

# 2023 WAFC COMPETITION RULES - Match Day Roles



## BACKGROUND

The below Match Day Roles are provided to assist clubs and teams in understanding the specific role each person plays on Match Day.

## MATCH DAY ROLES

1. TEAM ROLES	
<p><b>1a.</b> <b>Coaches</b></p>	<p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 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.</li> <li>ii. Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in all home and away matches.</li> <li>iii. Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity &amp; Fair Play Policy for all players in all games (refer to WAFC POL.03).</li> </ul> <p><b>Accreditation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iv. All head coaches and assistant coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match.</li> <li>v. If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coaches Box</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vi. 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 Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match.</li> <li>vii. Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head Coach</li> <li>• Assistant Coach</li> <li>• Runner</li> <li>• Medical Trainer</li> <li>• Team Manager</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Year 3 Exemption</b></p> <p>The coach is permitted to be on the ground during any game and therefore may exit the Coaches Box.</p> <p>The coach is not permitted to carry water, a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant.</p> <p>The coach's role is to provide support to the umpire in maintaining players in their correct positions, should refrain from "commentating" the game and must not influence the umpires.</p>
<p><b>1b.</b> <b>Team Manager</b></p>	<p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials.</li> <li>ii. The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.</li> <li>iii. Both the Home and Away Team Managers should convene with the Field Umpire at breaks to ensure a safe and positive game day environment is being maintained.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>1c. Runners</b></p>	<p><b>Year 3:</b> <u>Year 3 teams are not permitted to have a runner.</u></p> <p><b>Year 4 through to 11/12:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Teams are only permitted to have one runner.</li> <li>ii. Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved uniform.</li> <li>iii. Runners are not permitted to carry water.</li> <li>iv. Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the coach's box via the interchange area.</li> <li>v. Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground.</li> <li>vi. Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area.</li> <li>vii. Team runners must be 18 years or older.</li> <li>viii. Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match.</li> <li>ix. Team runners are under no circumstances allowed to make physical contact with umpires, opposition players or officials.</li> </ul>
<p><b>1d. Medical Officer/Trainer</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current <b>HLTAID011 Provide First Aid</b> (formerly HLTAID003).</li> <li>ii. The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identifiable.</li> <li>iii. The team medical officer/sports trainer must not remove a player on a stretcher unless they have necessary formal training and qualifications to do so. (e.g., <b>SMA Level 1 Sports Trainer</b>).</li> <li>iv. 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.</li> <li>v. Each team shall provide an appropriately and adequately stocked first aid kit and well-maintained sport-specific rescue/transport equipment are accessible at all training and competition venues</li> </ul>

<b>2. COMPETITION ROLES</b>	
<p><b>2a. Field Umpires</b></p>	<p>The WAFC will attempt to appoint umpires for all matches.</p> <p>Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint an adult 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.</p> <p>Any umpire <u>not appointed by the WAFC</u> under this rule must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 18 years or older.</li> <li>ii. Named on match documents.</li> <li>iii. Suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC.</li> <li>iv. Compliant with all WWC legislation (Working with Children).</li> </ul>
<p><b>2b. Boundary Umpires</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Boundary umpires are not required for WAFC Competition matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply.</li> </ul> <p><b>Year 11/12 Males only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Each team must supply a correctly attired boundary umpire with sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as per AFL Laws of the Game.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>2c. Goal Umpires</b></p>	<p>Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire with sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as in AFL Laws of the Game.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Goal Umpires will wear appropriate attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags.</li> <li>ii. The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions.</li> <li>iii. The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.</li> <li>iv. Goal Umpires are not permitted to enter the playing field during the game unless instructed to do so by the Field Umpire.</li> </ul> <p><b>Year 7 to 11/12 only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>v. The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire 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 the independent scorer at all breaks.</li> <li>vi. At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2d. Timekeeper</b></p>	<p>The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper 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 timekeeper.</p>
<p><b>2e. Interchange Steward</b></p>	<p>As per Policy 03 Equal Opportunity &amp; Fair Play (item 2c) each team must track player game time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Clubs may utilise up to 2 stewards per team.</li> <li>ii. This person/people are permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match.</li> <li>iii. In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.</li> </ul>

<b>3. Penalties &amp; Code of Conduct Breaches</b>	
<p><b>3a. Abusive, offensive or insulting language</b></p>	<p>If the WAFC receives a report of abusive, offensive or insulting language or behaviour, a base penalty of 3 matches may apply. The WAFC reserves the right to adjust this penalty after reviewing statements from all relevant parties.</p>
<p><b>3b. Encroachment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. If the WAFC deems a match has been impacted by encroachment of an adult(s), the minimum penalty for individuals is 16 matches. Less significant penalties will potentially apply to under 18's.</li> <li>ii. If the encroachment includes any physical or verbal contact with opposition players, the penalty may be increased up to a Life Ban from all Junior WAFC Competitions.</li> <li>iii. If the encroachment includes any physical or verbal contact with Umpires or WAFC officials, the penalty may be increased up to a Life Ban from all Junior WAFC Competitions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3c. General</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules &amp; Regulations will be subject to penalties as per 'Section F: Suspensions'.</li> <li>ii. Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players, umpires, or opposition officials, under any circumstances.</li> </ul>