by the Australian Football League from time to time and as adopted by the West Australian Football Commission (hereinafter known as the 'WAFC') or by the West Australian Football Commission Football Affairs Committee (hereinafter known as the 'WAFCFAC').

These By-Laws are as adopted by the **District Football Development Council** and are to be read in conjunction with the Constitution of the **District Football Development Council**. Every participant is also expected to adhere to the guidelines contained within the WA Football Member Protection Policy. The WAFC Football Affairs Committee constitutes junior competitions in line with but not limited to the AFL Junior Match Guide.

## 1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN WA

Every participant understands that Junior Football in Western Australia is delivered to the Community with the Spirit of the Game in mind.

**It is incumbent on every participant irrespective of their place in the game, to ensure that they will,**

- **Not focus on winning at all cost** and understand that the role of Junior Football is to foster the development of Junior Players, Volunteers, Umpires, Coaches and Officials. Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant but must remain secondary to the primary focus of junior player development.
- Maximise the enjoyment and development of junior footballers.
- Provide our children with a game environment that is safe, fun and fair.
- Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.
- Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, Laws, Codes, Policies and Spirit of the game.
- Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our games environments (Coaching, Playing, Volunteering, Spectating and Umpiring).
- Adhere to any directive issued by the games controlling bodies in the best interests of achieving the above.

## 2. INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS

In these rules unless there is something in the context inconsistent therewith:

Club	Means any junior football club which affiliates with the DFDC/RFDC through membership.
Juniors	Means persons who play football within the boundaries of the DFDC up to the age determined from time to time by the WAFC Football Affairs COMMITTEE.
DFDC Executive	Means the Chairperson, Competition Director, WAFL Club Representative and One other person. RFDC in Country Football.
Junior Competition Committee (JCC ) Executive	Means Competition Director, Assistant Competition Director, Registrar and WAFC Development Officer / Manager
JCC	Means Junior Competition Committee (Metro) and RFDC/WACFL endorsed Controlling Body (Regional)
Fixture Committee	Panel convened at the discretion of the JCC Executive to undertake fixturing duties.
Member	Means a club or person elected to membership of the DFDC /RFDC in accordance with Rule 5 herein.
AFL Auskick Program	Pre-primary, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3
AFL Juniors Programs	Year 4 – Year 7
AFL Youth Programs	Year 8 – Year 12
DFDC	District Football Development Council
WAFC	Western Australian Football Commission
RFDC	Regional Football Development Council
“WAFCFAC”	Means the WA Football Commission Football Affairs Committee including designated WAFC Consultant, General Manager Game Development
Arena	Means the Playing Surface and all the area between the Playing Surface and the Perimeter Fence, including any break in the perimeter fence
Playing Surface	Means the field of play inside the Boundary Line, Goal Line and Behind Line, excluding the area between such lines and the Perimeter Fence
Perimeter Fence	Is the physical barrier surrounding the playing surface. Where an Arena does not have a Perimeter Fence, then the Perimeter Fence shall be interpreted as being located 10m outside and parallel to the Playing surface.
Forms	Refers to either paper based or electronic based forms

Words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and vice versa, and words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

### 3. MATCHES

The JCC shall arrange inter-club football competition in specific age groups for players registered with junior member Clubs of the DFDC.

### 4. COLOURS & UNIFORMS

Each Club in its application for membership of the DFDC or RFDC shall nominate its colours and design of playing uniform.

- 4.1 Such design shall be approved by the **JCC Executive** unless in the opinion of the **JCC Executive** clashes with that of another member Club in which case the **JCC Executive** shall request that the club determine another design within agreed design criteria.
- 4.2 Compression undergarments, such as 'Skins' or 'Under Armour', colour/length/style shall be determined and approved by the JCC in line with the playing uniform. Full length arm and leg compression garments are not permitted, unless medical approval is provided by a doctor.
- 4.3 All teams representing each member Club shall wear the playing uniform approved for that Club by the **JCC Executive**.

### 5. DISTRICTS

The DFDC or RFDC may divide the area within its jurisdiction into sub-districts.

- 5.1 Each member Club shall have the responsibility for one or more areas allocated by the DFDC or RFDC and it is recommended that all players residing in such play with such member Club unless they are registered pursuant to these By-laws to play with another member Club.
- 5.2 The DFDC may alter, vary or add to the boundaries of its sub-districts as it sees fit.
- 5.3 A player who resides in the district of one Club and who desires to register and play with another member Club shall register with the latter Club by completing a registration application in the approved form and after endorsement by his parent or guardian lodging the said form with the latter Club.

### 6. TEAM NOMINATIONS

Each member Club may prior to a date decided upon by the JCC Executive each year, lodge with the JCC Registrar a list of team nominations for age groups in which that Club wishes to field a team or teams during the coming seasons.

- 6.1 The **JCC Executive** shall consider all such nominations and shall as far as possible include teams in competitions as nominated.
- 6.2 In any instance where **JCC Executive** is unable to allocate a team as nominated, it may make an alternative nomination.
- 6.3 The DFDC Treasurer shall advise each Club of the nomination fees payable for its nominations and the date by which these fees are to be paid.
- 6.4 Each team nomination should, where possible, include the name and other relevant details of the following people:
  - 6.4.1 An accredited coach capable of teaching players the Laws and skills of Australian Football.
  - 6.4.2 A manager capable of assisting the coach by carrying out the clerical and other duties relating to the efficient functioning of the team.
- 6.5 Team Nominations shall only be accepted if, when the coach is nominated, he/she has an age appropriate coaching accreditation from the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme in the sport of Australian Football or an application to attend a coaching course is attached. The coach must attend and complete a Coach Accreditation course by June 30 of that year. For further information on coaching requirements please refer to the subsequent Coaching By-Law.
- 6.6 In the event that a club enters more than one team in a single division in any age group: or has multiple teams in an age group, then the following is to apply:
  - 6.6.1 Each team nominated by the respective club must be done so in such a way that each team be competitive in that division. If the teams are grouped in the same division they must be considered of equal strength. If the teams are viewed as unequal by the **JCC Executive** within a reasonable period, the JCC Executive has the power to direct the club to re-allocate players.
  - 6.6.2 If the club is directed to re-nominate the teams, the club will resubmit the teams and will be subject to further review by the JCC Executive and if still deemed to be unequal then bylaw 6.6.5 will be applied.
  - 6.6.3 Team Sheets are to remain constant. Players are not to move from team to team from round 1, unless instructed by JCC for a re-allocate
  - 6.6.4 Each team is to be treated as a separate Club
  - 6.6.5 The JCC Executive will deem non complying teams as ineligible, with sanctions to be determined by the JCC Executive.

### 7. COACHING

All coaches must be accredited.

- 7.1 A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player; including suspensions, sanctions and fines.
- 7.2 All coaches must hold a minimum Level 1 AFL Coaching Accreditation that is age group appropriate to the year they are coaching.
- 7.3 It is a condition of the Junior Competitions insurance that a minimum Level 1 accredited coach is required to coach each team at each match. Where a coach is appointed and does not hold a current coaching accreditation, he/she is required to obtain a Level 1 coaching accreditation no later than 30<sup>th</sup> June in that year.
- 7.4 Where an unaccredited coach does not fulfil his obligations to become accredited by the 30<sup>th</sup> June in that Year, he / she shall not be permitted to coach or act as an official on match day for the remainder of that year.
- 7.5 Where a coach has been found to have breached this by-law the team will lose premiership points, and other teams in that junior club may also not be eligible to receive any premiership points at the discretion of the JCC. Any team (modified or youth) that plays in a game will be fined \$250 for every game that they do not have an accredited coach. Subsequent breaches may result in the JCC enforcing further sanctions/fines.
- 7.6 It is recommended any Assistant Coach be duly accredited as a coach thus following the same rules and requirements as the head coach.
- 7.7 Where an accredited coach is not available, then the club must ensure that an accredited coach from their club is in attendance in the coaching box. Clubs must notify and inform to the **JCC Executive** of any coach who stands in for an absent accredited coach.
- 7.8 Coaches are not to negotiate on changes to Laws of the Game or changes to Bylaws for particular games. If a Coach or Coaches are found to have breached this bylaw, a deregistration process shall commence immediately and the game may be deemed a forfeit.
- 7.9 Coaches MUST play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away, and finals matches.

## 8. FIXTURES

Prior to the commencement of each football season the JCC Executive shall appoint a person or committee (the 'Fixtures Committee') to prepare a fixture list for all matches to be played in competitions under the control of the JCC Executive and to allocate grounds and times for such matters.

- 8.1 Where possible the fixtures shall include:
  - 8.1.1 An equal number of games played between all teams in each competition.
  - 8.1.2 An equal number of home and away games for each team.
  - 8.1.3 Alternate games at home and away for each team.
  - 8.1.4 Where any team has a bye then each other team in that competition shall have the same number of byes.
  - 8.1.5 A clear indication of grounds and game times.
  - 8.1.6 Neutral grounds for Grand Finals.
- 8.2 Any proposed amendment or alteration to the fixtures or any details thereof shall be submitted in writing to the **JCC Registrar** for the consideration of the **JCC Executive**.
  - 8.2.1 Should the **JCC Executive** be unable to meet before a decision on the proposal is required the Competition Director shall be empowered to make a decision, which shall be final and binding.
- 8.3 The **JCC Executive** may re-grade sides to ensure a balanced competition. This will occur on or prior to round 6 and be conducted at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 8.4 Any re-fixturing that occurs after the commencement of the season will be at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
  - 8.4.1 All points and percentage of the whole competition being promoted or relegated will be reset to zero. The **JCC Executive** may waive the resetting of points and percentage based on an assessment of the circumstances at the time.
- 8.5 Should any club wish to use an oval or facility located in another district the following procedure will apply
  - 8.5.1 The club concerned is to submit a written request to their own **JCC Executive** seeking permission to use another district venue.
  - 8.5.2 In the event the application is approved, the **JCC Executive** must then seek written approval from the external **JCC Executive**.
  - 8.5.3 Both **JCC's** must be in full support of any club being granted approval.
  - 8.5.4 Any club that fails to abide by this procedure and its outcome is to face disciplinary action ratified by the joint DFDC Chairs.
  - 8.5.5 At all times it remains the responsibility of that clubs **JCC Executive** to ensure the above process is carried out and managed accordingly, in line with this bylaw.
- 8.6 In accordance with Australian Standards, any junior night fixture lighting shall have a minimum of 100 lux.

## 9. WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATED TEAMS

A Club, which withdraws a team or teams from any competition without a reason acceptable to the **JCC Executive**, may be liable to a penalty or a fine as determined by the **JCC Executive**.

- 9.1 In the event that a team is withdrawn from a competition after the commencement of a season, the **JCC Executive** shall determine how the fixtures will be re-organised and for which games premierships points will be awarded.

## 10. DURATION OF MATCHES

Unless otherwise agreed by the **JCC Executive**, the following shall be the duration of matches played under the control of the **JCC**.

- Year 4** 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.  
**Year 5** 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.  
**Year 6** 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.  
**Year 7** 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.  
**Year 8** 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.  
**Year 9** 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration  
**Year 10** 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.  
**Year 11** 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.  
**Year 12** 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.
- 10.1 No time on may be added to any game, except:
    - 10.1.1 If the field umpire suspends play (by blowing their whistle and indicating to the Time Keeper with both hands above his head in the shape of a "T") due to a player sustaining an injury that requires the use of a stretcher or that the Umpire considers serious.
    - 10.1.2 If the field umpire suspends play in the event of any Order Off offence committed by a player or official.
    - 10.1.3 If a Captain approaches the field umpire to request a head count.
    - 10.1.4 If in the opinion of the field umpire, exceptional circumstances are warranted.

## 11. INTERVALS

The maximum times allowed for intervals between quarters, in all age groups are:

- 11.1 First quarter interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
- 11.2 Half time interval shall be not more than ten (10) minutes.
- 11.3 Three quarter time interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
- 11.4 Upon a second warning from the umpire and a team has not made an acceptable effort to take the field, the umpire shall award a free kick to the opposing team. Should both teams be offending the umpire will pay a free kick to the 1<sup>st</sup> returning team.
- 11.5 In addition, if any team is deemed by the Umpire to be in breach this Bylaw, the coach(s) of the offending team(s) shall be reported for time wasting.

## 12. YEAR GROUPS

YEAR GROUP	NOTES
Auskick Pre-Primary	Auskick rules flowchart
Auskick Year 1	Auskick rules flowchart
Auskick Year 2	Auskick rules flowchart
Auskick Year 3	Auskick rules flowchart
Year 4	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 5	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 6	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 7	15-18 per team, no minimum, maximum 7 reserves
Year 8	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves
Year 9	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves
Year 10	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves
Year 11	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves
Year 12	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

- 12.1 Any player who is repeating Year 12 is NOT eligible to play in the Year 12 year group competition and should be encouraged to join a senior community competition.
- 12.2 On application to the JCC a player may be eligible to play up a MAXIMUM of one year group only.
- 12.3 With reference to combined year groups, the JCC or controlling body will make the final determination in regards to play up applications. It is generally considered that only top aged players are eligible to play up a year group.
- 12.4 The granting of any such request shall apply only to the current season and can be subject to review by the **JCC Executive** during the course of the current season

### 13. PHYSICAL SIZE & DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

Players must apply to the **JCC Executive** for permission to play down an age group during the current season.

- 13.1 Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by the sports physician(s) or doctor(s) that is specified by the District and addresses that the participant falls below the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) percentile for height or weight.
- 13.2 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has received permission to play.

### 14. DISABILITY (Physical & Intellectual)

A player with a disability, that physically limits their ability to play, may apply to the **JCC Executive** for permission to play down an age group during the current season.

- 14.1 Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by a sports physician or registered medical practitioner.
- 14.2 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.
- 14.2 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has received permission to play.

### 15. INSURANCE

Each member Club shall take out, for the current season, insurance policies sufficient to cover itself, its officials, umpires, coaches and players to the following minimum levels

- 15.1 Public Liability to \$20,000,000
- 15.2 Professional Indemnity to \$2,000,000
- 15.1.1 Death and Disablement cover to \$100,000 for Adults and \$10,000 for children.
- 15.1.2 Sports Injury cover including 50% cover for non-Medicare medical benefits and an excess is payable.
- 15.1.3 The minimums are included in the Bronze level cover provided under the AFL National Risk Protection Program. Silver & Gold cover is also available; this cover is at individual clubs discretion and upgrades are available at Club costs. The WAFC, on behalf of the Clubs, will include all Clubs in the annually negotiated national scheme and will advise them of the current terms and conditions as they apply.
- 15.1.4 It is recommended that where possible each club explores additional insurance protection.

## 16. CLUB REGISTRARS

Each member Club shall elect or appoint a Registrar who shall be responsible for the registration of players for that Club and shall keep a record of the achievements of those players as may be required.

The Club Registrar shall be responsible for the notification to the **JCC Registrar** of any changes to the personal details of any players registered with that Club in accordance with the WAFC approved registration system.

## 17. REGISTRATION

No players shall be eligible to take part in any match under the control of the **JCC** until a WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE approved registration form has been completed by or on behalf of such player, and a clearance has been obtained from the player's previous club, if necessary. The registration shall be on the form approved by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE and shall show all of the following details:

- 17.1 Name of club with which the player wishes to register.
- 17.2 Full name, address, telephone number and date of birth of the player to be registered.
- 17.3 Birth registration number
- 17.4 State or country of birth or other authentication of birth date, which shall be witnessed and confirmed by a Club Official.
- 17.5 Signature of the Club official taking such registration.
- 17.6 An indication from the player that he would be willing/not willing to be trained as an umpire of lower age groups.
- 17.7 Where players have indicated a willingness to be trained as an Umpire, a copy of their registration form shall be forwarded by the registrar to the Umpires Coach.
- 17.8 A liability disclaimer signed by a parent or guardian.
- 17.9 The completed form must be signed by a parent or guardian verifying registration details are true and correct.
- 17.10 Details of Schools attended.
- 17.11 A player's registration with a Club shall remain valid until he/she registers and receives a clearance to play football with another Club.
- 17.12 All players must be registered on the WAFC approved registration system.
- 17.13 **FEMALES** - may participate in all levels of football. Females moving from AFL Junior to AFL Youth (Year 7 to Year 8) must be fully informed (in writing) of the changes regarding the physical nature of open rules before participating at this level. The responsible Club shall undertake notification. Females can play in all competitions up to and including Year 9.

## 18. TRANSFERS

A registered player may transfer from one Club to another Club including cross district transfers.

- 18.1 All applications for clearances to another Club must be lodged by the thirtieth day of June in each year.
- 18.2 A clearance lodged after June 30 may only be approved under special circumstances deemed appropriate by the Competition Director in consultation with WAFC (General Manager Community Football).
- 18.3 All applications for clearances must be made on the registration system approved by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. A clearance application form must be signed by the player wishing to transfer and endorsed by his parent or guardian. The form will be retained by the club and provided on request.
- 18.4 Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Club and / or one District / Region.
- 18.5 A player transferred or cleared to a member Club shall be registered by such Club in the appropriate manner.
- 18.6 All Players are required to lodge a clearance to be eligible to transfer from a Youth Age Competition (Year 8-Year 12) to a Senior Competition and must receive approval from the Youth Club except if there are registration fees or other monies owing or the player is under suspension by the Club.
- 18.7 The player requesting a transfer must first approach the club he is seeking to be transferred from to obtain a signature from a club representative on an approved transfer request form. The normal transfer processes then ensue once this initial step has been completed. This allows clubs to better understand the reasons as to why a player has transferred from their club.
- 18.8 The Club from which the clearance is requested, must:
  - 18.8.1 Note the receivable date of the clearance.
  - 18.8.2 If the clearance is granted, endorse the clearance form.
  - 18.8.3 Attach the player's history details to the approved clearance form.
  - 18.8.4 If the clearance is not granted, indicate the reason for refusing the clearance.
- 18.9 All clearances are to be lodged upon being signed by a player wishing to transfer between clubs. In the event that a Club does not deal with and return a clearance application within six (6) days of the received date noted on the form, the club seeking the clearance shall seek and obtain a clearance from the **JCC Registrar**. Cross district clearances should take no longer than 6 days.
- 18.10 A clearance to another Club may **only be refused** for the following reasons:
  - 18.10.1 The player has not paid registration fees or other monies owing to the Club, or
  - 18.10.2 The Player is under suspension by the Club for a breach of the Club rules, or
  - 18.10.3 Other reasons considered **valid** by the Club.
- 18.11 A player, for whom a clearance is refused, may satisfy the reason for refusal and seek another clearance, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 18.12 In the event of a dispute between clubs or players and clubs, The **JCC Executive** may adjudicate on any clearance application for a player as required.
- 18.13 A player who is under suspension by the Protests and Disputes board may be transferred to another Club **PROVIDED HOWEVER** that notification of such suspension is given to the transferee Club and the player continues to serve the full period of suspension.
- 18.14 The JCC Executive may refuse clearances in circumstances they deem are not in the best interests of the competition. This includes but is not limited to, player poaching, building of super- teams, or other unfair and inappropriate recruiting or player discouragement methods that disadvantage other teams and clubs within the competition.
- 18.15 Any clearance disputed between two JCC's will be referred to WAFC- General Manager Community Football for mediation.

## 19. MATCH DAY PERMITS

- 19.1 Any player who plays under a match day permit that has not received written approval by the JCC shall be deemed an ineligible player and the team will forfeit the match.

## 20. MATCH DOCUMENTS

The following documents shall be provided by the **JCC Executive** for use by each competing team in each match played under the control of the **JCC**.

- 20.1 A team list using the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE approved registration program team sheet containing the following information:
- The Club name and the age group of the team.
  - Date and venue for the match.
  - Surname and first name and jumper number of each player representing that Club in the match.
  - The name and accreditation of the Coach.
  - The name and accreditation of any Assistant Coaches.
  - The name of the appointed Team Runner(s).
  - The names of the team Water Person(s).
  - The signature of the Team Manager or another authorised team official.
  - The name of the appointed Interchange Steward.
  - Date of Birth.
  - Photo ID if applicable.
  - Match score.
  - Name of Trainer/Medical Attendant.
- 20.2 One fairest and best voting slip for Year 8's and older and one suitably marked envelope showing the names and age group of both competing teams and the date and venue for the match per approved **JCC** method.
- 20.3 Score cards: 2 for goal umpires and 1 for interchange steward / independent scorer in Year 7's Competitions and upwards.
- 20.4 Goal umpires and interchange steward / independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter and otherwise carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL laws of the game.
- 20.5 Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the interchange steward and/or independent scorer, with the scorecard of the interchange steward and / or independent scorer being deemed as the official score.
- 20.6 The Team Manager or other appointed official or umpire shall after the conclusion of the match return all completed match documents duly endorsed "all clear" (except where a report has occurred) and signed by the field umpires verifying their correctness. These match documents must be returned to the **JCC Registrar** using the **JCC** designated delivery process.
- 20.7 Players may only take the field if they are listed on the match sheet and in attendance at the game.
- 20.8 Late arriving players **cannot** take to the field until presented to the umpires at the next break between quarters. Late arriving players **SHALL NOT** enter the playing field **after half time**.

## 21. CLUB OFFICIALS

Each member Club shall elect Club administrators and officials who will be responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the Club. These officials must include:

- 21.1 President, Committees, Delegates to the JCC and other required officials whom will be elected as per each clubs constitution.
- 21.2 Coaches, Trainers and other officials who are suitably accredited as per WA Football codes and guidelines.
- 21.3 The **DFDC/JCC** shall adopt the codes of conducts/policies as defined by the WAFC Football Affairs COMMITTEE/ **DFDC/JCC** and all Club, team and game officials shall agree to abide by such code.
- 21.4 All District and Club volunteers will be subject to a Working with Children Check and will be required to comply with the guidelines where necessary.
- 21.5 Clubs are to have in place a policy on 'Duty of Care' relevant to coaches, administrators and Club officials. When adults have responsibility of care for children Clubs must ensure the safety, health and protection of children. Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of its officials in line with WA Football Policies.

## 22. TEAM OFFICIALS

**Officials include coach, manager, runner, assistants, water carriers, game day volunteers, club appointed umpires, club officials or any person deemed by the JCC to be an official, that relate to the game day, not covered above**

- 22.1 Each competing team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game.
- 22.2 The home team will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire, and be deemed to be the official time keeper
- 22.3 All coaching staff and team officials are **not** permitted to intimidate dispute decisions or interfere with the Umpire or his role on the day of the match.
- 22.3.1 **All Coaching staff must remain within the coaches' box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches box. Coaching staff may only exit the coaching box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the game.**
- 22.4 Each competing youth age team shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game.
- 22.5 Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be an adult who will wear the approved white attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players. The goal umpire will also be supplied with a scorecard in youth matches.
- 22.5.1 The goal umpires in the Youth competition will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with interchange Stewards at all major breaks.
- 22.5.2 At the conclusion of the game they will date and sign the scorecards and hand same to the field umpire.
- 22.5.3 The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to Ground Preparation By-Law)

- 22.6 It shall be the responsibility of the Home team to provide an interchange steward (youth only). In the event an Interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of send-off details and make notes of any issue that would usually be the responsibility of an Interchange Steward.
- 22.7 Any team runner shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved **JCC** uniform.
- 22.7.1 Year 4 teams are NOT permitted to have a runner. The coach is permitted to be on the ground during the game. The coach is **NOT** permitted to carry water. The Coach is **not** permitted to carry a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant.
- 22.7.2 Each team in Year 5, Year 6's and Year 7's, is permitted to appoint one team runner.
- 22.7.3 Youth teams may appoint two runners with only **one** permitted on the field of play at any time.
- 22.7.4 Runners for teams in the Junior/Youth competition **ARE NOT** permitted to carry water.
- 22.7.5 Team runners **are not** permitted to remain on the playing arena. Team runners are to deliver message/s from the coach to a player (s) and return immediately to the coach's bench via the interchange. **Team runners are not permitted to "coach" whilst on the ground.**
- 22.7.6 Team runners must enter and exit the playing arena through the interchange area at all times.
- 22.7.7 Team runners should be an adult.
- 22.7.8 Team runners' names are to be entered onto team sheet.
- 22.8 Each team in the Youth competition are permitted to have two (2) water carriers. These persons shall be clearly identified by wearing approved **JCC** uniform. Additional water carriers can be applied for at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 22.8.1 Water carriers **ARE NOT** to become involved in any capacity in on field coaching. They are to deliver water promptly and exit the field immediately. Failure to do so may result in free kicks given or further team sanctions. Water carriers are permitted for all age groups. One only per team in Year 4 – Year 7's and a maximum of two per team for Year 8 – Year 12.
- 22.8.2 Water carriers should be an adult.
- 22.8.3 Water carriers' name(s) is to be entered on to both team sheets.
- 22.9 Each team, where possible, shall provide a team medical officer / sports trainer.
- 22.9.1 The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved **JCC** uniform.
- 22.9.2 The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher.
- 22.9.3 Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer / sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer / sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams.
- 22.9.4 It is recommended that all medical / trainers should have a minimum Basic First Aid Certificate.
- 22.10 A player or team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the rules or By-laws of the **DFDC/JCC** may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition.
- 22.11 All team participants, team officials, parents, spectators and club officials are expected to adhere to the following; WA Football supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of umpiring or official's abuse, verbal dissent or intimidation. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and sanctions directed at the person responsible, the team and possibly the club.
- 22.11.1 Penalty for breach - Any Club, player or team official considered by the **JCC Executive** to be in breach of this bylaw, may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the **JCC Executive** according to its agreed penalties.

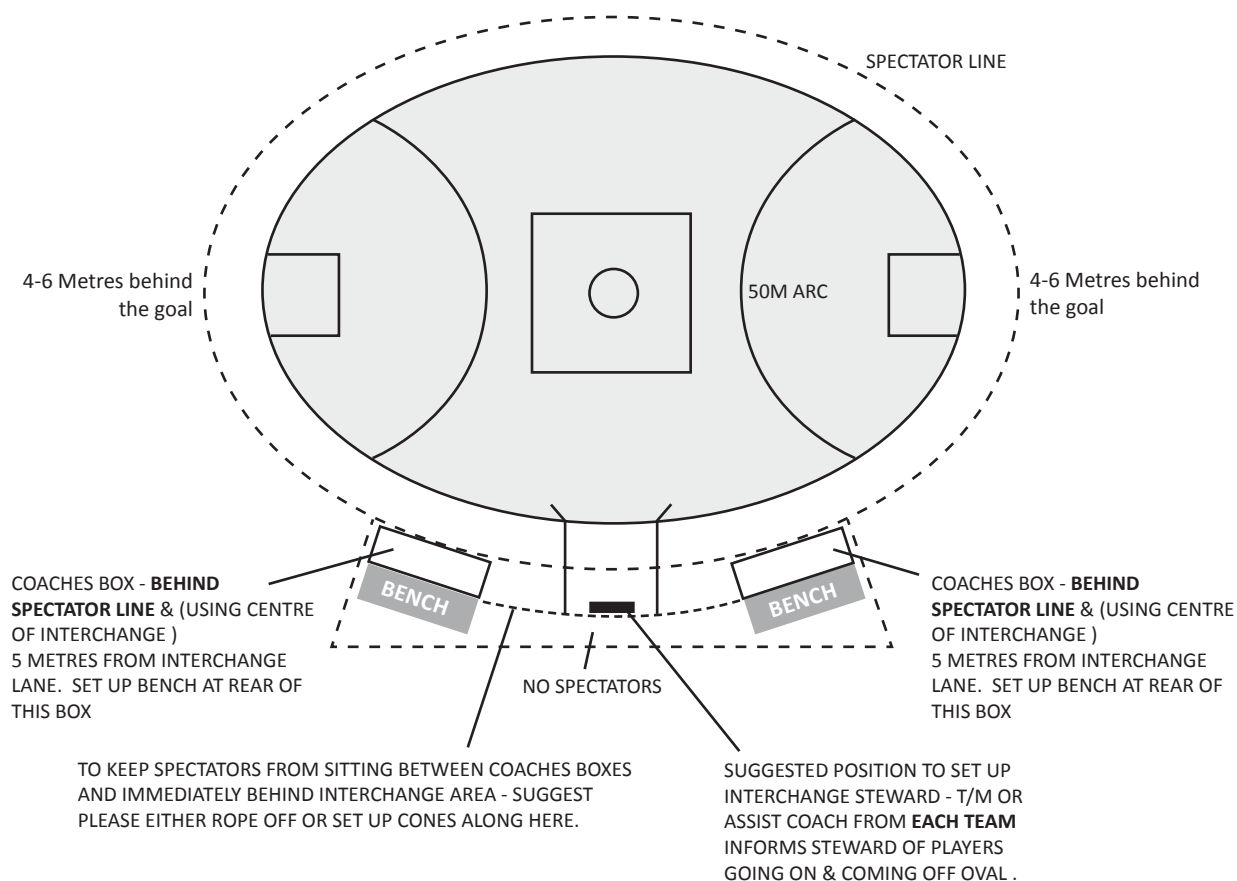
### 23. GROUND PREPARATION

Each team shall be responsible for the following at its home ground:

- 23.1 The oval shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game, which shall include a spectator line at least 2 metres outside the boundary line and 6 metres behind the goals. **Please note** the Coaches Box cannot be marked in front of the spectator's line.
- 23.2 For AFL Juniors matches the field dimensions shall not exceed:
- 23.2.1 Auskick (PP – Year 2): 80m in length and 50m in width,
- 23.2.2 Auskick (Year 3): 90m in length and 50m in width,
- 23.2.3 Year 4 & Year 5: 110m in length and 80m in width,
- 23.2.4 Year 6: 110m – 120m in length and 80m in width,
- 23.2.5 Year 7 (15 per side): 120m in length and 100m in width,
- 23.2.6 Year 7 (18 per side): full oval length & width.
- 23.3 For all other Youth age matches (Year 8 – Year 12) the dimensions can range between 120m to 185m in length and 100m to 155m in width.
- 23.4 Penalty for any failure to prepare ovals to the required size could include Premiership points.
- 23.5 A clearly identified coaches and players box shall be marked no less than five (5) metres from either side of the interchange area in Year 5's and above. This must be marked in paint. Where this is not possible cones may be used with permission from the **JCC Executive**.
- 23.5.1 The dimensions of the box shall be as per Coaches box dimensions and placement in the coaching box diagram bylaw.
- 23.6 Game does not commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Laws of Australian Football.
- 23.7 Have access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.
- 23.8 Provide a stretcher.
- 23.9 Provide ice for medical treatment/s.
- 23.10 Where a game is allocated to a neutral venue, the **JCC Executive** shall nominate a home team, which shall be responsible for all provisions as if the game was being played on the home ground of that team.
- 23.11 A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate JLT ground report form completed. If in the event that a AFL Youth game is played following an AFL Junior or Auskick game and or weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that game commencing and be documented.
- 23.12 The JCC will have the final discretion for use of ovals in their competitions.
- 23.13 Penalty for breach - Any Club, player or team official considered by the **JCC Executive** to be in breach this By-Law, may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the **JCC Executive** according to its agreed penalties.



## 24. COACHING BOX DIAGRAM - DIMENSION AND PLACEMENT



A summary of Oval Dimensions are outlined in the Junior Club Manual.

## 25. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Ineligible players shall not be included in any team or take part in any match.

- 25.1 The following players shall be classified as ineligible:
- 25.1.1 A player not properly registered with a member Club and the **JCC**.
  - 25.1.2 A player who is over the age limit for any particular game UNLESS that player has a disability or *meets the physical size and development criteria* AND is granted permission by the **JCC Executive** to play down in that particular grade.
  - 25.1.3 A player who is under suspension.
  - 25.1.4 A player who in the opinion of an appropriate medical authority has suffered concussion, should not play the following week i.e. stand out 1 week, provided the Club has been informed and whom such authority to play has not subsequently cleared.
  - 25.1.5 A player who has not received a lawful clearance or permit from another affiliated club or another DFDC with which he/she was previously registered.
  - 25.1.6 Only players that actually participate in the match can be listed on the team sheet.
- 25.1 In an endeavour to ensure that a player who is suspended for a significant period of time does not play in any other DFDC/JCC or affiliated competition (all of WA), players who are suspended, accepting of a prescribed penalty, or found guilty in affiliated competitions shall be reported by the Tribunal Secretary or Competition Director to the WAFC (General Manager Community Football) for circulation to all other affiliated bodies.
- 25.2 If a team, which included a player who was ineligible to play, the team shall forfeit the match and the match shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- 25.2.1 Should the opposing team also play an ineligible player in the same match no score or points shall be awarded to either team. Additional penalties including fines may be administered at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**
- 25.3 Penalty for breach – Refer to Forfeits bylaw.

## 26. QUALIFYING ROUNDS

- 26.1 In Year 7's upward each qualifying round match, four premierships points shall be awarded to the winning team and two points shall be awarded to each team in a drawn match. In addition to this E-Points will be applied as per the E-Point Base Model bylaw.
- 26.2 If a winning teams margin exceeds 10 goals the team will only be credited with a maximum of 60 points (10 goals) winning margin.
- 26.3 Where equality in total premierships points occurs at the conclusion of the qualifying round, the position of a team shall be decided on percentage calculated by a formula in which the total number of points scored by the team shall be multiplied by 100 and divided by the total number of points scored against the team.
- 26.4 In the event that uneven matches are played, a match ratio shall apply to the premierships table. Match Ratio is calculated by the number of wins divided by the number of games played multiplied by 100.
- 26.5 In terms of equal opportunity (Player Rotation) Players **must play** at least 50% of all matches including Home & Away games and Finals. A consequence of not adhering to this By-Law is at the discretion of the JCC. This may include, but is not limited to, forfeit of the match or coach deregistration.

## 27. E-POINT BASE MODEL

Each District must adopt a Base Model that will be applied as a 1 point system.

Each team will be automatically awarded a bonus E-point at the commencement of each game. Final consideration of the E-Point is at the discretion of the JCC Executive.

A team can lose its bonus E-Point if either part, or all of the below occurs,

- 2 or more yellow cards are issued to the team during or after a game.
- A proven red card is issued during the game (player or club official) (**Club officials include coach, manager, runner, assistants, water carriers, game day volunteers, club officials or any person deemed by the JCC to be an official**).
- Any report is made against the team, its players or officials undertaking roles related to the team including club officials by the Umpires. (**Club officials include coach, manager, runner, assistants, water carriers, game day volunteers, club officials or any person deemed by the JCC to be an official**).
- Any report made by approved persons with reporting powers as per the Junior Bylaws.
- Any act that the JCC deems brings the game into disrepute by players and officials. (**Officials include coach, manager, runner, assistants, water carriers, game day volunteers, club officials or any person deemed by the JCC to be an official, that relate to the game day, not covered above**).

### Method of application

Umpire ticks box on match sheet to give all clear.

- 27.1 Districts may adopt their own preferred model of an E-Point that meets their own Districts specific needs and objectives. However as a minimum the Base Model must be applied.
- 27.2 Cross District competitions will need to reach agreement on the E-Point model that is utilised. Where agreement cannot be reached then the Base Model will be applied.

## 28. FORFEITS

In the AFL Youth competition a match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either team consists of less than 12 players.

- 28.1 Where a team fails to appear or where a team forfeits a match, full premiership (4) points and even subsequent E-Points shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
- 28.2 The team receiving the forfeit should be credited with 60 points.
- 28.3 The team that forfeited the match shall be credited 0 points.
- 28.4 In the case of a forfeited match, team lists showing the names of all players of both teams in attendance shall be submitted to the field umpire.
- 28.5 In the event of any forfeit both Clubs involved shall advise the **JCC Executive** in writing of the date of the match and include the reasons for the forfeit.
- 28.6 The **JCC Executive** shall be empowered to fine either or both Clubs if in its opinion the reasons given for the forfeit are not acceptable.
- 28.7 Any Club that forfeits any match shall be fined \$250 or otherwise penalised, at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 28.8 All players listed on both team sheets shall be credited as having played that game for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records.

## 29. GAME DAY PLAYER EVEN UP

Player even up must be applied for the entire game including finals. This section makes provisions for increased player welfare.

- 29.1 Modified Rules Football - A match of modified football (Year 4– Year 7's)
- 29.1.1 has no minimum number of players; and
- 29.1.2 the even up rule will apply when one or two teams have less than 15 players; and
- 29.1.3 all additional players will be offered to the lesser numbered team; and
- 29.1.4 each team shall have even numbers of players until teams comprise of 15 players.
- 29.1.5 Junior Bylaw procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
- 29.2 Youth Rules Football - A match of Youth football (Year 8 – Year 12):
- 29.2.1 has minimum and maximum player numbers; and
- 29.2.2 the even up rule will apply when one or two teams have less than 18 players; and
- 29.2.3 an even number of players from both teams are to start the match on the field; and must be on the field at all times except if a red or yellow card is issued. Once the 15 minute penalty for the red or yellow Card has been served then an even number of players from both teams must be on the field.
- 29.2.3.1 If a player is injured and the team has no player to replace the injured player, the opposing team must even up immediately.
- Even-Up Yellow Card Conditions:  
An offender ordered off for a yellow card offence during an even-up situation cannot be replaced for 15 minutes of game time.
- 29.2.4 If a side can only field between 12 and 17 players the coach with the greater number of players must offer all additional players to the lesser numbered team to field up to the maximum of 18 players per team; and
- 29.2.5 Players must be rotated so that no single player plays more than 1 quarter per match for the opposition team.
- 29.2.6 Junior By Law procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
- 29.2.7 Any team that refuses the even up provisions will be deemed as losing the game and forfeiting any points and percentages earned during that game.
- 29.2.8 A Club, in which any one of their coach refuses the even up provisions will be required to explain as to why a team/ or club will not be penalized.

Players, who are lent to another team, must have their names entered into that new team list with their original team stated in brackets after their name.

- 29.3 Penalties - Even Up penalties are as follows:
- 29.3.1 Junior Bylaw procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
  - 29.3.2 Any team that refuses the even up provisions will be deemed as losing the game and forfeiting any points and percentages earned during that game.
  - 29.3.3 A Club, in which any one of their coach refuses the even up provisions will be required to explain as to why a team/ or club will not be penalized.
  - 29.3.4 Any coach who disregards this rule will be issued with deregistration citations as stated in this manual
  - 29.3.5 Any Club, player or team official, considered by the JCC Executive to be in breach of this By-Law, may be fined, deregistered, suspended or otherwise penalized as decided by the JCC Executive according to its agreed penalties.

### 30. REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM ARENA

No Coach or Club Official may remove a team from an oval during play. If a coach or any team official removes a team from the playing arena whilst a game is in progress, such person and a responsible official from the person's club shall be required to appear before the **JCC Executive** and show cause why a penalty should not be imposed on the club and/or person, for their actions.

### 31. SOCIAL MATCHES / INTER / INTRA CLUB & SCRATCH MATCHES

- 31.1 The **JCC Executive** may approve the arrangement of social matches or excursions for teams of registered players PROVIDED always that: Each member Club shall, if possible have an equal or near equal number of representatives in such match or excursion.
- 31.2 Players and team officials shall be sent on such terms as may be decided by the **JCC Executive**.
- 31.3 If not set by the **JCC Executive** the rules for such matches may be agreed upon by the competing teams.
- 31.4 All details of such matches, including intended time, date, location and age group, are to be forwarded to the Competition Director for approval prior to the match.

### 32. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 32.1 If a player plays 5 or more games in an older age group / competition then they shall be deemed to be a part of that older age group/competition for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger age group / competition. This does not include players playing WAFL football.
- 32.2 WAFL Colts Players who have played at least half of the total matches in the qualifying rounds of that season for a team with a junior club may participate in one (1) only junior club team for finals competition.
- 32.3 WAFL Colts players whom play for their WAFL club must have written permission from the designated WAFL Club Representative of that club to be released to play with their junior team. Permits are to be placed in game day envelope with Team Sheets
- 32.4 Any colts player (WAFL, WAAFL, PFL or any other WAFC affiliated competition) who has played in excess of 50% game time in the colts fixture will be ineligible for Junior Football on that same weekend. If a club allows an unregistered or ineligible player to play in any team in any game the team will be disqualified and the game awarded to the opposing team. In the event both teams play an unregistered or ineligible player the JCC Executive may penalise both teams and award the fixture to the next placed participants
- 32.5 Any club that breaches any subsections of this By-Law may be fined or penalised at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 32.6 Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of that season through participation in any WAFL State program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season.

### 33. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

- 33.1 To be eligible to take part in any final round match (Finals) the player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season.
- 33.2 A player who has suffered a long term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the JCC be deemed eligible given that they have notified the JCC at the time of the initial injury. The application requires supporting medical documentation and the final decisions is at the sole discretion of the JCC.

### 34. FINAL ROUND MATCHES

After the conclusion of all qualifying round matches, the final round matches shall be played in the following order.

- 34.1 Where there are six (6) teams or less in the competition, a final four (4) will be played.
  - 34.1.1 First Semi Final - team finishing in third position (the "home" team) shall play the team finishing in fourth position (the "visiting" team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Preliminary final.
  - 34.1.2 Second Semi Final - team finishing in first position (the "home" team) shall play the team finishing in second position ("visiting" team) with the loser advancing to the Preliminary Final and the winner to the Grand Final.
  - 34.1.3 Preliminary Final - winner of First Semi Final ("visiting" team) shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final ("home" team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
  - 34.1.4 Grand Final - winner of the Second Semi Final ("home" team) shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final ("visiting" team) with the winner becoming the Premiership team for that grade until the next Grand Final in the following season.
- 34.2 Where there are seven (7) teams or more in the competition, a final five (5) may be played at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
  - 34.2.1 Elimination Final - team finishing in fourth position ("home" team) shall play the team finishing in fifth position ("visiting" team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the First Semi Final.
  - 34.2.2 Qualifying Final - team finishing in second position ("home" team) shall play the team finishing in third position ("visiting" team) with the loser advancing to the First Semi Final and the winner advancing to the Second Semi Final.
  - 34.2.3 First Semi Final - team winning the Elimination Final ("visiting" team) shall play the team losing the Qualifying Final ("home" team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Preliminary Final.
  - 34.2.4 Second Semi Final - team winning the Qualifying Final ("visiting" team) shall play the team finishing in first position ("home" team) with the loser advancing to the Preliminary Final and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.

- 34.2.5 Preliminary Final - winner of First Semi Final (“visiting” team) shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
- 34.2.6 Grand Final - winner of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final (“visiting” team) with the winner becoming the Premiership team for that grade until the next Grand Final in the following season.
- 34.3 Should the final scores of both teams in any final round match, including the Grand Final, be equal at the end of the time allocated for the match, such match shall be extended by two (2) additional periods of five (5) minutes with no time on, in which the teams shall change ends and kick to either end of the ground alternatively.
- 34.4 Should the scores still be tied at the end of these addition periods the team captains will decide which team will kick to which end of the ground by the toss of a coin and play will then resume until one team scores and that team shall be declared the winner.
- 34.5 At the end of the game there will be a **2min** break between fulltime and the commencement of the extra time. (Coaches allowed on field at this time)
- 34.6 After the completion of the first 5min of extra time it is a straight changeover no coaching staff on the field
- 34.7 The **JCC Executive** shall endeavour to appoint Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires and Goal Umpires for all final round matches.
- 34.8 Plate Finals may at the discretion of the **JCC Executive** be played amongst the remaining teams (provided that there are four or more teams) finishing after those teams that qualify for the final round.

## 35. PROTECTIVE GEAR

- 35.1 A player who desires to wear protective headgear during a match must wear a Sports Physician or Doctor approved headgear.
- 35.2 Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
  - 35.2.1 Where a player is aware that he has an actual or potential disability or medical condition which could result in injury respect of which he is required or a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying that the player will, in the view of the medical practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from the **JCC Registrar**.
- 35.3 Player’s not suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
  - 35.3.1 Forms are available from the **JCC Registrar**, which requires a parent or guardian to state that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical condition, which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the said protective headgear.
- 35.4 The **JCC Executive** form approving the wearing of the headgear must be shown to the umpire before each match and approved in writing by the **JCC Executive**. The umpire is authorised to forbid the player from participating in the game if the form of approval is not shown
- 35.5 The **JCC Executive** strongly advocates the wearing of protective mouth guards by all players in all matches.
- 35.6 The **JCC Executive** does not recommend the wearing of playing gloves; these should only be worn on the recommendation of a sports physician or Doctor, supported by a valid medical certificate and approved in writing by the **JCC Executive**.
- 35.7 Players are not permitted to wear a Plaster Cast during the course of a game.
- 35.8 Players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.
  - 35.8.1 Players, Runners, Water Carriers and Trainers / Medical are not to wear jewellery including wrist bracelets. Medical bracelets are permitted however they must be taped and marked ‘MEDIC’.
- 35.9 It will be left up to the discretion of the Competition Director to allow or disallow the use of any other protective gear not addressed in these by laws.

## 36. FOOTBALLS

- Each competing team shall supply a **leather** football of a size approved for that age group, and be in premium condition and ready for match play. The ball shall also be a WAFC agreed sponsored brand. In Grand Finals, All footballs shall be new.
- 36.1 The home teams shall provide the match ball.
    - 36.1.1 The away team are to provide a suitable spare football.
  - 36.2 Football of the following sizes are approved for the use in the respective age groups:
    - 36.2.1 Size 2 (‘Mini League’/‘Mini Team’) for Year 4 and Year 5
    - 36.2.2 Size 3 (‘Little League’/‘Junior Team’) for Year 6’s and Year 7’s.
    - 36.2.3 Size 4 (‘School League’/‘School Team’) for Year 8’s, Year 9’s and Year 10’s.
    - 36.2.4 Size 5 (‘League’/‘Senior Team’) for Year 11’s and Year 12’s.

## 37. USE OF STRETCHER/ INJURED PLAYERS

In all games including finals:

- 37.1 Any player who in the opinion of the injured player’s team officials requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended by a suitably trained and certified medical officer in the practice of use of a stretcher prior to removal of that player.
  - 37.1.1 Unless the player is capable and conscious enough to place themselves on the stretcher without assistance.
- 37.2 The timekeeper shall stop the clock at the time a stretcher crosses the boundary line and the field umpire has called time, and shall restart the clock at the time the field umpire recommences play and calls time on and the timekeeper shall also record the time out and the time of the quarter at which point the clock was stopped.
  - 37.2.1 In the event that the time taken to attend to the injured player exceeds 10 minutes from the time out the following will apply.
    - a) If the quarter ends during the delay: - time will be called for the quarter and play will recommence for the next quarter.
    - b) If the final quarter is in progress and the stretcher is called for, the remaining time will be played out.
  - 37.2.2 If the stretcher has been called for by an authorised person, then the player will be removed from the playing field via the most direct route for play to recommence and the injured player may be replaced through the interchange.
  - 37.2.3 Only authorised persons are permitted to enter the field of play and no team meetings or coaching is permitted during this time. Players must remain in their positions ready for recommencement of play.

- 37.2.4 Should a coach enter the field of play during a stretcher call and in the opinion of the umpire was doing so in order to provide instruction. A free kick will be awarded to the opposing side in front of goal at the end of the 10 metre square. (This rule will not apply if the 10 minutes or quarter break becomes enforced).
- 37.2.5 Should both teams' coaches enter the field of play for the purpose of giving instruction, play will resume as would be the case under the rules of the game and both teams will have a severe fine imposed at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 37.3 Umpires will report all stretcher call outs and the outcomes on the match documentation.
- 37.4 If a player is removed from the field on a stretcher then that player will not take any further part in the game whatsoever.
- 37.5 If, in the opinion of a field umpire or team medical officer, a player cannot be moved from the field of play due to the severity of an injury, then play may be abandoned for the game at the discretion of a meeting between the 2 Team Managers and the Field Umpire and or any league appointed official and or any league appointed official (i.e. match day steward) and or a **JCC Executive** if present.
  - 37.5.1 The **JCC Executive** shall be advised of any such abandonment for the purpose of either rescheduling the fixture or determining a result according to the progress score and point of the game at which the game was abandoned.
  - 37.5.2 For all final round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by the **JCC Executive** or their appointed officials.
  - 37.5.3 Injured players must depart through the interchange or they are not permitted to return to the field.
- 37.6 Any player whose weight is supported by any person/s propping them up, examples includes being Fireman Chaired Off to be treated, for any part of the journey off the field are deemed as Stretchered. (EG Player is not capable of bearing their own weight)

### 38. BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS

No Club shall allow any player to participate in any match or continue to participate in any match for so long as such player:

(a) is bleeding; or

(b) Has blood on any part of his/her person or uniform.

- 38.1 In the event that an Umpire observes a player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of his person or uniform, the Umpire shall take action as follows:
  - 38.1.1 On observing that a player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the player is covered in blood, the field umpire shall direct such player to leave the field immediately a break in play arises (i.e. score, free kick, mark, field bounce, boundary throw in).
  - 38.1.2 When a boundary, goal or emergency umpire observes the need for this rule to be implemented, at the first possible break in play they will alert the field umpire.
  - 38.1.3 Only the field umpires can direct a player to leave the playing field, thereby ensuring the team is not disadvantaged by playing one team member short for any period of time.
  - 38.1.4 Any player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field, however his replacement must enter through the interchange area.
  - 38.1.5 Field Umpire in control of play shall give the replacement player reasonable time to take up his/her position prior to play recommencing.
  - 38.1.6 When the injured player wishes to resume playing, he must enter through the interchange area (i.e. his / her playing number may have changed).
  - 38.1.7 A player, who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire given in accordance with this policy, shall be reported by the umpire for misconduct in that he / she refused to leave the field.
- 38.2 A player shall immediately upon a direction by a field umpire, leave the playing arena, where such umpire is of the opinion that the player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his / her person or uniform. Upon being directed to leave the playing arena, a player shall not return to take any further part in any match until and unless:
  - a) the cause of any such bleeding has been abated;
  - b) the injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood is visible;
  - c) any bloodstained article of uniform has been removed and replaced;
  - d) Any blood on any part of a player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

### 39. INCLEMENT WEATHER

- 39.1 The Umpire in consultation with JCC Officials shall determine if a game should be delayed or abandoned due to inclement weather such as lightning as per AFL Laws of the Game and the AFL Junior Football Match Guide.

### 40. AWARDS

In every match played in open competition, the Field Umpire shall allocate votes for players he considers to be the fairest and best players in that match.

- 40.1 The Fairest and Best Player in the game shall receive three (3) votes, with the other Fairest and Best Players receiving two, one votes in order of performance. These votes shall be recorded by the Umpire in an approved method set out by the **JCC Executive**.
- 40.2 The voting slip shall show:
  - 40.2.1 Age group date and venue of match.
  - 40.2.2 Surname, initial, club and jumper number of the three (3) selected players.
- 40.3 The Field Umpire shall sign across the seal of the envelope after inserting the voting slip
- 40.4 The **JCC Executive** shall appoint a person to whom the envelopes containing the fairest and best votes are to be entrusted and shall decide the manner in which those envelopes are to be stored.
- 40.5 The **JCC Registrar** shall decide on the place and date where all envelopes containing fairest and best voting slips are to be opened and all votes counted in a manner prescribed and by persons appointed by the **JCC Executive**.
  - 40.5.1 The player who polls the highest number of votes in each competition shall be adjudged the 'Fairest and Best' player of that competition.
  - 40.5.2 The player who polls the next highest number of votes shall be adjudged the 'Runner Up Fairest and Best'.
  - 40.5.3 In the event of an equality of votes than two or more trophies shall be presented.
- 40.6 Where discrepancies in names or other details occur on the voting slip it shall be checked against the team sheet for the relevant match to clarify the information.
- 40.7 The **JCC Executive** may at its discretion allow a Donor or Donors to donate or establish a trophy or award in the form approved by the **JCC Executive** and bearing the name of the Donor or Donors.

- 40.8 The following awards and trophies shall be presented by the **JCC** each year:
- 40.8.1 **JCC** 'Fairest and Best' and "Runner Up Fairest and Best" awards to the player or players who poll the highest number of umpires votes in each age group in open rules competition.
- 40.8.2 **JCC** award to the player selected by the Field Umpire or a specially appointed panel, as the case may be, as the Fairest and Best player in the Grand Final of each competition.
- 40.8.3 Pennants and/or medallions for the team, which wins the Grand Final in each age group in open rules competition.
- 40.8.4 Any other awards or trophies as the **JCC Executive** shall think fit.
- 40.9 No Junior or Youth Player is to receive cash / cheque / monies as payment or incentive or reward for playing football in under age competition.
- 40.9.1 Vouchers from a sponsor or the club canteen are the preferred incentive method.

## 41. CROSS DISTRICT PROTOCOLS

### 41.1 The Agreement

- 41.1.1 To enter into a Cross District M.O.U (Memorandum of Understanding), will take place following robust discussion at DFDC level to assess the environment and indicators for the alignment. The following points would have been addressed.
- 41.1.2 Discussion with sound evidence that a Cross District competition will enhance or maintain a viable participation environment has been conducted.
- 41.1.3 Each DFDC and JCC must be in agreement.
- 41.1.4 The WAFC (General Manager Community Football) have endorsed the alignment.

### 41.2 Bylaws

- 41.2.5 All Games will be played under existing District Constitutions and Bylaws.
- 41.2.6 Exemption requests will be conducted by the Joint JCC exec as per structure in Point 5.

### 41.3 Considerations

- 41.3.1 Each District will give full consideration of all factors that effect each districts individual requirement, and where necessary make concessions to enable a safe and fair environment. Issues in need of consideration include but are not limited to, PSA and other educational relationships. Combined trips, History or tradition, JCC Meeting schedules as per point 4, Grand Final ground Rotation, Special events, WAFL Club partnerships and communication. Effect and coordination of WA Football Development staff and resources.

### 41.4 Meetings

All District JCC clubs will jointly meet every quarter and be rotated through the parent Clubs (League)

- 41.4.1 JCC exec to communicate at least monthly
- 41.4.2 Share of information e.g. minutes of each JCC district meeting to be exchanged

### 41.5 Management

- 41.5.1 A Joint executive will be convened and consist of all Competition Directors, Asst Competition Directors, any jointly agreed co-opt and from time to time WAFC General Manager Community Football (for independent consultation on issues when districts have a stalemate division)

### 41.6 Fairest & Best

- 41.6.1 Will be combined though each district will continue to award the highest eligible vote getter in their respective district FB award

### 41.7 Presentation nights

- 41.7.1 Invitation will be allocated to members of the executive from the other JCC District(s) to the presentation night.

### 41.8 Tribunal

- 41.8.1 One Secretary will be appointed, jointly funded if all districts play every age in cross district.
- 41.8.2 Standard guidelines apply
- 41.8.3 Two Chairmen one from each district involved will be appointed.
- 41.8.4 Each district to provide panel members for the Tribunal Secretary to draw from.
- 41.8.5 An impartial Chairman will be appointed when any conflict of interest is declared by a sitting Chairman.

### 41.9 Finances

- 41.9.1 Club Fees will continue to be set by individual districts
- 41.9.2 Cross District Fines will be agreed by joint the JCC executive.

### 41.10 Fixtures

- 41.10.1 Who, When, How must be agreed.
- 41.10.2 Consideration for individual Club canteens needs to be prioritized.
- 41.10.3 Flexibility must be given to allow start time & day variation.
- 41.10.4 Consideration of individual district requirements such as PSA and combined trips.
- 41.10.5 Set timeline for fixtures must be agreed upon
- 41.10.6 Special Fixturing consideration must be allowed for AFL/WAFL curtain raisers and other partner ventures.
- 41.10.7 Balance for districts (umpire numbers)
- 41.10.8 Appoint a finals coordinator, and allocate responsibilities.

### 41.11 Registrars

- 41.11.1 Each district registrar to look after participant registration, clearance and permits for their respective district in line with bylaw requirements.
- 41.11.2 One registrar may be designated the role to look after fixturing for competition
- 41.11.3 The other registrar(s) may be allocated the task to look after entering of results and updating of website for competition. Include collection of game day data.
- 41.11.4 Every effort must be made to synchronize any public information released e.g. results, ladders etc.

### 41.12 Umpires

- 41.12.1 Each district umpires coordinator is to look after his/her individual district and the games played in their district.
- 41.12.2 Responsibility of umpire appointments for finals should be predetermined.

- 41.13 Game day**
- 41.13.1 Goal umpires, Boundary umpires, Runners, Medical person and Water carriers to wear (vest or what is decided article of distinction) that are similar in both districts.
- 41.13.2 Stretchers to be placed in a similar or agreed position at all grounds, known to all participating clubs.
- 41.13.3 Third score card to be held by timekeepers (home)
- 41.14 Exemptions to bylaws**
- 41.14.1 Must be agreed by both DFDC/ JCC and subsequently the WAFC.
- 41.15 Disputes**
- 41.15.1 Districts must attempt resolution prior to taking the issue to joint DFDC
- 41.15.2 In the event a joint DFDC hearing cannot resolve an issue, then the matter can be referred to the WAFC General Manager Community Football..
- 41.16 Length of agreement**
- 41.16.1 The Cross District agreement for the term of one season, with a full review at the season's end.
- 41.17 Sign Off**
- 41.17.1 DFDC Chairman, Competition Directors and WAFC General Manager Community Football must sign a MOU.

## 42. DISPUTES

Should any dispute or objection arise as to the meaning or interpretation of any of these By-laws, the **JCC Executive** shall settle such dispute or objection. In the event that the JCC Executive is unable to resolve a dispute it may escalate the issue to WAFC General Manager Community Football for resolution.

## 43. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

Should any situation arise which is not covered in these By-laws then the Rules, Codes, Policies and Regulations of the WAFC shall apply.

- 43.1 **The JCC Competition Director** or designated JCC member will consult with the WAFC General Manager Community Football, in the first instance of doubt
- 43.2 The WAFC Football Affairs committee may elect to resolve any matter, which is not provided for in these bylaws and any such resolution shall immediately become an amendment to these By-laws and shall automatically be included herein.
- 43.3 Any variation (exemptions) to these By Laws must be submitted to the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE via the WAFC General Manager Community Football for ratification prior to implementation.
- 43.4 **The JCC Executive** will circulate any authorised exemptions to these bylaws prior to the commencement of the football season.

## 44. PUBLIC STATEMENT

Public statements can only be made by the **DFDC Chairperson** or designated **DFDC spokesperson**.

## 45. UMPIRES

The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire or umpires to officiate at each match played under the control of the **JCC Executive**. The Umpires coach will instruct all umpires to comply with these bylaws and pass on to all umpires any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies (**JCC's**).

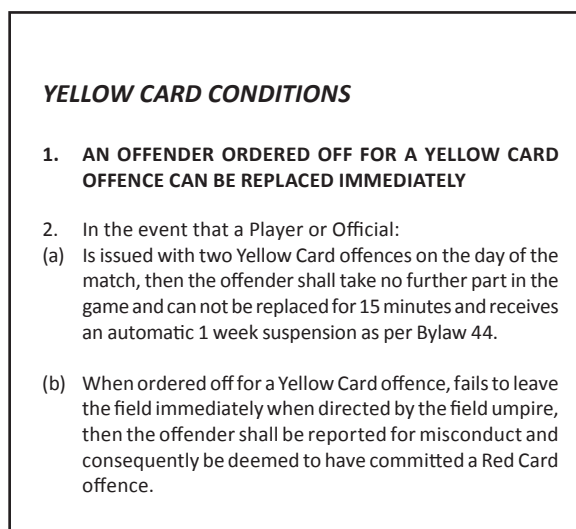
- 45.1 The WAFC Umpiring Development Manager, in consultation with WAFC General Manager Game Development shall fix the maximum fee for umpires annually. This must be done by September 30<sup>th</sup> each year.
- 45.2 Any Club or team official, registered player or spectator who makes any comment about an umpire or the performance of an umpire in any way other than in writing to the Umpires Coach, in addition to any 50m penalty, shall be subject to a fine or other penalty to be imposed at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 45.3 WA Football supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of umpiring or officials abuse or intimidation. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and sanctions directed at the person responsible, the team and possibly the club.
- 45.4 Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of fairest and best votes.
- 45.5 An umpire appointed this By-Law shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments.
- 45.6 All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.
- 45.7 The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts and the outcomes, on the match documentation.
- 45.8 The collection of match documents is at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 45.9 Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match. The **JCC Executive** and **DFDC Chairman** are also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.
- 45.10 Umpires match payments are to be paid in cash with 50% paid by each team. In the event of a forfeit, Umpires will still be required to be remunerated. (50% paid by each team)
- 45.11 The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.
- 45.12 Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.

## 46. STANDARD ORDER OFF RULE

### 46.1 The Yellow Cards



FRONT OF YELLOW CARD

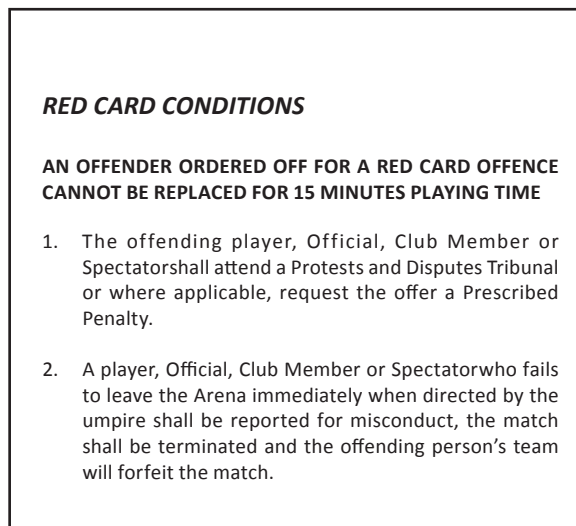


BACK OF YELLOW CARD

### 46.2 The Red Cards



FRONT OF RED CARD



BACK OF RED CARD

## 47. UNAUTHORISED ENCROACHMENT

In the event of an encroachment of the area of play by unauthorised persons, or that play is prevented by any other means, the field umpire shall seek the assistance of his fellow umpires and/or any member of the **JCC Executive/DFDC/Match Steward** to clear the playing arena so that the match may be resumed. If the field umpire is unable to do this within a reasonable time he shall terminate play at that time and report all circumstances to the **JCC Executive**. This body may award the result or declare the match abandoned or call a replay at its discretion or in line with AFL laws of the game.

47.1 Any Club whose officials, players and club spectators are found to be responsible for the unauthorised encroachment of any playing arena (and any official, player and club spectators so responsible) shall be fined, suspended or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.

47.2 The home club (or the team mentioned first in the fixture) is responsible for ground security on the match day.

## 48. REPORTS

48.1 The following personnel shall have the power to report any *player, Official, Club Member or Spectator* for any breach of the laws of the game, codes of conduct, member protection policies or of the rules or By-laws of the **JCC**.

- (a) Field Umpire
- (b) Umpires' Coach whilst in an observing capacity
- (c) Boundary umpires if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (d) Goal umpires if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (e) Stewards if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (f) Any member of the **JCC Executive**
- (g) DFDC Chairman



- (h) Emergency Umpires (Officially appointed)
  - (i) WAFC General Manager Community Football
  - (j) WAFC Participation Manager
  - (k) WAFC Manager Programs
  - (l) WAFC Manager Schools & Junior Competitions
  - (m) Designated WAFC Managers registered with WAFC Participation Manager
- 48.2 Goal and boundary Umpires (as appointed by the **JCC** ) and members of the **JCC** and **DFDC Chairman**, shall advise the field umpire of their intention to report any offence or incident. Once the JCC/DFDC Official has made the report, they are to send the opposition runner to inform the umpire. If a red or yellow card has been issued then the umpire shall immediately stop the game and send the offending player off.
- 48.3 Officially appointed Goal, boundary umpire, **JCC** or steward must record in both team sheets the details of the report / offence, their authority, their name and signature.
- 48.4 Any player or official, who is to be reported, must be advised of such report prior to the commencement of the next quarter of the game, unless the offence occurs in the final quarter in which case advice to the Team Manager when passing on the official report sheet shall suffice.
- 48.5 Reports can also be instigated as a result of any special investigation tribunal or committee convened by the JCC Executive.

#### 49. REPORTED PLAYERS, OFFICIALS, CLUB MEMBERS & SPECTATORS

- 49.1 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator against whom any charge has been proved at a hearing of the P&D Board or received a prescribed penalty during the current season is ineligible for any Fairest and Best award. Any player who has been sent from the ground three (3) times during the season is automatically suspended for one week and any subsequent yellow card in that season results in a subsequent 1 week suspension and as a result shall be disqualified from participation in the voting for any Fairest and Best award. Any player receiving two yellow cards in a match will automatically receive a one week suspension and as a result shall be disqualified from participation in the voting for any Fairest and Best award.
- 49.2 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator suspended by either a tribunal or prescribed penalty will not be permitted to play, coach or participate in any capacity, in any affiliated district competition including schools, senior metropolitan community football or regional football, for the duration of the penalty. The reverse also applies.
- 49.3 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator reported or in receipt of a prescribed penalty notice, is not to play or act in any official capacity until such time as the charge has been dealt with. Should a player or official receive the same from an affiliated competition then the same applies.
- 49.4 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator who chooses to contest a Red Card, Report or Prescribed Penalty is deemed suspended until such time as the charge or report is dealt with to the satisfaction of the JCC Executive.
- 49.5 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Tribunal or JCC, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match Days while the penalty remains unserved.

#### 50. PROTESTS & DISPUTES, TRIBUNAL, INVESTIGATIONS PANELS & SPECIAL PANELS

The JCC may instigate any investigation

- 50.1 A Protests & Disputes Tribunal will be convened by the JCC Executive. From time to time the JCC executive may also convene a Special Tribunal, Investigation panel or Special panel and may instruct these panels or tribunals to conduct special investigative business on behalf of the JCC Executive.
- 50.2 The JCC Exec can modify the range of recommended penalties in special circumstances in consultation with the WAFC General Manager Community Football and can instruct any P&D, Tribunal, Investigation Panel or Special Panel to apply these modified penalties.
- 50.3 The JCC may deal with other offences arising out of tribunals, investigation panels or special panels and at its absolute discretion; impose any penalty, sanction or fine as per the recommended penalties.
- 50.4 Clubs may appeal to the JCC Executive against the severity of tribunal penalties in writing, accompanied by new evidence and a \$250.00 non-refundable fee within forty eight (48) hours of receiving notification of the original penalty. The JCC may refer these appeals to the WAFC General Manager Game Development.
- 50.5 Tribunal Secretary shall inform all participants of the final outcome of any protests or appeals
- 50.6 The WAFC General Manager Community Football will provide interpretive directions to the JCC/DFDC as required by the JCC/DFDC
- 50.7 The JCC executive/ DFDC can refer specific cases to be independently managed by the WAFC General Manager Community Football.
- 50.8 Evidence collected from Social Networking sites, web sites, electronic media and other related communication platforms can be presented as evidence in tribunals, investigations and hearings.

#### 51. STEWARDS

The **JCC Executive** may appoint a steward or stewards who shall have the same power and duty of reporting for each game in each age group, with full powers to report players or officials for breaches of the laws of the game or the rules or By-laws of the **JCC**.

- 51.1 An appointed steward shall advise the field umpire and both coaches prior to the commencement of the match, or the earliest possible opportunity if the game has commenced, that they are in attendance as a steward.
- 51.2 In the event that an appointed steward intends making a report, they shall indicate to the umpire the details of the report, which will then be noted on the match report sheet.

#### 52. PENALTIES

The **JCC Executive** shall have the power to impose and enforce a penalty on any member Club, Player, Spectator or Official for any of the following offences:

- (a) Breaches of Bylaws, Codes, Policy, laws or related WAFC/DFDC/JCC management documents.
- (b) The playing of an ineligible player in any match.
- (c) Failure to supply a team list for each match with legible and positive identification of players taking part in that match.
- (d) Failure to pay all prescribed team fees within thirty (30) days of due date.
- (e) Failure to supply match records or any other documents as may be required by the **JCC Executive**.
- (f) Any breach of any code of conduct as compiled by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

- (g) Any fine imposed on a member Club under these By-laws shall be paid within thirty (30) days of demand and any club which fails to comply with this By-law shall be ineligible to vote at the AGM of the DFDC and to take any further part in any competition until fines have been paid in full.
- (h) For a club to participate in any finals, a club MUST be financial with JCC, DFDC and WAFC.

### 53. COMPLAINTS & APPEALS

- 53.1 Club generated complaints may be lodged with the **JCC Executive** within 48 hours of an alleged incident, on an official club letterhead signed by the Club President making the complaint on behalf of his club.
  - 53.1.1 JCC or DFDC generated complaints may be instigated in writing addressed to the JCC Executive
- 53.2 The **JCC Executive** will determine whether an Investigations Panel, Appeals Committee or P & D Tribunal will be convened to deal with any complaints that may not fit within normal disputes processes.
- 53.3 All complaints will be dealt with in a time frame suitable to the **JCC Executive**.
- 53.4 Any Club may appeal in writing against any imposed penalty by the **JCC Executive** within forty eight (48) hours of receiving notification of this penalty. The DFDC Executive shall consider any such appeal, which must be accompanied by new evidence and a \$250.00 non-refundable fee.
- 53.5 The decision of the DFDC Executive, *or an Appeals Committee*, in regard to any appeal shall be **final** and in the case of a failed appeal, the original fine shall be payable by the original due date.
  - 53.5.1 The DFDC may ask for the matter to be referred to the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE for further consideration and a final determination
- 53.6 The **JCC Competition Director** reserves the right to accept or refuse the lodgement of any other complaint outside of the usual processes.
- 53.7 The JCC, in consultation with the WAFC, shall have the ability to appeal any tribunal decisions.

### 54. WA FOOTBALL TRIBUNAL PROTOCOL AND GUIDELINES

#### Standard Tribunal Guidelines and Penalties for Community Football

(Incorporating the Community Football Council, WA Country Football League and District Development Council Junior Competitions)

#### GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING A TRIBUNAL

##### 1. BACKGROUND

As described in the Laws of Australian Football, the Purpose of the Laws explain how the game is played and seeks to attain the objectives of ensuring the game is played in a fair manner and spirit of true sportsmanship; and to prevent injuries to players where it can be reasonably achieved, considering the body contact nature of the sport.

Generally, most parents and especially mothers like to see their children involved in a sport that has rules promoting sportsmanship, fair play and one where they can participate in a safe environment. The AFL's rewrite of the laws in the year 2000 addressed this ideal.

The new definitions of Charging and Engaging in Rough Play has reduced the unnecessary rough contact and together with the Law related to prohibiting contact in marking contests, the issue of protecting the player making the ball his object has been addressed.

Australian Football is built around courage to get the ball and the Laws are framed to encourage this value. It is essential that the Football Industry is seen to deal with offenders in a consistent manner across the State.

In 1998, the Standard Order Off Rule (Red and Yellow Card System) was introduced to assist Umpires and the Football Industry to achieve consistency in controlling unacceptable behaviour on the field. This strategy has been very successful and continues to complement the game.

It is logical that the same principle of dealing with consistency, be implemented throughout the Tribunal system

The following information has been produced to promote consistency in procedures and penalties set by the Football Industry of Western Australia.

It is envisaged that the Standard Tribunal Guidelines and Penalties for Community Football will be reviewed on an annual basis, ensuring that the administrative structures and image of Australian Football will continue to be enhanced.

##### 2. GENERAL INTERPRETATION AND EXPECTATIONS:

WAFC General Manager Community Football will oversee these Tribunal Protocols.

##### 2.1 INTERPRETATION

In the interpretation of these guidelines, unless the context requires otherwise:

- 2.1.1 Words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- 2.1.2 Words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;
- 2.1.3 "Including" and similar words are not words of limitation;
- 2.1.4 Words terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these guidelines shall be given their ordinary meaning.
- 2.1.5 Any report, charge or notice of report shall be deemed to and be read as alleging that the conduct was either intentional, reckless or negligent.
- 2.1.6 A Player or Official found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Tribunal, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match days while the penalty remains unserved

## 2.2 EXPECTATIONS

**Controlling Body:** Notwithstanding the Controlling Body's overall administrative role: It is expected to uphold the integrity of the game and its Laws and ensure that procedures are in place to manage offenders of the game including but not limited to implementing the following:

- Standard Tribunal Guidelines
- Standard Tribunal Penalties for Reportable Offences and
- A fair and consistent procedure to deal with reported Players or Officials.
- Appointing competent Tribunal participants and provide appropriate training to enhance the game's ideals.

**Players** are expected to play the game in a fair manner and spirit of true sportsmanship and can expect to play in a safe environment.

**Umpires** are expected to adjudicate a game of Football with integrity, apply the Laws and interpretations in conjunction with the Spirit of the Laws and attend to the administrative requirements associated with the game.

The **Tribunal** is expected to hear and consider charges or investigate matters referred to it by the Controlling Body and if necessary apply sanctions, penalties or fines set by the Controlling Body. It is expected to uphold the integrity of the game and its Laws.

**Tribunal Members** are expected to be conversant with the By-Laws of the Controlling Body and the Laws of Australian Football, in particular *Law 15.4, Permitted and Prohibited Physical Contact, Law 19, Reporting Players and Officials and Law 20, Order Off Law*

## 3. DEFINITIONS:

**Advocate:** means a person representing a witness at a Tribunal who is not a legal practitioner.

**Arena:** means the *Playing Surface* and all the area between the *Playing Surface* and the *Perimeter Fence*, including any break in the perimeter fence.

**Controlling Body:** as defined in the *Law 2.1 of Laws of Australian Football*, generally is the overall Administrator of the game and is responsible for the organisation and conduct of matches of Australian Football.

**Defendant:** means a person called before the Tribunal to answer a charge or report.

**Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings Form:** a standard form used to record the decision of the Tribunal for the Controlling Body.

**Intentional conduct:** means a deliberate action

**Match:** means a contest of Australian Football played between two Teams.

**Mitigating Circumstances:** means circumstances that may be considered to lessen the culpability or blame of an offender.

**Negligent conduct:** means lacking attention, care or concern.

**Official:** includes but is not limited to an officer, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, employee or any person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of the club or Team

**Other Appointed Person:** A Person authorised by the Controlling Body to report any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence. The Person shall have the same powers and duties as imposed upon an Umpire under Law 19.

**Perimeter Fence:** is the physical barrier surrounding the playing surface. Where an Arena does not have a Perimeter Fence, then the Perimeter Fence shall be interpreted as being located 10m outside and parallel to the *Playing surface*.

**Player:** means a person who plays or is selected to play with a Team or a person who otherwise trains with a Team or who is included within the scope of the Laws of Australian Football.

**Playing Surface:** means the field of play inside the Boundary Line, Goal Line and Behind Line, excluding the area between such lines and the *Perimeter Fence*

**Prescribed Penalty:** means a set sanction or penalty for a reportable offence that is offered to an offender by the Controlling Body or its Delegated Authority in lieu of attending a Tribunal Hearing.

*Note:* The **Prescribed Penalty** is derived from the minimum penalty of a specific reportable offence listed on the *Standard Range of Penalties*.

**Reckless conduct:** means showing no regard for danger or the consequences.

**Spears Tackle:** is a tackle of where an opponent is driven 'head first' into the *Playing Surface*. It is considered unreasonable and outside the laws of the game.

**Standard Range of Penalties:** are a set range of sanctions, fines or penalties for offenders who commit reportable offences that are either negligent, reckless or intentional acts.

*Note:* The Standard Range of Penalties are set by the Controlling Body to assist Tribunals achieve consistency in determining sanctions in all grades of Community Football; and they signify a clear direction to Football Participants that unlawful and unfair play will not be tolerated.

**Suspended Player or Official – Effect of Suspension:** Where a player or Official is suspended by a Controlling Body, then for the period of suspension or while the suspension remains unserved, he shall be prohibited from playing or participating in a Match conducted by the Controlling Body imposing the suspension and shall be prohibited from playing or participating in a Match conducted by any other Controlling Body.

*NOTE:* A Player or Official found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Tribunal, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match days while the penalty remains unserved

**Team:** means a group of Players competing against other group of Players in a Match of Australian Football

**Tribunal:** means an independent body appointed by the Controlling Body to hear and consider charges or investigate matters referred by the Controlling Body. It has the authority to apply sanctions, penalties or fines set by the Controlling Body.

*Note:* The **Tribunal** shall comprise of a Chairman and Secretary and can include any number of Tribunal Members.

**Tribunal Members:** A person or persons appointed by the Controlling Body to assist the Tribunal Chairman in the execution of his duties.

**Umpire:** means all Field, Boundary, Goal and Emergency Umpires officiating in or at a match.

**Victim:** means a person attending a Tribunal who is the person offended against on the designated report or charge form.

**Week, Game or Match:** a term used by the Tribunal to describe a scheduled game or match penalty of a Home and Away fixture or a Final fixture of the offender's club.

**Witness:** means any person attending a tribunal convened by the Controlling Body, including but not limited to a Defendant, Advocate, Official, Player or Victim.

## 4. TRIBUNAL GUIDELINES

These guidelines are set by the Controlling Body to assist all Tribunal Members achieve consistency with their deliberations, reflecting the *Purpose* of the Game and its Laws (i.e. encouragement of fair play and injury prevention) and to reinforce the premise that Offenders who commit Reportable Offences or bring the game into disrepute will not be tolerated.

The guidelines are provided to assist in conducting effective Tribunals, clarify the duties and apply consistent penalties to offenders that are found guilty of reportable offences:

## 5. PROCEDURES FOR ADVOCATES

- 5.1 ELIGIBILITY: An Advocate may be any person representing a witness but shall not be a Legal Practitioner
- 5.2 DUTIES:
- Arrange for reported player and any witnesses to be present at the Tribunal hearing at the allocated time.
  - Prior to the hearing, assist the player or witness to fully prepare his account of the incident.
  - Make submissions on the penalty if the report is upheld.
- 5.3 ADVOCATES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO:
- Directly ask questions of his clubs' player or witnesses.
  - Directly Cross-examine umpires or witnesses.
  - Make submissions as to guilt or otherwise.
- 5.4 CROSS EXAMINATION:  
Any matter to be asked for the purpose of cross-examination shall be asked through the Tribunal Chairman who shall consider its relevance and if appropriate, raise the issue with the appropriate witness.

## 6. TRIBUNAL MEMBERS AND TRIBUNAL ROOM SETUP

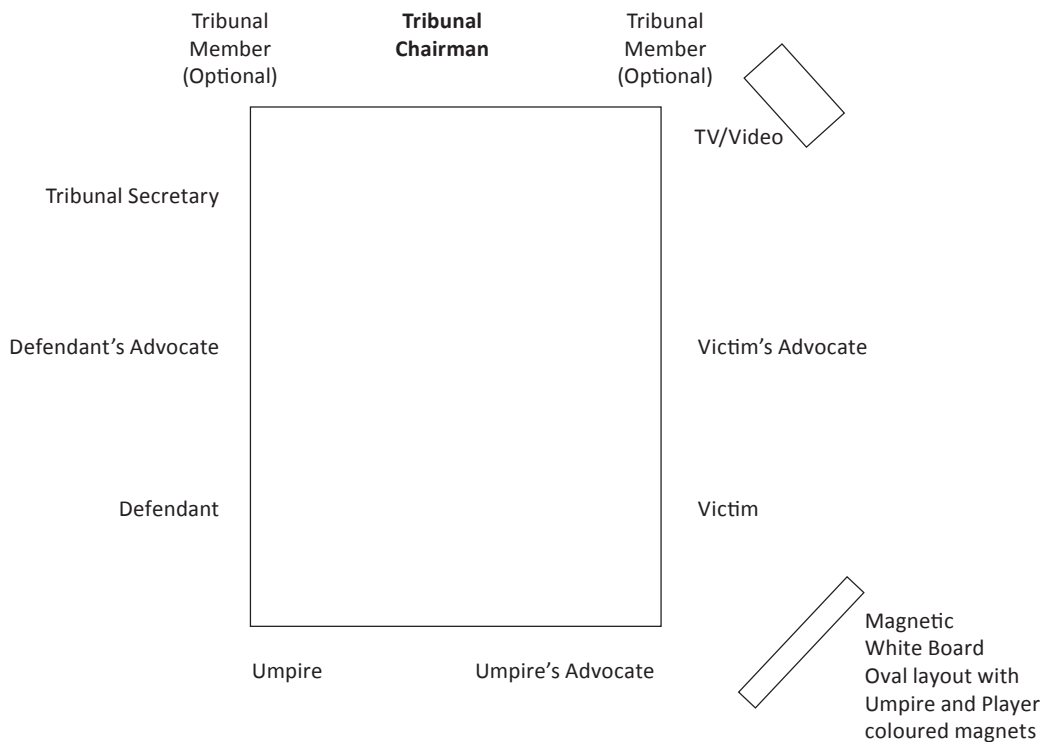
The **Tribunal** shall comprise of a Chairman and Secretary and can include any number of Tribunal Members as determined by the Controlling Body.

**Tribunal Members** are expected to be conversant with the By-Laws of the Controlling Body and the Laws of Australian Football, in particular *Law 15.4, Permitted and Prohibited Physical Contact, Law 19, Reporting Players and Officials and Law 20, Order Off Law*

Any matter to be asked for the purpose of cross-examination shall be asked through the Tribunal Chairman who shall consider its relevance and if appropriate, raise the issue with the witness.

Tribunal Members should be impartial and where possible should have no other role within the structure of the Controlling Body.

### 6.1 TYPICAL SETUP FOR THE TRIBUNAL ROOM



## 7 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE TRIBUNAL:

The **Tribunal** shall hear and adjudicate on all protests, charges, reports, disputes, reopen cases or any other matter referred to it by the Controlling body;

- It shall ensure that defendants are heard in a fair and consistent manner in accordance with the procedures set by the Controlling Body.
- It shall use the *Standard Range of Penalties* to determine an Offender's penalty and shall take into consideration any injury sustained by a victim and/or any previous convictions of the offender prior to the last 2 years of the Tribunal sitting, by increasing the *Standard Penalty*. The use of a Suspended Sentence may be used as an additional penalty to the *Standard Penalty*.
- The JCC may appoint an observer to be in attendance at any tribunal hearing.
- It may find a report proven if it is **reasonably satisfied** that conduct was intentional, reckless or negligent. *Law 19.2.1(b)*.
- It may adjourn any hearing from time to time. If a Defendant is granted an adjournment, unless exempted by the Tribunal, he shall be ineligible to participate or represent a Club or Team in any capacity during the period of adjournment.
- It may deal with any witness who fails without reasonable excuse to attend the Tribunal hearing and at its absolute discretion; impose any penalty, sanction or fine.
- It may, in the case of a Defendant not attending the Tribunal, suspend that person from participating or representing a Club or Team in any capacity until he attends a reconvened hearing.

- (g) It shall deal with any untruthful, misleading, uncooperative or contemptible witness on the day of the tribunal and impose any penalty, sanction or fine consistent with the misconduct charges in the *Standard Range of Penalties*.
- (h) It may deal with other offences arising out of a report on the day of the tribunal and at its absolute discretion; impose any penalty, sanction or fine consistent with the *Standard Range of Penalties*.
- (i) It shall endeavour **not** to dismiss any case on the grounds of a technicality, but shall review the circumstances of the technicality and if necessary amend the original charge to reflect the expectations of upholding the integrity of the game and its Laws.
- (j) It shall have the right to admit or refuse entry to any person wishing to attend a hearing of the Tribunal.
- (k) It may allow the attendance of persons to witness Tribunal procedures.
- (l) It may accept evidence from the Standard Umpire's Evidence Form or Statutory Declaration from any witness provided always that the witness satisfies the Tribunal that he is unable to attend the Tribunal.
- (m) It shall endeavour to arrange for a teleconference for any witness unable to attend the Tribunal provided always that the witness satisfies the Tribunal that he is unable to be present.
- (n) It may proceed and deal with a charge in the absence of any witness or adjourn the hearing to such date and time at its absolute discretion.
- (o) At the conclusion of a hearing the Chairman shall sign off and record the Tribunal's decision on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form. Where an Offender has been given a suspension, a specific date shall be recorded by the Chairman to reflect the period of suspension up to and including that specific date.
- (p) The Chairman should notify the guilty player of the scope of the suspension noting that this may prevent them from playing in other WAFC sanctioned competitions, including but not limited to School Competitions, Development Squad Games and Carnivals.

## 8. CONDUCTING A TRIBUNAL

### 8.1 WHEN DEFENDANT PLEADS NOT GUILTY:

- (a) Chairman invites the reported Player, Official Club member or spectator (defendant), his Advocate and the person making the charge (usually the Umpire) with his Advocate into the hearing. The only other person in the room should be the Tribunal Secretary unless persons have been permitted by the Chairman to observe procedures.
- (b) Chairman reads the charge and asks the Defendant's plea. *Guilty or Not Guilty*
- (c) Chairman asks for Umpire to outline the charge. *The Umpire may be questioned by the Chairman. The Defendant's Advocate may ask questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will redirect the questions to the Umpire.*
- (d) Chairman asks for the Victim's evidence. *The Defendant's Advocate may ask questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will redirect the questions to the Victim.* Chairman asks for Defendant's evidence
- (e) Chairman asks if the Defendant's Advocate has any witnesses to offer other evidence. Questions may be asked by those in attendance through the Chairman.
- (f) Chairman may at their discretion view Video evidence of the incident provided the game was independently recorded and authorised by the Controlling Body. *Video evidence should include vision leading up to and after the reportable incident. Slow motion and frame by frame facilities for viewing the incident is recommended.* Umpires and Witnesses may be asked to provide further evidence relating to the charge
- (g) Chairman thanks the Reporting Umpire/ Authorised Person and the Victim for their evidence and dismisses them from the Tribunal
- (h) Chairman asks the Defendant's Advocate to summarise his case.
- (i) Chairman may ask all persons to leave the room. Chairman deliberates to determine whether the charge is sustained or dismissed. The Defendant returns with his Advocate (if they have left the room).
- (j) Chairman announces the verdict
- (k) Chairman asks the Defendant's history from his Advocate.
- (l) Chairman confirms the Defendant's history from the Tribunal Secretary
- (m) Chairman may ask all parties to leave the Tribunal Room
- (n) Chairman recalls Defendant with his Advocate and announces the penalty in accordance with the *Standard Range of Penalties*.
- (o) Where a defendant has been given a suspension, the Chairman shall record the Tribunal's decision on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form. A specific date shall be recorded by the Chairman to reflect the period of suspension up to and including that specific date. The form shall be signed by the Chairman and the Offender (or his representative).
- (p) In the event of any witness who acts in an untruthful, misleading, uncooperative or contemptible manner on the day of the Tribunal hearing shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and be dealt with at the conclusion of the hearing. The Chairman shall record the Tribunal's decision on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form. A specific date shall be recorded by the Chairman to reflect the period of suspension up to and including that specific date. The standard form shall be signed by the Chairman and the Offender (or his representative). Designated official to input all guilty sentences, suspended sentences, fines or other on the WA Football approved website database. This includes accepted prescribed penalties as well. All enquiries to WAFC General Manager Community Football).

**NOTE:** A Player or Official found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Tribunal, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match days while the penalty remains unserved.

### 8.2 WHEN A DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY:

- (a) The Chairman invites the reported Player, Official Club member or spectator (defendant), his Advocate and the person making the charge (usually the Umpire) with his Advocate into the hearing. The only other person in the room should be the Tribunal Secretary unless persons have been permitted by the Chairman to observe procedures.
- (b) Chairman reads the charge and asks the Defendant's plea. *Guilty or Not Guilty*
- (c) Chairman asks for Umpires evidence. *The Umpire may be questioned by the Chairman. The Defendant's Advocate may direct questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will direct the questions to the Umpire.*
- (d) If required by the Club defending the charge, the Chairman asks for the Victim's evidence. *Defendant's Advocate may direct questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will direct the questions to the Victim.*
- (e) Chairman asks for Defendant's evidence

- (f) Chairman may view Video evidence of the incident provided the game was independently recorded and authorised by the Controlling Body. *Video evidence should include vision leading up to and after the reportable incident. Slow motion and frame by frame facilities for viewing the incident is recommended.* Umpires and Witnesses may be asked to provide further evidence relating to the charge.
- (g) Chairman thanks the Reporting Umpire/ Authorised Person and the Victim for their evidence and dismisses them from the Tribunal
- (h) Chairman asks the Defendant's history from the Advocate
- (i) Chairman asks for the Defendant's history from the Tribunal Secretary.
- (j) Chairman may ask all parties to leave the Tribunal Room
- (k) Chairman recalls Defendant with his Advocate and announces the penalty in accordance with the *Standard Range of Penalties*.
- (l) Chairman records the Decision and Penalty on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form, ensuring it is signed by the Chairman and the Defendant (or his representative). Designated official to input all guilty sentences, suspended sentences, fines or other on the WA Football approved website database. This includes accepted prescribed penalties as well. All enquiries to WAFC General Manager Community Football).
- (m) In the event of any witness who acts in an untruthful, misleading, uncooperative or contemptible manner on the day of the Tribunal hearing shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and be dealt with at the conclusion of the hearing. The chairman would then record the Decision and Penalty on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form, ensuring it is signed by the Chairman and the offending witness

## 9 PRESCRIBED PENALTIES:

Prescribed Penalties are adopted by the Controlling Body to eliminate excessive distances travelled by participants attending tribunal hearings and/or to lessen the time and inconvenience placed on club volunteers.

**Prescribed Penalty:** means a set sanction or penalty for a reportable offence that is offered to an offender by the Controlling Body or its Delegated Authority in lieu of attending a Tribunal Hearing.

Unless a Yellow Card is issued by the Umpire for the First Offence, the **Prescribed Penalty** is derived from the minimum penalty of a specific reportable offence listed on the *Standard Range of Penalties*.

**If an Offender elects to attend the Tribunal in lieu of accepting the Controlling Body's offer of a Prescribed Penalty and is subsequently found guilty of that offence, then the resultant penalty shall be greater than the Prescribed Penalty.** It shall not be less than the Prescribed Penalty for that offence, unless mitigating circumstances are established at the hearing.

If mitigating circumstances are established, The Tribunal Chairman shall state and record the circumstances on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form.

### 9.1 STANDARD RANGE OF PENALTIES FOR REPORTABLE OFFENCES:

The WAFC General Manager Community Football will adjudicate on any anomalies, inconsistencies or interpretive issues that arise in relation to the range of penalties. Any request for rulings will be initiated by the District Competition Director in writing to the WAFC General Manager Community Football.

The *Standard Range of Penalties* shall apply to any Player or Official found guilty of a Specific Reportable Offence listed in Law 19.2.2 of the Laws of Australian Football or as described in the Rules and Regulations of the Controlling Body.

Where an Offender commits two (2) or more offences within the current 2 year period, then the "Second Offence" Range of Penalties shall be used to determine the penalty.

The "Second Offence" Range of Penalties have been set at double the "First Offence" Range of Penalties to clearly signify that repeat offenders will not be tolerated.

In determining an Offender's penalty, the Tribunal shall use the *Standard Range of Penalties* and may increase the penalty after taking into consideration any injury sustained by a victim and/or any previous convictions of the offender prior to the last 2 years of the Tribunal sitting. **The use of Suspended Sentences may be used as an additional penalty to the *Standard Range of Penalties* and not in Lieu of an appropriate penalty.**

The Tribunal shall **not reduce** the minimum *Standard Range Penalties*, unless mitigating circumstances are established at the hearing. If mitigating circumstances are established, the Tribunal Chairman shall state and record the circumstances on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form.

Any tribunal sentence in excess of 12 months in length must be ratified by the WAFC General Manager Community Football.

### 9.2 THE STANDARD RANGE OF PENALTIES

(RELATING TO SPECIFIC REPORTABLE OFFENCES UNDER LAW 19.2.2)

#### (a) Making contact with an umpire;

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 4 weeks to 2 years

*Negligent 4-10 weeks, reckless 10 weeks- 1 year, intentional 1 -2 years*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range 8 weeks to 4 years

*Negligent 8-20 weeks, reckless 20 weeks- 2 years, intentional 2 -4 years*

#### Striking an Umpire;

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2 years to Life

*Negligent 2-4 years, reckless 4-10 years, intentional 10 years – Life*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4 years to Life

*Negligent 4-8 years, reckless 8-20 years, intentional 20 years – Life*

- (b) **Attempting to make contact with an Umpire;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2 weeks to 1 year  
*Negligent 2-5 weeks, reckless 5-10 weeks, intentional 10 weeks-1 year.*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** range: 4 weeks to 2 years  
*Negligent 4-10 weeks, reckless 10 weeks – 1 year, intentional 1-2 years*
- Attempting to strike an Umpire;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 1 year to 10 years  
*Negligent 1-2 years, reckless 2-5 years, intentional 5-10 years*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 2 years to Life  
*Negligent 2-4 years, reckless 4-10 years, intentional 10 years -Life*
- (c) **Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 4-8 weeks, insulting/threatening 8-20 weeks
- (d) **Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 4-8 weeks, insulting/threatening 8-20 weeks
- (e) **Disputing a decision of an Umpire; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 1 week
- (f) **Use of an Obscene gesture; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** 1-2 weeks  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 2-4 weeks.
- (g) **Intentionally, recklessly or negligently:-**
- (i) **Kicking another person;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4-20 weeks  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (ii) **Striking another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 2 weeks)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4-20 weeks  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (iii) **Tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4-20 weeks  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 4-8 weeks, intentional 8-20 weeks*
- (iv) **Engaging in Time Wasting; (Prescribed Penalty offer–1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Yellow Card by Umpire–Cool Off for 15 minutes  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 1 week
- (v) **Charging another person; (refer to law 15.4.4) (Prescribed Penalty offer -2 weeks)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4-20 weeks  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (vi) **Throwing or pushing another player after that player has taken a Mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 1 week
- (vii) **Engaging in rough play against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable;**  
 Examples such as but not limited to: Using hands to claw, gouge or scratch an opponent in the region of the head, including the face, mouth, eyes, nose, and ears; Spear Tackles, Head Butting, Biting, Elbowing, Kneeing, Choking, Head Locking, Swinging an arm to the head region (“Coat Hanger”), Making unreasonable contact to an opponent who is marking or attempting to mark the football.  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 4-20 weeks  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*

- (viii) **Engaging in a melee, except where a player's sole intention is to remove a teammate from the incident; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
  
- (ix) **Spitting at or on another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer - 2 weeks)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-4 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-3 weeks, intentional 3-4 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-8 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 4-6 weeks, intentional 6-8 weeks*
  
- (h) **Attempting to kick another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 1-5 weeks*  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
  
- (i) **Attempting to strike another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 1-5 weeks*  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
  
- (j) **Attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 1-5 weeks*  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
  
- (k) **Intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another player is preparing to Kick or is Kicking for Goal or after the Player has Kicked Goal and the ball is in transit; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: 1 week*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 2 weeks*
  
- (l) **Wrestling another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
  
- (m) **Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 1-2 weeks, insulting/threatening 2-5 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks*
  
- (n) **Failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 2 weeks)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: 2 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 4 weeks*
  
- (o) **Wearing boots, jewellery or equipment prohibited under Law 9; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
  
- (p) **Any act of misconduct. (Prescribed Penalty offer – 2 weeks)**  
 Examples such as but not limited to: Indecent Exposure, Biting, Instigating a Melee, Failing to follow the Direction of a Field Umpire or any Behaviour Detrimental to Football.  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: 2-4 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 4-8 weeks*

**OR Law 20.2(f) below – misconduct of a serious nature**

(RELATING TO THE SPECIFIC REPORTABLE OFFENCE UNDER THE ORDER OF LAW 20.2)

**20.2(f) An act of misconduct if the Umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature;**

*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: 3-6 weeks*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 6-12 weeks*

Examples such as but not limited to **serious** acts of misconduct: Indecent Exposure, Biting, Instigating a Melee, Failing to follow the Direction of a Field Umpire or any Behaviour Detrimental to Football.