



# **RULES AND REGULATIONS 2024**



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# INTRODUCTION

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The WAFL Rules & Regulations reflect the following guiding principles:

- To promote, develop, and ensure the effective management of WAFL football matches and recognise the WAFL as the pre-eminent league in Western Australia;
- To recognize that the WAFL Competition sits within a national framework and is commensurate with other State leagues;
- To create an exciting and even competition which is appealing to the public;
- To ensure the WAFL is a broadcast quality competition;
- To adopt good governance and integrity within the WAFL competition;
- To ensure Player welfare is paramount;
- To administer natural justice in Arbitration and Tribunal hearings;
- To ensure transparency and fairness in transfer rules and Total Player Payments;
- To strive for consistency of coaching standards and the development of Players in the Colts competition;
- To encourage good sportsmanship; and
- To providing a safe, fair and inclusive game day environment for all involved.

The WAFC conducts the WAFL competition in accordance with its power under the Constitution of WAFC.

These Rules & Regulations:

- have been drafted in an effort to simplify the Player Rules and Regulations and By-Laws that have evolved since first published on 14 February 1986 and the Country Zoning Regulations introduced in 1972;
- contain 'introductory boxes' which provide background, context and meaning to the Rules that follow;
- contain policies in the Schedules which form part of the Rules & Regulations;
- have been drafted with input from the WAFL Clubs;
- will refer back to preceding versions of the Rules and Regulations should there be any dispute regarding the interpretation of the current Rule and Regulations; and
- may be amended by WAFC from time to time as it, in its absolute discretion, deems fit.

The WAFL competition plays under the Laws of Australian Football as determined by the Australian Football League. These Laws are updated annually and published by the AFL. The WAFC may deviate from these Laws in order to provide for Laws which better suit the WAFL competition.

All Players must indicate their willingness to abide by the WAFL Rules and Regulations by signing the Competition Registration Form and the Playing Contract with their WAFL Club.

Each rule shall be read and construed independently of the other provisions of these Rules. Parts of a rule may be valid if other parts or provisions of the rule were deleted or adjusted.

The WAFC will act in the best interests of the competition, without undue formality and without being bound by the rules if they consider it is not in the best interests of the competition.

Any matter of any kind whatsoever not dealt with or provided for in this document may be dealt with in such manner as the WAFC determines.

A copy of these WAFL Rules and Regulations will be provided on the WA Football Website [www.wafootball.com.au](http://www.wafootball.com.au) which may be updated from time to time.

# 1 REGISTRATION OF WAFL PLAYERS

The West Australian Football League (**WAFL**) registration system aims to promote the inclusion of geographically Zoned Players on WAFL Club lists and to limit the recruiting of Players that are external to Club boundaries. As a result, the registration system has defined limitations placed on the ability for WAFL Clubs to recruit Players. This registration system has been implemented to enhance the geographic zoned model adopted by the West Australian Football Commission (**WAFC**) for football in Western Australia.

The West Australian football system allows for Players to participate at multiple levels of competition. Conceptually, the Australian Football League (**AFL**) is the highest level, followed by the WAFL and Community Football (Senior Metropolitan and Country Leagues). Player movement is determined by transfer and permit guidelines as outlined by the AFL National Transfer Regulations and further defined in Rules 1.4 and 1.6, of these Rules.

The West Australian Football League implements a points system for registered senior Players of a WAFL Club and a Colts List for Zoned Players. Limitations placed on WAFL Clubs through the use of the points system and a Colts List may have an impact on the ability of a Player to be registered to a WAFL Club. Guidelines for the registration of senior Players with a WAFL Club are defined in Rule 2 (Registered Senior Player Points List) and colts Players are defined in Rule 12 relating to the Colts Competition.

## 1.1 Registration

### 1.1.1 Registration Process

- a) The Registration Process will be overseen by the WAFC.
- b) The WAFC shall assess and determine any question relating to the right or qualification of any person to register in the WAFL competition.
- c) Prior to any Player playing in any WAFL Match or any public announcement or points list adjustment, the WAFL Club in accordance with 5.6.1 b) & c) must:
  - i. submit a completed WAFL Registration Form (Form 1)
    - a. if the player has transferred from or is zoned to another WAFL Club, and/or
    - b. if the player is being transferred outside of the national transfer registration period, unless that player is an interstate recruit, is listed on the Senior Protected List and has had their Player Contract approved by the WAFC; and/or
    - c. if a player is under 18 years of age and does not currently live within the zone of the WAFL Club they are registering with and in accordance with 1.1.1 c) iv
    - d. a player is a delisted AFL player returning to his club of origin
  - ii. present an electronic copy of the relevant Player Contract to the WAFC for inspection if the player is being added to/or listed on the Senior Protected List in accordance with Rule 1.2.3; and
  - iii. ensure compliance in accordance with Rule 2.1; and
  - iv. submit a Form 6 – Player Transfer agreement (if applicable)
  - v. For the avoidance of doubt, all documents must be submitted via docusign.
- d) For the avoidance of doubt, any player participating in a WAFL League match must have their playing contract submitted to the WAFL for approval prior to participating in a match.
- e) All WAFL Players (League, Reserves, Colts and Futures) must complete an online WAFL Registration form via Play HQ at the beginning of each WAFL Season.
- f) Prior to playing any League Grade Match or at a time determined by the WAFC, a Player must complete the Drug Education module.
- g) Prior to playing any WAFL League or Reserves match, or at a time determined by the WAFC, a player aged 18yrs or over must complete the AFL PPMS prior to Round 1. Should a player turn 18 years of age

- during the season, the player must complete the registration prior to playing their next WAFL match.
- h) It is the responsibility of the WAFL player to supply their name and relevant details to the WAFL via the online WAFL Registration form and/or Form 1.
  - i) In completing the online WAFL Registration form and/Form 1 in accordance with 1.1.1 c) i, a Player agrees to follow the terms as set out in these Rules and accepts that these Rules may be amended from time to time at the sole discretion of the WAFC.
  - j) In the event that any Player or Club fails to provide information or complete the processes for registration in accordance with 1.1.1, the corresponding WAFL Club may be penalised in accordance with Rule [14](#).

### **1.1.2 Player and Club Education**

The WAFC is committed to ensuring safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for all people involved in Australian Rules Football in Western Australia. To achieve this, the WAFC has adopted a specific and consistent approach to a range of social issues, underpinned by education, awareness-raising activities, support services, social responsibilities, research and evaluation, and compliance in line with education programs delivered by the AFL. The following key topics are covered:

- Alcohol
- Anti-Doping
- Problem Gambling
- Illicit Drugs
- Social Media
- Match-Fixing and Corruption
- Mental Health
- Respectful Relationships
- Vilification and Discrimination
- Concussion

As part of their obligations to the WAFC, WAFL Club's Official and Players must attend and complete education programs as required by the WAFC to ensure those participants in the WAFL are informed to ensure a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment.

All Education sessions must be held at the WAFL Club facility, or an equivalent facility.

- a) All Players (Colts, Reserves and League Players) must attend any education session, including online components, facilitated by the WAFC and delivered to WAFL Clubs on key issues and challenges that exist within society and, therefore, within WAFL Clubs as required from time to time by the WAFC.
- b) Any representative, including but not limited to an Authorised Officer of a WAFL Club, may be required to attend and complete the education session contemplated by (a) above upon request by the WAFC.
- c) In the event that any Player or Club Official fails to attend or complete those education sessions contemplated by (a) above, the WAFL Club will be required to liaise with the WAFC to ensure all players and officials have undertaken the education. Non-compliance by the corresponding WAFL Club with Rule 1.1.2 may result in the club being penalised in accordance with Rule [14](#).

### **1.1.3 Authorised Officers**

- a) WAFL Clubs must lodge a list of four (4) persons who shall for the purpose of these Rules, act as that WAFL Club's Authorised Officer.
- b) The Authorised Officers of the Club have the right to act on behalf of the Club in all matters including but not limited to, registrations, transfers, permits, list changes and termination of matches.



- c) WAFL Authorised Officers (Form 4) must be updated and lodged with the WAFL as of 1<sup>st</sup> February each year [and](#) lodged to the WAFC via Docusign.
- d) In the event that an Authorised Officer is no longer required by the WAFL Club to act as an Authorised Officer, or the list of four (4) persons otherwise requires amendment during the year, the WAFL Club must update the WAFL of the change immediately by Completing a new Form 4 on Docusign.

#### **1.1.4 Minimum Age of Registration**

- a) Any Player reaching 16 years of age during the current season's Calendar Year may apply to the WAFL (League, Reserves or Colts) to register as a Player of a WAFL Club.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, any player reaching 15 years of age during the current season's Calendar year may apply to play WAFL Futures but will be ineligible to play WAFL Colts, Reserves or League.
- b) A Player registration will only be accepted by the WAFL if the Player satisfies the Minimum Age Criteria.

#### **1.1.5 Obligations of the WAFC**

- a) The WAFC has an obligation to:
  - i. ensure any application for registration is lodged in accordance with these Rules;
  - ii. approve those applications which conform with these Rules; and
  - iii. deny those applications which do not conform with these Rules and advise the unsuccessful WAFL Club of the denial of registration.

#### **1.1.6 Obligations of the WAFL Club**

- a) WAFL Clubs must complete a WAFL Registration Form (Form 1) signed by the Player (and parent/guardian where the Player is under 18 years of age), and/or ensure an online registration form is completed by the player as per Rule 1.1.1.
- b) Where a WAFL Registration Form (Form 1) is required in accordance with 1.1.1 c) i., the WAFL Registration Form must be provided to the WAFL in accordance with e) below and signed by an Authorised Officer of the WAFL Club prior to the Player playing any match for that WAFL Club.
- c) WAFL Clubs must not play any person who is not regarded as a Registered Player of that WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.
- d) Unless a Player is regarded as a Registered Player with the WAFL Club, the Player will be considered ineligible and the Club will be penalised in accordance with Rule [14](#) in the event that the Player participates in any scheduled Matches.
- e) All required paperwork as per 1.1.1 c) must be completed, [and](#) lodged to the WAFC on Docusign.

### 1.1.7 Licence and Funding Agreements

On January 1 2005 the WAFC granted WAFL Clubs a licence to field teams in the WAFL Competition which commenced on 1 November 2004 with further licences granted over the duration of the WAFL Competition. Broadly speaking, the Licence Agreements permit the relevant WAFL Club to field teams in the WAFL Competition on and subject to the terms and conditions of the Licence Agreement and in accordance with the terms of the WAFC Constitution.

Similarly, the WAFC provides funding to WAFL Clubs as determined by the Funding Agreements which imposes obligations on WAFL Clubs in return for financial support provided by the WAFC.

Both the Licence Agreement and the Funding Agreement allows the WAFC to impose penalties for breach of either the Licence Agreement or the Funding Agreement.

- a) In order to field any team in the WAFL Competition, the Club responsible for that team must be in possession of a licence as granted by the WAFC.
- b) The terms of the licence contemplated by (a) above shall be governed by a Licence Agreement.
- c) Those WAFL Clubs in possession of a licence may be provided funding by the WAFC in consideration of the terms and principles determined by the WAFC.
- d) The terms of the licence contemplated by (c) above shall be governed by a Funding Agreement.
- e) Any WAFL Club party to a Licence Agreement or Funding Agreement acknowledges that both documents are fundamental to their participation in any competition governed by the WAFC.
- f) Any WAFL Club who breaches either a Licence Agreement or Funding Agreement will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

### 1.1.8 Cancellation of Registration

- a) The WAFC may at any time and on such conditions as it thinks fit cancel or suspend the registration of a Player, Coach or Official when it is of the opinion that the Player, Coach or Official has:
  - i. conducted themselves in a manner unbecoming of a WAFL Coach, Player or Official;
  - ii. conducted themselves in a manner likely to prejudice the reputation or interests of the WAFC;
  - iii. has brought the game of football into disrepute;
  - iv. has been found guilty by the WAFL Match Review Panel or Tribunal three times in one season;or
  - v. has met criteria defined in AFL National Deregistration Guidelines.
- b) Notwithstanding (a) above, the WAFC in its sole discretion may refer any allegation of a breach of the Laws of Australian Football by a person to the WAFL Tribunal.

### 1.1.9 Player Ineligibility

- a) A Player is deemed an Ineligible Player by the WAFC where that Player or their WAFL Club:
  - i. fails to comply with any provision contained in Rule 1;
  - ii. is currently under suspension (in any league); or
  - iii. has had their registration cancelled in accordance with Rule 1.1.8.
- b) Where an Ineligible Player participates in a sanctioned WAFL match, the team that Player represented will be considered as playing an Ineligible Player and the WAFL Club to which that team belongs will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, penalties will be classified as a Major Breach, Intermediate Breach or Minor

Breach as follows:

- i. Major Breach
    - a. Player is over 19 years of age has not had a completed registration or a permit of any type lodged with the WAFL and is currently registered in an alternative league;
    - b. Player is under 19 years of age and is not zoned to the WAFL Club.
    - c. Player is currently under suspension in any league;
    - d. Player is currently listed for WAFL Club on Supplementary List as defined in Rule 2.3; or
    - e. Player registration had been previously cancelled by the WAFL or has been nationally de-registered under AFL National deregistration policy.
  - ii. Intermediate Breach
    - a. Player has previously had registration form lodged with WAFL, is registered in another senior league and did not complete relevant permit for Temporary Registration.
    - b. Player is registered or is playing on temporary registration and is currently listed for WAFL Club on Long Term Injury List as defined in Rule 2.4.
    - c. Player is in breach of Top-Up Player guidelines outlined in Rule 2.5.
    - d. Player was not included on the 37 list and participates in League Football.
  - iii. Minor Breach
    - a. Player is zoned under 19 years of age and registration form was not included prior to the match.
    - b. Player is a registered Colts aged Player who does not qualify in accordance with Rule 12.1 and is deemed to be an Ineligible Player.
- d) In the event a WAFL Club is deemed to have committed a Major Breach, the Club will:
- i. lose all premiership points and these will be awarded to the opposition team, where applicable;
  - ii. record a match score of zero points for and maintain the original opposition score as their points against, however the team in opposition will maintain the original match percentage (the scores stand); and
  - iii. individual Player statistics for the match will stand as recorded, meaning all Players receive a match credit for games totals, match statistics are included in Player tallies and any reports to be assessed by the WAFL Tribunal stand.

## 1.2 Rules Relating to Registration

### 1.2.1 Zoned Players

The WAFL operates under a zoning agreement that outlines WAFL Club geographical recruitment zones. The aim of this system is to develop and promote Players from within their respective WAFL Club allocated zone.

- a) WAFL Club metropolitan and country zones are as defined in Rule 10.
- b) A Player is considered a Zoned Player of their respective WAFL Club until they are turning 18 years of age or older in that current season calendar year. A Player is also considered a Zoned Player if they are included on the WAFL Club Colts List as defined in Rule 12. Any Player that is not yet turning 18 years of age or younger in that calendar year may not transfer to another WAFL Club unless there is a mutual agreement reached with the zoned WAFL Club.
- c) Players (or Player representatives) that approach a WAFL Club that is not their zoned Club are to be referred to their zoned WAFL Club. Any contact or discussion with a Zoned Player that is under 18 years of age and/or who is not turning 18 in that calendar year and not zoned must be initiated with the zoned

WAFL Club and permission granted by that WAFL Club to allow for any further discussion to take place. WAFL Clubs that make any approach or contact with a Zoned Player of another WAFL Club will have the appropriate penalty applied as defined in Rule 14.

- d) A Player that is under 18 years of age is considered a Zoned Player and may be recruited by another WAFL Club provided they satisfy criteria outlined in Rule 1.3 - Family History.
- e) Any Player that is turning 18 years of age or older in that calendar year and is not included on the WAFL Clubs Colts 28 or Senior 37 list is automatically eligible for transfer between WAFL Clubs.
- f) A Player is bound to their WAFL Club zone where the Player has lived in a Permanent Residence within the WAFL Club metropolitan or country zone for a period of not less than 18 consecutive months.
- g) In the event that a Player's parents reside at more than one address the Permanent Residence is determined by the address that the Player primarily resides.
- h) For the purposes of establishing Permanent Residence in accordance with (g) above, the WAFC may request further documentation to establish the players custodial parent and consideration may be given to:
  - i. the residential address of the custodial parent; and
  - ii. the residential address listed at the players school;
- i) Any person who is temporarily residing within a WAFL Club zone for the purpose of attending a scholastic institute, military or service institute or is incarcerated in a correctional facility, shall not become bound to the WAFL Club in that WAFL Club zone.
- j) WAFL Clubs acting contrary to this Rule 1.2.1 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14

### **1.2.2 Non-Football Player Zoning**

The purpose of this rule is to enable potential players turning 16 years of age or older who do not currently play AFL football at any level to be introduced into the Football Talent Pathway. This will enable first choice athletes to register with a WAFL Club and not be residentially bound.

- a) Any person who has not held an active Australian Football registration for the preceding twenty-four (24) months at any level and is turning 15, 16, 17 or 18 years of age in that calendar year will be eligible to register with any WAFL Club in the calendar year the Player turns 16 years of age or older, regardless of where the Player may be zoned under these Rules.
- b) For the purpose of this rule, if a Player has actively played school football (Public Schools Association including Aquinas College, Christ Church Grammar, Guildford Grammar, Hale School, Scotch College, Trinity College and Wesley College), the WAFC will utilise the national registration database to review the history of a Player prior to determining eligibility as a non-football Player for the purposes of this Rule.

### 1.2.3 Listed Players

The West Australian Football League operates under a points system for registered Senior Players of a WAFL Club as defined in Rule 2 Registered Senior Player Points List and a Colts List defined in Rule 12. WAFL Clubs are permitted to nominate 37 Players from their Senior Player Points List and 28 Players in their 18th year or older from their Colts List that are regarded as Listed Players of that WAFL Club.

Listed Players may only transfer to another WAFL Club if there is mutual agreement reached with the current WAFL Club or if they are regarded as eligible for transfer subject to criteria outlined in Rule 1.4.6 Eligibility for Transfer between WAFL Clubs.

Further to the nominated 37 Senior Players and 28 Colts Players defined by the WAFL Club the following criteria will apply. (The WAFLC may adjust the number of listed players at their discretion from time to time).

- a) Any Player who is registered with a WAFL Club and moves interstate or overseas either for personal reasons, through interstate transfer (from the WAFL Club) or is registered to an AFL Club, shall remain tied to the WAFL Club as if he were at all times included on the Club's list of 37 Senior Players or Colts List, whether or not they are so included until:
  - i. The Player is transferred by his WAFL Club to any other Club, WAFL or otherwise. The WAFL Club may include the Player on their supplementary list as defined in Rule 2.3 Supplementary List on completion of transfer from the WAFL Club.
  - ii. In the event that the Primary Club fails to list the player on the Club's list of 37 Senior Players within the expiry of six (6) calendar days of the Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) being lodged, the Transfer will be deemed to be approved.
- b) All AFL Senior or Rookie list Players that have been delisted by their respective AFL Club and are bound to their WAFL Club as outlined in Rule 1.2.3 a) shall be eligible for transfer to another WAFL Club subject to the payment of a transfer fee not exceeding the maximum determined under Rule 1.5 Transfer Fees.

#### 1.2.3.1 Notice of Player Discussion

In order to ensure transparency across the WAFL, Players and/or representatives of are prevented from holding discussions with WAFL Clubs, other than their own, without notifying their Primary WAFL Club.

The Destination WAFL Club is required to advise the Primary WAFL Club of all discussions between the Club and the Player and/or representatives of the player.

It is the obligation of a Destination WAFL Club to notify a Primary WAFL Club of any discussions with one of their Listed Players provides the Primary WAFL Club with the opportunity to consider that Player's position and where appropriate, hold their own discussions in relation that Player's future at the WAFL Club.

These provisions ensure transparency across the WAFL in the interests of all WAFL Clubs.

- a) Listed Players in accordance with Rule 1.2.3, may make approach or may be approached by an alternate WAFL Club outside the Transfer Application Period contained in Rule 1.4.1, provided a Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) is lodged detailing discussion within 24 hours of the discussion occurring.
- b) A Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) must be lodged by the WAFL Club (Destination Club) who is approaching or has been approached by the Player using the WAFL Online administration system.
- c) Following a Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) being lodged in accordance with a) or b), the Player's primary WAFL Club and the destination Club will receive a notification by email of the discussion having

occurred.

- d) Should the destination Club make an offer (including any subsequent offers) to the Player, a new Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) must be lodged using WAFL Online for each offer within 24 hours of the offer being made.
- e) Subject to d) above, the Destination Club must lodge all particulars of the offer in writing to the WAFC (wafitpp@wafc.com.au) upon lodgment of the Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10) within 24 hours of the offer being made.
- f) WAFL Clubs may only approach or have Player discussions with another WAFL Club's Listed Player during the period as determined by the WAFC at the conclusion of the WAFL season until the end of the Transfer Applications Period in accordance with Rule 1.4.1.
- g) For the avoidance of doubt, all players listed on the WAFL Online administration system will be considered as Listed players and subject to f) above and Rule 1.4 where no player can be transferred between WAFL clubs.
- h) WAFL Clubs acting contrary to this Rule 1.2.3.1 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14

### **1.2.3.2 Permission to Train**

- a) No Listed Players, whether contracted or uncontracted, may train with any other Club, unless there has been a mutual agreement between Clubs documented in a Permission to Train (Form 22) or Transfer Agreement (Form 6), stating the terms with which permission is granted.
- b) For the purposes of this Rule, training includes any involvement in any team activity, or any activities supervised by any member of the coaching staff at a Club.
- c) The Primary WAFL Club must lodge the Permission to Train (Form 22) using WAFL Online administration system.
- d) Following a Permission to Train (Form 22) being lodged in accordance with (c), the Player's primary WAFL Club and the destination WAFL Club will receive a notification of the approval by email.
- e) No Listed Player, whether contracted or uncontracted, may play any Inter-Club or Intra-Club Match with any other Club, unless there has been a mutual agreement between Clubs provided by Permission to Train (Form 22) or Transfer Agreement (Form 6), stating the terms with which permission is granted.
- f) In the event that a Player intends to play in any Inter-Club or Intra-Club Match with any destination Club, the Player's primary WAFL Club must lodge the Permission to Train (Form 22) using WAFL Online administration system.
- g) Following a Permission to Train (Form 22) or Transfer Agreement (Form 6) being lodged in accordance with (f), the Player's primary WAFL Club and the destination WAFL Club will receive a notification of the approval by email.
- h) Once written permission is granted, the Primary Club may not retract permission without written agreement from the WAFC. If it is agreed by the WAFC to retract the permission the destination club must cease all contact with the player immediately.
- i) WAFL Clubs acting contrary to this Rule 1.2.3.2 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14

### 1.2.4 Interstate Players

To promote the development of Players within defined WAFL Club zones, the WAFC places restrictions on Players that are recognised as Interstate Players.

Broadly speaking, an Interstate Player is a Player who has transferred to the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 from another state outside of Western Australia and who did not have their first senior football registration recorded in Western Australia.

- a) Subject to (e), a WAFL Club may have up to eight (8) Interstate Players or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8.
- b) Interstate Players must be recognised by a WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 2.2.
- c) Interstate Players, other than those recruited by a WA AFL Club, who have not previously played in the WAFL, may choose which WAFL Club with which they wish to register.
- d) Where an Interstate Player that is turning 18 years of age or older in that calendar year and has not lived in another WAFL Club zone for a period of 18 months they may choose which WAFL Club with which they wish to register (see Rule 1.2.1).
- e) AFL Players or Rookie Players not from Western Australia who play in the WAFL as a result of being drafted by a Western Australian AFL Club are not included in the number of Interstate Players at a WAFL Club.
- f) AFL Players or Rookie Players not from Western Australia once delisted from their respective WA AFL Club will be regarded as Interstate Players to any WAFL Club who may recruit them to play.
- g) AFL Players or Rookie Players not from Western Australia who are registered in the WAFL whilst playing for their respective AFL Club will not be recognised as previously registered in the WAFL should they leave the state and return at a later date.
- h) Players originating from a State or Territory other than Western Australia who are recruited in satisfaction of the Family History criteria of Rule 1.3 will not be regarded as Interstate Players.
- i) The WAFC may, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:
  - i. Adjust the maximum number of interstate players at a WAFL Club based on an individual club circumstances. Ie Competitive Balance

### 1.2.5 Community League Players (Western Australia)

The WAFL aims to promote Player development and allows Players registered in Community Leagues within the state of Western Australia to register with a WAFL Club.

Community Football Leagues are amateur and country leagues; including any of the Perth Football League, the Metropolitan Football League or affiliated Country Football WA leagues.

A Player may be registered at a Primary Club in the WAFL however they may still play for a Community Football League. This ensures that Community Football Leagues receive the benefit of quality WAFL Players in their games where practical.

Players may register through transfer in accordance with Rule 1.4, or be granted Season Permit with the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.6.

- a) Players may play under Season Permit between WAFL and affiliated CFWA leagues in accordance with Rule 1.6.
- b) Players may play under Season Permit between WAFL and affiliated metropolitan senior community

leagues in accordance with Rule 1.6.

- c) Players transferring out of the WAFL, who have been transferred to a WAFL Club from a Community Club shall be transferred back to their club of origin. Should the player wish to be transferred to an alternative community club, the player will need to be transferred from that community club. Players are still eligible to be permitted in accordance with Rule 1.6.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, if there is a transfer agreement between two community clubs, the agreement/ document must be uploaded to the players Play HQ profile by the WAFL Club authorised officer.

### 1.2.6 Coaches

- a) The Head Coach of each grade (League, Reserves, Colts) must hold an AFL Level two coach accreditation at the commencement of the season in the current football calendar year.
- b) Assistant coaches may be actively working towards their level two coach accreditation for the current season.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, “actively working towards” means the coach (non-playing) must be registered for the AFL Level two coach accreditation course in the current season calendar year and must have completed the course within that calendar year.
- d) Any Player seeking to receive payment or benefits for coaching purposes, in accordance with Rule 5.4viii must apply to the WAFC for approval.
  - i. In accordance with d), the Player (seeking to be a coach at any level) must either hold a current minimum level two (2) coaching accreditation prior to the commencement of the season and must provide evidence of such accreditation or training as the case may be upon application to the WAFC; or
  - ii. Satisfy the below criteria:
    - A. must hold a current Level 1 Coach Accreditation and be working towards, in accordance with B) below, a Level 2 Coach accreditation in the current season calendar year; and
    - B. must have completed the Level 2 Coach Accreditation before the 14<sup>th</sup> of October in the current season. Failure to complete the level 2 course prior to this date will result in any benefit to the player(s) being included in the Club TPP for the current season.
  - iii. A Club may apply for a maximum of two (2) players to fulfill coaching roles in any calendar year.
  - iv. A Club may allocate a maximum of \$5,000 per player to a maximum of \$10,000 per club.
  - v. The WAFC will take into consideration, but not limited to, the following:
    - A. Age of the player;
    - B. Any previous coaching experience, length of time a level one accreditation has been held for;
    - C. Position description associated with the coaching role;
    - D. Benchmarking payment/ benefit against other coaching positions and remuneration.
  - vi. The WAFC may, in its absolute discretion, approve or deny any application.
  - vii. For the avoidance of doubt, any payment made to any Player, who has not achieved a minimum Level 2 Accreditation or had an application approved by the WAFC in accordance with d), for coaching services will be deemed a player payment or benefit.
- e) All coaches must register with their club on Coach AFL before Round 1 of the current season.
- f) A person who is a Listed Player with a WAFL club at any time may seek to become a non-playing coach of another WAFL club with approval of their primary listed club.
- g) The primary club must complete a permission to train form or an agreement between the two clubs for another person who satisfies (f).
- h) A person participating as a non-playing coach in accordance with (f) must gain a transfer in accordance with [Rule 1.4](#) from their Primary WAFL Club before being able to become a Registered Player with their Destination WAFL Club.



- i) Where a coach is deregistered of their Coaching Accreditation, then the coach is no longer permitted to coach in the WAFL Competition.

## 1.3 Family History

The WAFL promotes the ability for family members to maintain links to WAFL Clubs.

Players must satisfy the provisions of this Rule 1.3 in order to be considered for registration at a WAFL Club under which they are not geographically zoned.

- a) A Player who satisfies criteria in accordance with Rule 1.3.1, 1.3.2, or 1.3.3 will be eligible to register with a WAFL Club provided that Player is not already a Registered Player with their zoned WAFL Club.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, if a Player is Registered with their zoned WAFL Club, they will be deemed ineligible to satisfy the provisions of Rule 1.3.
- b) Once registration and transfer requirements are completed in accordance with these Rules, the Player will be regarded as a local Zoned Player of that WAFL Club.
- c) In addition to the Player's completed WAFL Registration Form (Form 1), the WAFL Club must submit the following (as applicable):
  - a) Father / Son (Form 5a)
  - b) Great Grandfather/ Grandfather / Grandson (Form 5a)
  - c) Brother / Brother (Form 5b)
- d) The WAFL Club may be required to provide when requested, any further information deemed necessary by the WAFL in order to prove identity or validity of the associated family member.

### 1.3.1 Father / Son

- a) A Player may become a Registered Player for the WAFL Club for which his father played or was associated where that Player's father:
  - i. played in fifty (50) or more League Matches with that WAFL Club; or
  - ii. played for one (1) WAFL Club for a combined total of 85 League or Reserve Matches in at least five (5) football seasons; or
  - iii. was elected as a Life Member of the WAFL Club; or
  - iv. held a full time administrative position at the WAFL Club for a combined period (if employment is broken) of ten (10) years; or
  - v. qualified for and was drafted to the AFL (or recruited by an AFL Club prior to the draft) from a WAFL Club and played:
    - a. fifty (50) AFL Matches; or
    - b. 85 AFL and State League Matches (as an AFL Player) combined, over five (5) years

### 1.3.2 Great Grandfather / Grandfather / Grandson

- a) A Player may become a Registered Player for the WAFL Club for which his great grandfather or grandfather played or was associated where that Player's great grandfather or grandfather:
  - i. played in 50 or more League Matches with that WAFL Club; or
  - ii. played for (1) WAFL Club for a combined total of 85 League or Reserve Matches in at least five (5) football seasons; or
  - iii. was elected as a Life Member of any the WAFL Club; or
  - iv. held a full time administrative position at the WAFL Club for a period (or a combined period if the employment is broken) of ten (10) years; or
  - v. qualified for and was drafted to the AFL (or recruited by an AFL Club prior to the draft)

from a WAFL Club and played:

- a. fifty (50) AFL Matches; or
- b. 85 AFL and State League Matches (as an AFL Player) combined, over five (5) years.

### 1.3.3 Brother / Brother

This Rule 1.3.3 is only to apply where brothers are forced to play with different WAFL Clubs due to changes in the WAFL Club allocated zones.

- a) A Player may become a Registered Player for the WAFL Club for which his brother played or was associated where:
  - i. both brothers must have the same Mother and/or Father; and
  - ii. the first brother must have played his first game of Colts, Reserves or League prior to reaching 19 years of age; and
  - iii. the first brother must be a Registered Player of a WAFL Club playing either Colts, Reserves or League level at the time of application, or has progressed onto AFL level through that WAFL Club; or
  - iv. the first brother has played at least fifty (50) League Matches or played for the WAFL Club for a combined total of 85 League or Reserve Matches in at least five (5) football seasons.

## 1.4 Transfers

The West Australian Football League operates in alignment with the AFL National Transfer Regulations to determine transfer guidelines of Players between and amongst all state bodies, state leagues and community football bodies.

In circumstance where the AFL National Transfer Regulations do not apply, or are only applicable to Players currently registered or applying for registration with the West Australian Football League, the following criteria will be used to determine the outcome of transfer.

### 1.4.1 National Transfer Application Period

- a) A Transfer may be lodged between 1 February to 30 June in each calendar year.
- b) No Application for Transfer is to be lodged after 11:59pm (AEST) on 30 June in any calendar year.
- c) The WAFC shall schedule a Christmas Closed Period which will be communicated via email to all WAFL Clubs during which period no Application for Transfer is to be lodged or player discussion commenced as per Rule 1.2.3.1. Clubs may not continue any previous discussions with players during the Christmas Closed Period.
- d) For the purposes of this Rule 1.4, the period between 1 February to 30 June in each calendar year will be the Application Period.
- e) Where any Player registration is received within the Application Period, the Application for Transfer will be processed by the WAFC in accordance with this Rule 1.4, subject to the AFL National Transfer Regulations.
- f) Where any Application for Transfer is received outside of the Application Period the application will be received by the WAFC and the application may be considered at the discretion of the WAFC, subject to Rule 1 and Rule 2.

- g) Where any Application for Transfer is received outside of the Application Period and the Player wishes to participate in activities such as training and/or practice matches with the Destination Club, a written agreement between the Primary and Destination Clubs must be submitted in accordance with Rule 1.2.3.2 prior to that Player as training and/or participating in any practice match.

#### **1.4.2 Procedure for Transfer**

- a) The WAFL Club or player must lodge an Online Clearance or Registration Form (Form 1) with the WAFC in accordance with Rule 1.1.6(a), detailing all information relating to the Transfer.
- b) The Application for Transfer must be completed online via PlayHQ system by the Club or Player seeking to have the Player transferred (i.e. the Destination Club), or by the WAFL on behalf of that Destination Club.
- c) Following the lodgement of the Application for Transfer online via PlayHQ, all relevant parties will be notified via email and the Player's Primary Club will have six (6) calendar days (including public holidays) to respond.
- d) Clubs may view Transfers involving their Club at any time in the PlayHQ system using their log in credentials to determine whether the Transfer is awaiting approval, pending, approved or denied.

#### **1.4.3 Approvals of Transfer**

- a) Subject to (b), the Primary Club may approve the Application for Transfer at any time within the Application Period by notifying their affiliated league of the approval using the PlayHQ system.
- b) In the event that the Primary Club fails to respond within six (6) calendar days of the Application for Transfer being lodged, the Transfer will be deemed to be approved.
- c) The WAFC will only approve transfers in accordance with Rule 1.

#### **1.4.4 Grounds for Refusal**

- a) Subject to (b), the Primary Club may deny the Application for Transfer within the Application Period by notifying their affiliated league of the denial via PlayHQ system.
- b) Subject to 1.4.4 b) ii. and iii, a Primary Club may refuse a Transfer Request where it can substantiate that the relevant Player:
  - i. is a Contracted Player whose current player arrangement requires the player to continue to play for the Primary Club; and/or
  - ii. is financially indebted to the Primary Club as evidenced by proper financial records; and/or
  - iii. is in possession of Primary Club property (for example, Primary Club jumper or equipment)
  - iv. wishes to withdraw their Transfer Request in accordance with Rule 1.4.5.
- c) Where the Primary Club refuses a transfer request on grounds in accordance with 1.4.4 b) ii. and iii. In respect of a Player, those grounds will not be valid grounds for that Primary Club to refuse a Transfer Request for that Player once 24 months has elapsed since the date of the initial refusal of Transfer Request.
- d) Upon request by the WAFL, a Primary Club refusing to transfer a player must provide evidence (written acknowledgement by both parties) in order to substantiate the refusal within four (4) calendar days of such request. Failure to provide such evidence may result in the WAFL approving the Transfer Request upon resubmission of the Transfer Request by the player or Destination Club.
- e) In the event that a Player is not a Listed Player for their respective WAFL Club and has their Application for Transfer denied on the basis of (b)(ii) or (b)(iii) above, that Player's Primary WAFL Club must not include that Player as a Listed Player before that Player has been granted the opportunity to repay a financial debt or return Club equipment.
- f) Where an Application for Transfer is from one WAFL Club to another WAFL Club, denial of transfer will

be accepted by the WAFC in the event that that Player is deemed ineligible for transfer in accordance with Rule 1.4.6.

### 1.4.5 Transfer Withdrawal

- a) A WAFL Club or Player may withdraw their Registration Form (Form 1) and Application for Transfer by completing a Withdrawal of Registration Form (Form 1b) and submitting the Withdrawal of Registration Form (Form 1b) to the WAFC.
- b) The Withdrawal of Registration Form (Form 1b) must be submitted to the WAFC prior to the acceptance of transfer by the Player's Primary Club or the expiry of the transfer time limit, being six (6) calendar days.

### 1.4.6 Eligibility for Transfer between WAFL Clubs

The WAFL places restrictions on the ability for Players to move between WAFL Clubs for a number of reasons. Players who are considered eligible for transfer may transfer to another WAFL Club in agreement between the current WAFL Club (the Primary Club) and the destination WAFL Club (the Destination Club). A transfer fee may also be applied in accordance with Rule 1.5.

Players who do not satisfy the defined criteria in this Rule 1.4.6, are deemed as ineligible for transfer and may seek transfer by negotiation between WAFL Clubs or appeal to the WAFL Arbitrator in accordance with Rule 6.18.

- a) A Player is eligible to transfer between WAFL Clubs where that Player:
  - i. is an AFL Player or AFL Rookie Player delisted in the current or immediate past season in accordance with Rule 1.2.3(a), and has not signed a Registration Form (Form 1) for their Primary WAFL Club;
  - ii. is twenty-three (23) years of age or older and has been included on their Primary WAFL Club's Supplementary List in accordance with Rule 2.3;
  - iii. is nineteen (19 years of age or older), is one of the 37 Players from the Senior Player Points List that are regarded as Listed Players of that WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.2.3(a), or is not contracted and satisfies one of the following:
    - a. is twenty-three (23) years of age or older and has completed five (5) years of League service to the WAFL Club;
    - b. is twenty-three (23) years of age or older and has played over ninety (90) League Matches for the WAFL Club;
    - c. has completed five (5) years of League service and has played over ninety (90) League Matches for the WAFL Club;
    - d. has not played in any five (5) Matches in any grade of the last eighteen (18) consecutive Matches whilst registered and listed, where Matches missed while suspended or included on the long-term injury list do not count, where any years played in the Colts Grade do not calculate towards the eligibility for the preceding (1) WAFL season;
    - e. was only available for selection in the League or Reserves Grade teams during the preceding two (2) WAFL seasons, but was not selected to play in the League Team, where any years played in the Colts Grade do not calculate towards the eligibility for the preceding (2) two WAFL seasons; or
    - f. was only available for selection in the League or Reserves Grade teams and has not played thirty (30) Matches in any Grade in four (4) seasons, where Matches missed while suspended or included on the Long Term Injury List

do not count.

A Player is automatically eligible to transfer between WAFL Clubs where that Player is nineteen (19) years of age or older and is not one of the 37 Players from the Senior Player Points List or 28 Players from the Colts List that are regarded as Listed Players of that WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.2.3(a), regardless of whether they are contracted or not.

## **1.5 Transfer Fees**

### **1.5.1 WAFL Players**

- a) WAFL Transfer Fees are defined in accordance with Rule 1.5.7.
- b) Where a Transfer is mutually agreed upon by the Clubs, or determined by the WAFL Arbitrator, the Player is not permitted to play until the settlement fee, payable at the time, is paid and a WAFL Transfer Agreement (Form 6) is signed by the Primary and Destination Club.
- c) Where a WAFL Club agrees to lease a Player from another Club, the Destination Club may not play the Player unless the lease fee payable at the time is paid in full.
- d) Where the Application for Transfer relates to a Player transferring between two (2) WAFL Clubs and the Primary Club and the Destination Club agree to the Transfer:
  - i. the timing of the payment of the transfer fee must be agreed by the two (2) WAFL Clubs;
  - ii. the timing of the payment of the transfer fee may be tied to the number of WAFL League Matches played by the Player on a per game fees basis for Matches played at his Destination Club.
- e) In the event that the Destination Club transfers the Player to another League and subsequently the Player transfers back to the WAFL to a WAFL Club other than the original Destination Club, the original Destination Club must notify the new Destination Club of the per game fees as applied in accordance with (d)(ii) that were agreed between the Primary Club and the Destination Club.
- f) Where the original Destination Club fails to notify the new Destination Club of the per game fees as applied in accordance with (d)(ii), the original Destination Club is liable to pay the per game fees to the Primary Club in relation to WAFL League Matches played by the Player with the new Destination Club.
- g) Any player who has been recruited by a WAFL Stand Alone Club and a transfer fee was payable to a Primary WAFL Club previously for the recruitment of that player, the WAFL Stand Alone Club will be entitled to request a transfer fee should the player seek a transfer to any Destination WAFL Club. The transfer fee payable should not exceed the transfer fee paid by the WAFL Stand Alone Club to the WAFL Primary Club.
- h) If there was no transfer fee paid by a WAFL Stand Alone Club for the recruitment of a player, but the player is listed in accordance with Rule 9.5 then there will be a transfer fee payable to the WAFL Stand Alone Club, in accordance with 1.5.7, if the player transfers to a Destination WAFL Club.

### **1.5.2 CFWA Players**

- a) A country Player is one whose parents are permanent residents in the country.

### **1.5.3 Transfer Agreement Not Reached**

- a) Where a Transfer agreement for a WAFL Player, nineteen (19) years of age and older, is not reached between WAFL Clubs within fourteen (14) days of a transfer denial, the matter will immediately be referred to the WAFC for mediation.
- b) In the event that the dispute is not resolved in accordance with (a) above, the WAFC may refer the matter for determination by the WAFL Arbitrator.
- c) In the absence of agreement on Transfer between WAFL Clubs the amount may be determined by the

WAFC who shall without limiting matters, make a ruling in accordance with Rules 1.5.4, 1.5.5, 1.5.6 and 1.5.7 having regard to the fact that the Primary Club has not had any obligation to make any payments to the Player during the period he has been at a Club other than that Player's Primary Club notwithstanding that for the purposes of the Rules the Player has been tied to the Primary Club in accordance with Rule 1.

d) Any decision of the WAFL Arbitrator is final.

#### **1.5.4 Appeals Regarding Player Transfers**

- a) Where a Player appeals on the grounds that he is entitled to be removed from the Player list of one Club and placed on the Player list of another Club, or transfer to a Community Football League, the WAFL Arbitrator will consider the interests of football and the Player before making his decision.
- b) In relation to the interests of football the WAFL Arbitrator's decision should attempt to:
  - i. ensure sufficient stability in the membership of Club teams to enable team spirit and public support to be maintained;
  - ii. prevent the stronger Clubs from obtaining an unfair proportion of the best Players at the expense of weaker Clubs;
  - iii. provide Clubs with an incentive to expend substantial time and effort in the development of junior and senior football; and
  - iv. enable football to continue to conduct vigorous competitions between competitive and financially viable Clubs.
- c) In relation to the interests of the Player, the WAFL Arbitrator's decision should have regard to:
  - i. the Player's age;
  - ii. the period of service the Player has given to the Club and the number of games played during that time, and the financial and other benefits that have been given to the Player by the Club;
  - iii. the willingness and ability of the Club to employ or continue to employ the Player and select him in the League team on a regular basis;
  - iv. the established and potential performance level of the Player;
  - v. the circumstances under which the Player was recruited by the Club to which he wishes to transfer;
  - vi. the benefits and opportunities available to the Player and the Club to which he wishes to transfer.
- d) The provisions of this Rule 1.5.4 shall apply to any other appeal the WAFL Arbitrator is requested to determine regarding a Player's freedom to transfer from one Club to another Club.

#### **1.5.5 Transfer Fees**

- a) Where the WAFL Arbitrator determines that a Player is entitled to be transferred, the WAFL Arbitrator shall decide on the amount of Transfer Fee to be paid subject to Rule 1.5.6.

#### **1.5.6 Determining the Transfer Fee**

- a) In determining a Transfer Fee, the WAFL Arbitrator shall take into account the Guidelines for Transfer Fees Table at Rule 1.5.7 in making a Transfer Fee determination.
- b) Where the Player is ineligible for transfer between WAFL Clubs in accordance with Rule 1.4.6 then the Player will have a loading of 50% applied to the Transfer Fee.
- c) Any transfer arrangements made between Clubs or set down by the Arbitrator shall be ongoing to the original Club, if a Player is subsequently transferred or listed by another Club or Clubs.
- d) It is the responsibility of the Club transferring the Player to advise the other Club of any ongoing Transfer

Fees.

- e) The Primary Club is liable for such payment of transfer fees if they were to occur in the event that the Primary Club fails to advise the Destination Club of any applicable Transfer Fee.
- f) The amount so determined by the Arbitrator shall be the Transfer Fee payable by the Destination Club to the Primary Club.

## 1.5.7 Table: Transfer Fees

Eligible Players	50% weighting for ineligible Players in accordance with Rule 1.4.6
<p><b>Group 1</b></p> <p><b>Non-Partner \$7,500; Partner Club \$10,000</b>            Club Captain, WAFL State Player, top 3 in Club Fairest &amp; Best, Played at least 100 WAFL League games,            Delisted AFL Player (3 years or greater)            Delisted AFL Player (2 years or less – player is eligible at the ineligible 50% weighting)</p>	<p><b>Non-Partner \$11,250; Partner Club \$15,000</b>            Club Captain, WAFL State Player, top 3 in Club League Fairest &amp; Best, Played at least 100 WAFL League games.            Delisted AFL player (signed a registration form at primary club)</p>
<p><b>Group 2</b></p> <p><b>Non-Partner \$5,500; Partner Club \$7,500</b>            Vice-Captain, top 6 in Club League Fairest and Best, played at least 50 games of his games at league level at his current WAFL Club.</p>	<p><b>Non-Partner \$8,250; Partner Club \$11,250</b>            Vice-Captain, top 6 in Club League Fairest and Best, played at least 50 games of his games at league level at his current WAFL Club.</p>
<p><b>Group 3</b></p> <p><b>Non-Partner \$4,500; Partner Club \$6,000</b>            Regular League Player has played 50% or more of his games at league level over the last two seasons that the player was registered in the WAFL. (years listed on the Supp List do not count towards preceding two seasons)</p>	<p><b>Non-Partner \$6,750; Partner Club \$9,000</b>            Regular League Player has played 50% or more of his games at league level over the last two seasons that the player was registered in the WAFL. (years listed on the Supp List do not count towards preceding two seasons)</p>
<p><b>Group 4</b></p> <p><b>Non-Partner \$3,000; Partner Club \$4,250.</b>            Occasional League Player has played less than 50% of his games at league level over the last two seasons that the player was registered in the WAFL.            Current Colts or Senior Listed Player that has Played State Academy Under 18s, finished Top 5 in the Jack Clarke Medal/Prendergast Medal, Club Colts / Reserves Fairest &amp; Best and is 21 years and under,            (A player who is only a Colts 28 Listed player may have a Ratio – 50% up front and \$500 every three (3) League matches to \$1500)</p>	<p><b>Non-Partner \$4,500; Partner Club \$6,375</b>            Occasional league Player has played less than 50% of his games at league level over the last two seasons that the player was registered in the WAFL.            Current Colts or Senior Listed Player that has played State Academy Under 18’s, finished Top 5 in the Jack Clarke Medal/Prendergast Medal, Club Colts / Reserves Fairest &amp; Best and is 21 years and under.            (A player who is only a Colts 28 Listed player may have a Ratio – 50% up front and \$750 every three (3) League matches to \$2250)</p>
<p><b>Group 5</b></p> <p><b>Non-Partner \$1,500; Partner Club \$2,750</b>            Current Reserves or Colts Player that has not played League Football that does not meet any qualification as a group 4 Player.</p>	<p><b>Non-Partner \$3,000 Partner Club \$4,250</b>  <b>(Suggested 50% up front, 50% to paid on League games played basis).</b>            Current Reserves or Colts Player that has not played League Football that does not meet any qualification as a group 4 Player.            (Ratio – 50% up front and \$750 every three (3) League matches to \$1500)</p>

- a) If a player qualifies in multiple groups, the highest group qualification and transfer fee will be applied
- b) A player needs only to have achieved one definition in a group to be classified in that group
- c) A player’s value may not exceed the maximum value attributed to a players group. This needs to be considered if the primary and destination clubs are 'swapping' a player.
- d) A player who is zoned to a WAFL Club but has not played Reserves or Colts will be considered ineligible for transfer and a Group 5 player for the purpose of the rules.
- e) The reference to partner club is the ‘primary club’ of the player seeking to transfer from, not the destination club of the player. ie Peel Thunder is the recipient of the increased transfer fee.



## 1.6 Permits

The WAFL promotes the development of Players within the state and allows WAFL Clubs to temporarily register a Player for competition through the use of permits. The permit will be regarded as a Temporary Registration in the respective league for the duration of the permit.

The WAFL recognises the permit agreements as outlined in the AFL National Community Football Policy Handbook and Play HQ as follows:

1. **Game Permit:** Allows a Player to play a single match a Club (other than their Primary Club) and does not require Primary Club approval via Play HQ.
2. **Season Permit:** allows a Player to play in more than a single Match for a club (other than their Primary Club) and requires the Primary Club approval via Play HQ.

Clubs are able to view permits involving their Club at any time in the Play HQ system using their log in credentials. The transfers are listed by status such as Awaiting Approval, Pending, Approved or Denied.

### 1.6.1 Game Permit

- a) A Game Permit allows a Player to play for the duration of one (1) match for a WAFL Club other than the CFWA Club under which that Player is registered subject to (b), without a formal transfer to the WAFL Club being required.
- b) A Game Permit may only apply to Players moving between WAFL and affiliated CFWA leagues and Clubs.
- c) Players granted Temporary Registration by way of a Game Permit satisfy the registration requirement for selection in the State 18s program and for nomination in the AFL Draft.
- d) Where a Club seeks a Game Permit for a Player permitting to a WAFL Club from a CFWA Club, the following restrictions apply:
  - i. Game Permits are not valid for use in the WAFL League Matches;
  - ii. a maximum four (4) Game Permits per Player may be granted prior to June 30 in Reserves, Colts or Futures Grades; and
  - iii. a Maximum three (3) Game Permits per Player may be granted post June 30 in Reserves or Colts Grades.
- e) Where a Club seeks a Game Permit for a Player permitting from a WAFL Club to a CFWA Club(s) the following restrictions apply:
  - i. a maximum of six (6) Game Permits per Player may be granted prior to June 30;
  - ii. no maximum match restrictions may be placed on Registered Players of a WAFL Club 19 years of age and under who have been transferred from their CFWA Club of Origin in the current or immediate past season;
  - iii. WAFL Players are permitted to play a maximum one (1) match in any Grade over the duration of a weekend or long-weekend.
- f) Any Player who plays a match that is not in accordance with this Rule 1.6.1 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 1.6.2 Season Permit

- a) A Season Permit allows a Player to play for an extended duration, maximum of one season, for a WAFL Club other than the Community Football League Club under which that Player is registered without a formal transfer to the WAFL Club being required.
- b) The Player may play in matches representing either the Player's Primary Club or the Player's Season Club in the affiliated league of that Club.
- c) The WAFL approves the use of Season Permits between Community Football Leagues including:
  - i. The Perth Football League;
  - ii. The Metropolitan Football League (Formally Mercantile Football League); and
  - iii. The CFWA Affiliated leagues (25 leagues).
- d) Players gaining Temporary Registration by way of a Season Permit satisfy the registration requirement for selection in the State 18s program and for nomination in the AFL Draft.
- e) The WAFL Club may need to lodge a WAFL Registration Form (Form 1) with the WAFL in accordance with Rule 1.1.1, detailing all information relating to the Season Permit.
- f) The Season Permit must be completed via the PlayHQ system by the requesting WAFL Club, or by the Player.
- g) Once the Season Permit is lodged online via the PlayHQ system all relevant parties will be notified via email and the Primary Club will have six (6) calendar days (including public holidays) to respond.
- h) The duration of the Season Permit must be no longer than the end of the current season of the Destination Club's relevant league.
- i) Once the end date of the Season Permit is reached, the Season Permit will automatically expire and the Player will have no Temporary Registration with the Destination Club
  - i. for the avoidance of doubt, a further Season Permit will need to be lodged in order for the Player to play another match.
- j) Players are permitted to play a maximum of one (1) match in any competition, including but not limited to any WAFL or Community Football Leagues, over the duration of a weekend or long-weekend, unless approved by no later than two (2) hours prior to the match by the WAFL, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons.
- k) Where a Player granted a Season Permit and has been included on the WAFL Club Senior Points List in accordance with Rule 2 during the duration of the Season Permit, the Player will be subject to internal WAFL transfer guidelines in accordance with Rule 1.4 should the Player wish to play for an alternative WAFL Club.
- l) Players who have been transferred to a WAFL Club from any Community Football League Club in the current or immediate past season must be permitted/ or cleared back to the respective Community Football League Club, should they be eligible for that competition.
- m) Should a Player wish to be permitted to play for an alternative Community Football League Club, the Player will need to be transferred within the Community Football League system prior to permits being arranged from a WAFL Club or provide an agreement for such permit.
- n) Where an agreement has been made between the WAFL and the CFWA, a Season Permit may be utilised for Players returning to Club of Origin to reduce processing of multiple Match Permits in accordance with Rule 1.6.1.
- o) For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Rule 1.6.2 precludes the application Rule 1.6.1 except for that there will be no requirement to lodge multiple permits online in the PlayHQ system.
- p) Any Player who plays a match that is not in accordance with this Rule 1.6.2 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 1.7 Coach Accreditation

### 1.7.1 General

- a) A Person must be Accredited to coach Australian Football at a Club or Controlling Body.
- b) A Club or Controlling Body may only appoint a Person as a Coach if that Person is Accredited.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, the AFL or Controlling Body does not represent that a Person who has obtained Accreditation is a fit and proper person to be appointed as a Coach. Without limiting the foregoing:
  - i. it is a matter for the Club or Controlling Body appointing a Coach to satisfy itself that a Person is a fit and proper person to be appointed as a Coach;
  - ii. the function of the Accreditation process is primarily to ensure that all Coaches satisfactorily complete the required educational modules for their Accreditation level;
  - iii. as part of the Accreditation process a Person may be required to submit a National Police Check to the AFL or Controlling Body.

### 1.7.2 Accreditation process

#### a) Process

- i. To apply for Accreditation as a Coach, a Person (Applicant) must:
  - A. register on Coach.AFL;
  - B. accurately and honestly complete the relevant Accreditation application form(s) via Coach.AFL; and
  - C. complete:
    1. the relevant training applicable for Foundation Accreditation, Level 2 Accreditation or Level 3 Accreditation (as applicable);and/or
    2. the relevant update or refresher training (as applicable).
- ii. Following completion of the Accreditation process set out in Rule 1.7.2(a)(i) by an Applicant, the AFL may:
  - A. grant Accreditation to the Applicant; or
  - B. request additional information from the Applicant including a current National Police Check; or
  - C. deal with the matter in such other manner as the AFL sees fit.

#### b) Additional information requested by AFL

- i. Upon receipt of a request for additional information by the AFL under Rule 1.7.2(a)(ii)(B), the Applicant must provide such requested information to the AFL as soon as practicable for assessment.
- ii. Following its assessment of the information provided, the AFL may grant Accreditation to the Applicant at its absolute discretion.
- iii. If the information (including any National Police Check) provided discloses that the Applicant has been convicted of, or is charged with, a Serious Criminal Offence that Applicant will not be granted Accreditation.
- iv. A decision by the AFL under this Rule 1.7.2(b) will be notified to the Applicant confidentially and as soon as reasonably practicable

### 1.7.3 Accreditation Review

#### a) Review right

- i. Where a Person is not granted Accreditation under Rule 1.7.2 that Person may, within 14 calendar days of such decision, by written application have that determination reviewed by the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) within a reasonable period of receipt of such written application.
- ii. A written application under Rule 1.7.3(a)(i):
  - A. must be submitted by email to [coachregistrar@afl.com.au](mailto:coachregistrar@afl.com.au);
  - B. must set out why the Person considers the relevant determination to be incorrect; and
  - C. may include any further information the Person considers relevant.
- iii. In reviewing a written application submitted in accordance with 1.7.3(a)(ii), the AFL

Head of Community Football (or their nominee) may have regard to any matter they consider relevant including but not limited to:

- A. the nature of any information provided under Rule 1.7.2;
  - B. the time elapsed since the date of any charge(s) or conviction(s) disclosed in any information provided under Rule 1.7.2;
  - C. any evidence of a Person's:
    1. good standing in the community, especially since the date of any charge(s) or conviction(s) disclosed in information provided under Rule 1.7.2; and
    2. positive behavioral remediation, especially since the date of any charge(s) or conviction(s) in information provided under Rule 1.7.2.
- iv. Following its review of the written application, the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) may confirm, reverse or modify the original determination.

**b) Appeal right**

- i. A Person the subject of a determination under Rule 1.7.3(a)(iv) may appeal that determination to a panel comprising at least two (2) members appointed by the AFL Executive General Manager Game Development (or their nominee(s)) on one or more of the following grounds:
  - A. the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) failed to have regard to relevant matters or had regard to irrelevant matters;
  - B. the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) was affected by a conflict of interest; or
  - C. the determination, or any part of the process undertaken, was inconsistent with Rule 5 or any relevant laws.
- ii. Any such appeal must be submitted by email to [coachregistrar@afl.com.au](mailto:coachregistrar@afl.com.au) within seven (7) calendar days of a determination under Rule 1.7.3(a)(iv).
- iii. A Person may not produce fresh evidence at an appeal under this Rule 1.7.3(b) without leave of the panel.
- iv. A determination of the panel is final and subject only to any rights of appeal provided by law.

**c) Accreditation status**

The AFL will endeavour to note each Person's Accreditation status on their Coach. AFL account, including any relevant details about that Person's Accreditation history (including any review and appeal history).

## **1.7.4 Coach citations**

- a) Where a Coach is suspended under Rule 6 of this document, the WAFC (in consultation with the AFL) may issue a Citation Notice to that Coach in addition to the original suspension.
- b) Following the issue of a Citation Notice to a Coach, the AFL will record that Citation Notice on the Coach's Coach.AFL account.

[Guidance note: Refer to Schedule 19. If a Coach receives three Citation Notices, then that Coach may lose their Accreditation in accordance with Schedule 19.]

## **1.8 Umpire Accreditation**

### **1.8.1 General**

- a) A Person must be Accredited to umpire a Match unless otherwise permitted by a Controlling Body in accordance with that Controlling Body's rules and regulations.
- b) A Controlling Body may only appoint a Person as an Umpire if that Person is Accredited unless otherwise permitted by the Controlling Body in accordance with the Controlling Body's rules and regulations.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the AFL does not represent that a Person who has obtained Accreditation is a fit and proper person to be appointed as an Umpire.

Without limiting the foregoing:

- A. it is a matter for the Controlling Body appointing an Umpire to satisfy itself that a Person is a fit and proper person to be appointed as an Umpire;
- B. the function of the Accreditation process is primarily to ensure that all Umpires satisfactorily complete the required educational modules for Accreditation.
- C. as part of the Accreditation process a Person may be required to submit a National Police Check to the Controlling Body or AFL.

## **1.8.2 Accreditation Process**

### **a) Process regulations.**

- i. To apply for Accreditation as an Umpire, a Person (Applicant) must:
  - A. register on OfficialsHQ;
  - B. accurately and honestly complete the relevant Accreditation application form(s) via OfficialsHQ; and
  - C. if applicable, complete:
    - 1. the relevant training applicable for Accreditation; and/or
    - 2. the relevant update or refresher training (as applicable).
- ii. Following completion of the Accreditation process set out in Rule 1.8.2(a)(i) by an Applicant, the AFL may:
  - A. grant Accreditation to the Applicant; or
  - B. request further information from the Applicant including a current National Police Check; or
  - C. deal with the matter in such other manner as the AFL sees fit.

### **b) Further information requested by AFL**

- i. Upon receipt of a request for further information by the AFL under Rule 1.8(a)(ii)(B), the Applicant must provide such requested information to the AFL as soon as practicable for assessment.
- ii. Following an assessment of the information provided, the AFL may grant Accreditation to the Applicant at its absolute discretion.
- iii. If the information (including any National Police Check) provided discloses that the Applicant has been convicted of, or is charged with, a Serious Criminal Offence that Applicant will not be granted Accreditation.
- iv. A decision by the AFL under this Rule 1.8.2(b) will be notified to the Applicant confidentially and as soon as reasonably practicable.

## **1.8.3 Review of determination regarding Accreditation**

### **a) Review right**

- i. Where a Person is not granted Accreditation under Rule 1.8.2 that Person may by written application have that determination reviewed by the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) within a reasonable period of receipt of such written application.
- ii. A written application under Rule 1.8.3(a)(i):
  - A. must be submitted by email to [umpire.afl@afl.com.au](mailto:umpire.afl@afl.com.au);
  - B. must set out why the Person considers the relevant determination to be incorrect; and
  - C. may include any further information the Person considers relevant.
- iii. In reviewing a written application submitted in accordance with Rule 1.8.3(a)(ii), the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) may have regard to any matter they consider relevant including but not limited to:
  - A. the nature of any information provided under Rule 1.8.2;
  - B. the time elapsed since the date of any charge(s) or conviction(s) disclosed in any information provided under Rule 1.8.2;
  - C. any evidence of a Person's:
    - 1. good standing in the community, especially since the date of any

charge(s) or conviction(s) disclosed in information provided under Rule 1.8.2; and

2. positive behavioural remediation, especially since the date of any charge(s) or conviction(s) in information provided under Rule 1.8.2.

iv. Following its review of the written application, the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) may confirm, reverse or modify the original determination.

**b) Appeal right**

i. A Person the subject of a determination under Rule 1.8.3(a)(iv) may appeal that determination to the AFL Executive General Manager of Game Development (or their nominee) on one or more of the following grounds:

A. the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) failed to have regard to relevant matters or had regard to irrelevant matters;

B. the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee) was affected by a conflict of interest; or

C. the determination, or any part of the process undertaken, was inconsistent with Rule 1.8 or any relevant laws.

ii. Any such appeal must be submitted by email to [umpire.afl@afl.com.au](mailto:umpire.afl@afl.com.au) within seven (7) days of a determination under Rule 1.8.3(a)(iv).

iii. A Person may not produce fresh evidence at an appeal under this Rule 1.8.3(b) without leave of the AFL Executive General Manager of Game Development (or their nominee).

iv. A determination of the AFL Executive General Manager of Game Development (or their nominee) is final and subject only to any rights of appeal provided by law.

**c) Accreditation status**

i. The AFL will endeavour to note each Person's Accreditation status on their OfficialsHQ account, including any relevant details about that Person's Accreditation history and any review and appeal history.

## 2 REGISTERED SENIOR PLAYER POINTS LIST

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The Senior Player Points List uses a points allocation system to assess the relative strength of each Player based on their playing background.

Importantly, the Senior Player Points List imposes a 'cap' on the relative strength of a WAFL Club to ensure that no one WAFL Club has a list of Players substantially stronger than any other WAFL Club. The classification of Players in this manner ensures equalisation across the WAFL to the overall advantage of all WAFL Clubs.

### 2.1 Senior List

- a) Each WAFL Club must include the names of all senior Registered Players on a Senior Player Points List that is comprised of a minimum of 55 Players or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8.
- b) Each Player on the Senior Player Points List must be allocated points based on history and aligned to a point category as outlined in Rule 2.1.1.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, there is no maximum number of Players included on the Senior Player Points List.
- d) The Senior Player Points List of Players must not exceed a maximum of 90 cumulative Player points or points in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8.
- e) AFL Players or Rookie Players allocated to WAFL Clubs will not be awarded a point value and will not be included in the minimum of 55 Players.
- f) Players nominated by the WAFL Club and included in the Top 37 (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8) names of the Senior Player Points List are considered Listed Players in accordance with Rule 1.2.3 Listed Players.
- g) Players may not participate in any WAFL League or Reserves Match unless they are included on the WAFL Club Senior Player Points List or are defined as a Top-Up Player (for the Reserves Competition only) for the purposes of Rule 2.5.
- h) Nothing in this Rule 2.1 excuses a Player included on the Senior Player Points List from satisfying the requirements of registration in accordance with Rule 1.
- i) Players possessing temporary registration by way of a Game Permit (in accordance with Rule 1.6.1) are not permitted to be included on the WAFL Club Senior Player Point List.
- j) Players included on the Senior Player Point List registered by way of a Season Permit (Rule 1.6.2) will be regarded as a Registered Player of their respective Temporary WAFL Club should they choose to transfer between WAFL Clubs.
- k) Any player who has played nine (9) or more League matches in the immediate past season or any player with a value of five (5) points or greater must be listed at all times on the WAFL Club senior 37 list (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8), from the commencement of the open period until Round 1 of the next Home and Away season.
- l) Players may not participate in any WAFL League match unless they are included in the top 37 (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8) names on the WAFL Club Senior Player Points List in accordance with Rule 1.2.3 Listed players on the day of the match and in accordance with m).
- m) Players named in the League squad at a time determined by the WAFC, in accordance with Rule 3.3, must be listed on the 37 list (or number of players in accordance with Competitive

Balance Rule 2.8), or have a request to be listed (Form 8) prior to 8:00pm two (2) days prior to the match in accordance with Rule 3.3 a).

- n) For the avoidance of doubt, AFL Stand Alone WAFL Teams are not subject to l) and m).
- o) Any player with a points value of five (5) points or greater and/or is considered an Interstate player in accordance with Rule 1.2.4 with a points value of five (5) points or greater is required to be listed as a 37-listed player (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8), in accordance with 2.1.1 m) above.
- p) Any player with a points value of 5 points or greater and/or is considered an Interstate player in accordance with Rule 1.2.4 with a points value of five (5) points or greater who participates in a League match is required to be listed as a 37-listed player (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8), for the remainder of the season.
- q) The WAFC may, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:
  - i. apply a points value to a WAFL Club based on an individual club circumstances. ie competitive balance
- r) Penalties may apply for a breach of this rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### 2.1.1 Senior List Points

Point Categories are based around four classifications:

<b>Local District</b>	Player from the WAFL Club country or metropolitan zone, set out in Rule 10
<b>Non- District</b>	Player from an alternate WAFL Club country or metropolitan zone
<b>Interstate</b>	Player originally from a state outside of WA; a Player who has transferred to the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 from another state outside of Western Australia and who did not have their first senior football registration recorded in Western Australia
<b>AFL Non- District</b>	Delisted AFL Player or Rookie Player from outside WAFL Club's country or metropolitan zone
<b>State League</b>	State Leagues other than the WAFL Competition (League Football); SANFL, VFL, NEAFL.

<b>Point Value</b>	<b>Point Category</b>
1	Local District; Non-District 0 Games; Interstate Non Tier 1; Non District 1-10 Games; Interstate Tier 1 – Non League (Played Reserves or Colts Matches in NAB League, SANFL, VFL, *NEAFL)
2	Non-District 1-10 Games (AFL Non-District and State League)
3	Non-District 11-25 Games (AFL Non-District and State League)
5	Non-District 26-50 Games; (AFL Non-District and State League)
7	Non-District 51-100 Games (AFL Non-District and State League)
10	Non-District 101-125 Games (AFL Non-District and State League)
11	Non-District 126-150 Games (AFL Non-District and State League)
12	Non-District 151+ Games (AFL Non-District and State League)



### **2.1.2 Senior List Additions & Removals**

- a) Eligible Players may be added or removed from a WAFL Club Senior Player Points List at any time via the WAFL Online administration system by an Authorised Officer of the WAFL Club.
- b) The WAFL may approve and make all necessary changes, subject to Rule 1 and Rule 2.
- c) Where the addition of a Player to a WAFL Club Senior Player Points List will exceed the 90 point maximum contrary to Rule 2.1(d), the Player change will not be accepted by the WAFL and the WAFL Club will be advised.
- d) Players who satisfy more than one point category must be classified under the category with the highest point value.
- e) Players registered in accordance with the Family History provisions of Rule 1.3 will be regarded as Local District Players.
- f) Players transferred from the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 will be removed from the respective WAFL Club Senior Player Points List by the WAFL on completion of transfer.
- g) Should any list changes be requested by WAFL Clubs and, including but not limited to, the WAFL clubs does not have all the relevant information and accompanied paperwork or positions available on the list(s) at the time of the request, the WAFL will decline the list change(s) and the WAFL club must resubmit the requested with all the relevant information with the new lodgment.
- h) All List change request(s) by a WAFL club shall be duly considered by the WAFL Club before submission. The WAFL shall not reverse any lodgments as it may affect the application of other rules.
- i) The WAFL may, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:
  - i. apply a points value to a player based on an individual players circumstances.

### **2.2 Interstate Player List**

- a) Any Player classified as an Interstate Player in accordance with Rule 1.2.4 will be included as an interstate player on the respective WAFL Club Senior List upon completion of the Player registration and transfer process in accordance with Rule 1.
- b) The WAFL will make the determination of a Player classification as an Interstate Player at the time of registration and advise the WAFL Club accordingly of Player status and point value.
- c) Interstate Players will be added to the WAFL Club Interstate List at the time of completion of transfer in accordance with Rule 1.4 to the WAFL Club.
- d) A Player registration will not be accepted by the WAFL if the respective WAFL Club already has the maximum number of eight (8) Interstate Players, (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8)
- e) An Interstate Player will be removed from the WAFL Club Senior List at the completion of transfer from the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 or as a result of written notification by a WAFL Club Authorised Officer detailing the removal of the Player from the WAFL Club Senior Points List.
- f) Once a Player is removed from the WAFL Club Interstate List in accordance with this Rule 2.2, that Player will no longer be regarded as a Registered Player of that WAFL Club.
- g) An Interstate Player will no longer be included as one of the maximum number of Interstate Players in accordance with Rule 2.2 d) above, at the completion of their third consecutive season in the WAFL competition.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, any interstate AFL Non-District who has been drafted to an WA based AFL club will not be eligible for g) above until they have completed their

third consecutive season in the WAFL competition as a primary listed WAFL player.

- h) Any Player who plays a match that is not in accordance with this Rule 2.2 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 2.3 Supplementary List

Each WAFL Club (including Partner Clubs) excluding AFL Stand Alone WAFL teams may list additional Players on the WAFL Club Supplementary list as Community League Players. These Players are Players that are no longer currently regarded as Registered Players of the respective WAFL Club.

- a) AFL Stand Alone WAFL Teams do not have a Supplementary List for the purposes of this Rule 2.3.
- b) A WAFL Club may have up to three (3) Supplementary List Players at any one time.
- c) A WAFL Partner Club may have up to three (3) Supplementary List Players at any one time.
- d) Any inclusion on the Supplementary List must be lodged via the WAFL Online System by a WAFL Club Authorised Officer prior to the completion of transfer from the respective WAFL Club. A club may request for a player to be moved to a Supplementary List prior to a transfer being completed but will be subject to conditions in Rule 2.3. A Player may only be included on the supplementary list if they are a Registered player of the WAFL club.
- e) Players who are included on the Senior Player Points List, in accordance with Rule 1.1.1, who will no longer be playing for the WAFL Club due to but not limited to, retirement, travelling and time off from senior football may be placed on the Supplementary List at any time by the WAFL Club Authorised Officer.
- f) Players placed on a WAFL Club's Supplementary List in accordance with e) will not be regarded as a Registered Player of the respective WAFL Club.
- g) Players listed on the Supplementary List must not be included on the Senior Player Points List until the WAFL Club has completed the Player registration and transfer process in accordance with Rule 1, accompanied with a Form 1 signed by the player and the WAFL Club.
- h) Supplementary List Players are not eligible to play for any WAFL Club unless they are included on the respective WAFL Club Senior Player Points List through the Player registration and transfer process in accordance with Rule 1.
- i) Players who are included on the Senior Player Points List by way of a permit in accordance with Rule 1.6 must not be added to a WAFL Club Supplementary List.
- j) Any Player listed on the WAFL Club Supplementary List will not have a point value awarded, will not contribute towards the cumulative total of points and will not be included in the minimum list of 55 Players for that WAFL Club for the purposes of Rule 2.1.
- k) Supplementary List Players are regarded as Listed Players in accordance with Rule 1.2.3.
- l) All players who are not eligible for transfer in accordance with Rule 1.4.6 shall become eligible to transfer 12 months from the date they are included on the Supplementary List as a Community League Player.
- m) Players aged 22 or younger, when they are, included on the Supplementary List will no longer be regarded as a Listed Player of the WAFL Club 18 months after the date they are included on the Supplementary List as a CMP and are automatically eligible to transfer to another WAFL Club without fee.
- n) Players aged 23 or older, when they are, included on the Supplementary List will no longer be regarded as a Listed Player of the WAFL Club 12 months after the date they are included on the Supplementary List as a CMP and are automatically eligible to transfer to another WAFL Club without fee.
- o) Players must be included on the Supplementary List for a minimum of four (4) matches (including home and away and finals series) and/or a minimum of six (6) weeks during the period between the Open period commencing and Round 1 of the WAFL season.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, a player can be listed for a minimum of six (6) weeks

being the combination of off season and in season weeks. For example, a player may have served 5 weeks in the off season and will be required to serve another one (1) week in season, before being available for selection.

- p) Players listed on Supplementary List are not permitted to play in WAFL matches in any grade.
- q) For the avoidance of doubt, a player may transfer from a Primary Club to a Destination Club with the minimum exclusion period listed in o) being waived. Should the player transfer to a Destination Club and transfer back to the Primary Club, the balance of the exclusion period will apply.
- r) Any Player who plays a match that is not in accordance with this Rule 2.3 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 2.4 Long Term Injury List

Each WAFL Club may list additional Players on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List as Long Term Injury Players (LTIP). These Players are Players who are not able to play matches for an extended period of time due to injury.

- a) A WAFL Club may have up to six (6) Long Term Injury List Senior Players and five (5) Long Term Injury List Colts Players at any one time.
- b) Inclusion on the Long Term Injury List requires submission of the Notification of Long Term Injury (Form 8b) to the WAFC manually via email to wafloperations@wafc.com.au.
- c) The WAFL Club Authorised Officer, a WAFL Club Medical Officer and the injured Player must all sign the Notification of Long Term Injury (Form 8b).
- d) The WAFL Club Authorised Officer must include supporting evidence detailing the nature of the injury with the Notification of Long Term Injury (Form 8b).
- e) The WAFL will include the Player on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List upon receiving the above documentation for a period of no less than 6 weeks and no more than 12 calendar months.
- f) A Long Term Injury Player may be included on the WAFL Club Senior Player Points List or Colts List at any point after the six (6) week minimum time limit is complete in accordance with (e).
- g) Any Player listed on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List will not have a point value awarded, will not contribute towards the cumulative total of points and will not be included in the minimum list of 55 Players for that WAFL Club for the purposes of Rule 2.1.
- h) Long Term Injury Players are regarded as Listed Players in accordance with Rule 1.2.3.
- i) Players listed on the Long Term Injury List are not permitted to play in WAFL matches in any grade.
- j) If a player plays in a community football competition whilst listed on the LTIP, the player will be removed immediately by the WAFC.
- k) Any player who is retained on the LTIP for greater than 12 months shall be removed and become automatically eligible for transfer.
- l) Any player who plays a match that is not in accordance with this Rule 2.4 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 2.5 Top-Up Players

The WAFL will allow Players that meet the defined criteria to participate as a Top-Up Player for the respective WAFL Club.

This rule is to allow for Players to temporarily play at senior level for a WAFL Club prior to a commitment being made to include them permanently on the Senior Player Points List.

- a) Top-Up Players are only permitted to play in Reserves Grade matches.
- b) Top-Up Players may be a Registered Player in the Colts Grade with the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1 and may remain on the colts list for up to four (4) matches.
- c) Top-Up Players may be permitted to play with a WAFL Club on a Temporary Registration by way of a Permit in accordance with Rule 1.6.
- d) Top-Up Players must be included on the WAFL Club Top-Up Player List prior to playing a match, or the WAFL Club must notify the WAFL by email prior to the Player participating in the match and complete all relevant paperwork required.
- e) Top-Up Players are permitted to play maximum of four (4) matches for any one WAFL Club in a season as a Top-Up Player.
- f) In order for a Top-Up Player to exceed the four (4) matches in accordance with e) or four matches in accordance with i), that Player must be included on the respective WAFL Club Senior Player Points List in accordance with Rule 2.
- g) For the avoidance of doubt, matches calculated in accordance with (e) are inclusive of matches should the Player have previously been included on the Senior Points List and participated in a match or matches
- h) Top-Up Players are not permitted to play in any WAFL Finals Match.
- i) AFL Stand Alone WAFL Teams will be permitted to play Top Up players for a maximum of four (4) matches in the WAFL League grade.
- j) Any Player or WAFL Club in breach of this Rule 2.5 may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

## 2.6 Player Service and Point Reductions

The WAFL recognises contributions made by Players to their respective WAFL Clubs through service.

To enhance the ability for WAFL Clubs to retain Players that are not considered local zone Players and are awarded higher Player Point Values, concessions are granted that will reduce Player Point Values over service to a WAFL Club.

Should a player receive a player service reduction, from the service to the primary club, and then seek a transfer to the destination club, the player service reduction will not be transferred with the player.

- a) A Player that is not considered a Zoned Player and has an existing point value higher than 1 in accordance with Rule 2.1.1 will have their point value halved at the completion of their third (3<sup>rd</sup>) consecutive season of senior football for the respective WAFL Club.
- b) The process outlined at (a) will occur at the completion of the initial block of three (3) seasons and the player will have their point value halved thereafter at the completion of each season until the Player is no longer regarded as a Registered Player of the WAFL Club or the Player reaches a Player Point Value of 1.

- c) For the purposes of calculating points in accordance with (a) and (b), where the Player Point Value is not a whole number after the initial value is halved, the value will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- d) Any Player Point Value reductions applied at one WAFL Club will not be recognised if the Player transfers to another WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4.
- e) Any Player categorised as a Non-Zone Player will be recruited by another WAFL Club that is not their Zoned WAFL Club at the category of their total career WAFL League games.
- f) Where a Player is to transfer from the WAFL Club or at any point that Player is not regarded as a Registered Player of that WAFL Club as outlined in Rule 1 or Rule 2, prior to playing a third (3<sup>rd</sup>) consecutive season, the history at the WAFL Club will not be included in awarding Player Point Value reductions for service should that Player return to that WAFL Club in the future.
- g) Where a Player is to transfer from the WAFL Club or at any point not be regarded as a Registered Player of that WAFL Club as outlined in Rule 1 or Rule 2, and that Player has had their Player Point Value reduced for the purposes of Rule 2.1.1, this history at the WAFL Club will be included and the Player will be recruited by the Primary WAFL Club with the awarded Player Point Value prior to transferring from that WAFL Club.
- h) Any former WAFL Player who is 19 years of age or older and not a Listed Player is eligible to have their Player Point Value reduced to 1 point provided they have not played in the WAFL during the previous 24 months, whilst residing in Western Australia and eligible to play in the WAFL.
- i) The only Players eligible for the reduction are as follows:
  - 2 Non District 1-10 Games
  - 3 Non District 11-25 Games
  - 5 Non District 26-50 Games
  - 7 Non District 51-100 Games
  - 10 Non District 101 - 125 Games
  - 11 Non District 126-150 Games
  - 12 Non District 150+ Games
- j) For the avoidance of doubt the following categories where a player is considered as an Interstate Player, they will be ineligible for any reduction to Player Point Value other than the service reduction:
  - 2 Interstate 1-10 Games
  - 3 Interstate 11-25 Games
  - 5 Interstate 26-50 Games
  - 7 Interstate 51-100 Games
  - 10 Interstate 101 - 125 Games
  - 11 Interstate 126-150 Games
  - 12 Interstate 150+ Games
- k) Any former WAFL Player who has been an AFL Player or Rookie Player, is 19 years and older and not a Listed Player, is eligible to have their Player Point Value reduced by 50%, provided they have not played in the WAFL during the previous 24 months, whilst residing in Western Australia and eligible to play in the WAFL.
- l) For the avoidance of doubt, the only Players eligible for the reduction as per k) are as follows:
  - 5 Local Non District 26-50 Games
  - 7 Non District 51-100 Games
  - 10 Non District 101-125 Games
  - 11 Non District 126-150 Games
  - 12 Non District 151+ Games

## **2.7 Appeals**

- a) The WAFC will make all decisions with respect to Player points in accordance with Rule 2.
- b) Any appeals against the decision of the WAFC will be heard by the WAFL Arbitrator.

## 2.8 WAFL Competitive Balance

At the conclusion of the 2019 WAFL season, the WAFC reviewed the points system and after consultation with WAFL clubs and referencing the WAFC objectives for competitive balance (below), a new model was implemented for the 2020 season and adjusted for the 2023 season.

In 2024, a concession model will be implemented assessing the ladder position of the League team over the past 3 seasons, to derive a competitive balance outcome by using specific levers.

These levers are the player points system, protected players, increase in total player payments, and increase in interstate players to provide an opportunity for their club to be more competitive.

The WAFC can apply change to the competitive balance concessions, however it is only one part of the process for the WAFL club(s) to be successful in affecting change at their club. The WAFL Club must have sound club structures and invest in a recruiting and retention strategy to maximise their opportunity to become more competitive on the field.

### WAFL Competitive Balance Objectives

- Create an even playing field for all clubs, so the WAFL is a close, competitive and quality competition.
- To ensure the WAFL competition builds its foundations from local district players and ultimately having more WA home grown talent on each WAFL Club list
- Create a competition with more upsets and closer winning margins between the top and bottom end of the ladder.
- Ensuring WAFL supporters believe their club has a chance of winning every week regardless of the club's financial strength
- The closer and more competitive the competition is, the more attractive it becomes for the broadcaster, WAFL Fans, sponsors, members and the broader community.
- Enhancing the financial sustainability of WAFL clubs.

- a) The WAFC shall apply the following guiding principles for competitive balance in the table in b) below:

- i. If a club finishes with a league ladder position of 9 or 10 (avg) over a three-year period, or
- ii. If a club finishes with a league ladder position of 8 or 7 (avg) over a three-year period, or
- iii. If a club finishes with a league ladder position of 6 (avg) over a three-year period, or
- iv. If a club finishes with a league ladder position 5 -1 (avg) over a three-year period.

- b) Competitive Balance Concession Table

League Ladder Position (3yr Avg)	10	9	8	7	6	5 - 1
<b>Additional Player Points</b>	20	20	10	10	5	0
<b>Additional Protected Players</b>	3	3	2	2	1	0
<b>Additional TPP</b>	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	0
<b>Additional Interstate players</b>	2	2	1	1	0	0

- c) For the avoidance of doubt:

- i. AFL Stand Alone and AFL Partner Clubs will be considered separately to this model, due to the unpredictability of the AFL contracted player movement.
- ii. Any TPP Penalties applied, which have affected league ladder position will not be included in the 3yr average. The WAFC may use their absolute discretion to apply any competitive balance measures.
- iii. In the first year of the implementation of this model, the WAFC in their absolute



discretion may continue to grant concessions to assist with list management and TPP management for clubs that have already received concessions in the 2023 season.

d) The WAFC may, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:

- i. apply additional competitive balance measures to WAFL Clubs, including but not limited to TPP concession, Player points concessions, Protected player list concession and interstate player concessions.

e) The following is a summary of the competitive balance measures that have been placed on WAFL clubs for the 2024 season:

WAFL Club	Competitive Balance
Claremont FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to ninety (90) cumulative player points</li> </ul>
East Fremantle FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to eighty five (85) cumulative player points*</li> </ul> <p>*Reduction due to TPP Penalty applied in 2024.</p>
East Perth FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to one hundred (100) cumulative player points</li> <li>• Up to thirty-nine (39) protected players</li> <li>• TPP – Up to \$255,000.00               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Base - \$245,000.00</li> <li>○ Competitive Balance \$10,000.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One additional interstate player</li> </ul>
Peel Thunder FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to eighty (80) cumulative player points</li> <li>• Senior Player list to be a minimum of 45 players</li> <li>• Protected list of 32 players</li> <li>• TPP (65%) – Up to \$159,250</li> </ul>
Perth FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to one hundred and ten (110) cumulative player points</li> <li>• Up to forty (40) protected players</li> <li>• Up to twelve (12) interstate players</li> <li>• TPP – Up to \$295,000.00               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Competitive Balance - \$20,000.00</li> <li>○ 2024 – Additional WAFC TPP - \$30,000.00</li> <li>○ (2025 – Additional TPP - \$50,000.00)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
South Fremantle FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to ninety (90) cumulative player points</li> <li>• TPP – up \$245,000</li> </ul>
Subiaco FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to ninety (90) cumulative player points</li> </ul>
Swan Districts FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to one hundred (100) cumulative player points</li> <li>• TPP – Up to \$255,000.00               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Base - \$245,000.00</li> <li>○ Competitive Balance - \$10,000.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Up the thirty-nine (39) protected players</li> </ul>
West Coast Eagles FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to seventy (70) cumulative player points</li> <li>• Minimum of 25 WAFL Contracted players listed at all times</li> <li>• TPP (60%) – Up to \$147,000 (no roll over of TPP permitted in 2024)</li> </ul>
West Perth FC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to ninety (90) cumulative player points</li> </ul>

## 3 MATCHES

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### 3.1 WAFL Matches

#### 3.1.1 Sanctioning of Matches

- a) No Club shall play in any match without the sanction of the WAFC.
- b) The programme of matches to be played by the Clubs in each year shall be submitted for the approval of the WAFC as requested by the WAFC, ordinarily in or around mid-December. Such a programme shall consist of qualifying fixtures and a finals series.
- c) In the qualifying fixtures, each Club will play against each of the other Clubs as many matches as the programme will permit.
- d) The points awarded in the qualifying fixture shall be awarded as follows:
  - i. four points shall be counted for a win and two points for a draw;
  - ii. no points are awarded for a loss; and
  - iii. in the event of any Clubs gaining the same number of points at the conclusion of the qualifying fixtures the position of such Clubs shall be determined by the percentage of points kicked for and against.
- e) At the conclusion of the season, the position of the Clubs shall be determined as follows:
  - i. the Clubs playing off for the Premiership in the Grand Final shall be placed, winner first and loser second;
  - ii. the loser of the Preliminary Final shall be placed third, and the loser of the First Semi-final shall be placed fourth and the loser of the elimination final will be placed fifth; and
  - iii. the other Clubs shall be placed according to their relative positions on the Premiership Table at the conclusion of the qualifying round of matches.

#### 3.1.2 Fixturing of WAFL Matches

- a) The fixturing of Matches will be determined by the WAFC, including details relating to the:
  - i. location of Matches;
  - ii. date of Matches;
  - iii. time of Matches;
  - iv. configuration of the Finals Matches;
- b) Where possible, WAFL matches are to be played on Saturday afternoons in season.
- c) The WAFC will endeavour to fixture in the best interests of the WAFL competition overall and will take into account a range of issues relating to fixturing including but not limited to:
  - i. the number of days rest between each match;
  - ii. the likely attendances;
  - iii. the best TV time slot;
  - iv. any clash with a WA based AFL fixture; and
  - v. marketing and promotion of the game.
- d) Subject to approval of the WAFC, WAFL Clubs may apply to the opposing Club for approval of an alternative time for the scheduling of the proposed match provided that the proposed alternative time:
  - i. complies with the fixturing aims of the WAFL competition over a weekend; and
  - ii. allows competing teams a minimum of five (5) days between games,

- a. for the avoidance of doubt, 5 days is calculated as the first day after the match and inclusive of the day of the next rounds fixture. i.e. Monday - Saturday or Saturday - Thursday.
- e) In the event that a Club objects to an application made in accordance with (d), the WAFC will make a determination.
- f) The WAFC, in its absolute discretion, may alter the day, time and location of any specific fixture without giving reasons.
- g) Clubs must apply to the WAFC, a minimum of, fourteen days (14) days prior of any change to the agreed fixture.

### **3.1.3 Playing Surface**

- a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Rule 3.1.3 and the WAFL Venues Policy as set out in Schedule 7, the ground requirements are as stated in the Laws of Australian Football booklet, including but not limited to Rule 3.1.4.
- b) The minimum distance between the boundary line and the fence shall be five and a half (5.5m) metres and five (5) metres between the goal and behind posts and the fence.
- c) The area at (b) above must remain clear of any apparatus or object that could cause injury or obstruct any Players on the playing arena.

### **3.1.4 WAFL Venue Match Inspection**

- a) Not before two (2) months prior to the season commencing, each WAFL Match venue may be inspected by an Independent Turf Consultant as approved by the WAFC.
- b) The WAFL Clubs must bear any costs associated with the inspection of the venue for the purpose of this Rule 3.1.4.
- c) The Independent Turf Consultant must notify the WAFC of the condition of the ground, and formal approval must be granted by the WAFC to a WAFL Club prior to any Match being played at that WAFL Club's venue.
- d) In the event that any WAFL Match venue undergoes any re-surfacing work during the season, the process set out in (a) – (c) above applies.
- e) On Wednesday morning of each week the designated Authorised Official of the WAFL Club at the match venue, is to inspect the WAFL Match venue and confirm that the venue is in satisfactory condition for WAFL Match/es on that weekend. If there are any concerns with the venue, the authorized officer is required to contact the WAFL immediately and without delay.
- f) By no later than one (1) hour before the first WAFL Match of the day at the venue the competing teams' Authorised Official and Match Day Ground Manager are to inspect the match oval and complete the WAFL Ground Assessment Form and advise the Match Umpires that the ground is in suitable condition to start the match.
- g) Subject to Rule 11.1.2 of the Laws of Australian Football and Rule 3.1.5, and in consultation with the WAFC, the Match Umpires have the authority to cease the playing of a match if the ground or climatic conditions are such that it is considered unsafe to continue playing the match.

### **3.1.5 Terminated Matches**

- a) Matches may be terminated at any time by the WAFC, after having regard to the weather, structural damage, venue conditions, crowd safety threat, power or lighting failure or any other occurrence that, in the opinion of the WAFC poses a threat to the safety of Players, staff or spectators.
- b) Where a WAFL Club has not complied with this Rule 3 or the WAFL Venues Policy contained at Schedule 7, the WAFL Club may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.
- c) The WAFC will make the decision to replay a match in consultation with both Clubs and with consideration given to the overall fixture.
  - i. Should the match or matches not be able to be replayed or rescheduled then the WAFC shall take into consideration, the factors that contributed to the termination of the match, specifically if it was related to the venue and playing surface conditions.

### **3.1.6 Commencement of Matches**

- a) At all WAFL Matches, unless otherwise specially arranged, a siren or other approved device shall be sounded when the Umpires enter the ground and when the game is started.
- b) The siren or other approved device shall be again sounded at the proper time for the termination and announcement of each quarter and at the end of the match.
- c) The WAFC shall determine the starting times of all games at the commencement of each season in consultation with WAFL Clubs.

### **3.1.7 Playing Time**

- a) League Matches will be played over four (4) quarters of 20 minutes duration plus time on when:
  - i. Directed to do so by a field umpire in accordance with AFL Law 10.6.3
    - a. 10.6.3 – Signaling: A field Umpire signal to the timekeeper to stop the clock or restart the clock used for time of the Match by blowing the whistle and raising one arm above their head.
  - ii. the goal Umpire signals a Goal has been scored,
  - iii. the goal Umpire signals a Behind has been scored,
  - iv. the boundary umpire signals that the football is out of bounds or out of bounds on the full.
  - v. the field Umpire signals for a stretcher or blood rule,
  - vi. the umpire signals time on to complete a report or issue a blue card
  - vii. the umpire signals time to recall a centre bounce,
  - viii. the umpire signals time on for any undue delay as per 3.1.7 a) i) a)
- b) Timekeepers will not stop the clock used for timing in League Matches when:
  - i. the field Umpire crosses their arms to indicate they are going to throw the ball up in accordance with AFL Law 10.6.1 (d).
- c) Recommencing time in League matches: (10.6.2)
  - i. The Timekeepers shall recommence the clock used for the timing of a Match when:
    - a. directed to do so by the field Umpire in accordance with Law 10.6.3;
    - b. the football is bounced or thrown up by the field Umpire;
    - c. the football is brought back into play after a Behind has been scored;

- d. the football is thrown back into play by the boundary Umpire or brought back into play by a Player (as the case may be), after it has gone Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds On the Full;
  - e. the football is obviously in play; or
  - f. the umpire calls 'Play On'.
- d) Reserves Grade Matches must be played over four (4) quarters of twenty-eight (28) minutes with no time on added.
  - e) Colts Grade Matches must be played over four (4) quarters of twenty-five (25) minutes with no time on added.
  - f) Futures Grade Matches must be played over four (4) quarters of twenty-three (23) minutes with no time on to be added.
  - g) For Reserves, Colts and Future's Grades time on will only be added in the event of a stretcher.
  - h) For the avoidance of doubt, no time on shall be added for the Blood Rule for Reserves, Colts and Futures matches.
  - i) The breaks for League, Reserves and Colts Grades must be six (6) minutes ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ), twenty (20) minutes ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) and six (6) minutes ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) time.
  - j) The breaks for Future's Grades must be five (5) minutes ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ), fifteen (15) minutes ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) and five (5) minutes ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) time.
  - k) Pre-season matches will be played over four (4) quarters of twenty-five (25) minutes with no time on added unless advised by the WAFC.

### **3.1.8 Clubs Not Ready for Start Play**

- a) Any WAFL Club not ready to start play within fifteen (15) minutes after the time fixed for the commencement of the game, or to recommence play within:
  - i. thirty (30) minutes after the conclusion of the second quarter; or
  - ii. fifteen (15) mins after the scheduled start time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters
 shall be deemed to have forfeited the match unless the WAFC are satisfied that the delay was unavoidable.
- b) All teams must move to position on the sounding of one (1) siren as a part of the game start countdown of the sirens.
- c) Clubs who breach (b) above will be fined as follows:
  - i. League Matches will be \$20;
  - ii. League Finals \$100;
  - iii. Reserves Finals \$75; and
  - iv. Colts Finals \$50
 per quarter on teams who do not break on the sounding of one (1) siren if the start time is delayed according to the timekeeper's report.
- d) Reserves and Colts Grade teams must follow the protocol as set out in (b) above although fines will not be imposed in those grades during the home and away season.
- e) These fines are applied at the discretion of the WAFC.

### **3.1.9 Clubs Desiring to Abstain from Playing in a Match**

- a) No WAFL Club shall abstain from playing in any official match without first obtaining the permission of the WAFC.
- b) Permission will only be granted in the most extreme circumstances (e.g. Death of a Player immediately prior to the game).

- c) Where permission is granted to abstain in accordance with (a), Clubs may reschedule the match provided that:
  - i. the team asking to abstain from playing must make the decision of whether they will play; and
  - ii. the WAFC must determine the game time with consideration to the overall season fixture.
- d) Subject to Rule 3.1.10, where a game is not played, no premiership points or points for or against either team will be awarded for the game.

### **3.1.10 Penalties for Teams Forfeiting Matches**

- a) A team shall immediately be deemed to have lost the match and its opposition awarded the full match premiership points in the event that that team forfeits a match by:
  - i. having its numbers reduced to less than fourteen (14) Players through the implementation of the Order Off Rule; or
  - ii. through the application of Rule 3.1.9.
- b) Each team will receive a score of 0 goals and 0 points and their percentage adjusted accordingly.
- c) Where a team is deemed to have deliberately caused a forfeit, the WAFC may fine the forfeiting team in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.1.11 Incomplete Matches**

#### **3.1.11.1 Terminated Matches**

- a) Matches may be terminated by:
  - i. the home Club CEO (or an Authorised Officer of the Club) only after consultation with the WAFC, Umpires and visiting team, as a result of:
    - a. the weather;
    - b. structural damage;
    - c. crowd safety threat;
    - d. power or lighting failure; or
    - e. any other occurrence that, in the opinion of the CEO, poses a threat to the safety to Players, staff or spectators, including in accordance with Rule 3.1.5.
  - ii. The home Club CEO (or an Authorised Officer of the Club), only after consultation with the WAFC, on compassionate grounds in the event of the death of a Player during the game. If the deceased Player is stretchered off then the game may continue at the CEO discretion but if the circumstances are that death is obvious then the game should be stopped with the CEO's approval. Note that in the event of a tragedy prior to a game, Clubs may request to abstain from playing under Rule 3.1.11.1 or 3.1.9.
  - iii. The Umpires when a team is reduced to less than fourteen (14) Players through the use of the Order Off Rule 3.6.5.
  - iv. The home Club CEO (or an Authorised Officer of the Club), only after consultation with the WAFC, if for games that must run within a daily schedule:
    - a. an incident stops play so that play is not resumed within thirty (30) minutes of the stoppage as determined by the timekeepers at the Match; or

- b. for games where a finishing time is not imposed at the discretion of the home Club CEO (or an authorised Officer of the Club).
- b) Games may not continue after a delay of thirty (30) minutes, as determined by the WAFL, as a result of a stoppage caused by light/power failure (for a night game), injury or any other cause.

### **3.1.11.2 Consequences of a Terminated Match**

- a) Where a match is terminated in accordance with Rule 3.1.11.1, Clubs shall either continue the match at another time or replay the match.
- b) The WAFC will make the decision to continue or replay the match in accordance with (a) in consultation with both Clubs and with consideration given to the overall fixture.
- c) Where the game was terminated in the first half, the game may be replayed.
- d) Where a game was terminated in the second half then the half time score should stand and the game be continued from that point.
- e) Where it is not possible to replay or re-commence a terminated match in accordance with this Rule 3.1.11.2, then the game will be deemed to be terminated.
- f) Where a game is terminated in accordance with (e), and the stoppage occurred before half time, the result will be declared a draw and each team awarded two premiership points (with the respective scores at the time counting for the purposes of percentages).
- g) Where a game is terminated in accordance with (e) and the stoppage occurred after the half time break, and the half time interval has been reached and the Match is unable to proceed at any time, the Teams shall leave the Arena, or in the case of half time, not return to the Arena. If the Match is unable to recommence, the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the Match. The Team with the highest score shall be deemed the winner of the Match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team. Where a match is stopped during a day game, the teams must stay on the ground during the break unless directed to move.
- h) Where a stoppage occurs during a day game, non-playing staff, excluding medical staff and runners, are not permitted ground access during this break.
- i) Recommencing of Play: Where a Team is directed to recommence play by the WAFC or a Field Umpire and the Team fails, refuses or neglects to recommence play, the Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match, in which case Law 11.2 shall apply.
- j) The WAFC may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals to suit practical circumstances.

### **3.1.11.3 Procedures in the Event of Light Failure**

- a) In the event of one or more light towers ceasing to operate or the light intensity is reduced, the Field Umpire shall blow full time.
- b) Games may only be recommenced with reduced light where the lighting can be measurably proven to be within the WAFL Lighting for Night Football Policy as set out in Schedule 8.
- c) Upon the Field Umpire blowing full time the timekeepers shall stop time as per the normal time on procedures and record the exact time the game ceased.
- d) Umpires and Players must vacate the playing arena and move towards their respective change rooms.
- e) The No 1 Field Umpire, Home team CEO (or Authorised Officer of the Club), Football Manager or Team Manager of both competing teams and the WAFL Ground Manager, must meet immediately in the Umpires Room where the Home team CEO (or Authorised Officer of the Club), will contact the WAFC and will advise as to the ability to re-commence play.

- f) Where the game does not recommence within the thirty (30) minute period, the match shall be deemed incomplete and a decision shall be made in accordance with Rule 3.1.11.1(a)(iv).
- g) Where the game is able to recommence, the Field Umpire shall direct both teams to enter the playing arena to recommence the match provided that a ten (10) minute warm up period precedes the recommencement.
- h) Upon recommencing the match, the timekeepers must start time as per the normal procedure at the conclusion of time on.
- i) In the event of the match recommencing within the thirty (30) minute period, the Field Umpire shall start play from where the match ceased as a result of light failure.
- j) In the event of re-occurring light failure after the match has re-commenced, this Rule 3.1.11.3 applies per failure and the home team CEO (or Authorised Officer of the Club), in consultation with the WAFC, must decide on the appropriate course of action.
- k) Where a power failure has prevented a scheduled night fixture being able to commence after the additional thirty (30) minutes from start time, the game will be abandoned and rescheduled where possible.
- l) Where a lighting failure has occurred:
  - i. Clubs must notify all patrons at the game of what is happening by their PA system approximately every five minutes of the 30 minutes lights are out; and
  - ii. where the game is terminated, the home Club must notify patrons and thank them for their co-operation and attendance.

### **3.2 Naming Players in Football Budget**

- a) Clubs must nominate up to thirty-five (35) Players from which their League, Reserves, Colts and Futures Team will be selected and advise the WAFC of those Players and their respective jumper numbers, by 10:00am on the Wednesday of each week prior to the game for inclusion in that week's Football Budget via WAFL Online, unless otherwise advised by the WAFC.
- b) Any Club which plays a Player who is not included in its list of up to thirty-five (35) Players in accordance with (a) above or which plays a Player in its League Team in a Jumper number other than the one allocated to that Player in the Football Budget may be fined in accordance with Rule 14.
- c) Where a WAFL Player is a late inclusion in the Football Budget, then the prescribed form is to be used to notify the opposition, the WAFL and the media.
- d) The late inclusion or exclusion of WAFL or AFL Players is not subject to penalty provided that:
  - i. notice is given on the Prescribed Form 20 to the opposing team and the WAFL no later than two (2) hours before the match.
- e) For the avoidance of doubt, Rule 3.2 only applies to WAFL League matches.
- f) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.3 Naming Squads for the WAFL Website**

- a) For all matches, Clubs must nominate a squad of no more than twenty-six (26) Players in the League and twenty seven (27) Players in the Reserves and Colts, from which their Team will be selected via WAFL Online in time for inclusion on the WAFL Website by 8.00pm two (2) days prior to the scheduled match.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the League twenty-six (26) or Reserves and Colts twenty-seven (27) players must be listed in position with an extended interchange bench.



- b) WAFL Clubs must include available AFL Players who have not been included in their respective AFL Club's team selection.
- c) Any Club which fails to comply with Rule 3.3 or which plays a Player who is not included in its list of twenty-six (26) Players in the League and twenty-seven (27) Players in the Reserves and Colts, shall be fined.
- d) Clubs are only permitted to play the Players who have been included in its initial squad of 26 or 27 published on the WAFL Website in accordance with Rule 3.3, unless approved by no later than three (3) hours prior to the League match by the WAFC, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons.
- e) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.
- f) Players not nominated in accordance with Rule 3.3 may not be penalised where:
  - i. the non-nomination resulted from the late inclusion of AFL Players (including AFL Medical Substitutes) where notice was given on the Form 20 Amendments to the Football Budget to all the relevant parties at least two (2) hours prior to the commencement of the match;
  - ii. during the season a Player is brought in from outside the twenty-six (26) and all the named emergencies do not play in any grade; or
  - iii. in finals games, a Player is brought in from outside the twenty-six (26) and all the named emergencies do not play when League, Reserves and Colts teams are playing and also when League and Reserves are playing.
- g) Where only the League Team is playing finals, then no Player can be brought into the side from outside the listed emergency Players without incurring a fine.
- h) In the event that an AFL Player included in the nominated squad of twenty-six (26) is unavailable through injury or selection with his respective AFL Club prior to the WAFL match, then the WAFL Club, must seek permission from the WAFC, and may have the discretion to include a Player outside of the nominated squad of twenty-six (26).
- i) Any player listed as a 37-listed player (or number of players in accordance with Competitive Balance Rule 2.8) or any Colts listed player who is not named to play in the squad of twenty six (26) or twenty seven (27) players and whom have been omitted due to injury, must be added to the "injury hub" on WAFL Online by 8.00pm, two (2) days prior to the scheduled match.
- j) Lists of twenty-seven (27) Players for Reserves, Colts and up to twenty-eight (28) for Future Grades are required for submission through WAFL Online according to the above conditions although fines do not apply for errors in these squads.
- k) Clubs are required to update their squads displayed on WAFL Online by 4:00pm on the day prior to the scheduled match to include the twenty (22) League Players or twenty-three (23) Reserves and Colts players plus four (4) emergencies.

### **3.4 Naming Teams for the WAFL Website/ Newspaper (League)**

- a) Clubs must nominate a team of twenty-two (22) Players, in position, plus four (4) emergencies and advise the West Australian newspaper by publishing the team on WAFL Online by 4:00pm on the day prior to the scheduled match.
- b) WAFL Clubs must include AFL Players who have not been included as emergencies for the AFL side and are likely to be available.
- c) Players listed as emergency Players on the WAFL website may only play if one of the listed twenty-two (22) does not play in Colts, Reserves or League Grades.
- d) Players outside of the twenty-six (26) League and twenty-seven (27) Reserves and Colts nominated Players may only play, without penalty, if all four (4) emergencies do not play in any

- grade and further Players drop out and do not play in any grade.
- e) In finals games, (c) and (d) will apply when League, Reserve and Colts teams are playing and also when League and Reserves are playing.
  - f) Where only the League team is playing, no Player can be brought into the side from outside the listed emergency Players without incurring a fine.
  - g) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14. For the avoidance of doubt, in the event that no paper is published, the WAFC will receive the team in accordance with this Rule 3.4 and apply any penalty as though the team were published in a paper.
  - h) The late inclusion or exclusion of AFL Players (named in the AFL team selection) is not subject to penalty provided that notice is given on the Form 20 Amendments to the Football Budget to the opposing team and emailed to the WAFL no later than two (2) hours before the game.

### **3.5 Competition Footballs**

- a) The type of footballs used in WAFL games and the printing and advertising displayed on them is determined by the WAFC in consultation with the WAFL Clubs.
- b) The WAFL home Club must provide:
  - i. three (3) new and one (1) near new (i.e. of good quality as a spare) approved brand footballs to be used in League Matches; and
  - ii. four (4) footballs, including one (1) good standard football, for Reserves, Colts and Futures matches.
  - iii. one (1) football to remain on the interchange bench with the umpires trainer to be used as a replacement football if required.
- c) The WAFC shall provide footballs for:
  - i. all League Grade Finals; and
  - ii. Grand Finals for Reserves and Colts Grades.
- d) The graphic below describes the format, relevantly:
  - i. Panels 2 and 3 are for competition use only
  - ii. Panel 4 panel is for WAFL Club legend; and
  - iii. Panel 1 is for Burley.
- e) Advertising not in accordance with (d) is not permitted on any football used for the purposes of any WAFL match.
- f) The home club must supply two (2) bags/ containers to be located behind the goals, 1m inside the boundary fence whereby the footballs are stored during matches.
- g) Each club must supply and a ball steward in the Reserves, Colts and Futures home and away matches, and all grades in preseason matches, to retrieve the footballs and return them to the football bags during play. The ball steward must be positioned behind the goals at the end their club is defending, ie Backline.
- h) The Ball steward must not return the football to the player unless the player is outside the field of play. For the avoidance of doubt, this is the area between the boundary line fence and the goal line.
- i) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

**BURLEY FOOTBALL SPECIFICATION SHEET**  
Since 1907 - The Oldest Australian Owned Football Brand

**Burley**

<b>CUSTOMER</b>	East Fremantle Football Club	<b>SIZE RANGE</b>	5	<b>ORDER NUMBER</b>	00	<b>BASE COLOURS</b>	1 - VEGTAN	3 - VEGTAN
<b>ORDER TITLE</b>	East Fremantle Legend 2024 - Steve Malaxos	<b>BALL TYPE</b>	Burley Premier Football	<b>ARTWORK DATE</b>	30/11/2023	<b>PANELS 1 - 4</b>	2 - VEGTAN	4 - VEGTAN
						<b>APPROVAL</b> (Please read & sign)	<b>DATE SIGNED</b>	

I acknowledge that the artwork represented on this sheet is correct and true to my/our request. I also accept that the colours shown are only a representation of the printed material and may vary on the final product despite efforts made with colour reproduction.

Max Print Zone  
Stitching Margin

N.B. Artwork is 40% of Full Size (5) football.

PANEL 1 - BRAND COLOURS			PANEL 2 - BRAND COLOURS			PANEL 3 - BRAND COLOURS			PANEL 4 - BRAND COLOURS		
BLACK	PMS -	PMS -	BLACK	WHITE	PMS 1235	PMS 3005	WHITE	PMS 1795	BLACK	PMS -	PMS -
PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -	PMS -

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## 3.6 Match Procedures

### 3.6.1 Team Sheets

- a) Prior to the commencement of each game in any grade of the WAFL competition, the participating teams' Managers shall present to the Ground Manager eight (8) copies of the Official Team Sheet detailing:
  - i. the surname, first name and jumper number of each Player participating in the game to a maximum number of twenty-two (22) Players in the League team and twenty-three (23) Players in the Reserves, Colts and twenty five (25) players in the and future's grade;
  - ii. which Players are starting the game as "interchange" Players by marking players with an '\*';
  - iii. full names of the Coaches, Medical Officers, Runners, Stewards, Team Manager Official Team Runner, Interchange Steward, Chairman of Selectors, Coach, Doctor, Property Steward and Official Trainers or Water Carriers;
  - iv. the name and signature of the Team Manager;
- b) Full surname and first name must be spelled correctly, and date of birth detailed on the sheet.
- c) All Players listed on the Official Team Sheet must be in attendance prior to the commencement of the game up to and including the point at which the Official Team Sheet is submitted, and must be genuinely available to play the match, and must prepare for the match with the Team, unless a valid explanation is given to the satisfaction of the WAFC. Any breach of this Rule may be investigated by the WAFC, and if proven subject to penalty under the Rules, including Rule 6.2
- d) At the conclusion of the game the Team Manager must attend the Umpire's room, insert the goal kicking details on the Official Team Sheet.

- e) Upon being satisfied that the Official Team Sheet is accurate, the Number 1 Umpire must sign the Official Team Sheet and include it in the match papers to be delivered to the WAFC.
- f) The home Club must lodge the League official Results Sheet (Form 17) to the Department of Racing, Gaming & Liquor no later than 30 minutes following the conclusion of the League Match.
- g) Should any person who is known to be a Player or Official of a Club other than those registered on the Official Team Sheet enter the playing arena during the playing time of a League, Reserves, Colts or Futures game, then that Club shall be fined for each such entry.
- h) The WAFL clubs must remove players from Play HQ that didn't participate in the match and insert any player that has been manually added to the team sheet before 12:00pm on the first working day following the match.
- i) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.6.2 Personnel on Playing Arena**

- a) Subject to (b) and (c), at grounds which have coach's boxes or dugouts, the Doctor, Interchange Players, Club Runner, Team Manager, Trainers and Water Carriers must use the facility provided.
- b) Players and Officials (all coaching staff, all medical staff, runners, water carriers, trainers, team managers) must remain behind and not enter the 'Boundary Line Exclusion Zone' in accordance with Schedule 7 – WAFL Venues Policy during play in each quarter.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, Players may interchange through the 'interchange gate' but must remain inside the 'interchange holding area' until the player they are interchanging with exits the playing surface and enters the 'interchange holding area'. Umpires and WAFL Match Officials may lodge a Notice of Investigation for any alleged breaches to be assessed and penalised at the absolute discretion of the WAFL.
  - ii. Should there be no 'Boundary Line Exclusion Zone' marked, Clubs are to ensure that Players and Officials remain a minimum 2.5 meters from the boundary line at all times.
- c) Doctor, Club Runner, Sports Trainers and Water Carriers need not use the Interchange Area if they wish to enter the arena, during the progress of the game.
- d) Trainers and Water Carriers may position themselves at intervals around the playing arena, provided they do not interfere with the functions of the Interchange Steward or other officials involved in the running of the match.
- e) At grounds that do not have coaches' boxes or dugouts, the above-mentioned personnel shall be seated between the boundary line and the fence at least ten (10) meters from the Interchange Area.
- f) Other personnel included on the Official Team Sheet are not permitted on to the playing surface, whilst the game is in progress.
- g) Security personnel involved in the protection of the Umpires need not be entered on the Official Team Sheet and may remain on the playing arena and inside the fence.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, security staff may assist in protecting the extra ball behind the goals.
- h) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### 3.6.3 Interchange of Reserves

- a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Rule 3.6.3, the procedures for the interchange of Players is as stated in Law 7.2 of the Laws of Australian Football.
- b) Each competing Team Manager must provide the WAFL appointed Ground Manager with eight (8) copies of the completed Official Team Sheet for qualifying matches and twelve (12) copies for Finals matches no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
- c) The WAFL appointed Ground Manager will:
  - i. Be in position at the Interchange Area thirty (30) mins prior to the scheduled start time;
  - ii. remain in this position to receive the Official Team Sheets from the respective Team Managers; and
  - iii. from the Interchange Area distribute copies of the Official Team Sheets to:
    - a. The Field Umpires.
    - b. The Interchange Steward;
    - c. Team Manager/Football Manager of the opposition team; and
    - d. A representative of Champion Data and all media in attendance at the venue.
- d) The Official Team Sheet must list the Players participating in the game including:
  - i. the four (4) Interchange Players in League matches; or
  - ii. the five (5) Interchange Players in the Reserves, Colts Matches;
  - iii. the seven (7) Interchange Players in the Futures matches; and
  - iv. other Officials that are required to be listed on the Team Sheet.
- e) Interchange Players, at the commencement of the matches, must be identified with an asterisk (\*) next to their name on the Official Team Sheet.
- f) The game must begin with the named Interchange Players off the field.
- g) Once the match has started, no interchange of Players will be permitted without the Interchange Program being updated when the Players being are being interchanged.
- h) For the avoidance of doubt, when the Interchange Players occurs during the intervals (quarter, half or three-quarter time), the Players are required to cross through the "marked lines", included for the purposes of (g) above.
- i) Clubs must update the Interchange Program with such changes before play recommences.
- j) Players leaving and entering the playing surface other than through the Interchange Area, if replaced must not take further part in the match.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, Players who have left or entered the Playing Surface other than through the Interchange Area, if replaced, may not re-enter the Playing Arena for the duration of the Match.
- k) Where possible, Ground Managers who note a Player leaving the field outside the Marked Lines must notify the Team Manager of the team concerned.
- l) Players who do not leave or enter the playing arena via the Interchange Area shall not be permitted to return to the game.
- m) Should a WAFL Club send such a Player back onto the Playing Surface to play then that team may lose its score up to that point in the game.
- n) Where a Player is taken from the playing ground on a stretcher in accordance with Law 7.3 of the Laws of Australian Football, they may leave the field outside the marked lines of the Interchange Area but in the event that an injured Player taken from the ground later returns

to the Playing Arena, they must do so through the Interchange Area.

- o) Players must not enter the Playing Arena during the course of the game other than through the Marked Lines of the Interchange Area.
- p) Players who are carried from the Playing Arena not on a stretcher through the Marked Lines, provided the replacement Player does not go onto the field until the injured Player is over the boundary, may participate later if desired.
- q) Players who are not returning to participate in the remainder of a match must have their number recorded.
- r) Should the Ground Manager observe the teams being lined up for the purpose of a team count, they may be required to assist the Field Umpire(s) if required in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football.
- s) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.6.4 Changes to the Official Team Sheet after Submission**

#### **3.6.4.1 For games outside of Finals**

- a) In Futures, Colts and Reserve Grade Matches, changes may be made for Players injured or medically unfit to play up to the game start by the Team Manager who must notify:
  - i. the Match Umpires;
  - ii. the WAFL Ground Manager; and
  - iii. the opposition Team Manager.
- b) For League Matches the same process as set out in (a) must be followed on the basis that:
  - i. the Player to be replaced is injured or medically unfit to play after the Official Team Sheet has been submitted.
  - ii. the Player used as a replacement was selected in the Clubs initial twenty-six (26) chosen to play.
  - iii. The Ground Manager must be notified who will then notify the media and arrange an announcement to the public through the PA system.
  - iv. Where a Player is originally listed on the Official Team Sheet but is unable to play due to injury or being medically unfit, the Club Medical Officer must supply a Doctor's Certificate to the WAFL, which shall accompany the Official Team Sheet completed and lodged with the WAFL by the Officiating Umpires or by no later than 10.00am on the first working day after the completion of the Match; and
  - v. any injured or medically unfit Player who has been replaced under this Rule must immediately leave the Playing Arena and not sit on the Interchange Bench.
- c) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

#### **3.6.4.1 Finals Games**

- a) Rule 3.6.4.1(a) applies to Colts and Reserves Grade for Finals Matches equally.
- b) Rule 3.6.4.1(b) applies to League Grade Finals Matches with the following additional provisions:
  - i. Where a Player is originally listed on the Official Team Sheet but is unable to play due to injury or being medically unfit, the Club Medical Officer must supply a Doctor's Certificate to the WAFL, which shall accompany the Official Team Sheet completed and lodged with the WAFL by the Officiating Umpires or by no later than 10.00am on the first working day after the completion of the Match; and

- ii. any injured or medically unfit Player who has been replaced under this Rule must immediately leave the Playing Arena and not sit on the Interchange Bench.
- c) Breaches of any of this Rule 3.6.4.2 must be noted on the Control Sheet by the Interchange Steward or reported to the WAFC.
- d) After the match, the Interchange Steward must lodge the Control Sheet with the Field Umpire in the Umpires' Room.
- e) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.6.5 Order-Off Law**

#### **3.6.5.1 Law 23**

- a) Where a Player is reported for any of the Reportable Offences listed at (i) – (vi) below, a field or emergency Umpire may order the Player reported from the Playing Arena for the remainder of a match:
  - i. Intentionally striking, kicking, kneeing, stomping, eye-gouging or head-butting another person;
  - ii. intentionally striking or making contact with an Umpire;
  - iii. attempting to strike or make contact with an Umpire;
  - iv. using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire;
  - v. spitting on another person;
  - vi. an act of serious misconduct

#### **3.6.5.2 WAFL local provisions**

- a) For the avoidance of doubt, Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football relating to other Reportable Offences does not apply.
- b) The decision to order a Player off in accordance with Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football is at the sole discretion of the Umpire.
- c) A Player who is reported by a Field Umpire under Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football may be ordered from the Playing Arena for the remainder of the match.
- d) A Player ordered off may be replaced immediately.
- e) A Field Umpire must signal that a Player has been ordered off, by pointing to the Interchange Area with an outstretched arm and showing a red card.
- f) Any Player ordered off must leave the Playing Arena immediately and proceed directly to the Ground Manager and into the changerooms.
- g) The Field Umpire will not accompany any Player who has been ordered off and the Team Manager will indicate by a reciprocal red card that the send-off is acknowledged.
- h) The Player may not return to the Playing Arena but he may be replaced immediately.
- i) In the event that any Player has been ordered off, the Ground Manager must inform both Team Managers of the send-off.
- j) In the event of a Player failing or refusing to leave the ground when ordered off:
  - i. the Player must be reported for misconduct;
  - ii. the match must terminate; and
  - iii. his team will be deemed to have forfeited.
- k) An emergency field Umpire shall have the powers conferred on a Field Umpire under this Rule 3.6.5.2.
- l) In the event that a team is reduced to less than fourteen (14) Players, as a result of a Player

being ordered off, the match may continue at the discretion of the Field Umpire, who shall forward all details including the scores at the time, to the WAFC, which may confirm the result in accordance with the scorecards or determine a forfeit under the provisions of Law 11.2 of the Laws of Australian Football.



### **3.6.5.3 Blue Card – WAFL Local Provision**

- a) For the avoidance of doubt, Law 23 of the Laws of Australian Football relating to other Reportable Offences does not apply.
- b) The decision to order a Player(s) off in accordance with WAFC Blue Card Policy is at the sole discretion of the Umpire and to be applied for reportable offences that result in suspected head injury only.
- c) A Player (alleged offender) who is reported by a Field Umpire under the Blue Card Policy will be ordered from the Playing Arena for 15 minutes (including playing time and breaks).
- d) A Player (alleged victim) who is suspected of a head injury will be ordered off from the Playing Arena and required to complete a SCAT 5 test by a registered Health Practitioner and won't be permitted to return to the field unless medically cleared by a registered Health Practitioner after the elapsed 15 minutes.
- e) Player(s) ordered off may be replaced immediately.
- f) A Field Umpire must signal that a Player has been ordered off, by pointing to the Interchange Area with an outstretched arm and showing a blue card.
- g) Any Player ordered off must leave the Playing Arena immediately and proceed directly to the Ground Manager/ Blue Card Official and wear a blue vest for the entire 15 minutes period.
- h) The Field Umpire may accompany any Player who has been ordered off the field.
- i) The Player(s) may return to the Playing Arena after the expiring of 15 minutes they may be replaced immediately.
- j) In the event that any Player has been ordered off, the Ground Manager/ Blue Card Official must inform both Team Managers of the send-off.
- k) Should there not be a Ground Manager or Blue Card Official at the venue, both Team Managers must manage the 15min time period.
- l) In the event of a Player failing or refusing to leave the ground when ordered off:
  - i. the Player must be reported for misconduct;
  - ii. the match must terminate; and
  - iii. his team will be deemed to have forfeited.
- m) An emergency field Umpire shall have the powers conferred on a Field Umpire under this Rule 3.6.5.3.

### **3.6.6 Protests**

- a) Where the scores of a match are altered on a protest, the team with the highest score as a result of the protest hearing shall be awarded the full premiership points.
- b) Any alteration to the points scored "for and against" following a protest heard in accordance with (a) will be recorded accordingly.
- c) Where a team requests a head count and one team is found to have extra Players on the field the following process shall be followed:
  - i. the Umpires shall note the quarter, the time of the quarter and the game score at the point the game was stopped for the head count;
  - ii. should an extra Player be counted, the extra Player shall be removed from the field of play and the game shall continue with no alteration to the scores;
  - iii. every endeavor shall be made to determine the source and time of the error in order to evaluate the period of influence of the extra Player; and
  - iv. any subsequent decision on penalty will be made by the WAFC at its sole discretion.

## 3.7 Match Day Staff

### 3.7.1 WAFL Timekeepers

- a) Timekeepers will be Club personnel who on match day keep the game timing in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football as determined by the WAFC.

#### 3.7.1.1 Duties of Timekeepers

- a) The duties and responsibilities of Timekeepers are in accordance with Law 10 of the Laws of Australian Football, as applies to League, Reserves, Colts and Futures Grades.

The Timekeeper shall sound the siren at the times and on the number of occasions as set out below: AFL Laws of the Game 10	
Start of the Match	Number of Occurrences
Five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Match and as the umpires enter the Arena	Once
Two (2) minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Twice
One (1) minute prior to scheduled starting time	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of Match)	Once
End of first quarter	Once
Official quarter time allowance	Six (6) minutes
Start of the Second Quarter	
Two (2) minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Twice
One (1) minute prior to scheduled starting time	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of Match)	Once
End of second quarter	Once
Official half time allowance	Twenty (20) minutes
Start of the third quarter	
Two (2) minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Twice
One (1) minute prior to scheduled starting time	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of Match)	Once
End of third quarter	Once
Official three-quarter time allowance	Six (6) minutes
Start of the final quarter	
Two (2) minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Twice
One (1) minute prior to scheduled starting time	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of Match)	Once
End of final quarter	Once

- b) Clubs that do not move to position when the siren is blown once by the Timekeeper to signal one minute prior to the commencement of the match shall be noted by the Timekeeper.

- c) Penalties may apply in accordance with Rule 3.1.8 and Rule 14 in the event that a team is not ready to start play.

### **3.7.1.2 Disagreement between Timekeepers**

- a) In the event of any disagreement between the two Timekeepers as to the length or variation of the time of any quarter such dispute shall:
  - i. in the case of the first or second quarters, be reported to the Field Umpire at the half time interval; and
  - ii. in the case of the third and fourth quarters, be reported at the conclusion of the game.
- b) The Field Umpires must note any disagreement in the report to the WAFL.
- c) In the event of a protest against the result of the match on the grounds of an error in timekeeping, a copy of the report will be made available to the WAFC who shall adjudicate as to the result of the game.

### **3.7.1.3 Timekeepers Error**

- a) Any Club may protest the result of a match to the WAFC on the grounds that the result was affected by an error in timekeeping.
- b) The WAFC will determine the impact of the error and make a determination with respect to the match result and/or any score adjustments.

## **3.7.2 Official Runner**

- a) Each Club shall be entitled to use one (1) Runners in the League, Reserves and Colts Grades of the WAFL.
- b) Each Club shall be entitled to use two (2) Runners in the Futures Grade of the WAFL.
- c) The Runner's role is solely to deliver messages from the coaching staff to Players on the Playing Arena.
- d) The Runner must immediately vacate the Playing Arena once the message has been delivered.
- e) The Runner must not interfere with the course of play.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, interfering includes standing in and filling a space at set plays.
- f) The Runner is not permitted to coach or remain on the Playing Arena barracking and will be asked to leave by any Umpire.
- g) In the event that a Runner remains on the Playing Arena contrary to the role, a free kick may be awarded against the team to which the Runner belongs at the spot of the infringement or where the ball is at that time, whichever is the greater penalty.
- h) Only one (1) Runner from each team is permitted entry to the Playing Arena at any one time.
- i) Access to and from the Playing Arena for League, Reserves, Colts and Futures Grade Runners must be directly in front of the Club's Interchange Bench.
- j) The Runner shall not have affixed any communication device.
- k) Ground Managers are to note any infringements relating to the interchanging of Runners to and from the Playing Arena on the Ground Managers Form.
- l) Field Umpires will note any infringements to this Rule 3.7.2 on the Official Team Sheet.
- m) Runners not adhering to (g) to (k) must be warned by the Ground Manager in the first instance and in the event that the Runner continues to act contrary to (g) and (j), the Runner must be reported to the WAFC via the Ground Managers Form. Clubs will be fined if Runners are

reported in such instances in accordance with Rule 14.

- n) A Runner must wear the required attire, as specified by the WAFC.
  - i. For the Avoidance of doubt, any undergarments worn by the runner must not protrude from the length of the sleeves or legs of the required attire unless approved in writing by the WAFC.
- o) A Runner must not engage in physical contact of any nature that may cause injury to any Player, Official or Umpire or initiate physical contact of any nature while on the Playing Arena.
- p) Runners must be reported in accordance with the procedure for Notice of Investigation or Report by an Umpire as detailed in the Laws of Australian Football by the Field Umpires for infringements of (o) above to be included in the Match Day Paperwork by way of a Notice of Investigation or Report.
- q) The WAFC, including referring to the Tribunal, shall determine any penalty following any report made in accordance with (p) above at their absolute discretion.
- r) Any penalties incurred by a Player acting as a Runner must be viewed as penalties against a Player in regard to the competition medals for fair play.
- s) Where a Runner uses foul or abusive language, a free kick may be awarded against the team to which the Runner belongs at the spot of the infringement or where the ball is at that time or whichever is the greater penalty.
- t) WAFC Staff may act as Club Runner provided agreement is granted by the WAFC (WAFL Operations).
- u) A suspended Player, Club CEO, Football Operations Manager, Talent Manager or nominated Coach (in any grade of the club) may not act as a Club Runner, Trainer or Water Carrier.
- v) Clubs may apply for permission from the WAFC for any Authorised Official to act as a Runner under special circumstances via email.
- w) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.7.3 Umpires**

#### **3.7.3.1 Umpire Duties**

- a) The Number 1 Field Umpire must lodge the following with the WAFC within 1 hour after the completion of the WAFL match:
  - i. the Official Team Sheet and Match Results Form taken from each Team Manager at the conclusion of a game;
  - ii. such other remarks and observations as the Umpire may think proper to report;
  - iii. the official forms for reporting Players as prescribed in the Laws of Australian Football;
  - iv. any dispute reported to him regarding the correctness of the time interval of any quarter;
  - v. the official Timekeepers Sheet completed for that match; and
  - vi. the Fairest and Best votes for Players participating in that game on Officials HQ.

#### **3.7.3.2 Preseason Matches**

- a) Where Umpires on the AFL or WAFL panel are required for any preseason match then they may be paid at a fee, arranged by the WAFC.
- b) Matches will be deemed to be official games and the Umpires will be required to observe all the Laws of Australian Football and report as required.

- c) Any reports or NOI's will be processed as per Rule 6.3

### **3.7.3.3 Approaches to Umpires or Umpires Officials during a Game**

- a) WAFL Club Authorised Officials, Club President, Chief Executive Officer, Football Operations Manager, Talent Manager, Board members, Club Staff, Support staff, Coaches or any other club official not listed, must not approach at any time, an Umpire or umpiring official appointed in a match.
- b) Captains or Players must not approach Umpires during the  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$  time breaks or at the conclusion of the match.
- c) Players may talk to Umpires during the game but at suitable times convenient to both Player and Umpire.
- d) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.7.3.4 Restrictions on Umpires**

- a) No Field, Goal or Boundary Umpire for League Matches shall be eligible to play with any Club during the season for which they have received any payment as an Umpire.
- b) All Umpires must comply with the Integrity rules as set out in Rule 11.
- c) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **3.7.3.5 Physical Contact with Umpires during Games**

The WAFL wishes to promote and actively encourage a safe umpiring environment for all Umpires in WAFL games and follows the Laws of Australian Football in the protection of Umpires.

Generally, a Player will be deemed negligent if he makes contact with an Umpire when the Umpire is backing out of a centre bounce or field stoppage.

A player will also be deemed negligent, if they push or hold an opponent into an umpire or their direct path (ie where contact is caused by the players opponent, not the player themselves)

For contact made in other areas, the Match Review Panel and Tribunal must take into account the Laws of Australian Football and use its discretionary powers to determine any Player liability.

- a) Any Player who intentionally or carelessly makes contact with or strikes an Umpire will be reported under Law 22.2.2 of the Laws of Australian Football.
- b) The subsequent penalty for the Player will be at the discretion of the Tribunal, Match Review Panel or WAFC.
- c) A period of suspension is expected for a Player making forceful contact, particularly when the ball is bounced in the expected position and the Umpire moves along the expected exit path.

## **3.7.4 Trainers, Water Carriers, Club Doctors & Physiotherapists**

### **3.7.4.1 Water Carriers**

- a) Appointed Water Carriers must be at least 16 years of age.
- b) Official vests will be supplied by the WAFL Club for the Water Carriers to wear.
- c) Water Carriers may wear Club casual shorts, polos and Club jackets under the official vest.
- d) Enclosed footwear (sneakers or joggers) must to be worn at all times by Water Carriers.

- e) All Water Carriers must wear numbered uniforms and be included on the Official Team Sheet.

#### **3.7.4.2 Sports Trainers**

- a) People not accredited as Sports Trainers through Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) will be regarded as Water Carriers.
- b) Notwithstanding to Rule 3.7.4.4, Sports Trainers must be accredited through SMA to a minimum Level One standard and be at least 16 years of age.
- c) Re-accreditation for the purposes of (b) is required every three (3) years.
- d) A maximum of eight (8) Water Carriers/Sports Trainers are permitted to officiate during any official WAFL Match.
- e) Sports Trainers must wear the official vests as supplied by the WAFL Club.
- f) Sports Trainers may wear Club casual shorts, polos and Club jackets under the official vest.
- g) Enclosed footwear (sneakers or joggers) are to be worn at all times by Sports Trainers.
- h) Head Trainers are required to wear number one (1) on their official vest.
- i) All Club Sports Trainers must be members of the West Australian Football Trainers Association (WAFTA) and shall have an appointed delegate at WAFTA Meetings.
- j) Membership fees are payable to WAFTA by the WAFL Club prior to May 30 each year.

#### **3.7.4.3 Club Doctors & Physiotherapists**

- a) It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that a Doctor is present at all WAFL Matches League Matches.
- b) Doctors and Physiotherapists will be required to wear official vests supplied by their respective Club signifying their position. i.e. "Doctor" or "Physiotherapist".
- c) Club Doctors and Physiotherapists may elect to wear the approved Sports Trainer uniform.
- d) For the purposes of calculating the number of Water Carriers/Sports Trainers in accordance with Rule 3.7.4.2(d), Club Doctors and Physiotherapists are additional and as such, Clubs may have a total of ten (10) people permitted out onto the Playing Arena where two (2) or more of those ten (10) people are Doctors or Physiotherapists.
- e) WAFL Club Doctors and Physiotherapists will be required to provide their AHPRA Registration, working with Children Check (if required), Medical indemnity insurance and where applicable Public Liability Insurance.
- f) Club Doctors and Physiotherapists shall not have affixed any communication devices.
- g) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

#### **3.7.4.4 Accreditation Exemptions**

- a) In the case of lapsed accreditation with SMA, special consideration may be given, however persons seeking exemptions must:
  - i. hold a current Senior First Aid certificate;
  - ii. attend an approval SMA re-accreditation course (one-day course only); and
  - iii. have WAFTA oversee applications for exemptions under prior learning.

#### **3.7.4.5 Trainers / Water Carriers Procedures**

- a) Sports Trainers and Water Carriers must remain behind the Boundary Line while the game is in progress and enter the Playing Arena only when there is a clear break in play away from the Player/s.

- b) Sports Trainers and Water Carriers must not unnecessarily remain on the Playing Arena even though there is a clear break in play, with the exception of any instance where a Player is injured and requires the attention of the Sports Trainers and Water Carriers.
- c) Any sponsorship advertising on any part of a uniform must be approved by the WAFC.
- d) Sports Trainers entering the Playing Arena for the purpose of attending an injured Player must not interfere with the play in any way and must vacate the Playing Arena as soon as possible.
- e) Sports Trainers must not stand inside the 50 Metre Arc during a point kick in.
- f) In the event that a point kick in takes place while a Sports Trainer is required for the purposes of treating an injured Player inside the 50 Metre arc the Sports Trainer should notify the Umpire before the kick in occurs.
- g) A free kick may be awarded against the team to which the Sports Trainer in the event that permission is not received and the Sports Trainer is deemed to be interfering with play.
- h) Sports Trainers must not stand inside the centre square during a centre bounce/ ball up after a goal is scored and at the start of a quarter.
- i) Sports Trainers/ Water Carriers shall not have affixed any communication devices.
- j) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

## 4 FINALS

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### 4.1 Participation in Finals

There are restrictions placed upon the qualification of Players to play in grades below the highest grade that they have played in during the season.

This ensures that teams playing in Finals are representative of the team from the home and away season, that is, teams do not load their list with Players from higher divisions not ordinarily in the team.

This rule exists to promote an exciting and even finals series.

- a) Subject to (d) and (e) any Player eligible for registration may play in Finals Matches.
- b) AFL Partner Club Players may be eligible to play in Finals Matches subject to Rule 4.1.1 and AFL Stand Alone Club Players may be eligible to play in Finals Matches subject to Rule 4.1.2.
- c) There is no minimum number of games required to qualify to play Finals Matches unless the Player has played in more than one (1) Grade previously in the season at this point there are conditions placed upon him should that Player seek to play in a lower grade in Finals Matches.
- d) The five (5) Game Rule will apply to:
  - i. qualified League Players to play Reserves or Colts at his club; or
  - ii. Reserves Players to play Coltswhere a Player must have played five (5) qualifying games in the lower grade for his club to be eligible to play in any Finals Match in that grade.
- e) Where a WAFL Club's higher-grade team is playing in the Finals, but not necessarily playing on the same weekend where lower grade teams are playing then the five (5) Game Rule does not apply.
- f) Where a Player plays in all three (3) grades during the season (being League, Reserves and Colts Grades) for his club then he shall qualify to play Reserves finals if:
  - i. he fulfils the finals qualification for the Colts; or
  - ii. he does not qualify for the Colts, but his number of Reserves and Colts Matches he has played at his club is greater than the number of League Matches he has played for the season.
- g) For the purposes of "qualifying" games, a Player who plays in more than one (1) Grade for his Club during the same fixture will be credited only with one (1) game in the highest grade in which he plays in that fixture.
- h) For the avoidance of any doubt, qualification games must be at the current club to be considered for finals eligibility purposes.
- i) Players who miss qualifying Matches through participation in the State 18's Programme will be credited (for the purposes of finals qualification only) for each Match missed.
- j) The Grade of Match allocated in accordance with (i) will be the Grade played in the last Match played prior to the commencement of the State 18's Programme.
- k) Any Club that names a player on the Team Sheet knowing or intending that he will not play, or who seeks to manipulate the intent of Rule 4 will be investigated by the WAFC under rule 6.2 'Behaviour Detrimental to Football', or any other applicable rule, and may be penalised.



- l) Any player selected in the AFL Mid-Season Rookie Draft (locally or interstate) has the right to return to their original club to participate in finals. Any player returning to play finals will require approval from the WAFC, AFL Club, WAFL Club and the AFL.
- m) For the avoidance of doubt, any player selected in the AFL Mid-Season Rookie Draft that is approved in accordance with l), will be eligible to play in any grade that the player has played a minimum of 50% of home and away games in during the season in which the player was drafted.

#### **4.1.1 AFL Partner Club Players Participating in WAFL Finals**

- a) An AFL Player may play in the WAFL Finals where:
  - i. his AFL Club is not participating in the AFL Finals match on the same weekend as his WAFL Partner Club; and
    - a. the player must have played a minimum of six (6) WAFL League matches; and
    - b. the player has played two (2) of the clubs last eight (8) WAFL League home and away matches; and
    - c. the number of qualified AFL players eligible to play does not exceed twelve (12) AFL players.
  - ii. or where:
    - a. his AFL Club is still in the AFL Finals and playing on the same weekend then (i) does not apply.
- b) Any special request for AFL Partner Club Players to participate in the WAFL Partner Club League or Reserves Finals when not qualified in accordance with these Rules must be submitted to the WAFC by Tuesday 5pm prior to the Final for approval by the WAFC. This rule is designed to provide AFL clubs with scope to manage their list given the development needs of young, emerging players and long term injured players. Any request endorsed must sit within the maximum cap of 12 AFL players.
- c) Any Club that names a player on the Team Sheet knowing or intending that he will not play, or who seeks to manipulate the intent of Rule 4 will be investigated by the WAFC under rule 6.2 'Behaviour Detrimental to Football', or any other applicable rule, and may be penalised.

#### **4.1.2 AFL Stand-Alone Club Players Participating in WAFL Finals**

- a) An AFL Player may play in the WAFL Finals where:
  - i. his AFL Club is not participating in the AFL Finals match on the same weekend as his WAFL Stand-Alone Club; and
    - a. the player must have played a minimum of six (6) WAFL League matches; and
    - b. the player has played two (2) of the clubs last eight (8) WAFL League home and away matches; and
    - c. the number of qualified AFL players eligible to play does not exceed seventeen (17) AFL players; plus
    - d. additionally, a maximum of three (3) Category B Rookie players which include NGA players, international players or 3-year non-AFL registered players;
      - (i) for the avoidance of doubt and in accordance with (d), a maximum of one (1) of the three (3) additional players being a Next Generation Academy (NGA) player;
  - ii. or where:
    - a. his AFL Club is still in the AFL Finals and playing on the same weekend then (i) does not apply.

- b) Any special request for AFL Stand-Alone Club Players to participate in the WAFL Stand-Alone Club League Finals when not qualified in accordance with these Rules must be submitted to the WAFC by Tuesday 5pm prior to the Final for approval by the WAFC. This rule is designed to provide AFL clubs with scope to manage their list given the development needs of young, emerging players and long term injured players. Any request endorsed must sit within the maximum cap of seventeen (17) AFL players.
- c) Any Club that names a player on the Team Sheet knowing or intending that he will not play, or who seeks to manipulate the intent of Rule 4 will be investigated by the WAFC under rule 6.2 'Behaviour Detrimental to Football', or any other applicable rule, and may be penalised.

## 4.2 Drawn Matches in Final Match

- a) In the event that scores are equal at the conclusion of any Finals Match in League, Reserves of Colts Grades, the following applies:
  - i. for Colts and Reserves grades, the siren will be held until the next score ('the Golden Score') and upon confirmation (i.e. all clear from Field Umpire and waving of the flag/s) of the 'Golden Score' the Timekeepers will sound the siren to complete the game;
  - ii. If the scores are not level, but a player is having a set shot, the timekeepers will sound the siren to end the match. If the match is then a draw from that set shot (goal or behind), then the umpires will bounce the ball in the middle of the ground and golden score rule will apply. Teams will kick in the same direction as the fourth quarter.
  - iii. for WAFL League matches:
    - a. the goal Umpires shall immediately consult with each other to confirm that the score of each Club is identical and if that is the case, the goal Umpires shall signal to the Timekeepers that the Match is to proceed into Additional Time;
    - b. after a six (6) minute rest period, (which shall commence from the time the goal Umpires signal that the Match is to proceed into Additional Time), Additional Time shall be played;
    - c. each Club shall change ends at the completion of ordinary time for the first three (3) minute period (plus stoppages, in accordance with Rule 3.1.7 a)i - a)viii) of Additional Time and shall change ends again after the first three (3) minute period without delay;
    - d. upon receiving the signal by the goal Umpire, the Timekeepers shall sound the siren in accordance with the normal start of each quarter, being:
      - A. two minutes prior to the official start time – two times;
      - B. one minute prior to the official start time – once; and
      - C. official start time – once.
    - e. except for the Coach and those persons permitted to enter the Playing Surface, no person shall enter the Playing Surface during any period before or during the playing of Additional Time;

- f. before the commencement of Additional Time, the Coach may enter the Playing Surface and address the Players. The Coach must leave the Playing Surface on or before the sound of the two sirens signifying that two minutes remain before the commencement of Additional Time;
- g. the Timekeepers shall sound the siren once to signify the end of each period of Additional Time (until a field Umpire acknowledges that the siren has been heard and brings play to an end);
- h. at the conclusion of Additional Time, the Club which has scored the highest points is the winner of the Match;
- i. if the scores are still tied at the conclusion of Additional Time, the goal Umpires shall immediately consult with each other to confirm that the score of each Club is identical and if that is the case, the goal Umpires shall signal to the Timekeepers that Further Additional Time will be played;
- j. each Club shall immediately change ends at the conclusion of Additional Time for the first three (3) minute period (plus stoppages) of Further Additional Time and shall change ends again after the first three (3) minute period without delay. At the conclusion of the Further Additional Time, the Club which has scored the highest points is the winner of the match;
- k. if the scores are still tied at the conclusion of Further Additional Time, the process set out in Rule 4.2 a) iii. j. will be repeated until, at the conclusion of any repeated period of Further Additional Time, the winning Club can be determined; and
- l. during any period of Further Additional Time, there will be no breaks in play for Coaches or Club Football Officials to access the Playing Area.

#### 4.2.1 Sirens for Additional time

- a) Timekeepers must sound the sirens in accordance with the normal start of each quarter:

##### **Start of the extra time**

Two minutes prior to the official start time	2 sirens
One minute prior to official start time	1 sirens
Official start time	1 siren

- b) At the conclusion of the first period of Additional Time, teams shall immediately change ends.
- c) Coaches and other Club staff are not permitted to enter the Playing Arena at the conclusion of the first period of extra time as teams change ends.
- d) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

## 5 TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS CAP (TPP)

A key measure of the WAFL Competition is that each Club complies annually with the TPP (previously known as Salary Cap). Payments or a benefit made to any Player of the Club includes League, Reserves and Colts Players.

### 5.1 Definition of TPP to be Assessed

- a) From 2021 onwards, a TPP is categorised as:
- Football Match Payments; (inclusive of Other Benefits provided to the Player).

#### 5.1.1 Non- Partner Clubs

- a) The maximum total TPP must not be exceeded in any season.  
b) The following maximum totals will apply:

	2023	2024	2025
Football Match Payments	\$245,000	\$245,000	\$245,000
<b>TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$245,000</b>	<b>\$245,000</b>	<b>\$245,000</b>

#### 5.1.2 Partner Clubs

- a) The maximum total TPP must not be exceeded in any season.  
b) Partner Clubs will be entitled to 65% of the amount detailed in Rule 5.1.1.  
c) The following maximum totals will apply:

	2023	2024	2025
Football Match Payments	\$159,250	\$159,250	<b>\$159,250</b>
<b>TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$159,250</b>	<b>\$159,250</b>	<b>\$159,250</b>

#### 5.1.3 Stand Alone AFL Team

- a) The maximum total TPP must not be exceeded in any season.  
b) Stand Alone AFL Team will be entitled to 60% of the amount detailed in Rule 5.1.1.  
c) The following maximum totals will apply:

	2023	2024
Football Match Payments	N/A	\$147,000
<b>TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$147,000</b>

#### 5.1.4 Roll Forward/ Roll Backwards an Approved TPP Amount

- a) A WAFL Club may complete a Form 2c (with signatures of all Authorised Officers who countersign the Form 2a) and apply to the WAFC ([waflltp@wafc.com.au](mailto:waflltp@wafc.com.au)) prior to the fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) day in October in each calendar year to either:
- Roll Forward, up to \$15,000.00. (*Roll Forward – transfer an approved lump sum of TPP from the current football calendar year to the next football calendar year.*)
    - For the avoidance of doubt, should the amount be approved by the WAFC, the new TPP maximum amount in year one, must take into account any deduction of the year one TPP cap. I.e. \$245,000 TPP limit with \$15,000 being Rolled Forward will result in a maximum of \$230,000 for year one and a maximum of \$260,000 in year two.

- ii. Roll Backwards, up to \$15,000.00. (Roll Backwards - transfer an approved lump sum of TPP from the next football calendar year to the current football calendar year)
  - 1. For the avoidance of doubt, should the amount be approved by the WAFC, the new TPP maximum amount in year one, must take into account any addition from the year two TPP cap. I.e. \$245,000 TPP limit with \$15,000 being Rolled Backwards will result in a maximum of \$260,000 for year one and a maximum of \$230,000 in year two.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, the TPP maximum over any two (2) year period must not exceed the combination of the two (2) concurrent years.
- c) AFL Partner Clubs will be able to apply for 65% of \$15,000 or up to \$9,750.00.
- d) AFL Stand Alone teams will not be entitled to roll any Approved TPP amount in 2024.
- e) Subject to a), the WAFC will advise in writing of any approval or denial to adjust the TPP limit. The absence of any application by clubs and approval by the WAFC will be considered a breach of the TPP if the TPP is exceeded.
- f) The WAFC will not accept any application after the fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) day in October in that calendar year and will not approve any retrospective applications after the defined date to Roll Forward or Roll Backward any lump sum.
- g) There is no application required if the Club is not seeking to adjust to the TPP amount set by the WAFC.
- h) The TPP amount for each club will be in accordance with Rule 5.1 and Rule 2.8.

## 5.2 Football Match Payments

The gross value (or grossed up pre-tax value) of all or any part of any money provided to the Player in respect of any match played between the period commencing 1st November in a year and expiring on 31st October in the next year under any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding between a WAFL Club or any person or entity directly or indirectly associated with a WAFL Club and a Player or an Associate of that Player which relates to or is consideration for the playing of football (or agreement to play football) by that Player for any WAFL Club in any Match will be deemed to be a Football Match Payment for the purpose of these Rules.

For the purpose of this clause "Match" refers to any game of football played by the WAFL Club including without limitation a state league, representative, exhibition or scratch match.

Football Match Payments may also include payments that are deemed to be Football Match Payments (see Rule 5.3).

- a) For the avoidance of doubt, a Match Payment includes:
- i. all payments to Players (including base or retainer payments) for selection and performance in any WAFL Match as agreed to in the Player's contract with the Club;
  - ii. all injury payments to Players made as a replacement for normal Match Payments where the Player does not actually participate in the Match;
  - iii. any upfront payments to Players for signing with the WAFL Club; or
  - iv. all statutory and other contributions payable by a WAFL Club on behalf of or for the benefit of a Player to an approved superannuation fund.
  - v. all deductions by reason of any law, including PAYG taxation instalment deductions.

## 5.3 Deemed Football Match Payments

- a) Without in any way limiting Rule 5.2, the following payments paid or provided to or for the benefit of a Player or associate of a Player by a WAFL Club or by any sponsor, supporter, supporter group or any person or entity associated directly or indirectly with that WAFL Club are deemed to be Football Match Payments:
- i. payment, benefits or considerations made by the WAFL Club received by spouses, direct family members, Player managers or other duly authorised representatives and any other third party of the Player;
  - ii. any payment or provision of goods and services received by a Player or associate of the Player from any third-party person or entity for the purposes of playing football;
  - iii. where a Player or an associate of a Player is employed by a WAFL Club, Partner Club or WAFL Standalone AFL Team and if such Player or associate is paid an amount which in the opinion of the WAFLC is in excess of the market value of the Player's or the Player's associate's services or where the Player or associate does not provide services consistent with the normal terms and conditions of such employment, the amount by which the payment exceeds the market value of those services or the whole of the payment as the case may be;
  - iv. any payment to a Player (other than full time League Playing Coach) for coaching

- purposes, which have not received approval from the WAFC as legitimate coaching fees to be set outside the TPP;
- v. any Player receiving payment for coaching purposes who does not hold a current minimum level two (2) coaching accreditation prior to the commencement of the employment or satisfy Rule 1.2.6 d) must provide evidence of such accreditation or training as the case may be upon request to the WAFC;
  - vi. any lump sum paid directly or indirectly to a Player or an associate of the Player on termination of the contract to play Football with a WAFL Club;
  - vii. any payment received as prize money for incentive or otherwise, other than memorabilia or as weekly after match prize incentives in accordance with Rule 5.4iv; or
  - viii. any payment to a Player (including a payment to be held in trust) by any person for the purpose of playing football for the WAFL Club.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, any payment made to any Player who has not achieved a minimum Level 2 Accreditation, for coaching services will be deemed a Player payment.

### **5.3.1 Full Time League Playing Coach**

- a) Where a WAFL Club appoints a full time League Coach who chooses to play, an amount per game must be determined equivalent to a Match Payment for the purposes of Football Match Payment, regardless of whether this payment is actually made to the Player/coach to play.
- b) An amount to be determined by the WAFC of the gross payments to the Coach for the season will be broken down to an amount per match for the season by dividing this amount with the number of rounds played in the season.
- c) The deemed Football Match Payment will be the per match calculation multiplied by the actual number of games played by the Player/coach.

## **5.4 Exclusions to Football Match Payments**

- a) The following payments paid or provided to or for the benefit of a Player or associate of a Player by a WAFL Club or by any sponsor, supporter, supporter group or any person or entity associated directly or indirectly with that WAFL Club are not deemed to be Football Match Payments:
  - i. reasonable relocation expenses (Relocation Allowance) in accordance with 5.4.1 as determined by the TPP Officer or WAFC, where such expenses must be supported by the appropriate receipts in order to be excluded. Payment made directly to the Player which is not accompanied by third party receipts for services rendered will be deemed a Football Match Payment;
  - ii. payment, benefits or considerations received by Players or an associate of the Player for legitimate employment at the WAFL Club where the WAFC must formally review and endorse a formal application for the employment role and conditions in order for the employment to be considered legitimate;
    - a. for the avoidance of doubt, any formal application for review and endorsement must be made prior to the employment offer being presented to the player or players associate.
    - b. For the avoidance of doubt, if there any changes to the conditions of the

employment offer which has been formally approved by the WAFC, a new application must be lodged with the adjusted conditions specified and reassessed by the WAFC.

- iii. expenses incurred in WAFL Club coaching/playing trips and training camps except where the benefit has been specifically included in the Player's contract with the WAFL Club;
  - iv. weekly after match prize money or goods and services given to the best weekly Player's after match provided the total value of the prizes do not exceed \$750 per week (total is inclusive of all Players in all grades). All weekly prizes must be declared to the WAFC. In the event, the weekly prize total exceeds \$750, the differential will be deemed as a Football Match Payment;
  - v. money raised by Clubs (excluding market value Match payments) for Players in their designated testimonial year where the Clubs have nominated a Player for a testimonial year including a plan on how payments will be made for a testimonial year, not exceeding \$5000, has been accepted by the WAFC prior to the 28<sup>th</sup> February each calendar year;
    - a. For the avoidance of doubt, the plan should include how the money will be raised for the player testimonial, the date of the event, the cost of admission to the event, any fundraising initiatives at the event (Raffle, Auctions, silent auctions) by way of example.
  - vi. payments in respect of each Finals' appearance by the WAFL Club's league side where the value complies within the following calculation:
    - a. To calculate the amount, the Football Match Payments total allowance will be divided by the number of Home and Away rounds played by the Club.
    - b. This will be confirmed by the WAFC at the start of each season.
    - c. Any amount paid over the allowance for each Final must be included as a Football Match Payment.
  - vii. any payments made on behalf of a Player or an associate of the Player to reimburse for the gap incurred on medical expenses is excluded as long as third party receipts are provided;
  - viii. any Player receiving payment for coaching purposes who satisfies Rule 1.2.6 d).
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, payments in accordance with (vi) (a)(c) must be declared to the WAFC in the TPP Spreadsheet (Form 2b).

#### **5.4.1 Relocation Allowance**

- a) Players will be eligible to receive a Relocation Allowance if they:
  - i. Are recruited to a WAFL Club but live in a location of such distance from any Club's primary training ground that, based on travel time, would reasonably require the Player to relocate if the Player is recruited, subject to that Relocation Allowance being specified in the agreement between the Player and their new Club in the Player's Standard Playing Contract.
  - ii. be recruited from a different State/region from their ordinary residence, where they have not been selected by a Club in the State/region that they are currently residing.; or



- b) For the purposes of clauses a)i, a Player living more than 150km of travel by motor vehicle post-training from the relevant Club's primary training ground would reasonably require the Player to relocate.
- c) The Relocation Allowance shall only be available to be paid once per Player relocates, unless that Player moves Clubs in accordance with clause a)ii and an additional Relocation Allowance is agreed between the Player and their new Club.
- d) Players are free to sign with any WAFL Club they choose but no Relocation Allowance or other relocation costs will be provided by the WAFL or Club to a Player who:
  - i. live less than 150km travel by motor vehicle from the primary training ground of an existing WAFL Club; and
- e) The Parties acknowledge that the same relocation benefit principles shall apply whether a Player elects to permanently relocate to the location of their Club or temporarily relocate, noting that such Players will only be eligible for support for one year at a Club.
- f) Evidence of any relocation or travel benefits payable under Schedule 21 must be provided electronically, via the approved online form, to the WAFL within 14 days of the benefit paid to the player, who will assess the reasonableness of such benefits paid and Club's compliance with Schedule 21 and this rule.
  - i. In assessing the reasonableness of the costs incurred, account shall be taken of the circumstances of the relocation including the distance travelled and the assets and personal effects relocated.
  - ii. Any Relocation Allowance to be paid within 14 days of receipt of a valid tax invoice from Player, including any part payments of such allowance.
  - iii. For the avoidance of doubt, a Player is not entitled to a Relocation Allowance unless such a Relocation Allowance is payable in accordance with Schedule 21;
- g) The WAFC will formally approve or deny any application within 14 days of the receipt of any relocation expenses lodged in accordance with f)

## 5.5 Other Benefits Provided to a Player or Associate of the Player

The gross value (or grossed up pre-tax value) of all or any part of any money provided to the Player in respect of any benefit between the period commencing 1st November in a year and expiring on 31st October in the next year under any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding between a WAFL Club or any person or entity directly or indirectly associated with a WAFL Club and a Player or an Associate of that Player which relates to or is consideration for the playing of football (or agreement to play football) by that Player for any WAFL Club in any Match will be deemed to be an Other Benefit for the purpose of these Rules and included in the Football Match Payments (TPP).

For the purpose of this clause "Other Benefit" refers to any benefit made by the WAFL Club including without limitation to the categories below.

- a) Other Benefits provided to a Player or associate of the Player for the purposes of playing football are to be included in the Other Benefits category and may include:
  - i. Travel Allowance as approved by the WAFC for Players who travel large (50 km Round Trip minimum) distances in order to train and play at the permanent venue of the WAFL Club at which he is registered during a season where that Player submitted a Form 2b at the start of every season or as the need has

- arisen by written request to the WAFC;
- ii. any funding that is advanced or loaned to a Player or associate of the Player where an amount equivalent to any repayment of the advance/loan shall be deducted from the Other Benefit calculation when the repayment is made;
- iii. rent subsidies or payments made to a third party or direct to a Player or associate of the Player for the purposes of providing accommodation relief;
- iv. flight travel, other than for the purposes of a Player participating in a WAFL Match including flight travel to associates of the Player to attend a WAFL Match;
- v. individual private health insurance premiums made on behalf of a Player or an associate of the Player;
- vi. any payments made on behalf of a Player or an associate of the Player to reimburse for the gap incurred on medical expenses is deemed an Other Payments should third party receipts not be provided;
- vii. any Fringe Benefits Tax required to be paid under tax legislation by a WAFL Club in respect of any Other Benefit paid; or
- viii. any other benefits as determined by the WAFC.

## **5.6 Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments**

### **5.6.1 Compliance**

- a) For the purposes of compliance, each WAFL Club shall receive annually WAFL Form 2b and electronic Excel TPP spread sheet from the WAFC which will be the basis for TPP submissions for the season.
- b) Any new or returning Player registering or any player re-registering in the WAFL or any contracted or previously contracted Player transferring WAFL Clubs must have their new playing contract submitted, in accordance with 1.1.1 c) to the WAFC for actioning, a minimum of three (3) Business Days prior to any public announcement of their recruitment.
- c) Public announcements may not be made prior to receiving approval from the WAFC.
- d) At a date determined by the WAFC but no later than one (1) week prior to the season each Club will submit their WAFL Form 2b schedule.
- e) Form 2b must also indicate the use of all TPP to those Players who qualify.
- f) All Clubs must submit their WAFL Form 2b TPP schedule on a monthly basis by 9:00am on the first Wednesday of each month to [wafitpp@wafc.com.au](mailto:wafitpp@wafc.com.au).
- g) Clubs may only alter a player's contract before October 14 in each calendar year.
  - i. Clubs must lodge a Variation of Standard Playing Contract Form to the [wafitpp@wafc.com.au](mailto:wafitpp@wafc.com.au)
- h) By 1 November in each calendar year, the final, complete WAFL Form 2b TPP spread sheet is to be lodged.
- i) All WAFL Clubs are to advise the WAFC in writing of any modification to a Player's contract. Failure to advise the WAFC will incur the listed penalty in accordance with Rule 14.
- j) Penalties may apply for a breach of this Rule in accordance with Rule 14.

### **5.6.2 Statutory Declaration – Football Payments**

- a) Where the spread sheet required under Rule 5.6.1 h) is submitted, it must be accompanied by a Statutory Declaration (WAFL Form 2a) signed by the President, CEO and Football Operations Manager and the officer responsible for the finance of the WAFL Club.

- b) The details of any other person who has involvement in the issue of Player Football Payments must be included on the WAFL Form 2a.
- c) Compliance to Rule 5.6.1 h) is not considered to be completed unless this clause is met.

### **5.6.3 Further Investigation**

- a) The WAFC has the right to audit Players from each Club annually. This audit includes the right to:
  - i. require a Player to attend any meeting, to answer questions and if required provide written responses;
  - ii. have a Player provide documents or other relevant papers or property that is under the Player's control; and
  - iii. require the Player to bring his agent (including his accountant, manager or lawyer) to a meeting.
- b) Where a Player does not comply with these requirements as set out or if a Player is found by the TPP Officer or the WAFC to have provided false or misleading information then the matter may be referred by the WAFC to the WAFL Tribunal where a Player may be:
  - i. Fined between \$500 and \$5000; and/or
  - ii. Suspended from playing for a minimum of 1 match to a maximum of life.
- c) A Player who provides information, including documents, under these Rules grants permission for such information to be provided to relevant authorised representatives for expert advice, as determined by the WAFC.
- d) In the event that further investigation indicates that the TPP has been inaccurately recorded by the Club then further Players from that WAFL Club may be investigated.
- e) The TPP Officer will also audit the WAFL Club's financial information annually for the purposes of determining total compliance with the TPP.

## **5.7 Appointment of TPP Officer**

- a) The WAFC shall from time to time appoint a TPP Officer(s) who will have and may exercise such powers and may from time to time be delegated to them by the WAFC.
- b) Any TPP Officer appointed externally and outside of this process will need to be confirmed by the WAFC.

## **5.8 WAFL Clubs to do All Things Necessary to Assist TPP Officer**

### **5.8.1 Full & Free Access**

- a) Each WAFL Club must permit the TPP Officer to have full and free access to such books, documents and other papers of that WAFL Club or any person or entity controlled by that WAFL Club as the TPP Officer believes may be relevant to any inquiries which they may make.

### **5.8.2 Copies**

- a) Upon request from the TPP Officer or WAFC a WAFL Club and/or a Player must:
  - i. provide the TPP Officer with true copies of such books, documents or other papers in the possession of or under the control of the WAFL Club or any person or entity controlled by the WAFL Club or any person or entity controlled by the WAFL Club or the Player, as the case may be; and
  - ii. provide such other information and answer such questions as the TPP Officer believes may be relevant to any enquiries they may make.

## 5.9 Roles & Responsibility of the TPP Officer(s)

- a) The TPP Officer(s) report to the WAFC for the purpose of:
  - i. administering the TPP provisions of these Rules;
  - ii. overseeing the management of the TPP provisions of these Rules;
  - iii. monitoring the WAFL Club TPP submissions to make any determinations as and when required;
  - iv. investigating and determining any TPP issue raised by any person concerning the WAFL Clubs where any complaint alleging breach of the TPP by a WAFL Club must be in writing and contain detailed allegations to be investigated;
  - v. deciding in relation to the Football Payments and any monies deemed to be Football Payments whether payments are to be deemed as such for the purpose of managing the TPP;
  - vi. developing respect by operating in conjunction with but independently of WAFL Clubs;
  - vii. representing the WAFC and having the authority to sign each individual Player contract on behalf of the WAFC upon satisfaction that all payment details are shown on the TPP spread sheet and in any other reports from the Club to the WAFC are in order as completed by the first game of the season.
- b) Nothing in this Rule 5.9 shall restrict the TPP Officer from investigating and checking a WAFL Clubs' compliance with the TPP.
- c) Where the WAFC deems that a payment or services other than playing are aimed at circumventing the requirements of the TPP provisions, then the matter will be referred to the TPP Officer for determination.
- d) The TPP Officer may deem any payments to be Football Payments.
- e) The TPP Officer is authorised to sign each any Player contract as an authorized representative of the WAFC.

## 5.10 Breach of TPP

- a) Any alleged breach of this Rule 5 must be referred to the TPP Officer for investigation.
- b) In the event that the TPP Officer or WAFC determines that a WAFL Club has breached any item in section 5, the WAFC shall have the power to impose any of the following sanctions:
  - i. Financial;
  - ii. Premiership points;
  - iii. Recruitment restrictions;
  - iv. Loss of Player point allocations; and/or
  - v. Club official and or Player deregistration's or suspensions.
- c) The allocation of any sanction shall take into consideration the circumstances and scope of the offence.
- d) The table below may be used as guide to determining penalties, however the WAFC reserves the right to determine the final penalty in its sole discretion.

<b>BREACH OF TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS (TPP) EXAMPLE</b>				
<b>FIRST OFFENCE</b>	<b>\$1 - \$5,000 over</b>	<b>\$5,001 - \$10,000 over</b>	<b>\$10,001 - \$40,000 over</b>	<b>\$40,001 plus</b>
<b>Premiership Points</b>	4 points (1 matches)	8 points (2 matches)	12 points (3 matches)	16 points (4 matches)
<b>Players list points</b>	5 points	10 points	15 points	20 points
<b>Financial</b>	up to \$25,000	up to \$50,000	up to \$50,000	up to \$50,000
<b>SECOND OFFENCE</b>	<b>\$1 - \$5,000 over</b>	<b>\$5,001 - \$10,000 over</b>	<b>\$10,001 - \$40,000 over</b>	<b>\$40,001 plus</b>
<b>Premiership Points</b>	8 points (2 matches)	12 points (3 matches)	16 points (4 matches)	20 points (5 matches)
<b>Players list points</b>	10 points	15 points	20 points	25 points
<b>Financial</b>	min of \$50,000	min. of \$50,000	min. of \$50,000	min. of \$50,000
<b>THIRD OFFENCE</b>	<b>\$1 - \$5,000 over</b>	<b>\$5,001 - \$10,000 over</b>	<b>\$10,001 - \$40,000 over</b>	<b>\$40,001 plus</b>
<b>Premiership Points</b>	12 points (3 matches)	16 points (4 matches)	20 points (5 matches)	24 points (6 matches)
<b>Players list points</b>	15 points	20 points	25 points	30 points
<b>Financial</b>	min. of \$50,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

### 5.10.1 Penalties for Providing False or Misleading Information including lodgment

- a) Where the TPP Officer or the WAFC determines that a Player, employee, agent or Authorised Official of a WAFL Club has provided false or misleading information including Lodgment then the WAFC shall impose financial sanctions of up to \$5000.
- b) The WAFC reserves the right to apply penalties from 5.10 for guilty findings based on individual circumstances relating to the guilty finding.

### 5.11 Appeals

- a) WAFL Clubs shall be permitted to appeal to the Arbitrator regarding a determination of the WAFC or the TPP Officer where there has been a breach of the TPP determined in accordance with Rule 5.10

## 6 TRIBUNAL, DISCIPLINARY & DISPUTES PROCESSES

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### 6.1 Independent Investigations Officer

The WAFC, WAFL Tribunal or the Arbitrator shall be entitled to exercise discretion to utilise the services of an Independent Investigations Officer to investigate any matter pertaining to these Rules.

### 6.2 Behavior Detrimental to Football

- a) In this Rule 6, "official of a Club" includes any Director, committee member, employee, coach, team support person, or any person acting as or holding himself/herself out as the agent of a Club.
- b) Any statement, comment, act or omission by an official of a Club, Player or Person which does or is likely to:
  - i. damage the image of the WAFC, football in Western Australia, any WAFL Club or a Player in the opinion of the CEO of the WAFC; or
  - ii. adversely affect the standing or reputation of the WAFC or the Competition; or
  - iii. prejudice the good order, management, control or administration of football including but not limited to:
    - a. public criticism or perceived criticism of Umpires;
    - b. any deliberate act or omission in contravention of the Laws of Australian Football or these Rules;
    - c. failing to respond to any reasonable request by the WAFC;
    - d. the occurrence of a melee at a WAFL Fixture including practice, pre-season, qualifying and finals matches;
    - e. any action or deed that may occur outside of the football environment that may affect the good standing and reputation of the WAFL competition;
    - f. Verbal abuse or behaviours used to manipulate, intimidate, insult, humiliate, ridicule, the silent treatment, and attempts to scare, isolate, and control any member of the WAFC shall constitute an offence by the official or Player for which his Club or the Player may be liable.

#### 6.2.1 The process for the Implementation of a Penalty under this rule.

- a) The WAFC may, in its discretion, investigate any alleged breach of Rule 6.2.
- b) Any Club or Person may request an investigation into an alleged breach of Rule 6.2, subject to Rule 6.2.1(a).
- c) Any Club or Person requesting an investigation of an alleged breach of Rule 6.2 in accordance with Rule 6.2.1(b) must notify the WAFC within 48 hours of:
  - i. witnessing the alleged breach; or
  - ii. becoming aware of the alleged breach.
- d) If the WAFC believes there are sufficient grounds to suspect a breach of Rule 6.2 following an investigation held in accordance with Rule 6.2.1(a), the WAFC shall give notice to the Club concerned to attend a meeting where the Club may make a submission in response to the alleged breach.
- e) Any notice provided in accordance with Rule 6.2.1(d) shall be given in writing, and fix a time

and a place at which the Club may be heard at least 48 hours after the date of service of such notice.

- f) After the meeting held in accordance Rule 6.2.1(d), if the WAFC is of the opinion that there has been a contravention of Rule 6.2, the WAFC shall impose on the Club the following penalties:
  - i. For a first offence, a fine of not less than \$500.
  - ii. For a second offence, a fine of not less than \$1,500.
  - iii. For a third offence, a fine of not less than \$3,000.
  - iv. If the perpetrator is a registered Player of the WAFL competition the WAFC may also suspend or de-register the Player.
- g) The penalties enumerated above may be used as a guide, however the WAFC reserves the right to determine the final penalty at its absolute discretion.
- h) Notwithstanding the penalties enumerated under Rule 6.2.1(f) or (g), the WAFC shall be entitled to remit either, in whole or in part, so much of any penalty as may be imposed on a Club, as the WAFC considers fair and reasonable in the circumstances.
- i) In the case of an offence subsequent to a third offence, the WAFC may impose such penalty as they determine in their absolute discretion, including but not limited to forfeiture of Premiership points in any competition administered by the WAFC.
- j) Any fine or other penalty imposed under Rule 6.2 will expire as at 12 months from the date of event or unless otherwise detailed by the WAFC and the club shall be deemed not to have previously committed an offence under Rule 6.2, with the intent that the next contravention of Rule 6.2 shall be deemed to be the clubs first offence.
- k) Any fine or other pecuniary penalty imposed under Rule 6.2 shall be deducted from the next dividend payable to the Club by the WAFC under arrangements that may exist from time to time.

### **6.2.2 Appeals procedure**

- a) Any Club aggrieved by a finding or penalty imposed under Rule 6.2 may appeal against such finding and/or penalty directly to the WAFL Arbitrator.
- b) To initiate an appeal, a Club must:
  - i. notify the WAFC in writing within three (3) days of the date the penalty is imposed; and
  - ii. pay WAFC a deposit of \$500, which shall be refunded in the event of a successful appeal, or at the discretion of the WAFC.
- c) The WAFL Arbitrator shall not hear any appeal until the applicable fees have been received by the WAFC.
- d) The WAFL Arbitrator shall hear and determine the outcome of any appeal, and may:
  - i. dismiss the appeal;
  - ii. set aside a finding of the WAFC and substitute its own finding;
  - iii. affirm the penalty imposed;
  - iv. set aside the penalty imposed and impose such penalty as the WAFL Arbitrator thinks fit including a determination of exceptional circumstance and imposing a penalty which is less than the prescribed minimum for such offence.
- e) At a hearing before the WAFL Arbitrator, the Club against whom the complaint is made may select a representative who has been appointed as such in writing under the hand of the

President of the Club provided that such representative shall not be a legal practitioner.

- f) Subject to Rule 6.2.2(e), the WAFL Arbitrator shall preside over the appeal in accordance with Rule 6.15.
- g) The finding of the WAFL Arbitrator at this appeal shall be final and binding.
- h) Any action taken against a Club under this rule shall not prejudice or affect any action taken under the rules, By-laws or regulations of the league against the person for whom the Club is liable to be penalised under this rule.

## **6.3 Reporting Procedures**

### **6.3.1 Umpire Report**

- a) If an Umpire considers that a Player or Person has committed a Reportable Offence during a Match, the Umpire will use their best endeavours to inform the Person that they have been reported:
  - i. at the time of the relevant incident;
  - ii. before the commencement of the next quarter following the relevant incident; or
  - iii. if the incident occurs in the final quarter, as soon as is reasonably possible after the completion of the Match.
- b) An Umpire may inform the captain, acting captain or official of the Club with which the reported Person is registered of the report, where it is impractical to inform the Person who has been reported.
- c) Apart from informing a Player or official of the report, an Umpire shall not speak with the reported Player or official or any other Player or official about the report which has been made.

### **6.3.2 Notice of Charge**

- a) As soon as practical after the completion of the Match, the Umpire shall complete a Notice of Charge in the form prescribed. The Umpire shall:
  - i. categorise the Reportable Offence having regard to the categories of Reportable Offences (and where applicable, the grading of a Reportable Offence), as set out in Rule 6.15;
  - ii. include the Notice of Charge in the Match-day paperwork submitted to the WAFC at the completion of the Match; and
  - iii. retain a copy of the Notice of Charge.
- b) If no video or inconclusive video evidence exists of an incident related to a Notice of Charge, the matter shall:
  - i. be referred directly to the WAFL Tribunal;
  - ii. the Player who has been reported shall attend the WAFL Tribunal hearing; and
  - iii. the WAFC shall fix and give notice to the reported Person's Club and any other Person or Club directly involved, of the date, time and place for the Tribunal hearing.
- c) If video evidence exists of an incident reported by an Umpire in accordance with (a), the matter shall be referred for review to the Match Review Panel in accordance with Rule 6.6.1(a).
- d) The Notice of Charge shall be provided by the WAFC to:
  - i. The Match Review Panel if video evidence exists of the Reportable Offence; or
  - ii. The WAFL Tribunal if no video evidence exists of the Reportable Offence.
- e) The WAFC may, at their absolute discretion, investigate any Notice of Charge without vision



and if satisfied, present that evidence to the MRP or Tribunal for consideration and decision.

## 6.4 Notice of Investigation

- a) The WAFC may, from time to time, be asked by a WAFL Club or WAFL Umpires and Advisors to investigate particular incidents.
- b) Where an Umpire suspects that a Person has committed a Reportable Offence, the Umpire must, as soon as practical after completion of that Match and on the day of the Match:
  - i. complete a Notice of Investigation; and
  - ii. lodge a copy of the Notice of Investigation together with match-day paperwork with the WAFL.
- c) Where a WAFL Club suspects that a Person may have committed a Reportable Offence, the Club may:
  - i. submit a written complaint to the WAFL by [lodging](#) it on WAFL Online (NOI) by no later than 12pm Sunday or in the case of Sunday/Monday matches, by 9am on the first working day after the Match. Notification will be sent to the Club by 10am on the first working day, if a Notice of Investigation will proceed to Match Review Panel and/or WAFL Tribunal.
- d) Where a Player involved in a Match suspect that a Person may have committed a Reportable Offence, the Player shall only request submission of a Notice of Investigation through their WAFL Club, in accordance with (c).
- e) Subject to (a) above, if video evidence of, or related to, an incident exists, the WAFC may refer a Notice of Investigation to the Match Review Panel in accordance with Rule 6.6.2 a).
- f) Subject to (a) above, if no video or inconclusive video evidence of, or related to, an incident exists, the WAFC may:
  - i. withdraw the Notice of Investigation; or
  - ii. refer the Notice of Investigation directly (“direct referral”) to the WAFL Tribunal if the WAFC has a reasonable belief that a Reportable Offence has taken place.
- g) If the WAFC refers a Notice of Investigation directly to the WAFL Tribunal, the WAFC shall fix and give notice to the reported Person’s Club and any other Person or Club directly involved, of the date, time and place for the WAFL Tribunal hearing.
- h) If a Notice of Investigation proceeds to the WAFL Tribunal for hearing via Match Review Panel or direct referral by the WAFC in accordance with (e)-(f) above:
  - i. The matter shall be presented on the official investigation form;
  - ii. The WAFL Tribunal Secretary will submit:
    - a. the Notice of Investigation from the WAFL Club or WAFL Umpires; and
    - b. shall have no further input in the process.
  - iii. Any video evidence and/or evidence submitted by the Player subject to the Notice of Investigation and any witnesses shall be heard by the WAFL Tribunal in determining the verdict and any subsequent penalty.
- i) Notwithstanding any of the above, the WAFC can initiate, investigate or dismiss a Notice of Investigation at any time.

## 6.5 Medical and Victim Impact Reports

- a) All WAFL Clubs must submit a Form 35 (Victim Impact Report) relating to any Notice of Charge or Notice of Investigation to the WAFC by:

- i. no later than 9:00am on the first working day after the Match; or
  - ii. any other time otherwise agreed at the discretion of the WAFC.
- b) The WAFC, in its discretion, may request a Medical Report resulting from any incident occurring during any Match.
- c) A Medical Report requested in accordance with (b) above, must be forwarded to the WAFC within four (4) hours of such request.
- d) Any failure to submit a Form 35 (Victim Impact Report) in accordance with (a) or a medical report in accordance with (b and c) will be referred to the WAFC and may result in the imposition of a penalty upon the relevant Club.
- e) The victim Club must provide further information, if reasonably available, after the initial lodgment of the Form 35 in accordance with a) i., up to the commencement of the Match Review Panel hearing.

## **6.6 Match Review Panel**

### **6.6.1 Composition of Match Review Panel**

- a) The WAFC may, from time to time, appoint persons to a body to be known as the Match Review Panel.
- b) Any person appointed to the Match Review Panel shall be:
  - i. a barrister or solicitor holding a current practicing certificate; or
  - ii. a person who possesses sufficient knowledge of Australian football, as determined by the WAFC.
- c) The Match Review Panel shall consist of:
  - i. a Chairperson (Chairperson of the Match Panel Panel); and/or
  - ii. up to two (2) Appeal Panel members.
- d) The composition and members of the Match Review Panel shall be confirmed prior to the commencement of competition matches in any given season, with the exception of persons appointed to the Match Review Panel by the WAFC to fill any vacancies.
- e) A member of the Match Review Panel may resign by providing notice in writing to the WAFC.
- f) The WAFC may remove a person appointed to the Match Review Panel at any time in its absolute discretion.

### **6.6.2 Procedure of Match Review Panel**

- a) Any video footage captured by any WAFL Club, Partner Club or WAFL Standalone AFL Team must be provided upon request to the WAFC for the purpose of reviewing that video evidence in relation to a Notice of Charge, Notice of Investigation or any other incident as determined by the WAFC.
- b) WAFL Clubs must do everything in their power to reasonably seek and obtain any video evidence relating to a Notice of Charge, Notice of Investigation or any other incident referred by the WAFC from any person upon request by the WAFC.
- c) The Match Review Panel shall view all video evidence relating to a Notice of Charge, Notice of Investigation or any other incident referred by the WAFC, on the first working day following the match.
- d) The Match Review Panel, in its discretion, may:
  - i. refer to Medical and/or Victim Impact Reports provided in accordance with Rule

- 6.5; and/ or
  - ii. contact the victim's Club and request information concerning the extent of any injury suffered by the victim during the course of the Reportable Offence; and/ or
  - iii. contact the Club or umpire whom the notice of charge or investigation was lodged by to gather evidence in relation to an alleged incident; and
  - iv. use such information to determine a penalty, if necessary, which is consistent with previous, similar Reportable Offences.
- e) In determining whether to issue a Notice of Charge and any related sanctions, the Match Review Panel must refer to Rule 6.15.3 and Rule 6.15.4.
- f) Subject to (e) above, the Match Review Panel may issue sanctions including, but not limited to:
- i. reprimand;
  - ii. fine; and/or
  - iii. suspension.
- g) If the Match Review Panel determines that an incident under review in accordance with (a) is a Reportable Offence, the Match Review Panel shall issue a Notice of Charge to the charged Person and that Person's Club, as well as any other relevant Person involved in the incident.
- h) A Notice of Charge issued in accordance with (e) shall include:
- i. a sanction;
  - ii. an early plea penalty offer, which may be accepted, in accordance with Rule 6.6.3; and
  - iii. an additional one week penalty for any Player previously found guilty of a Reportable Offence, in accordance with Rule 6.15.2(6.15.2.7).
  - iv. unless the Reportable Offence is classified as a Direct Tribunal Offence, in accordance with Rule 6.15.4(6.15.4.1).
- i) The Match Review Panel, in its discretion, may amend, issue or dismiss a Notice of Charge, Notice of Investigation or any other incident referred by the WAFC.

#### **6.6.2.1 Appealing the Decision**

- a) A Club may lodge an appeal with the WAFC if the Club feels that a Notice of Charge has been wrongly withdrawn by the Match Review Panel.
- b) Any Club may refer a protest regarding the non-passage of the Notice of Charge to the WAFL Tribunal by submitting:
  - i. a written notice to the WAFC together with the sum of \$500; and
  - ii. issuing a copy of the complaint to the opposing Club by 5pm on the day of the initial decision.
- c) Any protest made under this Rule shall be referred by the WAFC to the WAFL Tribunal.
- d) Both Clubs shall be expected to attend the WAFL Tribunal however the report may be heard at a later date but no later than 8pm on a Thursday night immediately following the fixture which gave rise to the Club lodging the complaint.
- e) The said sum of \$500 shall be forfeited to the league upon dismissal of the protest by the WAFL Tribunal. The said amount shall be refunded if the protest or charge is upheld.

#### **6.6.3 Person may enter early plea**

- a) Subject to Rule 6.6.5, where a Person has received a Notice of Charge relating to a Reportable Offence in accordance with Rule 6.6.2(e), that Person may elect to plead guilty to the offence

and accept the early guilty plea penalty offered by:

- i. no later than 9:00am on the day immediately following receipt of the Notice of Charge; or
  - ii. any other time as agreed by the WAFC.
- b) The Football Operations Manager at the Club of the Charged Person shall be the contact in regard to any early penalty plea offers and any penalty accepted by them on behalf of the Charged Person is binding upon that Charged Person.
- c) If the Charged Person accepts an early guilty plea penalty in accordance with (a) above, that penalty shall be applied and the Notice of Charge will not be referred to the WAFL Tribunal.

#### **6.6.4 Where early plea not available**

- a) Where the Match Review Panel or WAFC (as the case may be) determine, in its absolute discretion, that a Notice of Charge should be determined by the Tribunal without the Person having the option to enter an early plea, the Match Review Panel or WAFC shall provide written notification to that effect to the Person, in which case, the Person shall be dealt with by the Tribunal in accordance with Rule 6.6.5(a)(iii). This written notification shall specify relevant particulars of the alleged offence, but if the Player is charged with a Classifiable Offence under Rule 6.15, the written notification need not specify an offence classification under Rule 6.15.3. In this instance the Tribunal will not be bound by the classification table in section 6.15.3 and will be at large in relation to penalty.

#### **6.6.5 Persons who do not accept and early plea, other persons and other reportable offences**

- a) Subject to Rule 6.6.5(e), the WAFL Tribunal shall deal with the Notice of Charge where:
- i. a Person does not elect to accept an early plea penalty in accordance with Rule 6.6.3;
  - ii. a Person other than a Person is the subject of the Notice of Charge; or
  - iii. notification referred to in Rule 6.6.4 has been given by the Match Review Panel or WAFC.
- b) Subject to 6.6.5 c), a Person who does not accept an early guilty plea penalty in accordance with (a)(i) shall not be entitled to any reduction in the penalty set out in the Notice of Charge, including but not limited to discounts based on the entering of the guilty plea.
- c) Should a Person plead guilty to a Reportable Offence subject to an alternative classification, and successfully contest the Notice of Charge at the Tribunal (such that the Tribunal determines to downgrade the charge), the Person will be entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction obtained had the Player submitted an early guilty plea for that lesser offence.
- d) Upon receipt of the Notice of Charge, the WAFC shall fix and give notice to the reported Person's Club and any other Person or Club directly involved, of the date, time and place for the Tribunal hearing.
- e) The WAFC may vary the date, time and place of hearing by notice in writing to the reported Person's Club and any other relevant party.
- f) Despite the other provisions within the Rule 6.6.5, where a Person does not elect to accept an early penalty plea, the WAFC may in its discretion apply a standard penalty without discount rather than directly referring the matter to a Tribunal hearing.

- g) Where the notification referred to in Rule 6.6.4, has been given by the Match Review Panel or the Controlling Body, the Person the subject of the Notice of Charge shall be entitled to lodge a plea at the Tribunal hearing which may be considered by the Tribunal in the determination of any penalty.

### **6.6.6 Withdrawal of Charge**

- a) The Match Review Panel or the Reporting Officer as the case may be, may withdraw any Notice of Charge at any time prior to a Tribunal hearing by lodging a written notice with the Controlling Body.

### **6.6.7 Relationship to Laws of the Game**

- a) These Rules shall be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game but to the extent of any inconsistency, these Rules shall prevail.

## **6.7 Changes to Notice of Charge**

- a) Any Notice of Charge may be amended by the WAFC at or before a WAFL Tribunal hearing.
- b) If the WAFC amends a Notice of Charge in accordance with (a) above, the WAFL Tribunal hearing on that amended Notice of Charge shall only proceed:
  - i. at the discretion of the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson; and
  - ii. where the facts relied upon are primarily the same as for the original charge. For example, an Umpire may make a mistake with the number of the Player.
- c) Where there is a procedural irregularity in the making of a charge or any other matter, the Tribunal shall still hear and determine the matter unless it is of the opinion that the irregularity has caused or may cause injustice if the matter was heard.
- d) Without limitation, the Chairperson may direct that a Notice of Charge be amended to ensure that a matter before the Tribunal is decided according to its merits and not on the basis of a technicality. The power to amend shall include the power to substitute another charge.
- e) A decision of the Tribunal is not invalid because of any defect or irregularity in, or in connection with, the appointment of a Tribunal member.
- f) The WAFL Tribunal may, in its discretion, find a Player guilty of a related or lesser Charge. For example, a Player could be found guilty of attempting to strike, kick or trip if found not guilty of striking, kicking or tripping.

## **6.8 WAFL Tribunals**

- a) The WAFC shall, from time to time, appoint persons to a disciplinary tribunal to be known as the WAFL Tribunal.
- b) Any person appointed to the WAFL Tribunal shall:
  - i. be a barrister or solicitor holding a current practicing certificate within an Australian jurisdiction; and/or
  - ii. possess sufficient knowledge of Australian football, as determined by the WAFC.
- c) The WAFL Tribunal Panel shall consist of:
  - iii. a Chairperson (Chairperson of the Tribunal Panel); and/ or
  - iv. up to two (2) Tribunal Panel members.
- d) If the WAFL Tribunal consists of a Chairperson with one other person, either the Chairperson

- or the other person constituting the WAFL Tribunal must be a barrister or solicitor holding a current practicing certificate within an Australian jurisdiction.
- e) Except where the WAFC otherwise determines, a person shall not be appointed to the WAFL Tribunal if, in the twelve (12) months preceding the appointment, that person:
- i. has been a member of a Board of Directors of a Club;
  - ii. has been a Coach or Assistant or Specialist Coach of a Club;
  - iii. has been a Person of a Club; or
  - iv. has been an employee of the WAFC or a WAFL Club.
- f) A member of the WAFL Tribunal shall serve a term of twelve (12) months in that position, unless:
- i. that member resigns by providing notice in writing to the WAFC; or
  - ii. that member is removed by the WAFC at any time in its absolute discretion.
- g) The WAFL Tribunal shall exercise the following functions and its decision shall be final:
- i. Hear all reports in respect of offences under the Laws of Australian Football except to the extent that these Rules and Regulations refer those matters to the WAFC, WAFL Arbitrator or Match Review Panel.
  - ii. Re-open and re-hear any matter previously dealt with if the WAFL Tribunal in its discretion considers such a step justified;
  - iii. Hear and determine any Charge or Protest referred or lodged pursuant to the WAFL Tribunal jurisdiction granted under these Rules and Regulations;
  - iv. Impose such penalties authorised by these Rules and Regulations as it deems fit.  
The range of penalties includes:
    - a. reprimand
    - b. fines; and
    - c. suspension
- h) The Tribunal shall decide on the balance of probabilities whether a Reportable Offence or other charge against a Person has been sustained. (Standard of Proof).
- i) No Person appearing before the Tribunal shall bear an onus of establishing that an alleged offence has been committed. (Onus of Proof)
- j) The decision of the Tribunal shall be determined in according to the opinion of the majority of the sitting Tribunal.
- k) The Tribunal may determine any matter in any such matter as it thinks fit.
- l) Subject to section 6.8(m) where a charge is sustained in respect of a Reportable Offence, the Tribunal must apply the sanction applicable to the Reportable Offence as per Rule 6.15.3 and Rule 6.15.5.3 and complete the appropriate form.
- m) The Tribunal may determine the appropriate sanction in its absolute discretion, without having regard to the sanctions referred to in Rule 6.15.3 and Rule 6.15.5.3 where there are exceptional and compelling circumstances which make it inappropriate or unreasonable to apply those sanctions. Exceptional and compelling circumstances will exist where (at the discretion of the Tribunal):
- i. a Player has a verifiable exemplary Disciplinary History;
  - ii. a Reportable Offence was committed in response to provocation;
  - iii. a Reportable Offence was committed in self-defence; or
  - iv. there are multiple Reportable Offences arising from the same event or course of

conduct.

- n) Where a charge is sustained to respect to a charge or matter not involving a Person or Reportable Offence, the Tribunal may, subject to any contrary provisions in any relevant Code, Policies, Rules and Regulations, impose such sanctions as it, in its absolute discretion, thinks fit.
- o) The Tribunal is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made by it under these Rules.
- p) Where a charge is sustained against a Person under the age of 16 years at the time of the Reportable Offence, the Controlling Body shall not publish the decision of the Tribunal in so far that it is viewable by the general public without the express permission of the Person charged and their parent/guardian except that, to ensure effective administration of Competitions, access to such decisions and related sanctions will be available to the Controlling Body, and League and Club administrators who have access to Competition records.

### **6.8.1 Reporting Officer**

- a) Subject to section 6.8.1 b)b), the Controlling Body may, from time to time and in its absolute discretion, appoint one or more Reporting Officers to:
  - i. advise the Tribunal of the particulars of the charge or matter before it;
  - ii. review Match footage;
  - iii. make submissions in relation to the charge or matter;
  - iv. respond to any matters put in defence;
  - v. ask questions of any Person appearing before the Tribunal;
  - vi. call any Persons to give evidence as the Reporting Officer may consider necessary or desirable in the interests of general justice and fairness; and
  - vii. address the Tribunal by way of summing up prior to any final submissions of the advocate of any Person charged or otherwise appearing to be dealt with by the Tribunal and prior to the Tribunal retiring to consider its finding.
- b) The Reporting Officer shall have the power to withdraw any charge or matter prior to or at any time during a hearing before the Tribunal.
- c) The Reporting Officer shall, with leave of the Tribunal, have the power to amend any charge or statement of any matter to be determined by the Tribunal prior to or at any time during a hearing before the Tribunal.

### **6.8.2 Timing and Location of the WAFL Tribunal**

- a) The WAFC shall, in all cases, be satisfied that the relevant Rules and Regulations have been complied with before submitting a Protest, Charge or any other matter for the hearing and determination of the WAFL Tribunal.
- b) The WAFL Tribunal shall meet to consider any Notice of Charge or Notice of Investigation at a time convenient to the WAFL Tribunal and any other parties involved, subject to its absolute discretion.
- c) Any WAFL Tribunal hearing convened in accordance with (b) shall be held:
  - i. by no later than 10pm on the Wednesday night following the event giving rise to the Notice of Charge or Notice of Investigation; or
  - ii. by no later than 8pm on the Thursday night immediately following the event giving rise to the Notice of Charge or Notice of Investigation, if referred to the WAFL Tribunal in accordance with Rule 6.8.

- d) The WAFL Tribunal shall meet to consider any matter other than a Notice of Charge or Notice of Investigation at a time convenient to the WAFL Tribunal and any other parties involved, so long as such a meeting shall be held within a reasonable time of the matter having been referred to the WAFL Tribunal.
- e) Any WAFL Tribunal hearing shall be held at a place designated by the WAFC unless the WAFL Tribunal dealing with that particular matter directs some other place of hearing and reasonable notice of such place is given to the parties involved.
- f) A WAFL Tribunal hearing may be adjourned to another time and place, reasonable notice of which shall be given to the parties involved.

### **6.8.3 Attendance at WAFL Tribunal hearing**

- a) A Person who has been summoned to attend a Tribunal hearing, and/or that Person's representative, must attend at the time and place and in the manner (including by video or telephone conferencing) notified on the Notice of Charge or other relevant notice.
- b) A Person or representative wishing to attend the Tribunal hearing via video or telephone conferencing must first seek the approval of the Controlling Body.
- c) An Umpire who lodges a Notice of Charge against any Player or Official of a Club shall attend the WAFL Tribunal hearing of that Charge.
- d) Any Person of any Club against whom a Notice of Charge has been lodged shall attend the WAFL Tribunal hearing of that Charge.
- e) Any Person of any Club against whom an offence has been committed in respect of which a Notice of Charge has been lodged shall attend the WAFL Tribunal hearing of that Charge.
- f) The WAFL Tribunal may, of its own motion, or at the request of any party to a matter before it, require the attendance at a WAFL Tribunal hearing of:
  - i. any Person of a Club; and/or
  - ii. any Umpire,
 and such Player, Official and/or Umpire shall attend as required.
- g) If one or more Persons does not attend the scheduled WAFL Tribunal hearing:
  - i. the WAFL Tribunal hearing may be postponed to another time, date and/or place; and
  - ii. the offending persons may be charged under Rule 6.10.
- h) If a Person issued with a Notice of Charge or other relevant notice, or that Person's representative, fails to appear at a Tribunal hearing at the notified time and place, the Tribunal may proceed to hear and determine the charge or matter and any sanction, in the absence of that Person or that Person's representative.
- i) The WAFL Tribunal, in its discretion, may allow the attendance of other persons to witness the WAFL Tribunal procedures.

### **6.8.4 Evidence at WAFL Tribunal hearing**

- a) A WAFL Tribunal may, for its purposes, rely on such evidence as it thinks fit and in particular, may admit videos and other writings as well as verbal evidence.
- b) No member of the WAFL Tribunal may preview any video of incidents relating to a matter prior to a WAFL Tribunal hearing.
- c) Any Person required to attend a WAFL Tribunal hearing in accordance with Rule 6.8.3 shall



- give evidence if requested by the WAFL Tribunal.
- d) Any Person required to attend before the Tribunal may request to adduce witness evidence at the Tribunal hearing, provided that such a request is submitted to the WAFC in writing by no later than 10.00am on the day after notification of the charge or matter (or such other time determined by the WAFC), and contains:
    - i. the name and address of the witness (plus their qualifications and experience, for expert witnesses only); and
    - ii. a summary of the substance of the evidence the Person proposed to adduce from the witness (including any expert witness).
  - e) Unless permission is granted by the Chairperson, a Person shall not adduce the evidence of a witness unless that Person complies with section 6.8.4 (d) above.
  - f) Only in exceptional and compelling circumstances, as determined by the WAFC in its absolute discretion will the Tribunal receive evidence from a Person who is not an Umpire or recorded on the Club official team sheet for a relevant Match.
  - g) Any video evidence which is not already in the possession of the Controlling Body must be submitted to the WAFC by Clubs at a time to be determined by the WAFC.

### **6.8.5 Representation at WAFL Tribunal hearing**

- a) The WAFC may be represented by an advocate selected at their sole discretion at any WAFL Tribunal, including but not limited to a barrister, solicitor or agent.
- b) Except where otherwise determined by the WAFC and subject to section 6.8.5 (c), at any hearing before the WAFL Tribunal, a Person charged with a Reportable Offence must:
  - i. appear in person; and
  - ii. be represented by a barrister, solicitor or Club Officer.
- c) Where the Person charged with a reportable offence is under the age of 16 years at the time of the alleged Reportable Offence,
  - i. the person must be represented under section 6.8.5 c) ii) (and such representative must not be a parent or guardian of the Person); and
  - ii. a parent or guardian of the Person may attend any hearing before the WAFL Tribunal in place or in support of the Person.
- d) A Person other than a Person charged with a Reportable Offence, who is required to appear before a WAFL Tribunal hearing may be accompanied and represented at the proceeding by a representative of their Club or the organisation to which they belong.
- e) Where the Chairperson is of the opinion that a Person or representative of a Person appearing before the Tribunal has failed to observe directions of the Tribunal or otherwise acted in a contemptuous, irresponsible or discourteous manner, the Chairperson may dismiss the Person or Person's representative and, if appropriate, adjourn the proceedings to enable the Person to obtain fresh representation.

### **6.8.6 Procedure for Advocates**

- a) The duties of any Advocate appearing in accordance with Rule 6.8.5 shall perform the following duties:
  - i. Arrange for the charged Player and/or Official, and any witnesses to be present at the WAFL Tribunal hearing at the time and location determined in accordance

- with Rule 6.8.2;
  - ii. Prior to the WAFL Tribunal hearing, assist the charged Player and/or Official, and any witnesses to prepare their account of the incident;
  - iii. Make submissions on penalty if the Charge is upheld.
- b) An Advocate appearing in accordance with Rule 6.8.5 shall not be permitted to:
  - i. ask questions or cross-examine the Charged Player, Official, and any witness, including Umpires;
  - ii. make submissions as to guilt or otherwise.
- c) Any matter that an Advocate may think is relevant for the purpose of cross-examination of a witness is to be referred to the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson who, in their discretion, may raise the issue with the witness.

### **6.8.7 Structure of WAFL Tribunal hearing**

- a) Any hearing of the WAFL Tribunal shall consist of:
  - i. A full bench of the WAFL Tribunal;
  - ii. A WAFC representative;
  - iii. The reporting Umpires/s unless not required
  - iv. The Charged Person/s and their Club delegate;
  - v. Representatives of the Charged Person/s, including an Advocate;
  - vi. The Person offended against unless not required, and their Club delegate;
  - vii. Any other person invited to present by the Clubs provided they gain the permission of the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson, in conjunction with the WAFC.

### **6.8.8 Role of WAFC representative**

- a) The role of the WAFC representative in attendance at the WAFL Tribunal will be to:
  - i. Act as Secretary to the WAFL Tribunal; and
  - ii. Advise the WAFL Tribunal as to the prior record of the Charged Person and provide appropriate paper work including the outcome of the Match Review Panel and available technical support for the operation of video evidence or teleconference calls.
  - iii. Advise on the Application of the penalty.

### **6.8.9 WAFL Tribunal penalties**

- a) The Classification Table provided under Rule 6.15.3 shall be used to assess and deliver all penalties.
- b) The WAFL Tribunal may, in its discretion, determine penalties with regard to the following issues:
  - i. Careless acts will form the lower end of the penalty scale with penalties increasing as the intent increases;
  - ii. The degree of force used will influence the penalty with regard to any potential for injury; and
  - iii. The resulting injury will also be taken into account when determining the penalty.
- c) All Persons and Clubs should note that penalties for acts deemed intentional shall be severe.

- d) Penalties issued for second or subsequent offences, particularly within the same season, will be greater than if it were a first offence.
- e) The WAFC will summon any Person who has been charged to appear before the WAFL Tribunal or has been sanctioned by the Match Review Panel for classifiable offences on three occasions in one season to explain their conduct at a meeting.
- f) If a Person is charged to appear before the WAFL Tribunal or has been sanctioned by the Match Review Panel for classifiable offences on at least three occasions in one season, the WAFC may, in its discretion, terminate that Person's registration with immediate effect.

#### **6.8.10 Application of suspension – Match Review Panel/ Tribunal**

- a) A Person who has been suspended or disqualified by the WAFL Tribunal, Match Review Panel and/or WAFC shall be ineligible for selection in an official WAFL competition.
- b) Pursuant to (a) above, a Person who has been suspended or disqualified would be ineligible for interstate, intercity or special matches, nor would such suspension or disqualification be affected in any way by those matches.
- c) If Persons, particularly young Persons, are selected in competition/s other than the WAFL competition, including but not limited to School or Representative team matches, these matches must be taken into account in the serving of the Person's suspension, provided these matches are brought to the attention of the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson at the WAFL Tribunal hearing.
- d) Where a suspension applies into WAFL finals matches of the current season, the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson must indicate which matches will apply to serve the suspension, particularly where a Person's Club may be playing in a grade other than the Person's regular grade. Normally, if the playing history of a Player indicates that he does not usually play in the other grade, then that match would not count as a match in which to serve a suspension, be this a higher or lower grade.

#### **6.8.11 Suspension of a Person – Match Review Panel/ Tribunal**

- a) Where a sanction imposed in accordance with Rule 6.8 is a suspension that suspension must be expressed as a number of Matches.
- b) A Person suspended:
  - i. must serve such suspension in the grade in which the Person played or participated immediately prior to such suspension;
  - ii. may not serve the suspension in any pre-season or off-season Matches but may participate in such Matches unless otherwise determined by the WAFC.
  - iii. may not serve the suspension in and practice or trial matches;
  - iv. may participate in pre-season, off-season, practice or trial matches unless otherwise determined by the WAFC;
  - v. may not serve the suspension in any competition bye round or where the relevant Person's team has a bye;
    - i. with the exception if, the Player reported and suspended was issued a penalty in the Reserves or Colts home and away match and the team has a bye as a result of playing West Coast Eagles in a home and away match.
  - vi. may not serve the suspension in any cancelled or forfeited Matches unless otherwise determined by the WAFC;

- vii. in a junior Competition graduating to a senior competition must serve their suspension in the senior Competition;
  - viii. a Person transferring from one Competition to another Competition will carry over any suspensions to the new Competition;
  - ix. during a split round cannot serve their suspension in the same round in another grade
  - x. where a Person is seeking to appeal that prevents the person from participating in a match and the Person must serve that sanction pending the determination of their appeal;
  - xi. (other than a Player suspended for a Reportable Offence) may not communicate with any Football Official on Match day for the duration of their suspension;
  - xii. (other than a Player suspended for a Reportable Offence) may not enter the playing arena or Club change rooms at any Match on Match Day for the duration of their suspension;
  - xiii. may not perform any Football Official duties on Match Day for the duration of their suspension, including any role that would require that Person to be entered on a team sheet or located on the Playing Arena.
- c) Unless otherwise specified by the WAFC in exceptional circumstances, a suspended Person will not be eligible to play representative football if the representative fixture occurs while the Person is serving the suspension. The representative fixture does not count as part of the suspension.
- d) Unless otherwise specified by the WAFC in exceptional circumstances, where a Person is suspended by the WAFL Tribunal or Match Review Panel, such suspension shall apply to all Australian football competition matches, subject to Rule 6.8.11(e) below.
- e) A Person suspended or disqualified by the Tribunal may still participate in practice/ training matches with his registered Club however such Matches will not be counted as a part of the Person's suspension or disqualification.
- f) Where a Person is suspended, and a scenario arises with Respect to the application of suspension that is not specifically dealt with in Rule 6.8.11 b) and c) the relevant Controlling Body or Controlling Bodies may apply at the discretion (acting reasonably and having regard to the principles in Rule 6.8.11 b) and c). If two Controlling Bodies are involved, both Controlling Bodies must agree on the application of the suspension under this section f).
- g) Any Player who has been:
- i. found guilty of a Reportable Offence; and
  - ii. served a suspension,
- shall be ineligible to win the Competition medals for best Player in any grade for the year in which they were suspended. Note, this provision relates exclusively to suspensions, and not fines or Reprimands.
- h) Where a suspension applies to finals matches during the current season, the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson must be specific as to which finals matches and grades will be included in the penalty.
- i) Law 22.4 of the Laws of the Game shall apply in relation to all Persons suspended by the Tribunal.

### **6.8.12 Guidelines for WAFL Tribunal Proceedings**

- a) A WAFL Tribunal hearing may proceed in accordance with the following guidelines:

- i. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson invites the Charged Person and their Advocate, and the Umpire making the charge with their Advocate, into the hearing. The only other person in the room should be the WAFL Tribunal Secretary unless other observers have been permitted entry in accordance with Rule 6.8.3 i);
  - ii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson reads the Charge and asks for the Person's plea;
  - iii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson asks the Umpire/s to outline the Charge. The Umpire/s can be questioned by:
    - a. the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson; and
    - b. the Charged Person's Advocate through the chair;
  - iv. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson views any video evidence. This will be supplied by the WAFC and will also include any circumstantial vision surrounding the incident, even if incident itself is not visible;
  - v. The Umpire/s may be asked to provide further evidence relating to the Charge;
  - vi. The Person offended against, as defined by Rule 6.8.7 (a)(vi), is invited into the hearing after the video evidence has been viewed;
  - vii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson asks for the version of events from the Person offended against or in the case of a guilty plea, the extent of that Person's injury caused by the Charged Person's action;
  - viii. The Person offended against can be questioned by:
    - a. the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson; and
    - b. the Charged Person's Advocate through the chair;
  - ix. The Person offended against is asked to leave the hearing;
  - x. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson asks for the Charged Person's evidence;
  - xi. The Charged Person's Advocate may call witnesses and offer other evidence if required. Witnesses can be questioned by those in attendance through the chair;
  - xii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson asks for summary comments from the Charged Person's Advocate;
  - xiii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson may ask all persons to leave the room;
  - xiv. The WAFL Tribunal deliberates and determines whether the Charge is sustained or dismissed;
  - xv. If previously asked to leave the room, the Charged Person returns to the room with their Advocate;
  - xvi. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson seeks the Charged Person's history from the Charged Person's Advocate and any argument towards penalty. Information in relation to the application of the penalty should be taken at this time;
  - xvii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson confirms Charged Person's history from WAFL Tribunal Secretary;
  - xviii. The WAFL Tribunal Chairperson announces penalty.
- b) In the event that the Person offended against is to be dealt with pursuant to conduct under Rule 6.2; that Person shall be asked to remain outside of the hearing and be dealt with at the conclusion of that hearing.

## 6.9 General Conduct of Hearing

- a) Subject to these Guidelines, the Tribunal may regulate proceedings brought before it in such

- manner as the Chairperson thinks fit.
- b) Committee hearings shall be conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as a proper consideration of the matters before it permits.
  - c) The Committee is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to Courts of Record and may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit.
  - d) The Chairperson may make any guidelines not inconsistent with these Guidelines that the Chairperson thinks appropriate for the practice and procedure of a hearing. Any such guideline shall be directory in nature and no decision of the Committee shall be invalidated by reason of a guideline not being followed.
  - e) Subject to section 6.9 f), in accordance with natural justice principles the Committee shall:
    - i. provide any Person whose interest will be directly and adversely affected by its decision, a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
    - ii. hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
    - iii. make a decision that a reasonable Committee could honestly arrive at.
  - f) Whilst the Committee will endeavour to hear and determine any charge or matter referred to it before the Person's Club is next scheduled to compete, to the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:
    - i. provide a Person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for a hearing; or
    - ii. the Committee hearing be scheduled at a time which does not affect the Person's or the Person's Club's preparation for the next scheduled Match, those requirements are expressly from these Guidelines.

## **6.10 Obligations of Persons Attending the WAFL Tribunal**

- a) Any person shall be deemed to have failed in their obligations to the WAFL Tribunal in accordance with this Rule, if that person:
  - i. Fails to fully cooperate with the WAFL Tribunal,
  - ii. fails to attend a hearing of the WAFL Tribunal as required and does not show good cause for such failure; or
  - iii. failed to truthfully answer any questions asked by the Reporting Officer or the Tribunal; or
  - iv. failed to provide any document in that Person's possession or control relevant to the matter to be determined by the Tribunal following a request by the Tribunal; or
  - v. makes any false or misleading statement or makes a statement or acts in a manner calculated to or which is likely to mislead; or
  - vi. acts in an unreasonable manner while attending a hearing of the WAFL Tribunal.

The Person shall be dealt with by the Tribunal as it, in its absolute discretion, thinks fit.
- g) Any person who fails to comply with Rule 6.10(a) shall be guilty of misconduct and incur:
  - i. suspension or disqualification as a Player and/or official; or
  - ii. a fine not exceeding \$1,000,
- b) A Person, as defendant or witness, may only be excused from attendance at the WAFL Tribunal under exceptional circumstances. Clubs should contact the WAFC to offer the circumstances and gain an exemption from attending in consultation with the WAFL Tribunal Chairperson. In such cases, a telephone link may be established by the Person unable to attend and the WAFL

Tribunal as it sits.

## **6.11 Prohibited Conduct**

- a) A Person who has been issued with a Notice of Charge, or any Person acting on behalf or in concert with a Person who has been issued with a Notice of Charge, shall not contact or procure another to contact a Person who is or ought reasonably to be regarded as a Person required to give evidence before the Tribunal, where that contact is intended to or may otherwise mislead the Tribunal or unfairly affect the conduct of the Tribunal hearing.
- b) No Person shall publicly comment on:
  - i. the contents of a Notice of Charge prior to the conclusion of any determination by the Tribunal and/or completion of the matter, as the case may be; or
  - ii. a Notice of Investigation and any matter touching upon or concerning an Investigation under these Guidelines, until completion of such investigation and/or relevant determination by the Tribunal,

unless the Person establishes, to the reasonable satisfaction of the WAFC, that such public comment was not intended to influence or affect the conduct of the Tribunal hearing or the process of the investigation, as the case may be.

- c) A Person who contravenes this Rule shall:
  - i. be deemed to have engaged in conduct which is unbecoming and prejudicial to the interests of a just and fair hearing; and
  - ii. be dealt with by the WAFC as it, in its absolute discretion, thinks fit.

## **6.12 Sanction on Club**

- a) In addition to any sanction or determination made in respect of a Person under section 6.11, the WAFC may impose a sanction on that Person's Club as they in their absolute discretion think fit, except where the Club satisfies the Tribunal that the conduct of the Person was not entered into with the consent, acquiescence or knowledge of the Club.

## **6.13 Criticism of Tribunal Decision**

- a) No Person or Club shall make any unfair, unreasonable or excessive public criticism of a Tribunal decision or of any Tribunal Member or any other matter touching or concerning the Tribunal or a determination made by it.
- b) The Controlling Body shall determine in its absolute discretion in any case, whether any public criticism is unfair, unreasonable or excessive.
- c) Where the WAFC determines that any public criticism is unfair, unreasonable or excessive, the WAFC may impose a sanction in its absolute discretion.
- d) Where a Person contravenes this Rule, the Person's Club may also be liable to a sanction at the discretion of the WAFC.

## **6.14 WAFL Tribunal Appeal Rules**

### **6.14.1 Composition of Appeal Panel**

- a) The WAFC shall, from time to time, appoint persons to a disciplinary tribunal to be known as the WAFL Appeal Panel.
- b) The Appeal Panel shall consist of:
  - i. a Chairperson (Chairperson of the Appeal Panel); and
  - ii. up to two (2) Appeal Panel members.
- c) Any person appointed to the WAFL Appeal Panel shall:
  - i. be a barrister or solicitor holding a current practicing certificate within an Australian jurisdiction; and/or
  - ii. possess sufficient knowledge of Australian football, as determined by the WAFC.
- d) If the WAFL Appeal Panel consists of at least two members, one of those members must be a barrister or solicitor holding a current practicing certificate within an Australian jurisdiction.
- e) Any Appeal Panel member, who has been appointed a member of the Tribunal Panel and who did not comprise the Tribunal for the matter that is subject of the appeal, shall be eligible for selection for the appeal hearing.
- f) Except where the WAFC otherwise determines, a person shall not be appointed to the WAFL Appeal Panel, in the twelve (12) months preceding the appointment, that person has been:
  - i. a member of a Board of Directors of a Club;
  - ii. a Coach or Assistant or Specialist Coach of a Club; or
  - iii. a Person of a Club; or
  - iv. an employee of the WAFC or a Club; or
  - v. serving on the WAFL Tribunal,
- g) A member of the WAFL Appeal Panel:
  - i. may resign by providing notice in writing to the WAFC; or
  - ii. may be removed by the WAFC at any time in its absolute discretion.

### **6.14.2 Representation**

- a) Subject to section 6.14.2 (b), at any hearing before the Appeal Board a Person must:
  - i. appear in person; and/or
  - ii. be represented by a barrister, solicitor or Club Officer on such terms, if any, as the Chairperson directs;
- b) Where the Person charged with a reportable offence is under the age of 16 years at the time of the alleged Reportable Offence,
  - i. the person must be represented under section 6.8.5 c) ii) (and such representative must not be a parent or guardian of the Person); and
  - ii. a parent or guardian of the Person may attend any hearing before the WAFL Tribunal in place or in support of the Person.
- c) Where the Chairperson is of the opinion that a Person or representative of a Person appearing before the Tribunal has failed to observe directions of the Tribunal or otherwise acted in a contemptuous, irresponsible or discourteous manner, the Chairperson may dismiss the Person or Person's representative and, if appropriate, adjourn the proceedings to enable the Person to obtain fresh representation.



### **6.14.3 Notice of Appeal**

- a) Except where otherwise determined by the WAFC, a Person found guilty of a Reportable Offence by the Tribunal, or the WAFC may only appeal to the Appeal Board in respect of a decision made by the Tribunal under these Rules on one or more of the following grounds:
  - i. that the decision was so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it;
  - ii. the classification of the level of the offence was manifestly excessive or inadequate; or
  - iii. that the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive or inadequate, (each, a Ground)
- b) An appeal under these rules must be lodged with the WAFC by notice in writing from the Chief Executive Officer of the Club of the Person against whom the penalty was imposed.
- c) An application for appeal must be:
  - i. lodged by no later than 5:00pm on the day following the decision of the WAFL Tribunal with a duly completed Notice of Appeal in the form prescribed by the WAFC; and
  - ii. accompanied by a \$1,000 bond, which will only be refunded if the appeal is upheld and the penalty reduced.
- d) The WAFC shall fix a date, time and place for the hearing before the Appeals Panel, as soon as practicable after the lodgement of the application for appeal, and shall advise all parties interested in the appeal of those particulars.
- e) The Appeal Panel may, at any time prior to the hearing, vary the date, time or place specified in the Notice of Appeal and upon doing so shall, as soon as practicable, provide all parties interested in the appeal with written notice of such variation.

### **6.14.4 Operation of WAFL Appeal Panel**

- a) The role of the WAFL Appeals Panel is to review a penalty imposed by the WAFL Tribunal.
- b) The WAFL Appeal Panel may, in its discretion, determine whether it is appropriate to:
  - i. reduce the initial penalty;
  - ii. overturn the initial penalty; or
  - iii. uphold the initial penalty.
- c) In order to succeed, the Appellant must satisfy the WAFL Appeal Panel that:
  - i. the type of penalty is wrong; or
  - ii. the amount or length of the penalty is manifestly excessive in the circumstances.
- d) The WAFL Appeal Panel shall exercise its discretion as to whether there is a need to reconsider the evidence given at the initial WAFL Tribunal hearing.
- e) The WAFL Appeal Panel shall not allow any new evidence to be given at the hearing of the appeal unless it is satisfied that such evidence was not reasonable available at the initial hearing before the WAFL Tribunal.
- f) The Appellant's Clubs is required to produce all evidence including video evidence upon which it proposes to rely at the appeal hearing.

## 6.15 Reportable Offences

### 6.15.1 Application

This section provides some guidelines as to the different categories of Reportable Offences and the appropriate sanctions and courses of action in respect of such offences.

These guidelines are designed primarily to be used by a Match Review Panel (or some other person or persons responsible for assessing a report or referral to determine the appropriate sanction or course of action prior to any Tribunal involvement) (Panel) at the discretion of that Panel.

Where there is no Panel, the Tribunal shall adopt these guidelines in assessing the particular alleged offence and appropriate sanctions for such an offence.

### 6.15.2 Classifiable Offences

#### 6.15.2.1 Which Reportable Offences are Classifiable Offences?

- a) Classifiable Offences are those Reportable Offences (specified in the table below) which may be graded by a Panel in order to determine an appropriate base sanction for that offence.

#### **Classifiable Offences**

Charging

Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact to the Eye Region

Forceful Front-On Contact

Headbutt or Contact Using Head

Kicking

Kneeing

Rough Conduct

Striking

Tripping

Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact to the Face

#### 6.15.2.2 Grading Classifiable Offences

- a) A Panel may grade Classifiable Offences in accordance with the tables contained in Rule 6.15.3 and Rule 6.15.5.3.
- b) A Panel may at its absolute discretion determine that the offence ought to be referred directly to the Tribunal on the basis that it is a Classifiable Offence which attracts a base sanction that the Panel finds inappropriate (see Direct Tribunal Offences as per Rule 6.15.4).

#### 6.15.2.3 Conduct (Intentional, Careless)

- a) **Intentional Conduct**
  - i. A Player intentionally commits a Classifiable Offence if the Player engages in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence with the intention of committing that offence.
  - ii. An intention is a state of mind. Intention may be formed on the spur of the moment. The issue is whether it existed at the time at which the Player engaged in the

conduct.

- iii. Whether or not a Player intentionally commits a Reportable Offence depends upon the state of mind of the Player when the Player does the act with which they are charged. What the Player did is often the best evidence of the purpose they had in mind. In some cases, the evidence that the act provides may be so strong as to compel an inference of what their intent was, no matter what they may say about it afterwards. If the immediate consequence of an act is obvious and inevitable, the deliberate doing of the act carries with it evidence of an intention to produce the consequence. For example, a strike will be regarded as Intentional where a Player delivers a blow to an opponent with the intention of striking them.
- iv. The state of a Player's mind is an objective fact and has to be proved in the same way as other objective facts. The whole of the relevant evidence has to be considered. If the matter is heard by the Tribunal, the Tribunal will weigh the evidence of the Player as to what their intentions were along with whatever inference as to their intentions can be drawn from their conduct or other relevant facts. The Player may or may not be believed by the Tribunal. Notwithstanding what the Player says, the Tribunal may be able to conclude from the whole of the evidence that the Player intentionally committed the act constituting the Reportable Offence.

**b) Careless Conduct:**

- i. A Player's conduct will be regarded as 'Careless conduct' where it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the Player to all other Players.
- ii. Each Player owes a duty of care to all other Players, Umpires and other persons (as applicable) not to engage in conduct which will constitute a Reportable Offence being committed against that other Player, Umpire or other person.
- iii. In order to constitute such a breach of that duty of care, the conduct must be such that a reasonable Player would not regard it as prudent in all the circumstances.
- iv. A Player will be careless if they breach their duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts which can be reasonably foreseen to result in a Reportable Offence.

#### **6.15.2.4 Impact (Low, Medium, High or Severe)**

- a) Consideration will be given as to whether the impact is Low, Medium, High or Severe. In determining the level of impact, regard will be had to several factors:
  - i. Firstly, consideration will be given to the extent of force and in particular, any injury sustained by the Player who was offended against. The absence of injury does not preclude the classification of impact as Severe;
  - ii. Secondly, strong consideration will be given to the potential to cause injury, particularly in the following cases:
    - a. intentional strikes, such as those with a swinging clenched fist, raised forearm or elbow;
    - b. high bumps, particularly with significant head contact and/or Player momentum;
    - c. any head-high contact with a Player who has his head over the ball, particularly when contact is made from an opponent approaching a front-on position;

- d. forceful round arm swings that make head-high contact to a Player in a marking contest, ruck contest or when tackling;
    - e. any contact that occurs when the victim Player should not reasonably be expecting or is not reasonably prepared for contact (i.e. contact off the ball);
    - f. any Dangerous Tackle; and
  - iii. Thirdly, consideration will be given not only to the impact between the offending Player and the victim Player, but also any other impact to the victim Player as a result of such impact.
- b) Strong consideration will be given to the distance the incident occurs from the ball and the expectation of contact of the other Person.
- c) Consideration will be given to the body language of the offending Person in terms of flexing, turning, raising or positioning the body to either increase or reduce the force of impact.
- d) Consideration will be given not only to the impact between the Person and the other Person, but also any other impact to the other Person as a result of the impact.
  - i. For example, where the other Person as a result of the impact from an offending Person is pushed into the path of a fast moving third person, the impact to the other Person may be classified as High or Severe impact, even though the level of impact between the other Person and the offending Person was only Low or Medium Impact.
- e) Low impact (is the minimum impact required for a Classifiable Offence) and this requires more than just a negligible impact. The panel may however consider the potential to cause injury to upgrade the level of impact from negligible to a higher level of impact.

### 6.15.2.5 Victim Impact

- a) In addition to the above, the following table provides a summary of applicable base level impact guidelines for Low, Medium, High & Severe Impact incidents:

<b>Low</b>	<p>Player - Minimal or no impact on the match - the Player continued to play the majority of the match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.</p> <p>Person (other than Player) Person continued their relevant capacity in relation to the Match for the majority of the Match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.</p> <p>The impact can be raised under the potential to cause serious injury at the absolute discretion of the Match Review Panel or WAFL Tribunal.</p>
<b>Medium</b>	<p>Person (including player) - Clearly some impact on the Player, and/or the Player left the field for a lengthy period of time, and/or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required.</p> <p>The impact can be raised under the potential to cause serious injury at the absolute discretion of the Match Review Panel or WAFL Tribunal</p>
<b>High</b>	<p>Person (including player) - Major impact on the Player, and/or the Player was unable to participate in the remainder of the game, and/or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and /or may miss some matches.</p> <p>The impact can be raised under the potential to cause serious injury at the absolute discretion of the Match Review Panel or WAFL Tribunal</p>
<b>Severe</b>	<p>Person (including Player) - Major impact and serious injury to the Person, and / or likely to miss a significant number of Matches</p>

Note – These are base level impact guidelines. The impact can be raised under the potential to cause serious injury at the absolute discretion of the Match Review Panel or WAFL Tribunal.

### 6.15.2.6 Contact (High/Groin, Body)

- a) High contact is not limited to contact to the head and includes contact above the shoulders.
- b) A classification of High contact may apply for a Careless or Intentional Dangerous Tackle (refer section 6.15.9.5(3) which has the potential for injury to be caused through dangerous high contact with the ground but where high contact does not actually occur.
- c) Contact to the Groin includes contact to the crease or hollow at the junction of the inner part of each thigh with the trunk together with the adjacent region and including the testicles.
- d) Where contact is both High and to the Body, the Panel will usually classify the contact as High.
- e) Contact shall be classified as High or to the Groin where a Player's head or groin makes contact with another Player or object such as the fence or the ground as a result of the actions of the offending Player. By way of example, should a Player tackle another Player around the waist and as a result of the tackle, the tackled Player's head made forceful contact with the fence or the ground the contact in these circumstances would be classified as High, even though the tackle was to the body.

### 6.15.2.7 Impact of a Bad Record on Classifiable Offences

- a) The sanction for Classifiable Offences may be increased where a Player has a bad record.
- b) Where a Player has been found or pleaded guilty to two low-level Classifiable Offences within a 12 month period (those Classifiable Offences with a base sanction of 1 match as per the classification table in section 6.15.3)
  - i. any third or subsequent low-level Classifiable Offence within the same 12-month

- period (as at the date of the offence) will result in a base sanction of 2 matches, with the Player able to accept 1 match with an early guilty plea
- ii. For the avoidance of doubt, the third and subsequent low-level classifiable offence penalty will be applied in accordance with the grade that the offence occurred. Ie if the offence occurred in a league match, a fine will be issued to the player. If the offence occurred in a lower grade, the 1 match sanction will be issued.
- c) For the avoidance of doubt:
- i. the Low-level Offences referred to in Rule 6.15.5 will not be affected by the above bad record provisions.
- d) A Panel also has the discretion pursuant to section 6.6.4 to directly refer a Player to the Tribunal in their absolute discretion, which includes as a result of a bad record. In this instance the Tribunal will not be bound by the classification table in section 6.15.3 and will be at large in relation to penalty. Evidence in relation to the record of a Player can be tendered to the Tribunal without the leave of the Chair.

#### **6.15.2.8 Reductions in base sanction for an early guilty plea**

- a) The base sanction for Classifiable Offences will be subsequently decreased where a Player submits an early guilty plea. As per the Classification Table in Rule 6.15.3:
- i. An early guilty plea in respect of a Classifiable Offence with a fixed base sanction of two, three or four matches will result in a one-match reduction in the suspension; and
  - ii. An early guilty plea in respect of a Classifiable Offence with a base sanction of one match will result in a reprimand and/or fine.

#### **6.15.2.9 No Automatic reduction for Good Record**

- a) Players do not receive an automatic reduced base sanction for a good record. However, if a Classifiable Offence is contested or referred to the Tribunal, a Player with an exemplary record at senior level football could argue it constitutes exceptional and compelling circumstances, (which would make it inappropriate to apply the sanctions in section 6.15.3 to the determined classification). In such circumstances, the Tribunal would determine the appropriate sanction in its absolute discretion.

#### **6.15.2.10 Multiple Offences in a Single Match**

- a) Where a Player is found guilty of multiple Reportable Offences from a single match, the individual penalties are added together to form the final penalty to the Player.

#### **6.15.2.11 Injury**

- a) The WAFC, Match Review Panel and Tribunal can inquire and receive information as to the nature and extent of any injury suffered by a Person in relation to a Reportable Offence. The nature and extent of the injury may be a relevant factor in determining the level of Impact, Contact and in some instances, the nature of the Conduct. A Club must provide a Medical Report upon request by the Controlling Body or Tribunal.

### 6.15.3 Classification Table

a) A Panel may grade Classifiable Offences in accordance with the following table:

Conduct	Impact	Contact	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
Intentional	Severe	High/Groin	5+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
		Body	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
	High	High/Groin	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Body	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Medium	High/Groin	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Low	High/Groin	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Reprimand and/or Fine
Careless	Severe	High/Groin	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
		Body	3+ Matches (Tribunal)	N/A
	High	High/Groin	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Medium	High/Groin	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Reprimand and/or Fine
	Low	High/Groin	1 Match	Reprimand and/or Fine
		Body	1 Match	Reprimand and/or Fine

\*Fines only apply to League matches in accordance with Rule 6.15.2.7 b) ii).

## 6.15.4 Direct Tribunal Offences

### 6.15.4.1 Which Reportable Offences are Direct Tribunal Offences?

- a) Direct Tribunal Offences are those Reportable Offences (specified in the table below) which are referred by a Panel (or otherwise) directly to the Tribunal for determination without grading (i.e. without an assessment of the offence using the Classification Table):

<b>Direct Tribunal Offences</b>
Attempting to Strike an Umpire
Behaving in an Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire
Eye Gouging
Intentional Contact with an Umpire
Spitting on Another Person
Spitting on or at an Umpire
Stomping
Striking an Umpire
Serious Misconduct

### 6.15.4.2 Determination of Direct Tribunal Offences

- a) The Tribunal will determine Direct Tribunal Offences (as with any other Reportable Offence) in accordance with Rule 6.9.



## 6.15.5 Low-level Offences

### 6.15.5.1 What Reportable Offences are Low-level Offences?

- a) Low-level Offences are the following low-level Reportable Offences which do not require classification:

<b>Low-level Offences</b>
Attempt to Strike / Kick / Trip
Disputing Decision
Instigator of a Melee/ Wrestle
Interfering with a Player Kicking for Goal
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Injured Player
Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Umpire
Engaging in a Melee/ Wrestle
Not Leaving the Playing Surface
Obscene Gesture
Pinching
Prohibited Boots, Jewellery or Equipment
Scratching
Shaking Goal Post
Spitting at Another Player
Staging
Striking
Time Wasting
Tripping
Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language Towards or in Relation to an Umpire
Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language
Any Other Act of Low-Level Misconduct which is not a Classifiable Offence or Direct Tribunal Offence

### 6.15.5.2 Sanctions for Low-level Offences

- a) Low-level Offences attract the base sanctions (with a reduced sanction for an early guilty plea) from WAFC as set out in the table below.
- b) A reference to second and subsequent Low-level Offences is a reference to a second or subsequent Low-level Offence occurring at any time in the previous 12 months (as at the date of the current offence).
- c) The second or subsequent Low-level Offence need not be the same offence as the first Low-level Offence.
- d) For the avoidance of doubt, a prior offence other than a Low-level Offence will not count as a first offence for the purposes of the above table.
- e) The third and subsequent low-level offence penalty will be applied in accordance with the grade that the offence occurred. Ie if the offence occurred in a league match, a fine will be

issued to the player. If the offence occurred in a lower grade, the 1 match sanction will be issued.

#### Table of Low-level Offences

- a) The following tables of sanctions relate to Rule 6.15.5. (WAFL League Only)

First and Second Low-level Offences		Third and Subsequent Low-level Offences	
Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
1 Match	Reprimand	2 Matches	\$200.00 Fine

- b) The following tables of sanctions relate to Rule 6.15.5. (Reserves, Colts & Futures)

First and Second Low-level Offences		Third and Subsequent Low-level Offences	
Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
1 Match	Reprimand	2 Matches	1 Match

### 6.15.7 Competition Fairest and Best Eligibility

- a) Players who serve a 1 Match sanction or greater are ineligible to win the Sandover, Prendergast and/or Jack Clarke Medals.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, any player who receives a reprimand of financial sanction remains eligible.

### 6.15.8 Grand Final

- a) The Panel or Tribunal (as applicable) has the right to apply (in its absolute discretion) a loading of up to 100% for any Reportable Offence committed during a Grand Final. Reportable Offences.

### 6.15.9 Reportable Offences

The Laws of Australian Football sets out a non-exhaustive list of specific Reportable Offences in Law 22.2.2 as well as providing for various categories of permitted contact which shall not constitute a Reportable Offence (for example legally using a hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open arms, providing the football is no more than five metres away, and contact which is incidental to a marking contest where a Player is legitimately marking or attempting to mark the football).

The Laws define certain offences such as Charging and Engaging in a Melee, however, they provide that in interpreting Reportable Offences, words, terms or phrases which are not defined in the Laws shall be given their ordinary meaning.

The following provides some further guidance in relation to what constitutes particular Reportable Offences.

#### 6.15.9.1 Striking, Kicking

- a) Striking and kicking are interpreted in accordance with their commonly understood meaning. A strike would usually be by hand, arm or elbow and would generally not apply to other contact

using the body. A strike can also occur with an open hand. A kick is generally applied to contact by foot or leg.

- b) Under the Classifiable Offences, a strike or kick requires more than negligible impact.
- c) Where a strike, for example, does not have more than negligible impact, it is still open to a Panel to charge a Player with Striking under the Low-Level Offences table where it is satisfied that notwithstanding the result, the intention was to commit a Reportable Offence.
- d) Where no contact is made, a Panel can charge a Player with an Attempt to Strike or Kick, which are also Low-Level Offences.

#### 6.15.9.2 Classification of Certain Strikes

- a) For the purpose of these Rules, all Persons should note that the following factors are considered when determining the classification of a Striking offence:
  - i. **Intent:** Notwithstanding any other part of these Guidelines, the fact that an act of striking occurred behind the play or off the ball or during a break in play or with a raised forearm or elbow is usually consistent with the strike being intentional.
  - ii. **Impact:** Notwithstanding any other part of these guidelines, any Careless or Intentional strike which is of an inherently dangerous kind and/or where there is a potential to cause serious injury (such as a strike with a raised elbow or forearm) will usually not be classified as “Low Impact” even though the extent of the actual physical impact may be low. Such strikes will usually be classified at a higher level commensurate with the nature and extent of the risk of serious injury involved. Strong consideration will also be given to the distance the incident occurs from the ball and the expectation of contact of the victim Player.

#### 6.15.9.3 Misconduct

Misconduct has a wide meaning and generally is any conduct which would be reasonably regarded as unacceptable or unsportsmanlike or where it has the effect or potential to prejudice the reputation of any person, Club or the WAFC or to bring the game of football into disrepute.

- a) Acts of Serious Misconduct will be referred directly to the Tribunal and the Tribunal may determine the appropriate sanction in its absolute discretion.
- b) Any other act of Misconduct will be subject to a Low-Level Offence to be determined by the Panel in its absolute discretion.

#### 6.15.9.4 Forceful Front-On Contact

- a) Bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that opponent has his head over the ball is a Reportable Offence. Unless Intentional, such actions will be deemed to be Careless, except where:
  - i. the Player was contesting the ball and it was reasonable for the Player to contest the ball in that way; or
  - ii. the bump or forceful contact was caused by circumstances outside the control of the Player which could not reasonably be foreseen.

- b) Any Careless or Intentional Forceful Front-On contact where High Contact has been made and that has the potential to cause injury will usually be graded at a minimum as Medium Impact, even though the extent of the physical impact may be low.
- c) A Player can bump an opponent's body from side-on but any contact forward of side-on will be deemed to be front-on.
- d) A Player with his head down in anticipation of winning possession of the ball or after contesting the ball will be deemed to have his head over the ball for the purposes of this section.

### 6.15.9.5 Rough Conduct

- a) Rough Conduct is interpreted widely in relation to any contact which is unreasonable in the circumstances.
- b) It is a Reportable Offence to intentionally or carelessly engage in Rough Conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable.
- c) Without limiting the wide interpretation of Rough Conduct, particular regard shall be had to the following officially recognised forms of Rough Conduct.

Form of Rough Conduct	Description
<b>1. Rough Conduct (High Bumps)</b>	<p>A Player will be guilty of Rough Conduct where in the bumping of an opponent (whether reasonably or unreasonably) the Player causes forceful contact to be made with any part of his body to an opponent's head or neck.</p> <p>Unless Intentional, such conduct will be deemed to be Careless, except where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Player was contesting the ball and it was reasonable for the Player to contest the ball in that way; or</li> <li>• the forceful contact to the opponent's head or neck was caused by circumstances outside the control of the Player which could not be reasonably foreseen.</li> </ul> <p>In which case such conduct will not constitute a Reportable Offence.</p> <p>Any high bump which constitutes Rough Conduct that has the potential to cause injury will usually be graded at a minimum as Medium Impact, even though the extent of the physical impact may be low.</p> <p>The purpose of the rule dealing with high bumps is to, as far as practicable, minimize the risk of head injuries to Players and this purpose needs to be front of mind for all Players and will guide the application of the rule.</p> <p>For the purpose of these Guidelines, head clashes that occur when a Player has elected to bump are circumstances that can reasonably be foreseen. Players will ordinarily be liable if they elect to bump if not contesting the ball.</p>

**2. Rough Conduct  
(Bumps to the Body)**

If the rule relating to high bumps does not apply (for example in the case of a bump to the body), a Player may still be guilty of Rough Conduct if his conduct was unreasonable in the circumstances. In determining whether any bump was unreasonable in the circumstances, without limitation, regard may be had to whether:

- the degree of force applied by the person bumping was excessive for the circumstances;
- whether the Player being bumped was in a vulnerable position; and
- whether the Player could reasonably expect the contact having regard to his involvement in play or ability to influence the contest.

**3. Rough Conduct  
(Dangerous Tackles)**

The application of a tackle may be considered Rough Conduct which is unreasonable in the circumstances. In determining whether the application of a tackle constitutes a Reportable Offence and whether the offence is Careless or Intentional, the following factors will be considered (without limitation):

- whether the tackle consists of more than one action, regardless of whether the Player being tackled is in possession of the ball;
- whether the tackle is of an inherently dangerous kind, such as a spear tackle or a tackle where a Player is lifted off the ground;
- whether the Player being tackled is in a vulnerable position (for example, arm(s) pinned) with little opportunity to protect himself; and
- whether the player being tackled is being slung, driven or rotated into the ground with excessive force.

**4. Rough Conduct  
(Contact Below the Knees)**

Under the Laws of Australian Football, it is prohibited to make contact with an opponent below the knees. Players who keep their feet are vulnerable to serious injury from opponents who lunge, dive or slide toward them and make contact below the knees.

It is the purpose of these guidelines to protect such Players from the risk of foreseeable injury. A Player may be guilty of Rough Conduct if the Player makes contact below the knees of an opponent and does so in a manner which is unreasonable in the circumstances.

It is not a defence that the Player who made the prohibited contact was contesting the ball or was first to the ball. The primary responsibility of Players with respect to contact below the knees is to avoid the risk of foreseeable injury. In determining whether any contact below the knees is unreasonable in the circumstances, the following factors will be considered:

- the degree of momentum and/or force involved in the contact;
- whether the Player causes contact below the knees by sliding with his foot, feet, knee or knees in front of him;
- whether the opposition Player was in a position that was vulnerable to contact below the knees (for example, standing over the ball or approaching from the opposite direction); and
- whether the Player making contact had any realistic alternative ways of approaching the contest or situation.

Where the contact is not made below the knees of the opposition Player but to another part of an opponent's body, a Player may still be guilty under the general definition of Rough Conduct for making unreasonable contact by sliding or dropping in to an opponent with their knees or feet first.

### 6.15.9.6 Contact with and Umpire

- a) Intentional Contact with an Umpire:
  - i. Contact with an Umpire that is aggressive, forceful, demonstrative or disrespectful will be deemed intentional and the Person will be directly referred to the Tribunal;
    - a. In determining the sanction for Intentional Contact with an Umpire, the Tribunal must have regard to the number of elements of the offence (Aggressive, forceful, demonstrative and/ or disrespectful) which are established.
  - ii. A Player may also be charged with the offence of Intentional Contact with an Umpire by pushing or holding an opponent into an Umpire or their direct path.
  - iii. Where contact with an umpire is forceful but only incidental (i.e. it is not otherwise aggressive, demonstrative or disrespectful) the WAFC has the discretion not to charge the Player with Intentional Contact with an Umpire (resulting in a direct referral to the Tribunal) and instead charge the Player with Careless Contact with an Umpire (but provided such Contact is not otherwise disrespectful, demonstrative or aggressive).
- b) Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Umpire:
  - i. Where contact with an Umpire is not aggressive, forceful, demonstrative or disrespectful but could otherwise be regarded as intentional, it will be classified as Unreasonable or Unnecessary Contact with an Umpire which is a Low-Level Offence.
- c) Careless Contact with an Umpire:

Contact with an Umpire by a Player will be regarded as careless when it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the Player to the Umpire. Regard will be had to the following factors when determining if the contact is careless:

  - i. Whether contact occurs at a centre bounce or ball up;
  - ii. Whether the Player has set up behind the Umpire;
  - iii. Whether the Player has taken a path that intersects the Umpire's exit line from a stoppage;
  - iv. The force of the contact;
  - v. Whether the Umpire's decision making is impeded;
  - vi. Whether the Umpire goes to ground as a result of the contact;
  - vii. Any mitigating factors (effort to avoid contact, offline bounce or throw, pushed by opponent into Umpire's path etc).
- d) A player may also be charged with the offence of Careless Contact with an Umpire by directly pushing an opponent into an Umpire of their direct path.
- e) A charge of Careless Contact with an Umpire may be deemed a classifiable offence and a penalty applied in accordance with Rule 3.7.3.5

### 6.15.9.7 Umpire Abuse

- a) Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language Towards or in relation to an Umpire will be a Low-level Offence unless the WAFC determine that:
  - i. the Low-level Offence sanction is inappropriate; and
  - ii. the conduct does not constitute the Direct Tribunal Offence of Behaving in an Abusive, insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire,

in which case the WAFC may impose a sanction either a two (2) Match, three (3) Match or four (4) Match suspension, with the relevant Person entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction applicable in Rule 6.1.3 with an Early Guilty Plea. (ie a two (2) match suspension reduced to a one (1) Match suspension with an Early Guilty Plea).

#### **6.15.9.8 Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language**

- a) Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language will be a Low-level Offence unless the WAFC determine that:
- iii. the Low-level Offence sanction is inappropriate; and
  - iv. the conduct does not constitute the Direct Tribunal Offence of Behaving in an Abusive, insulting, Threatening or Obscene Manner Towards or in Relation to an Umpire,
- in which case the WAFC may impose a sanction either a two (2) Match, three (3) Match or four (4) Match suspension, with the relevant Person entitled to receive a reduction in the sanction equivalent to the reduction applicable in Rule 6.1.3 with an Early Guilty Plea. (ie a two (2) match suspension reduced to a one (1) Match suspension with an Early Guilty Plea).

#### **6.15.9.9 Melee/ Wrestle**

- a) Engaging in a Melee/ Wrestle:
- A Melee is defined as an incident involving Persons who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another and which is likely to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute or prejudice the interests or reputation of the WAFC. In determining if a Person's conduct constitutes Engaging in a Melee/ Wrestle, the following factors will be considered:
- i. The duration the Person is involved in the Melee/ Wrestle;
  - ii. The vigour applied by the Person;
  - iii. Whether the Melee/Wrestle occurs at a break in play, particularly at quarter breaks and half time; and
  - iv. Whether the Player contributed to an escalation of the Melee/ Wrestle.
  - v. The role of the Person (for example, Player or Football Official)
- b) Instigator of a Melee/ Wrestle
- i. Where a Person's conduct results in a retaliatory action which leads to a Melee/ Wrestle, that Person's conduct may constitute a Reportable Offence of Instigator of a Melee/ Wrestle. The Reportable Offence of Instigator in a Melee/ Wrestle is separate to the Reportable Offence of Engaging in a Melee/ Wrestle and a Person may be found guilty of both reportable Offences.

#### **6.15.9.10 Staging**

- a) Staging includes excessive exaggeration of contact in an unsportsmanlike manner. In determining whether a Person's conduct constitutes a Reportable Offence of Staging, the following factors will be considered
- i. Whether the conduct affected, or was likely to affect, the Umpires' decision-making.
  - ii. Whether the conduct incited a melee; and/or
  - iii. Whether the conduct was in the spirit of the game (unsportsmanlike).

#### **6.15.9.11 Tripping**

- a) Tripping is widely interpreted in accordance with its ordinary meaning. In determining whether a Person's conduct constitutes the Report Offence of Tripping, to the following factors will be considered:
- i. how fast the opponent was moving;



- ii. whether the trip was by hand or by foot/leg; and
  - iii. whether contact was made with a swinging motion.
- b) To constitute a Classifiable Offence, Tripping requires more than negligible impact.
- c) Where a trip does not have more than negligible impact, it is still open to the Match Review Panel or Tribunal to charge a Player with Tripping under the Low-Level Offences table where it is satisfied that notwithstanding the result, the intention was to commit an act constituting a Reportable Offence.
- d) Where no contact is made, the Panel can charge a Player with Attempt to Trip, which is a Low-Level Offence.

## **6.16 Unpaid Fines**

- a) The WAFC will maintain a fine's register throughout each season and invoice Clubs on a monthly basis.

## **6.17 Club Making a Charge or Protest Against Another Club**

- a) Any Club may refer a protest or charge, Notice of Investigation or report any infringement of these Rules and Regulations or the Laws of Australian Football against any other Club or a Player, Official or a Member of another Club by:
  - i. written notice to the WAFC by 12pm on the first working day after the match; and
  - ii. to the Club, or the Club of the Player, Official or Member concerned by 5:00pm on the day of lodging such protest with the WAFC.

Note, a Notice of Investigation shall only be submitted to the WAFC in accordance with Rule 6.4.

- b) Any Club making any protest or charge against another Club, or a Player, Official or Member of another Club or reporting any infringement of these Rules and Regulations or the Laws of Australian Football shall:
  - i. Forward the same with particulars in writing specifying the charge; and
  - ii. The sum of \$500 to the WAFC
 by 12pm on the first working day after the date upon which the occurrence complained of took place together with a copy of the complaint to the opposing Club.
- c) If the protest is about an incident on the playing field during the course of a match, the Club should make submission to the WAFC on the official form, who will follow the process in accordance with Rule 6.4.
- d) The WAFC may refer the Notice of Investigation to the WAFL Match Review Panel or WAFL Tribunal in accordance with the relevant provisions under Rule 6.4.
- e) In the event the charge or protest submitted in accordance with this Rule is referred to the WAFL Tribunal, any Club affected by this Rule shall be given at least nine (9) hours' notice to attend the WAFL Tribunal hearing, which shall be held by no later than 8.00pm on a Thursday night immediately following the fixture which gave rise to the Club lodging the charge or protest.
- f) The sum of \$500 submitted in accordance with (b)(ii) above shall be:
  - i. forfeited to the WAFC upon dismissal of the protest or charge; or
  - ii. refunded if the protest or charge is upheld or the WAFL Tribunal so directs.
- g) If the protest or charge against these Rules and Regulations or Laws of Australian Football do not involve a Reportable Offence, the protest or charge shall be determined by the WAFC and its decision can be appealed to the WAFL Arbitrator.

## **6.18 WAFL Arbitrator**

- a) The WAFL Arbitrator is empowered to arbitrate on any matter referred to him pursuant to these Rules.

### **6.18.1 Appeals to the WAFL Arbitrator**

- a) A Player and/or WAFL Club may appeal to the WAFL Arbitrator to determine any dispute or question in relation to a Player's transfer from one WAFL Club to another. The WAFL Arbitrator shall, in accordance with these Rules, make a determination as to the Player's eligibility for transfer and then, the transfer fee.
- b) A Club may appeal to the WAFL Arbitrator if they feel aggrieved by any decision of the WAFC, within 14 days of a decision being handed down.
- c) Any matter taken to the WAFL Arbitrator for determination (an "appeal") may only be heard if the appellant lodges a Form 9 (Notice of Appeal) with the WAFC, together with a \$500 fee, which may be refunded at the discretion of the WAFL Arbitrator.
- d) The appeal shall then be arranged for a date, time and place not later than 14 days after lodgement of the Notice of Appeal. All parties interested in the appeal shall be notified and entitled to appear.
- e) The WAFL Arbitrator shall regulate proceedings as he or she thinks fit and he or she shall confirm, reverse, modify or set aside any decision or act, or remedy any omission and make such orders and give such directions in the matter as he or she thinks fit.
- f) The decision of the WAFL Arbitrator in respect of any appeal brought before him or her shall be final and binding on all parties.

### **6.18.2 Action by WAFL Arbitrator in the Event of Honest Mistake**

- a) If, in the event of an appeal to the WAFL Arbitrator, the Arbitrator is satisfied that an honest mistake had been made, he or she may, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, rule that non-compliance with or contravention of these Rules did not occur.

## 7 AWARDS

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### 7.1 Life Memberships

The Life Members awards provide recognition to those people who have demonstrated outstanding services and contribution to the WAFL.

Such people may also be members of the Past Players and Officials Association which is a coterie group from the WAFL Clubs.

The below categories are minimum guidelines for consideration when nominating a person or persons for Life Membership.

- a) Life Membership of the WAFL should be available to any person who is deemed to have performed outstandingly in any of the following categories:
  - i. a Player who has played for the League Team of a WAFL Club or WAFL Clubs in not less than ten (10) seasons and has participated in a minimum of 200 League Matches;
  - ii. an Official who has served at a WAFL Club or Clubs for not less than ten (10) years;
  - iii. an Administrator who has served at a WAFL Club or Clubs for not less than ten (10) seasons;
  - iv. an Umpire who has been appointed to not less than two hundred (200) WAFL League Matches in total, whether as a Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire in not less than ten (10) seasons; or
  - v. a combination of the above categories set out in i) to iv) where the nominee has provided service in not less than ten (10) seasons.
- b) Life Membership shall be conferred on the decision of the WAFC following:
  - i. nomination and seconding from any two (2) WAFL Clubs; or
  - ii. by the WAFC seconded by one (1) of the WAFL Clubs.
- c) Life Membership shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) persons per year.
- d) Nominations for Life Membership shall be considered by the WAFC up to May 30th of any year.
- e) Each Life Member shall receive from the WAFL:
  - i. a Life Membership Medallion;
  - ii. an entrance pass to all WAFL games (home & away and finals) at the beginning of each WAFL football season; and
  - iii. Recognition of the achievement of Life Memberships at the Sandover Medal Presentation Dinner each year.

## 7.2 Past Players & Officials Association

- a) The Past Players and Officials Association may submit to the WAFC up to five (5) past Players and officials from each WAFL Club to become members of the Past Players & Officials Association.
- b) The 5 nominated members from each of the WAFL Club Past Players & Officials Associations will receive a season pass each year from their WAFL Club

## 7.3 League Medals for Outstanding Play

The WAFC will award a medal for the Fairest and Best Player in each of the WAFL League, Reserves and Colts competitions. The current donor of the League medal is the Sandover Family; they have been donating this medal since 1921.

The Reserves medal is named after the Prendergast Family since 1947 who had the medal struck and initially donated it.

The Colts medal is named after Jack Clark (from 1997) and is funded by the WAFL.

The WAFC will also award a medal for the best Player in a State Game and also in each WAFL Grand Final. The Simpson Family have awarded the Simpson Medal for the best WA Player in a State Game and also in the league Grand Final since 1945.

The WAFC has awarded the Merv McIntosh Medal for the best Player in the reserves Grand Final and the Mel Whinnen Medal for the best Player in the Colts Grand Final since 1998.

### 7.3.1 Fairest and Best Player Voting

- a) The voting for WAFL League, Reserves and Colts Grades is done by the Number One Umpire in each grade.
- b) The Number One Umpire must award three (3) votes to the Player, who, in their opinion was the best Player on the ground, then 2,1 votes for the next best Players in order of performance.
- c) The votes are lodged online through the competition management system approved by the WAFC.
- d) Should c) not be available, then the votes shall be cast and sealed in an envelope after each game and kept in security by the WAFC.
- e) The envelopes are opened and the votes counted by the WAFC or delegate.

### 7.3.2 Ineligible Players Still Receive Votes

- a) For the avoidance of doubt, votes shall be awarded in accordance with Rule 7.3.1 irrespective of whether such Players:
  - i. have been found guilty of a Reportable Offence in a Match during that WAFL Home and Away season; or
  - ii. have been reported during the Match for which votes are to be awarded.

### **7.3.3 Ineligibility**

- a) Subject to Rule 7.3.4, Players in League, Reserves and Colts Grades are ineligible to win any medal in any Grade if:
  - i. they have been reported in any sanctioned game in the WAFL Home and Away season; and
  - ii. have subsequently found guilty and suspended by the WAFL Tribunal or Match Review Panel of a Reportable Offence in accordance with Rule 6.15.7.

### **7.3.4 Exception**

- a) Players found guilty and received a suspension in pre-season games remain eligible to win the competition medals.
- b) Notwithstanding that a Player has been found guilty of a Reportable Offence in a home and away match, the Player shall remain eligible to receive the medal in that season if the sanction for the Reportable Offence is a reprimand or financial sanction only.

### **7.3.5 Simpson Medal, Merv McIntosh Medal and Mel Whinnen Medal Voting**

- a) The McIntosh Medal is voted upon solely by the officiating Umpires.
- b) For the Whinnen Medal in the Colts Grand Final and Simpson Medal in the League Grand Final and for State games:
  - i. the votes are cast by the Umpires and also two (2) independent observers selected by the WAFC (or delegate);
  - ii. each of the three (3) voting slips rank the top three (3) Players in the game with three (3) votes going to the best Player in the opinion of the person casting the votes;
  - iii. the winning Player is the Player with the highest number of votes from the three (3) voting sheets; and
  - iv. where there are two (2) Players that tie in the voting then the highest ranked Player according to the Umpire's votes shall be deemed to be the winner.

### **7.3.6 Eligibility**

- a) All Players entered on the Official Teams Sheet for the game are considered eligible to win the Simpson Medal, Merv McIntosh Medal and Mel Whinnen Medal.
- b) Players may be reported during the game and remain eligible to win the Simpson Medal, Merv McIntosh Medal and Mel Whinnen Medal.

## 7.4 Rodriguez Shield

Named after renowned former West Australian football administrator Pat Rodriguez, the Rodriguez Shield was introduced in 1957 to reward the team with the best combined record at league, reserves and senior colts level.

- From 1957 to 2006, 10 Points were awarded for a league win with 4 points allocated for reserves win and 2 points for a colts win.
- From 1965 to 1974 wins in the fourths competition were worth 2 points.
- From 2007 onwards both reserves and colts wins were worth 4 points.
- Draws are worth half the points of a win.

In season 2024, the WAFLW and Rogers Cup competitions were added to the overall calculation of the award. 10 Points are awarded for a WAFL League win with 4 points allocated for Colts and Reserves wins and 6 points awarded for a WAFLW League win and 2 points awarded for a Rogers Cup win.

- a) The awarding of points, from home and away matches, for the Rodriguez Shield will be as follows:
  - i. WAFL League – Ten (10) Points awarded for a win;
  - ii. WAFL Reserves – Four (4) Points awarded for a win;
  - iii. WAFL Colts – Four (4) Points awarded for a win;
  - iv. WAFLW League – Six (6) Points awarded for a win;
  - v. WAFLW Rogers Cup – Two (2) Points awarded for a win;
  
- b) The Rodriguez shield winner will be the Club with the highest combined number of Points awards in accordance with a)

## 8 AFL / WAFL CLUB PARTNERSHIP MODEL

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This Partnership Model is made between the West Australian Football Commission (WAFC), the WAFL competition (WAFL), the eight WAFL Non-Partner Clubs, the West Coast Eagles Football Club (WCE & WAFL Club), the Fremantle Football Club (FFC & AFL Partner Club), and the Peel Thunder Football Club (PTFC & WAFL Partner Club).

It is the mutual intention of all parties to maintain the integrity of the WAFL and each of the WAFL Clubs through this model and improve the long-term strength and sustainability of the WAFL in accordance with the Overriding Principles at Rule 8.2.

The WAFL recognises the need to have a competition that is successful, sustainable, has integrity and support the success of both West Australian AFL Clubs as part of our State's integrated football structure.

The objective is that the WAFL Partner Club will develop their playing list such that it comprises solely AFL Partner Club listed Players and "Local District" Players.

### 8.1 Minimum Term

- a) The Partnership Model will run from the commencement of the 2014 season through to 2018 season (five year agreement).
- b) The Partnership Model will continue unless terminated.

### 8.2 Overriding Principles of the Model

- a) The WAFL Partner Club should be competitive, having the opportunity to compete for a premiership and also to face periods out of the top five (5) teams in their Grade.
- b) The WAFL Partner Club should be neither dominant (consistently top two (2) or even top five (5) nor too weak (consistently at the bottom of the ladder).
- c) The WAFC at the conclusion of each season will assess and determine whether the Rules listed here remain appropriate.
- d) Following the above review process all matters will be tabled to the WAFL Clubs for discussion and recommendations.
- e) At all times the WAFL Clubs can provide comment on any Partnership Model concept or issue that may arise.
- f) All recommendations relating to the Partnership Model from the WAFL Clubs will be considered by the WAFC.
- g) The WAFC retains the overriding right to unilaterally change the rules impacting WAFL Partner Clubs to protect these principles.
- h) Nothing in this Rule 8, including these Overriding Principles is intended to override this right.

### 8.3 WAFL Partner Club Transfer Fees

- a) Any Transfer Fees applicable for Players of WAFL Partner Clubs will be the same as those outlined in Rule 5.1.2 of these Rules.

### 8.4 WAFL Protected Player 32 List

- a) All WAFL Partner Clubs will have a protected Listed Player 32 list as set out in Rule 1.2.3 and 2.8
- b) Partner Clubs have access to a Supplementary List of a maximum of three (3) players as set out in Rule 2.3.

### 8.5 WAFL Player Points Rules

- a) The Senior Player Points List of Players must not exceed:
  - i. Eighty (80) cumulative Player points for WAFL Partner Clubs in accordance with Rule 2.8.

### 8.6 Total Player Payments (TPP) WAFL Partner Clubs

- a) Partner Clubs maximum will be allocated in accordance with Rule 5.

	<b>2024</b>
Football Match Payments	\$159,250
<b>TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$159,250</b>

### 8.7 WAFL Partner Club Recruitment

- a) WAFL Partner Clubs are subject to the recruiting restriction in accordance with this Rule 8.7 during the term of the Partnership Model.
- b) WAFL Club must, where possible, recruit Local District Players including:
  - i. Local Partner Club District (1 point) Players;
  - ii. delisted AFL Players who are returning to the Partner Club from where they originated; or
  - iii. WAFL Players who wish to return to the Partner Club from where they originated.
- c) The Local District Players listed at b) may be recruited at any time and without approval.
- d) Non Local Partner Club Players may be recruited in accordance with Rule 2 without approval.
- e) The WAFL Partner Club must apply in writing for any recruitment changes in accordance with this Rule 8.7 to the WAFC outlining reasons to recruit.
- f) Any determination or endorsement in accordance with this Rule 8.7 is made at the sole discretion of the WAFC.

### 8.8 Partner Model Selection Policy

The following selection policy has been developed and internally endorsed between the two clubs in the Partner Model.

- a) Table below indicates the maximum amount of AFL Contracted players that can play in the Peel Thunder League side each week, dependent on the AFL Clubs Player availability.
- b) The maximum number of FFC players that can play in any given Round is thirteen (13) AFL Contracted Players
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the thirteen (13) AFL contracted players do not include the players referenced in d).



- c) The best 22 principle still applies as long as the above maximum is not exceeded.
- d) Any AFL Contracted, former Peel Thunder Football Club AFL listed players will be excluded from this selection policy.

<b>Fremantle FC Players Available</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Fremantle FC Players - League</b>	11	11	11	12	12	13	13	13
<b>Fremantle FC Players - Reserves</b>	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	5

## 9 AFL STAND-ALONE WAFL TEAM MODEL

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This Stand-Alone Model is made between the West Australian Football Commission (WAFC), the WAFL competition (WAFL), the eight WAFL Non-Partner Clubs, the West Coast Eagles Football Club (WCE & AFL Stand Alone Team), the Fremantle Football Club (FFC & AFL Partner Club), the Peel Thunder Football Club (PTFC & WAFL Partner Club).

It is the mutual intention of all parties to maintain the integrity of the WAFL and each of the WAFL Clubs through this model and improve the long-term strength and sustainability of the WAFL in accordance with the Overriding Principles at Rule 9.2.

The WAFL recognises the need to have a competition that is successful, sustainable, has integrity and support the success of both West Australian AFL Clubs as part of our State's integrated football structure.

The objective is that the Stand-alone AFL Team will develop their playing list such that it comprises solely AFL listed Players and Top up Players.

WCE standalone team's aim is to support the growth and development of their playing list within a quality State League competition. WCE priorities for their standalone team include:

1. Developing their playing list, particularly new recruits and developing players in the back end of their playing list (42 players).
2. To have a competitive team in a quality competition is important for WCE player development.
3. Building a team to be competitive via the WAFL recruitment conditions, but not solely focused on winning the WAFL Premiership.
4. Having a cost-effective model to participate in the competition.
5. Supporting the integrity of the competition by competing within the rules and regulations.
6. Not seeking to be a dominant brand in the competition but using the brand to leverage (if possible) overall commercial benefits to the WAFL competition.

### 9.1 Minimum Term

- a) The AFL Stand Alone WAFL Team Model will be for a term of three years from the commencement of the 2022 season through to 2024 season (three-year agreement), with an option to extend the term for a further 2 years.
- b) WCE and WAFC in conjunction with the WAFL clubs will undertake a review of the licence and the terms upon which WCE participates in the WAFL competition after 2 years of the extended licence (ie during 2024) with a view to WCE working within the same frame work of a WAFL Licence Agreement going forward.

### 9.2 Overriding Principles of the Model/ Spirit of the Agreement

- a) The WAFL Stand-alone Team should be competitive, having the opportunity to compete for a premiership and also to face periods out of the top five (5) teams in their Grade.
- b) The WAFL Stand-alone Team should be neither dominant (consistently top two (2) or even top five (5) nor too weak (consistently at the bottom of the ladder).
- c) The WCE intent is to develop a top up list that compliments their AFL Listed players without unduly

impacting the current WAFL Club player lists.

- d) The West Coast Eagles will not use employment opportunities at West Coast Eagles and/or third parties as the primary source for the recruitment of players as Top Up Players, to work outside of the TPP.
- e) WCE need to maintain their brand but acknowledge the concerns of the WAFL Clubs. WCE will play in an alternative jumper, align to commercial guidelines and will also remain open to the commercialisation of the WCE team in the WAFL only if there is commercial benefit to the WAFL and participating clubs –net benefit to all parties.
- f) The WAFC will assess and determine whether the Rules listed here remain appropriate throughout and at the conclusion of each season.
- g) Following the above review process all matters will be tabled to the WAFL Clubs for discussion and recommendations.
- h) At all times the WAFL Clubs can provide comment on any Stand-alone Model concept or issue that may arise.
- i) All recommendations relating to the Stand-alone Model from the WAFL Clubs will be considered by the WAFC.
- j) The WAFC retains the overriding right to unilaterally change the rules impacting WAFL Stand-alone Teams to protect these principles.
- k) Nothing in this Rule 9, including these Overriding Principles is intended to override this right.

### **9.3 WAFL Stand-alone Team Transfer Fees**

- a) Any Transfer Fees applicable for Players will be the same as those outlined in Rule 1.5 of these Rules.

### **9.4 WAFL Stand Alone Protected Player 20 List**

- a) All WAFL Stand Alone Teams will have a protected Listed Player 20 list as set out in Rule 1.2.3
- b) Stand-alone Teams do not have access to the Supplementary List as set out in Rule 2.3.
- c) Stand-alone Teams have access to the Top-Up player list as set out in Rule 2.5.

### **9.5 WAFL Stand Alone Team Player Points Rules**

- a) The Senior Player Points List of Players must:
  - i. Include a minimum of 25 players; and
  - ii. shall not exceed Seventy(70) cumulative Player points for WAFL Stand-alone Teams;
- b) The player points list shall be administered in accordance with Rule 2 and Rule 9.4

### **9.6 Total Player Payments (TPP) WAFL Stand-Alone Teams**

- a) Stand-alone Teams will be allocated a TPP and will be subject to TPP Rules and Regulations in accordance with Rule 5.

Football Match Payments	<b>2024</b>
	\$147,000
<b>TOTAL PLAYER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$147,000</b>

## **9.7 Branding – WAFL Stand-Alone AFL Team**

- a) WAFL Stand-Alone Team are subject to the WAFL Sponsorship guidelines.
- b) WAFL Stand-Alone Team will retain the name of their AFL club for the purpose of identification in the WAFL competition.
- c) WAFL Stand-Alone Teams will play in an alternate playing guernsey to be approved by the WAFC as per Schedule 9.
- d) Commercial branding of Stand-Alone will be considered if there is an overall net benefit to the WAFL competition.

## **9.8 Fixturing/ Home Games – WAFL Stand-Alone AFL Team**

- a) WAFL Stand-Alone Teams will be scheduled to play a minimum of five (5) home and away matches per season at Mineral Resources Park.
- b) WCE WAFL fixtures must be played on an alternate day on the same weekend when WCE AFL fixtures are being played at Optus Stadium.
  - i. Where a WCE WAFL away match is scheduled on the same day as the WCE AFL team playing at Optus Stadium, this match will be rescheduled away from this clash. If possible, this match may be rescheduled as a WCE Home match.
  - ii. As a result of any WAFL Club Home fixture change, the WAFL club may apply for financial or other compensation should non-reasonable financial losses be attributed to such a move. Any compensation will be discussed between the home club, WAFC and WCE.

## **9.9 WAFL Stand-Alone AFL Category B Players**

- a) Permission for AFL Category “B” Rookies to permit to a WAFL Club’s Reserves team will only be granted for players who are classified in accordance with the AFL Rules under the category of:
  - i. An international player or a player who has not been registered in an Australian Football competition for three years immediately before inclusion on the AFL Rookie List.
- b) A Category B player can be permitted to a WAFL Club’s Reserves team on the following grounds:
  - i. The player is in his first year on an AFL List and is in accordance with (a) above.
  - ii. The Destination WAFL Club and WAFL Stand-alone AFL team jointly agree to this and formally request permission of the WAFC.
  - iii. Nomination and Permission of only one (1) player at any one time. The Players’ Permit must be cancelled before another player can be permitted to a Destination WAFL Club under this rule.
  - iv. When the player is available for League selection, the player will only be available for the WAFL Stand -alone League side and not at the Destination WAFL club he is permitted to.

## **9.10 WAFL Stand-Alone AFL Long Term Injured Players**

- a) Permission for AFL Long Term Injured Players to permit to a WAFL Club's Reserves team will only be granted under the following conditions:
  - i. The player has been injured for a minimum of 4 weeks. Medical confirmation of this may be required by the WAFC.
  - ii. The Destination WAFL Club and WAFL Stand-alone AFL team jointly agree and formally request permission of the WAFC. The request should include details of total minutes the player is expected to play for the match.
  - iii. Upon confirmation, the player may be permitted to play for the WAFL Club for a maximum of two (2) matches.
  - iv. There is a maximum of one (1) player eligible to be permitted at any one time under this rule. The approved Player's Permit must be cancelled before another player can be permitted to a Destination WAFL Club under this rule.
  - v. If the player has originally been drafted to Stand-alone AFL team from a WAFL Club, the player's original WAFL club of origin will have first rights to this player under this rule.

## **9.11 WAFL Stand Alone – AFL Mid-Season Draft**

- a) Any WAFL player who is drafted during the AFL Mid-Season draft to the West Coast Eagles will be eligible to play with his WAFL club he was selected from, if he isn't playing senior AFL football at West Coast.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the WAFL Club may enter into an agreement for the drafted player to play for the WAFL Stand-alone team for the remainder of that season.

## **9.12 WAFL Stand Alone AFL Team Recruitment**

- a) WAFL Stand-Alone Team are subject to the recruiting restriction in accordance with Rule 9.14 during the term of the Stand-Alone Model.
- b) Any determination or endorsement in accordance with this Rule 9.12 is made at the sole discretion of the WAFC.

## **9.13 Supplemental Signing Period (SSP)**

- a) Any WAFL player who is drafted from the WAFL to the AFL competition during the Supplemental Signing Period will be eligible to play with the WAFL AFL Stand Alone team when not selected for the AFL team. (SSP is held prior to the commencement of the WAFL home and away season).

## 9.14 WAFL Stand Alone AFL Team Recruitment Table

Player Category	Cap	Points	Transfer Fees	Considerations
<b>Former WCE Interstate players</b>	No Restriction	1 point value and must have been listed with West Coast for a minimum of 18-months	Nil	Restricted by points
<b>Former AFL Interstate players</b>	No Restriction	As per WAFL player points	Nil	Restricted by points
<b>Father/ Son &amp; NGA</b>	On application	1 point, player on loan	No transfer fee, player on loan.	As per WAFL Rules and Regulations. Application and decision by WAFC. Players not registered in WAFL and players in their 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> year. Player can play for primary WAFL club if not selected in WCE League
<b>Former WAFL League players</b>	No Restriction	After 24 months players are considered 1 point (2.6 (h)) Value of former AFL players are halved. Less than 24 months incurs a points value.	Nil	Reserves and Colts are considered 1-point players if they haven't played WAFL League.
<b>Interstate State League players</b>	No Restriction	As per WAFL player points	Nil	Restricted by points
<b>37 WAFL Listed players</b>	Limited to 1 player per club, per player discussion period	As per WAFL player points	As per WAFL transfer fees	WCE must lodge Form 10's as per WAFL Rules. Restricted by points
<b>38 – 55+ WAFL Listed players</b>	No Restriction.	As per WAFL player points	As Per WAFL Rules, no transfer fee applied to this category	Restricted by points
<b>WCE WA Delisted AFL players</b>	No Restriction	As per WAFL player points	As per WAFL transfer fees	There are no restrictions to access these players, however, the player will revert to their WAFL club of origin as per the WAFL Rules and Regulations and transfer fees will apply. Restricted by points
<b>Loan system for WAFL players</b>	No Restriction.	1 point, player on loan	No transfer fee, player on loan	One (1) season or part thereof. Players is automatically listed back to primary club on Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> . Can include 37 listed players but must be agreed to by the WAFL Club.
<b>Supplementary Listed players</b>	No Restriction	As per WAFL player points	As per WAFL transfer fees	As per WAFL Rules and Regulations

## 10 ZONES



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The geographic area of Western Australia will be divided into discrete areas and allocated to the WAFL Clubs. Players who reside in these areas will be bound to the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.2.1. This is designed to give benefit to WAFL Clubs who assist in the development of their Zoned Players.

### 10.1 WAFL Club Districts / Zones

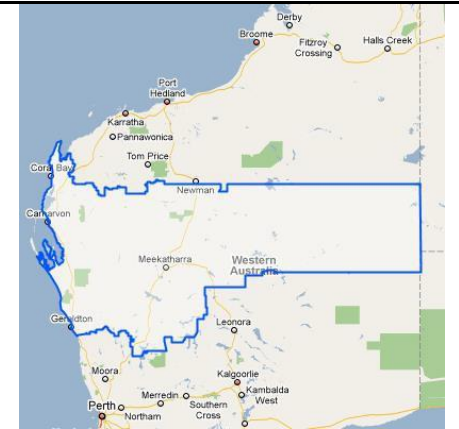
- a) The WAFC may, from time to time, as the circumstances shall require, define and delineate zones and the boundaries thereof and may alter or vary such zones or add new zones.
- b) In the year of a zone change only Players who are listed in the WAFL 16's championships teams are eligible to be registered with a WAFL Club, should the zone change affect their zone status where all such Players remain zoned to their original Club.
- c) Any other Player who changes zone is automatically be zoned to his newly zoned Club immediately.

## 10.2 Country Zone Boundaries

Zone	Shires
<b>CLAREMONT</b>	
<p><b>Southern Zone</b></p>	<p>Shires of Cranbrook, Tambellup, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Kent, Lake Grace, Ravensthorpe, Plantagenet, Denmark, Albany plus the Town of Albany. The postcode of Walpole is also zoned to Claremont as they play in the Great Southern Football League.</p> 
<p><b>Kimberley Zone</b></p>	<p>Shires of Wyndham-East Kimberley, Ngaanyatjarraku, Derby-West Kimberley, Broome, and Halls Creek.</p> 
<b>EAST FREMANTLE</b>	



Shires of Mullewa, Greenough (including the City of Geraldton), Chapman Valley, Shark Bay, Northampton, Murchison, Cue, Sandstone, Mt Magnet and Yalgoo.



**EAST PERTH**

Shires of Busselton, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown – Greenbushes, Manjimup, Nannup, Kojanup and Augusta – Margaret River. The postcode of Walpole is zoned to Claremont as they play in the Great Southern Football League. Kojanup is zoned to East Perth as they play in the Lower South West Football League.



**PEEL THUNDER**

**South-West Zone**

Shires of Capel, Dardanup, Collie, Donnybrook-Balingup and Harvey.

**PERTH**

Shires of Beverley, Quairading, Kellerberrin, Tammin, Cunderdin, York, Northam, Toodyay, Goomalling, Dowerin, Wyalkatchem, Wongan-Ballidu, Victoria Plains, Gingin, Dandaragan, Moora, Dalwallinu, Perenjori, Coorow, Carnamah, Three Springs, Mingenew, Morawa, Irwin plus the Town of Northam.

The post code of Wundowie is zoned to Swan Districts as they play in the Hills Football League.  
The post code of Kalannie is zoned to West Perth as they play in the Eastern Districts Football League.



**SOUTH FREMANTLE**

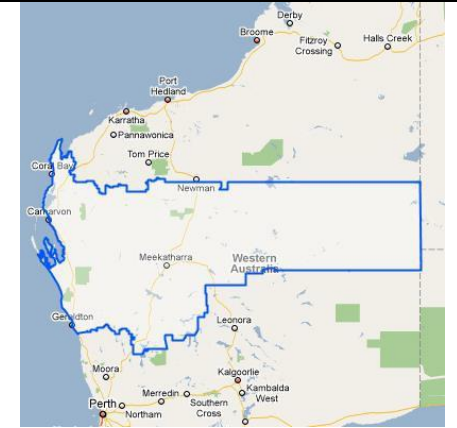
**Eastern Zone**

Shires of Boddington, Wandering, Brookton, Pingelly, Wickepin, Cuballing, Williams, West Arthur, Wagin, Narrogin, Dumbleyung, Katanning, Woodanilling and Broomehill plus the Town of Narrogin.



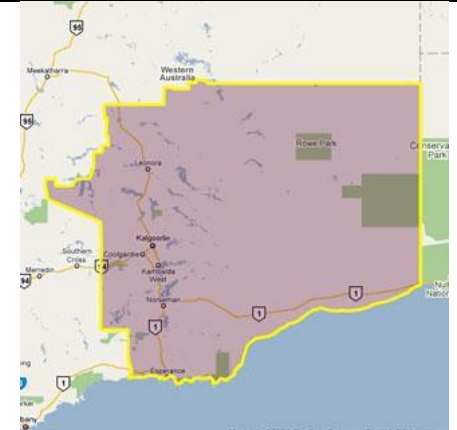
South Fremantle Cont.  
Gascoyne/Central  
Zone

The Shires of Exmouth, Carnarvon, Upper Gascoyne, Meekatharra, and Wiluna



SUBIACO

Shires of Esperance, Coolgardie, Dundas, Menzies, Leonora, Laverton and the City of Kalgoorlie/Boulder.



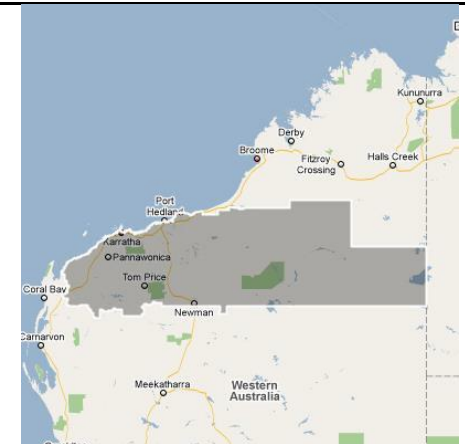
**SWAN DISTRICTS**

**Southern Zone**

City of Bunbury plus the localities of Gelorup and Dalyellup within the Shire of Capel.  
The post code of Wundowie is also zoned to Swan Districts as they play in the Hills Football League.

**Pilbara Zone**

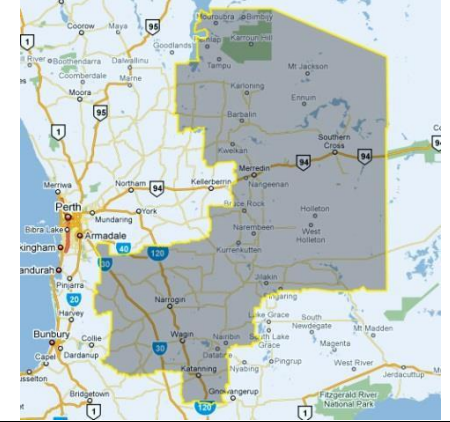
The Shires of Ashburton, Roebourne, Port Hedland and East Pilbara.



**WEST PERTH**

Shires of Mount Marshall, Koorda, Mukinbudin, Trayning, Nungarin, Westonia, Yilgarn, Merredin, Bruce Rock, Corrigin, Narembeen, Kondinin and Kulin.

The post code of Kalannie is also zoned to West Perth as they play in the Eastern Districts Football League.



**10.3 Metropolitan District / Zone Boundaries**

Zone	Boundaries	Map
<p><b>CLAREMONT</b></p>	<p><b>Western boundary:</b> Indian Ocean Coastline from North Mole (Fremantle) to the northern boundary of the locality of North Beach near Hale St.</p> <p><b>Northern boundary:</b> The northern and then eastern border of the locality of North Beach and then Trigg to its junction with Karrinyup Rd. The northern border follows Karrinyup Rd until its junction with Huntriss Road.</p> <p><b>Eastern boundary:</b> Follow Huntriss Road south until the junction with Scarborough Beach Road. Follow this in an Easterly direction until the intersection with Leige Street. Follow Leige Street until the juncture with Pearson Street. Follow Pearson Street around Herdsman Lake to where it becomes Flynn Street and joins with Selby Street. South on Selby Street to the intersection with Grantham Street. Follow Grantham Street East (Lake Monger Drive) until the intersection with the Mitchell Freeway. South along the Mitchell freeway to the Narrows bridge.</p> <p><b>Southern boundary:</b> Swan River from the Narrows Bridge to the Indian Ocean Coastline at North Mole (Fremantle).</p>	

<p><b>EAST FREMANTLE</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> North from the intersection of Anketell Road and the Kwinana Freeway to Gibbs Road. East to the intersection with Beenyup Road. Follow Beenyup Road North until the juncture with Tapper Road. Follow Tapper Road North to Armadale Road. West along Armadale Road to the intersection with the Kwinana. North on Freeway until South Street. Then West along South Street to Murdoch Drive. North along Murdoch Drive and then West along Leach Highway excluding the localities of Kardinya and Winthrop. Follow the Western border of the locality of Winthrop South along North Lake Rd to its junction with Garling St. Follow Garling St West to Stock Rd. Then follow Stock Rd North to Sainsbury Rd, then West along Sainsbury Rd to its intersection with Carrington St. Follow Carrington St North to the intersection with High St, then West to the intersection with Stirling Highway. North along Stirling Highway to Marmion Street then continue West along Marmion following the Southern boundary of the locality of East Fremantle and then North along the same boundary following East Street to the Swan River.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> River from western boundary of the Town of East Fremantle to the juncture of the Canning River and the eastern border of the locality of Riverton.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> From the juncture of the Canning River and the Eastern border of the locality of Riverton South to the juncture of the localities of Riverton, Ferndale and High Road being the Northern border of the locality of Parkwood. Exclude the locality of Parkwood by following High Rd and Willeri Drive and then the Southern border of the locality of Parkwood, along the Roe highway, to its intersection with Nicholson Rd. Then South along Nicholson Road and its continuation to Garden Street and continue across in a straight line from Garden Street to Holmes Street. At the juncture with Southern River Road, travel South West to the intersection with Ranford Road. Continue South along Ranford Road until the intersection with Tonkin Highway. Continue South until the intersection with Rowley Road.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> Head west on Rowley Road until the juncture with the Kwinana Freeway</p>	
<p><b>EAST PERTH</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> Mitchell Freeway from the Swan River to to its intersection with Lake Monger Drive. Head West along Lake Monger Drive (turning into Grantham Street) to the intersection with Selby Street. Head North until Flynn Street. Follow Flynn Street West (turning into Pearson Street) until the juncture with Liege Street. Head North until the intersection with Scarborough Beach Road. Travel west until the intersection with Huntriss Road. Travel North on Huntriss until the intersection with Karrinyup Road. Turn East and follow Karrinyup Road to the Intersection with the Mitchell Fwy. Follow the Mitchell Fwy South until the juncture with Scarborough Beach Rd. East along Scarborough Beach Rd and Green Street to its junction with the locality of Joondanna. Follow the Western and then Northern aspects of the border of the locality of Joondanna to its intersection with Wanneroo Rd. Follow Wanneroo Road</p>	

	<p>North to Morley Drive. The boundary then moves East along Morley Drive to the junction of the Nollamara locality and then North along the common Nollamara and Dianella locality boundaries. Follow the Southern boundary of the locality of Mirrabooka to Reid Hwy, the continue East along Reid Hwy to Alexander Drive then North to its intersection with Hepburn Ave.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> Follow the boundary of Cullacabardee North to the Northern boundary of the locality of Lexia. Continue North then East along the Northern boundary of Lexia to the boundary of the locality of Ellenbrook, follow this boundary North and then continue East along the Northern boundary of Ellenbrook.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> South along the Eastern boundary of the locality of Ellenbrook to Gnangara Rd, follow Gnangara road East to the intersection of West Swan Road. Continue South along West Swan Road until the intersection with Benara Road. Follow Benara Rd West to its intersection with the Eastern border of the city of Morley. Follow the Eastern border of Morley and Bayswater South to the Swan River.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> Swan River west to the Narrows Bridge.</p>	
<p><b>PEEL THUNDER</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> Indian Ocean coastline from the northern boundary of the City of Bunbury to the juncture where Patterson Road (Railway Terrace) intersects with Rockingham Beach Road and the Indian Ocean.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> From the coast follow Railway Terrace (turns into Patterson Road) to the intersection with Goddard Street. From Goddard Street head West on to Dixon Road to the juncture of Dixon Road, Gilmore Avenue and Mandurah Road. Follow Mandurah Road to the intersection of Fifty Road. Follow Fifty Road to Baldivis Reserve. The Boundary Fence of Baldivis Reserve remains in the Peel Thunder zone. Travel south along Baldivis Road to the intersection with Safety Bay Road. Travel East on Safety Bay Road until it intersects with Kwinana Fwy. Travel South on Kwinana Fwy until the intersection with Karnup Rd. Continue East along Karnup Rd until the intersection with the Serpentine River. Continue south and then East along the boundary of the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> South along the eastern border of the Shires of Murray, Waroona, Harvey, Collie and Donnybrook/Balingyup.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> The southern boundary of the Shires of Collie, Donnybrook and Balingyup, Dardanup and Capel to the coast.</p> <p><b>EXCLUSION:</b> The City of Bunbury and the localities of Gelorup and Dalyellup are zoned to Swan Districts.</p>	

<p><b>PERTH</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> North along Kargotich Road to the intersection with Thomas Road. East on Thomas Road until the juncture with Tonkin Hwy. Travel North on Tonkin Hwy until the intersection with Ranford Road. North along Ranford Road until the juncture with Southern River Road. Head East along Southern River Road until the intersection with Holmes Street. North West along the southern border of Huntingdale along Garden Street and its continuation, Nicholson Road. From Nicholson Rd follow the southern border of the locality of Parkwood and then its western border following Willeri Drive. Continue along the northern border of the locality of Parkwood to the common border of the localities of Ferndale and Riverton. Follow this border north to the Canning River. Cross the Canning River and follow the northern bank of the river west and then north to the Narrows Bridge.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> The southern bank of the Swan River between the Narrows Bridge and the north boundary of the City of Belmont.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> Follow the North East boundary of the City of Belmont and City of Canning south to its juncture with the City of Gosnells north east boundary. Continue south along this border to its juncture with the City of Armadale.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> From the eastern juncture of the City of Gosnells and the City of Armadale, west along the southern boundary of the City of Gosnells until its juncture with Albany Hwy. South along Albany Hwy to the intersection with Railway Avenue and Westfield Road, follow this west until intersection with Champion Drive. Follow Champion Drive south until Williams Road intersection. Follow Williams Road to Seville Drive, and onto Armadale Road. Follow Armadale Road West to the intersection with Eighth Road. Follow this South East along the eastern border of Haynes and Brookdale, across Forrest Road and joining with Tijuana Road. Follow Tijuana Road to Harber Drive and follow this east to the intersection with Wungong Road to its intersection with Eleventh Road. Follow Eleventh Road south easterly until the juncture with the South Western Hwy. Follow this south until the intersection with Abernethy Road. Turn West and then turn South on Soldiers Road. Turn West on Mead Street, and follow this until the intersection with Warrington Road. Follow Warrington Road South until the juncture with Orton Road. Turn East and follow the drainage line until it connects with Soldiers Road (-32.236611, 116.002836). Follow Soldiers Road in a southerly direction until the train line intersects just south of Bishop Road. Follow the train line north until it intersects with Bishop Road. This area incorporates Court Grammar School. Follow Bishop Road in a Westerly direction until the intersection with Kargotich Road.</p>	
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<p><b>SOUTH FREMANTLE</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> The South side of the Swan river the boundary follows the Indian Ocean Coastline from the Swan River junction with the City of Fremantle to the point where Railway Terrace meets the coast in Rockingham, From the coast follow Railway Terrace (turns into Patterson Road) to the intersection with Goddard Street. From Goddard Street head West on to Dixon Road to the juncture of Dixon Road, Gilmore Avenue and Mandurah Road. Follow Mandurah Road to the intersection of Fifty Road. Follow Fifty Road to Baldivis Reserve. The Boundary Fence of Baldivis Reserve remains in the Peel Thunder zone. Travel south along Baldivis Road to the intersection with Safety Bay Road. Travel East on Safety Bay Road until it intersects with Kwinana Fwy. Travel South on Kwinana Fwy until the intersection with the Southern Boundary of the State Electorate of Baldivis (South Metropolitan) to where it connects at the southern point with the shire of Serpentine/Jarrahdale</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> Along the Southern bank of the Swan River at Fremantle North East to the Eastern border of the City of Fremantle at East Street. South along this border following East Street to Marmion Street then West along Marmion Street following the Fremantle locality boundary to Stirling Highway. Follow Stirling Highway South to High street and then East along High street to Carrington Street. South on Carrington St to Sainsbury Rd, then East along Sainsbury St to Stock Rd. South on Stock Rd following the Western border of the locality of Willagee to Garling St, then East along Garling St following the Southern border of the locality of Willagee to North Lake Rd. Then follow the Willagee boundary North along North Lake Rd to Leach Highway. The boundary continues East along the Winthrop locality boundary first East and then South along Murdoch Drive. From Murdoch drive continue East along South Street to the Kwinana Freeway following the locality boundary of Murdoch to the Kwinana Freeway. Continue South along the Kwinana Freeway to its juncture with Armadale Rd. Turn East and follow Armadale Road until the intersection with Tapper Road. Head South until the intersection with Beenyup Rd. Head south on Beenyup Rd to Gibbs Road. Follow Gibbs Road west until the Kwinana Freeway. Turn South until the juncture with Rowley Road. Follow Rowley Road East along the Northern borders of the localities of Wandi, Oakford to the intersection at Tonkin Hwy. Follow Tonkin Hwy South to the intersection with Thomas Rd. Continue west along Thomas Rd to Kargotich Rd, then follow Kargotich Rd South to Bishop Rd. Turn West and follow Bishop Road to the intersection with the rail line just prior to Soldiers road. Follow the trainline in a southerly direction until it intersects with Soldiers Road. Turn North on Soldiers Road until you reach the drainage line (-32.236611, 116.002836). Follow the Drainage line West until it meets the intersection of Orton Road and Warrington Road. Follow this North until the intersection with Mead Street. Follow Mead Street West until the intersection with Soldiers Road. Follow this North to the intersection with Abernethy Road. Head West on Abernethy Road until the juncture with South Western Highway. Head North until the intersection with Eleventh Road. Turn on to Wongong Road until you reach the intersection with Harber Drive. Continue North along the boundary of the</p>	
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	<p>localities of Brookdale along Harber Drive, Tijuana Cres. and Eighth Rd to its intersection with Armadale Rd. Follow Armadale Rd East along the Southern border of the locality of Seville Grove following Braemore St and Williams Rd until Champion Dve, then North along Champion Dve to Westfield Road. Follow Westfield Road East until Albany Hwy. North on Albany Hwy until the Northern border of Kelmscott. Follow the northern border of Kelmscott, and then Roleystone and Karragullen and then Lesley .</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> The common boundaries of the City of Armadale and Shire of York; City of Armadale and Shire of Beverley; City of Armadale and Shire of Wandering and; Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale and Shire of Wandering.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> The southern border of the shire of Serpentine/Jarrahdale.</p>	
<p><b>SUBIACO</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> Indian Ocean Coastline from the Northern border of the locality of North Beach to the Western extension of Hepburn Avenue.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> From the coast, East along Hepburn Ave to the Mitchell Freeway. North on the Mitchell Freeway to Whitfords Avenue and then East to Wanneroo Road. Follow Wanneroo Rd North around the localities of Pearsall and Hocking to the intersection of Lenore Rd and Elliot Road. Follow Lenore Road north (turns into Franklin Road) until Rousset Road. Head north on Rousset Road to the intersection with Townsend Road. Follow the extension of Townsend Road as the northern border of Jandabup.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> From the North Eastern corner of the locality of Jandabup South to the Southern border of the locality of Landsdale at Hepburn Ave. Follow Alexander Drive South to Reid Hwy, then the Southern border of the locality of Mirrabooka to Mirrabooka Ave. Continue south along the shared border of Dianella and Nollamara to Morley Dve. The boundary then goes west along Morley Drive to Wanneroo Rd, then South to its junction with the locality boundary for Tuart Hill and Joondanna.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> locality of Osborne Park. The boundary follows the Eastern and Southern aspects of this locality to its junction with the Mitchell Freeway. The Southern boundary then continues south along the Mitchell Freeway to its intersection with Karrinyup Drivel. Head West along Karrinyup Rd to Marmion Ave. The boundary continues north along Marmion Avenue and then follows the Southern aspect of the locality of Waterman’s Bay to the coast.</p>	

<p><b>SWAN DISTRICTS</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> From the juncture of the City of Armadale and Gosnells and the Shire of Kalamunda, North West along the North Eastern border of the City of Gosnells. Further North West along the borders of the City of Canning and Belmont to the Swan River. The boundary continues to the Northern side of the Swan River then South West along the Swan River following the locality border of Bassendean and Ashfield. The boundary then moves North West following the Ashfield border and then the West side of the City of Bassendean, around the West boundary of the localities of Eden Hill and Kiara to Benara Rd. East along Benara Rd to the intersection with West Swan Road. Travel north on West Swan Road to the intersection with Gngangara Road. Follow this West to Henley Brook Avenue then follow the Eastern and Northern border of Ellenbrook to its intersection with the locality of Lexia. Follow the Northern border of Lexi West to its juncture with the West side of the City of Swan. Follow the Western boundaries of the City of Swan until the intersection with the state electorate of Moore (Agricultural).</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> The northern boundary of the City of Swan.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> The shared boundary between the Shire of Toodyay and the City of Swan; the shared boundary of the Shire of Toodyay and the Shire of Mundaring; the shared boundary of the Shire of Northam and the Shire of Mundaring; the shared boundary of the Shire of York and the Shire of Mundaring; the shared boundary of the Shire of York and the Shire of Kalamunda.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> West along the shared Boundary of the City of Armadale and the Shire of Kalamunda to the junction of the Shire of Gosnells.</p>	
<p><b>WEST PERTH</b></p>	<p><b>Western Boundary:</b> Indian Ocean Coastline from Hepburn Avenue to the northern boundary of the City of Wanneroo.</p> <p><b>Northern Boundary:</b> From the coast along the Wanneroo - Gingin boundary to the Shire of Chittering boundary.</p> <p><b>Eastern Boundary:</b> South along the common boundary of the Shires of Wanneroo/Chittering and Wanneroo/Swan to the North East corner of the locality of Jandabup.</p> <p><b>Southern Boundary:</b> West from the juncture of the locality north east boundary of Jandabup following the Northern boundary of Jandabup (Townsend Road) to its intersection with Rousset Road. South West along Rousset Road to Franklin Road. Follow Franklin Road South where it becomes Lenore Road. South on Lenore Road to the intersection with Elliot Road. Head west on Elliott Road (the northern boundary</p>	

	<p>of Hocking) until the intersection of Wanneroo Rd. Continue South along Wanneroo Rd to Whitfords Avenue, then West along Whitfords Avenue to the Mitchell Freeway. South along the Mitchell Freeway to Hepburn Avenue. Continue West along Hepburn Avenue to the coast.</p>	
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# 11 INTEGRITY

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Part of the mission of the WAFC is to protect, lead, manage and deliver the promotion and development of Australian Football for the people of Western Australia. The WAFL Clubs, under the guidance of the WAFC, are responsible for developing and maintaining a sub-elite football integrity framework with a focus on gambling, performance enhancing drugs, illicit drug use and Player payment regulations.

These Rules have been developed to ensure that the framework considers the sports regulatory environment and legislative requirements with the development of clearly articulated policy positions, procedures, sanctions, and the roles and responsibilities of all key stakeholders.

## 11.1 Integrity Registration System

- a) A Club must not permit a Player to play, or any person to act as a Club Official, unless that Player or person is registered in accordance with this Rule 11.
- b) The WAFC must not permit any person to as an Umpire or Umpire Official, unless that person is registered I accordance with Rule 11.
- c) A person may apply online via WAFL Online or Sports TG to be registered as a Player or Club Official (as applicable) for the Club where such application must:
  - i. be made prior to or at the time a person is engaged to play or to act as a Club Official;
  - ii. be in the form prescribed by the WAFL; and
  - iii. provide all the information specified in such form.
- d) It is a requirement for the granting of registration under Rule 11(b) that an applicant:
  - i. is of good reputation and character and is a fit and proper person to perform the duties specified in the application, as determined by the WAFC at its sole discretion (noting the WAFC will support the Club's determination of this requirement except where it has good reason to do otherwise); and
  - ii. makes such declarations, provides such consents and agrees to such conditions as are set out in the form prescribed by the WAFC in accordance with Rule 11(b).
- e) A Registered Player, Club Official or Umpire (as applicable) must not cease or fail to meet the requirements for the grant of registration in accordance with this Rule 11 at any time.
- f) e) A Registered Player, Club Official or Umpire (as applicable) and the relevant Club or WAFC must at all times ensure that any particulars provided in an application in accordance with Rule 11(b) are kept up-to-date and accurate by immediately informing the WAFC of any changes to such particulars.
- g) The WAFC has the power, at his sole discretion, to inquire into, investigate and deal with any matter (including engaging the services of the AFL's Competition Integrity Department) in connection with an application made under Rule 11(b) or a breach of Rule 11(d) and 11(e)
- h) The WAFC may, in its absolute discretion without giving reasons:
  - i. refuse an application for registration under this Rule 11; or
  - ii. grant a registration under this Rule 11 on such terms and conditions as they think fit.

- i) The WAFC may at any time suspend, vary or revoke a registration under this Rule 11, including without limitation where the applicant ceases to meet the requirements to be so registered.
- j) For the avoidance of doubt, this registration is in addition to the Player registration requirements set out in Rule 1 and umpire requirements set out in Rule 3.7.3.4.

### **11.1.1 Registration Cards**

- a) A registered Club Official must have in their possession a current Registration Card issued by the WAFC at all times while on the premises of a Club, in a Match Day Restricted Area or whilst otherwise on duty for the Club.

### **11.1.2 Register of Associates**

- a) Each Club must keep and maintain a complete, accurate and up to date register of:
  - i. members of all coterie and similar groups; and
  - ii. Club Sponsors, including certain officers of Club Sponsors as prescribed under Rule 11.1.2(b).
- b) The information recorded under Rule 11.1.2(a) must be maintained in a form prescribed by the WAFC and be made available to the WAFC on an ongoing basis.

## **11.2 Match Day Restricted Areas**

- a) The WAFC may issue minimum standards for conduct, access and supervision with respect to Match Day Restricted Areas.
- b) Without limitation, the minimum standards with respect to Match Day Restricted Areas may concern the following matters:
  - i. designation of certain areas as Match Day Restricted Areas;
  - ii. entry and presence of persons;
  - iii. accreditation;
  - iv. the use and possession of communication devices;
  - v. supervision by Clubs; or
  - vi. monitoring and enforcement by the WAFC.
- c) Persons must comply with the minimum standards referred to in Rule 11.2(a) in force from time to time.

## **11.3 Powers of Investigation**

- a) Without limiting any other rule, the WAFC may investigate any breach or possible breach of these Rules and may delegate such powers of investigation to the AFL's Competition Integrity Department.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, all persons (including any Club, Club Official, Player, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, medical officer, employee, independent contractor or volunteer of a Club or any other person within the purview of these Rules) must cooperate with any investigation conducted by the WAFC or its delegate.

## 11.4 AFL Competition Integrity Department

- a) Without limiting its power under the preceding section the WAFC:
    - i. hereby appoints the AFL Competition Integrity Department to monitor compliance by relevant persons with the Gambling (Schedule 3), the Anti-Doping Policy (Schedule 4) and Integrity Registration System (Rule 1);
    - ii. may appoint at any time the AFL Competition Integrity Department to investigate any matter pertaining to Schedule 3, Schedule 4 and Rule 1.
  - b) An appointment made by the WAFC in accordance with Rule 11.4 may grant the AFL Competition Integrity Department the power:
    - i. to investigate any matter in accordance with its appointment;
    - ii. subject to Rule 11.4(c) to require and obtain production and take possession of all documents, records, articles or things in the possession or control of a Relevant Person that are relevant to any investigation;
    - iii. subject to Rule 11.4(c) to require access to the premises occupied by or in control of a Club, or examine any article or thing situated thereon, for the purpose of any investigation;
    - iv. to report on and refer any matter concerning an alleged breach of Schedule 3 or Schedule 4 to the WAFC at any time.
  - c) The power to “obtain production” referred to in Rule 11.4(b) above includes without limitation the power to:
    - i. give any reasonable direction for the purpose of facilitating the production of relevant documents, records, articles or things;
    - ii. search for relevant documents, records, articles or things on any computer, mobile telephone, file, server, hard drive, tape, folder, or other storage device (whether electronic or not) in the possession or control of the Person in circumstances where there are reasonable grounds to believe that relevant items may be produced in accordance with this Rule 11;
    - iii. search for relevant document, records, articles or things on the premises of the Club or in any Match Venue, or examine any article or thing situated thereon, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that relevant items may be produced in accordance with Rule 11.4(b)(ii).
  - d) In connection with the activities of the AFL Competition Integrity Department Rule 11.4, a relevant person must not:
    - i. refuse or fail to attend, or answer any question or give any evidence when requested to do so;
    - ii. give any false or misleading evidence to any investigation;
    - iii. make any false or misleading statement or declaration in connection with an investigation;
    - iv. obstruct, delay or hinder the AFL CID in connection with the performance of its duties;
    - v. disobey any reasonable direction of the AFL CID in connection with the performance of its duties;
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- vi. engage in any improper or insulting behaviour at any time towards any member of the AFL CID in relation to his or her duties;
  - vii. refuse or fail to fully co-operate with any investigation;
  - viii. obstruct, delay or hinder any investigation;
  - ix. refuse or fail to produce any document, record, article or thing in the Relevant Person's possession or control that are required to be produced in accordance with Rule 11.4(b)(ii).
- e) Notwithstanding anything in this Rule 11.4, a relevant person interviewed as a suspect in a criminal investigation, charged or arrested by a law enforcement agency in respect of a criminal offence shall not be required to produce any information, give any evidence or make any statement to the AFL CID if they establish that to do so would breach any privilege against self-incrimination, or legal professional privilege.
- f) For the purposes of this Rule a relevant person includes:
- i. a Listed Player on the Senior Player Points List;
  - ii. a Top Up Player; or
  - iii. a Club Official; or
  - iv. Umpire or Umpiring Official.
- g) Any Player, Umpire or Club in breach of this Rule 11, or any policy contained in these Rule may be penalised at the discretion of the WAFC in accordance with Rule 14.



## 12 WAFL COLTS & FUTURES COMPETITION

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The Colts is an age restricted competition. The WAFC and State Talent Manager may grant exemptions to the general age restrictions, however the exemptions are designed around opportunities for local district Players.

The aim of the WAFL Colts' competition is to develop young footballers to the maximum of their ability.

To achieve their potential, Players are to be coached in such a way that develops:

- The skills, physical attributes and football knowledge, and the
- Personal characteristics and self-esteem of each Player.

The WAFL believes that the above development can be maximized in an environment that:

- Emphasises individual Player development rather than team success
- Emphasises individual contribution as an essential component in a team environment
- Considers the Players' long term participation in football at a variety of levels
- Promotes a balanced approach to the Players' lifestyles.

The WAFL Colts competition aims to prepare Players for progression to senior WAFL or AFL football. Players are therefore to be coached in a manner that physically and mentally prepares all Players to successfully make this transition.

The WAFL Colts via the conduct and coaching of the competition prepares and encourages Players not progressing to WAFL senior football to continue playing football at a level commensurate to the Player's ability, i.e. Amateurs, Country Football, Sunday Football etc.

The Futures Program is a bridging competition is to assist prospective senior footballers to develop the standards, habits, skills and knowledge to transition to colts' football within a high performance environment.

### 12.1 Rules Relating to the Colts Competition

- a) Subject to (b),(c) and (d), Players must be a maximum of 18 years of age in the calendar year to play in the Colts Competition.
- b) Players may be permitted to play in the Colts Competition if they are reaching 19 years of age in the calendar year and meet the requirements of c) below.
- c) Clubs are only permitted to play a maximum of seven (7) players turning 19 yrs of age in the current seasons calendar year in any match. A maximum of three (3) players (born 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 30<sup>th</sup> June) or up to a maximum of seven (7) players turning 19 years of age in the current seasons calendar year will be eligible to play in any match.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the seven (7) players include the up to a maximum of three (3) players born 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 30 June.
- d) Clubs are only permitted to list a maximum of ten (10) players turning 19 years of age in the

current season's calendar year on the Colts 28 Points List. All other players not listed on the Colts 28 List will be automatically eligible for transfer.

- e) Players who are turning 19 years of age in the current seasons calendar year who are listed on the clubs Senior Protected List, are not permitted to play in any Colts match
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, players who are turning 19 years of age in the current seasons calendar year are permitted to play in a Colts match if listed on the Senior Unprotected list or Colts list as an eligible 19-year old.
- f) Non-District Players recruited to WAFL Clubs in their 19<sup>th</sup> year are eligible for consideration in accordance with b) of this Rule 12.1.
- g) Players are subject to the Rule 1.7 and their eligibility for transfer applies in accordance with Rule [1.4.6](#).
- h) Players in the Colt's Competition aged 18yrs or under in that calendar year must not be considered for elevation to the Reserves Grade until Round 4 of the WAFL season.
- i) From Round 4 to Round 13 of the WAFL season, players aged 18yrs or under selected in the WA State 18's program are only permitted to play a maximum two (2) Reserve Grade games.
- j) Players who miss qualifying games through participation in the National 16's and National 18's Competition's will be credited (for the purposes of finals qualification only) for each game missed.
- k) The grade of game allocated in accordance with [i\)](#) will be the grade played in the last game played prior to the commencement of the programme.
- l) Should a Colts Match be played under special circumstances approved by the WAFL a minimum of two (2) field, two (2) boundary and one (1) goal Umpire from the WAFL panel are to be appointed to officiate the game.
- m) Penalties may apply for a breach of this rule in accordance with Rule 14.
- n) The WAFC reserves the right to amend the provisions of any Rules applied to the Colts Competition from time to time at its absolute discretion.

## 12.2 Colts List

- a) Each WAFL Club must include the names of all Colts Registered or Zoned Players on a Colts List that comprises of no maximum number of Players. Each Player will not be attributed a points value until they are elevated to the senior points list.
- b) There is no maximum number of Players included on the Colts points list.
- c) WAFL Clubs Colts Lists may exceed 28 Players in total, but only Players nominated by the WAFL Club and included in the top 28 names on the Colts List will be regarded as listed Players as defined in Rule 1.2.3 Listed Players.
- d) Players may not participate in any WAFL League or Reserves grade match unless they are included on the WAFL Club Senior List or satisfy the criteria defined in section 2.5 Top Up Players.
- e) All Players included on the Colts List must satisfy the requirements of registration as stipulated in Section 1: Rules Relating to Registration to be eligible to play in the WAFL.
- f) For the avoidance of doubt, a Zoned Player may be added to the Colts List for the purpose of listing the player by emailing [wafloperations@wafc.com.au](mailto:wafloperations@wafc.com.au) with the players details. A player's particulars must include, first name, surname and date of birth.
- g) Players included on the Colts List registered under Game Day Permit, Season Permit will be regarded as a registered member of their respective WAFL Club should they choose to transfer between WAFL Clubs.

- h) Players included on the Colts List regarded as Listed Players may not be approached by any other WAFL Club until they turn 19 years of age or older, or are no longer eligible for Colts as per the Transfer Application Period.
- i) Any Player aged in their 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> year that is not a listed Colts Player is automatically eligible for transfer.
- j) At the completion of the season, all Players not eligible for colts in the following season must be moved to the senior list prior to turning 19 years of age or older. Players who are 18 years of age (Jan1 – Dec31) will be regarded as a Listed player for the purpose of this rule and will need to be moved to the Senior Player list or retained as an eligible 19yr player on the Colts list as per 12.1 (d) prior to the January open period commencing as per Rule 1.4.1 (c).
- k) Players elevated to the senior list will only be protected if they are a listed Player as defined in section Rule 1.2.3 Listed Players.
- l) WAFL Clubs may not approach WAFL Club Listed Colts players during the period of July 1<sup>st</sup> until the conclusion of the Christmas closed period in accordance with Rule 1.4.1 (c).
- m) WAFL Clubs must submit colts list changes for the upcoming season prior to the Christmas closed period in accordance with Rule 1.4.1 (c).
- n) WAFL Clubs acting contrary to this Rule 12.2 will be penalised in accordance with Rule 14
- o) The WAFC reserves the right to amend the provisions of this Rule applied to the Colts Competition from time to time.

### **12.3 Colts List Amendments**

- a) Eligible Players may be added or removed from a WAFL Club Colts List at any time through submissions available using the WAFL Online Administration system by an Authorised Officer of the WAFL Club.
- b) The WAFC reserves the right to approve or deny any proposed amendments to a WAFL Club Colts List, subject to the registration requirements set out in Rules 1 and 2.
- c) Where the addition of a Listed Player to a WAFL Club Colts List will exceed the maximum twenty-eight (28) Players, the Player change will not be accepted by the WAFC and the WAFL Club will be advised.
- d) Players who are transferred from the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 will be removed from the respective WAFL Club Colts List by the WAFC on completion of the transfer.

### **12.4 Long Term Injury List**

- a) Each WAFL Club may list additional Colts Players on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List as Long Term Injured Players (LTIP). LTIP are defined as Players that are not able to play matches for an extended period of time due to injury.
- b) A maximum of five (5) Colts Players may be added to the Long-Term Injury List at any one time.
- c) The inclusion of a Colts Player on the Long Term Injury List requires submission of the Notification of Long-Term Injury (Form 8b) to the WAFC.
- d) The WAFL Club Authorised Officer, a WAFL Club Medical Officer and the Injured Colts Player must all sign the form submitted in accordance with (c) above.
- e) The WAFL Club Authorised Officer must include supporting evidence detailing the nature of the injury when submitting the form in accordance with (c) above.
- f) The WAFC will include the Player on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List upon receipt of the documentation required by (c)-(e) above for a period of no less than six (6) weeks and no more than twelve (12) calendar months.

- g) An LTIP may be included on the WAFL Club senior points list or Colts List at any point after the 6-week minimum time limit is complete.
- h) Any Player listed on the WAFL Club Long Term Injury List will not have a point value awarded, will not contribute towards the cumulative total of points and will not be included in the minimum list of 55 Players for that WAFL Club.
- i) An LTIP shall be regarded as a Listed Player in accordance with Rule 1.2.3.
- j) An LTIP shall not be permitted to play in WAFL matches in any grade. Any LTIP in breach of this rule may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.
- k) The WAFC reserves the right to amend the provisions of this Rule and Rule 2.4 as applied to the Colts Competition from time to time.

## 12.5 WAFL Futures Program

- a) Subject to (b) and (c) Players must be a maximum of 16 years of age in the calendar year to play in the Futures Competition.
- b) Players may be permitted to play in the Futures Competition if they are reaching 17 years of age in the calendar year and meet the requirements of c) below.
- c) Clubs are only permitted to play a maximum of six (6) players turning 17 yrs of age in the current seasons calendar year in any match. A maximum of two (2) players (born 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 30<sup>th</sup> June) and four (4) players (born 1<sup>st</sup> July – 31<sup>st</sup> December) turning 17 years of age in the current seasons calendar year will be eligible to play in any match.

## 12.6 Talent Development Philosophy

In order to enhance the development of youth Players within the WAFL Colts and Futures competition it is imperative that the individual philosophies of the coaches are development focused. Whilst we need to allow for individual philosophies based on the WAFL Club's requirements and the coaches' experience and knowledge, the competition needs to ensure that there is a common set of agreed practices that will assist the individual Player and the competition to develop.

The following are therefore proposed in order to achieve the objective of enhanced Player and competition development and are aligned to the AFL National Talent Philosophy.

- To provide an environment that best develops and showcases each individual's talents regardless of shape or size
- To reduce the density of player numbers around the football in order to provide an opportunity for the less physically developed players to showcase their skill set.
- Eliminate any form of "Full Ground Press" which doesn't allow forwards & defenders (Tall, Medium or Small) to develop their craft of leading to or defending the ball coming Inside 50.
- To promote and teach the art of one on one football to all underage players
- To continue to promote and harbor learning environments which encourage players to develop and showcase their repeatable skills (kicking, hand passing, decision making, marking, speed, lateral movement, etc.) without relying on their physical size

### 12.6.1 Anti-Density Rules

- a) The WAFL Colts and Futures Coaches and Players must abide by the following Anti-Density Rules at all times relating to b) and c).

- b) Centre Bounce Stoppage:
  - i. Six (6) forwards and six (6) defenders must start inside each 50m arc; and
  - ii. One (1) forward and one (1) defender must start inside each goal square; and
  - iii. Wings must start around either side of the centre square and teams aren't allowed to start both wings on same side. To aid with rotations the wing closest to interchange ideally is the last position filled.
  - iv. Should i) – iii) above not be adhered to the following in game penalties would apply:
    - a. One (1) warning per game and then a free kick will be given by the umpires if a team doesn't have six (6) players inside each forward 50, one (1) player inside each goal square and one (1) player on each wing.
    - b. The warning and free kick can be awarded concurrently.
- c) Around Ground Stoppages and Kick Ins:
  - i. Five (5) forwards (minimum) are to be inside their attacking half and two (2) forwards (minimum) are to be inside 50; and
  - ii. Defenders must abide by the above principles (Note: They don't have to play man on man but five (5) must start in their defensive half and two (2) must be inside their defensive 50); and
  - iii. Should i) – ii) above not be adhered to the following in game penalties would apply:
    - a. One (1) warning per game and then a free kick plus 50m will be given by the umpires if a team doesn't have five (5) players (minimum) showing genuine intent to reset inside each attacking half and two (2) players (minimum) inside each 50m.
    - b. The warning and free kick can be awarded concurrently.
    - c. Due to rule changes which allow quicker play on's Anti-Density rules will still apply for Kick Ins. However, if the ball is kicked in quickly the umpire will call play on and it will be considered general play.

### 12.6.2 Anti-Density Philosophy

- a) The WAFL Colts and Futures Coaches and Players must abide by the following Anti-Density Philosophy at all times relating to:
  - b) Guiding Principles:
    - i. Teams are not permitted to have a 7th defender (including a Ruck) setting up behind the ball at Around Ground Stoppages with the only exception being Inside 50 stoppages (see below);
    - ii. At Inside 50 stoppages to reduce numbers around the stoppage, teams have the flexibility to pull players clear. Some examples of this would be a Ruck who sits behind the ball allowing a Tall Forward to take the ruck contest or Midfielders who come out to allow Forwards to go in.
    - iii. Sixth forward can be inside or outside stoppage but cannot set up behind ball. The defender playing on the 6th forward can make a decision on whether he follows this player or sets up elsewhere.
    - iv. No Midfielder (including wings) should roll off from the stoppage to provide an outnumber behind the ball. Players should be encouraged to get back by work rate rather than positioning.
    - v. Should i) – iv) above not be adhered to the following post-game penalties would apply:
      - a. Should continual breaches in a match occur the WAFC Colts or Futures Coach and Talent Manager may be subject to sanction under these Rules and

Regulations and/or the AFL Codes of Conduct at the absolute discretion of the WAFC.

### **12.6.3 Appointments**

- a) The WAFC must be formally involved in the selection process and appointment of the WAFL Club Talent Managers and Colts Coaches.
- b) The WAFC must be formally consulted on the candidate being considered for selection as a WAFL Club Future Coaches.
- c) All WAFL Colts Head Coaches must have at least Level 2 Coaching Accreditation and be working towards Level 3.
- d) All WAFL Futures Head Coaches must have at least Level 1 Coaching Accreditation and be working towards Level 2.
- e) Where a WAFL Colts or Futures Coach is deregistered of their AFL Coaching Accreditation, they are no longer permitted to coach in the WAFL or other Competitions.

## **12.7 Age Qualifications – National 18’s Championships**

- a) Subject to (d), Players under 18 years of age and over 17 years of age as at 1 January in the year of the National 18’s Championship shall be eligible to participate in the National 18’s Championships.
- b) Players must be registered with a WAFL Club.
- c) A copy of the Player’s birth certificate may be required for the purpose of verifying a Player’s age to participate in the National 18’s Championships.
- d) On Application to the AFL, 19-year-old Players maybe selected in each National 18’s Championship Match.

### **12.7.1 WAFC Selection Committee**

- a) An initial training squad will be selected by the WAFC Selection Committee with WAFL clubs being consulted regarding the selection of players.
- b) The final decision in relation to selection will be made by the WAFC Selection Committee.
- c) The selection committee will:
  - i. select a squad for the commencement of the WAFC State program;
  - ii. adhere to the WAFC State Academy Selection Policy; and
  - iii. adhere to the AFL Talent Departments recommendations outlined in the AFL Championship Rules and Regulations.

### **12.7.2 Selection of Players**

- a) A WAFL Club must ensure it adheres to and supports the selected Player’s requirements in accordance with this Rule 12.7.2.
- b) All Players selected for the National 18’s Championships are required to:
  - i. act in accordance with the WAFC State Athlete Agreement;
  - ii. train with the WAFL State Academy on the dates outlined in the program unless a Player has been selected for WAFC League duties for the upcoming WAFL round, in which he will be released from one State training session in that week;
  - iii. participate in all WAFC State Academy Trial and Championship matches as outlined in the program upon selection by the Selection Committee; and

- iv. complete a Medical Screen by a General Practitioner in accordance with the AFL Screening Questionnaire.
- c) All Players selected in the National 18's Championships must complete:
  - i. the Athlete Agreement form;
  - ii. the Medical Screening; and
  - iii. an ECG Screening;

### **12.7.3 State Player Availability**

- a) Players not selected in the final 23 man team during National 16's and 18's Championship rounds may be available for Club duties.
- b) Players not selected in the final 25 man squad the National 16's and 18's Championship are able to attend training with the respective WAFL Club or PSA team on the Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, but are only required to participate in one (1) additional training session on either the Thursday or Friday. Players who are injured or in rehabilitation will be required to attend all State training sessions.
- c) Players not selected may be required as an emergency to be on standby due to unforeseen circumstances which may rule out the Player for Club duties in those rounds.
- d) During National 16's and 18's Championship bye rounds Players may be released back for Club training as of the Wednesday of that week and will be available for Club selection, if approved by the WAFC Talent Manager.

Notification in relation to release in accordance with d) will be distributed on Wednesday of that week by the WAFC Talent Manager.

### **12.7.4 State Players WAFL League Commitment**

- a) Players regularly involved in a WAFL Club's League Team:
  - i. will be released from one State training session each week to train with their respective WAFL Club; and
  - ii. will only need to be involved in the final State trial match.
- b) Prior to any State 18's and State 16's National Championship game there will be a 10-day preparation window whereby the state program (including training sessions) will take priority over any WAFL commitments.

### **12.7.5 Key dates & Program Overview**

- a) All WAFL Clubs must adhere to all aspects of the WAFC State Academy program.

### **12.7.6 Responsibilities of WAFL Clubs**

- a) On request by the WAFC State Academy, WAFL Clubs must allow State Players during all WAFL Fixtures to be monitored with State GPS units.
- b) During WAFC State Academy Program WAFL Clubs must:
  - i. disclose all personal information that may be relevant to Player participating in the WAFC State Academy Program;
  - ii. supply Top-Up Players equaling no less than or more than eight (8) Senior Listed Players as well as arrange a WAFL venue if requested by the WAFL State Academy for an intra-squad trial match on a fixtured bye where all reasonable match day expenses will be incurred by the WAFC;
  - iii. at the request of the WAFL State Academy make available WAFL venues for home Championship matches where all match day expenses will be incurred by

the WAFC.

- c) Following the conclusion of the National 18's Championship;
  - i. the WAFC State Academy must recommend a Player's availability based on medical advice, and player loading for the next available game. After this it will then be the WAFL Clubs medical staff who will make the final call on a Player's availability for selection; and
  - ii. WAFL Clubs must release Players for a one-on-one meeting with the WAFC State Academy. Player reports to be sent to Clubs at the conclusion of the state program after individual meetings have been conducted.

### **12.7.7 Responsibilities of WAFC**

- a) The WAFC will:
  - i. incur all reasonable expenses for home Championship matches by the host WAFL Club;
  - ii. organise and supply all Umpires for trial matches against WAFL Club teams;
  - iii. prior to the commencement of the WAFC State program liaise with relevant WAFL League Coach and FOM regarding individual training program of a Player(s) in consideration for WAFL League football; and
  - iv. during the State Academy program:
    - a. cover 100% of medical expenses incurred by a WAFL Players representing the State Academy; and
    - b. if the Player is a National Academy Member the costs incurred will be 33% each (between AFL/WAFL Club/WAFC) of the medical expense.

### **12.7.8 AFL Requirements**

#### **12.7.8.1 National Academy Players**

- a) WAFL Clubs must adhere to the implementation and management of the Individual Development Plan process developed by the AFL for their respective Player(s).
- b) WAFL Clubs must support and report in accordance with AFL established individual development plans for National Academy Players, including coaching, welfare, game schedule and medical. If the plan is not adhered to, the AFL and State have the authority to remove the Player from the National or State Academy.

#### **12.7.8.2 WA Talented Player Program**

- a) Players selected in the WA Talent Player Program will be required to participate in 2 x camps, and other various training sessions as proposed in the WA Talented Player Program Schedule in accordance with 12.7.5. Events in the WA Talent Player Program will take precedence over all WAFL commitments.

#### **12.7.8.3 AFL Talent Database (Smarterbase)**

- b) All State Players eligible for the AFL National Draft in any given year are to be reported on in full at a date/s determined by the AFL on the relevant database completing all required fields outlined by the AFL Talent Department.



## **13 WAFL STATE TEAMS**

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### **13.1.1 State Coach**

- a) The positions of State Coach, coaching support staff, runners and Chairman of Selectors will be offered to the person or persons deemed to be most suitable by the WAFC.

### **13.1.2 Players Withdrawing Without Notice**

- a) Any Player who has been selected in any interstate or other combined league match and who shall fail to play without having given at least 24 hours' notice to the WAFC shall be disqualified from playing in any league match for such period as the Protests and Disputes Tribunal shall determine.

### **13.1.3 Injured Players**

- a) Any State Player who is selected in the squad and is then declared unfit by the WAFL League Medical Officer shall not be eligible to play for his Club whilst the State team is on tour, unless he is declared fit by the WAFL League Medical Officer.

### **13.1.4 Attendance**

- a) Any State Player selected in the squad is to make themselves available to attend each session as requested by the WAFL. WAFL Clubs are to ensure 100% attendance of their players at all sessions unless the player is subject to medical treatment.

### **13.1.5 State Game Umpires**

- a) The WAFL, with agreement from the other States, will supply two (2) Field Umpires (plus emergency), 1 boundary Umpire (plus emergency), and 1 Goal Umpire (plus emergency) for all Home state Games. 1 Field, 1 Boundary and 1 Goal Umpire will come from the travelling State.
- b) When playing away the WAFL will supply one (1) Field, one (1) Boundary and one (1) Goal Umpire for the game.

## 14 PENALTIES

- a) Penalties are imposed at the sole discretion of the WAFC and penalty amounts may be amended from time to time at the discretion of the WAFC.

Rule	Description of Rule	Penalty
1.1.1	Registration Process	Up to \$3,000
1.1.2	Player and Club Education	\$500 (\$1,000 in 2023)
1.1.7	Licence and Funding Agreements <b>Breach of Funding Agreement</b>	
	First minor breach	4 premiership points; 5 Player list points; and \$5,000
	First serious breach	8 premiership points; 10 Player list points; and \$10,000
	Second and subsequent minor breach	12 premiership points; 15 Player list points; and \$20,000
	Second and subsequent serious breach	16 premiership points; 20 Player list points; and \$50,000
	<b>Breach of Licence Agreement</b> First minor breach	4 premiership points; 5 Player list points; and \$5,000
	First serious breach	8 premiership points; 10 Player list points; and \$10,000
	Second and subsequent minor breach	12 premiership points; 15 Player list points; and \$20,000
	Second and subsequent serious breach	16 premiership points; 20 Player list points; and \$50,000
1.2.1	Zoned Players	\$15,000
1.2.3.1	Notice of Player Discussion	\$3,000
1.2.3.2	Permission to Train	\$3,000
1.2.3	Listed Players	\$3,000

<b>1.6</b>	<p>Permits</p> <p>Match day permit used in the WAFL League regular season game. Match day permit used in the WAFL League regular season game. Match day permit used in the WAFL League finals game.</p> <p>More than four (4) match day permits used per Player prior to June 30. More than three (3) match day permits used per Player after June 30.</p> <p>More than three (3) match day permits used per Player after June 30 in a WAFL Final. More than six (6) match day permits used out of WAFL prior to June 30.</p> <p>More than zero (0) match day permits out of WAFL post June 30.</p> <p>More than one (1) match in any league over the duration of weekend or long-weekend</p>	<p>\$500</p> <p>\$2000</p> <p>\$2000</p> <p>\$500</p> <p>\$500</p> <p>\$2000</p> <p>\$200</p> <p>\$200</p> <p>\$250 per Player</p>
<b>1.1.9(c)(i)</b>	Player Ineligibility – Major Breach	\$5,000
<b>1.1.9(c)(ii)</b>	Player Ineligibility - Intermediate Breach	\$3,000
<b>1.1.9(c)(iii)</b>	Player Ineligibility - Minor Breach	\$1,000
<b>2.1</b>	Senior Points List	\$500
<b>2.2</b>	Interstate Player List	\$3,000
<b>2.3</b>	Supplementary List	\$3,000
<b>2.4</b>	Long Term Injury List	\$3,000
<b>2.5</b>	Top-Up Players	\$3,000
<b>3.1.5</b>	Terminated Matches	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>3.1.9(a) or (b)</b>	Clubs Desiring to Abstain from Playing in a Match	\$30,000
<b>3.1.10</b>	Penalties for Teams Forfeiting Matches	\$30,000
<b>3.2(a)</b>	Naming Players in Football Budget	\$100
<b>3.2(b) or (c)</b>	Naming Players in Football Budget	\$100
<b>3.3(a) – (d)</b>	Naming Squads for the WAFL Website	\$250
<b>3.3(e) or (f)</b>	Naming Squads for the WAFL Website	\$500
<b>3.3(h) or (i)</b>	Naming Squads for the WAFL Website	\$500
<b>3.4(a) - (j)</b>	Naming Squads for the Newspaper	13.1.2 Players Withdrawing Without Notice 13.1.2 Players Withdrawing Without Notice \$500
<b>3.5</b>	Competition Footballs	\$500
<b>3.6.1(a) – (b)</b>	Team Sheets	\$500
<b>3.6.1(c) - (h)</b>	Team Sheets	\$100
<b>3.6.2(a) - (h)</b>	Personnel on Playing Arena	\$1,000

<b>3.6.3(a) – (g)</b>	Interchange of Reserves	\$300
<b>3.6.4.1a)(i) – (iii)</b>	For games outside of Finals	\$50
<b>3.6.4.1(b)(i)</b>	For games outside of Finals	\$300
<b>3.6.4.1(b)(ii)</b>	For games outside of Finals	\$1,000
<b>3.6.4.1(b)(iii)</b>	For games outside of Finals	\$300
<b>3.6.4.2(b)(i) – (ii)</b>	Finals Games	\$1,000
<b>3.6.4.2(c) - (e)</b>	Finals Games	\$200
<b>3.6.4.2(f) – (q)</b>	Finals Games	\$200
<b>3.7.2(a) – (n)</b>	Official Runner	\$200
<b>3.7.3.3(a) – (c)</b>	Approaches to Umpires or Umpires Officials during a Game	\$1,000
<b>3.7.3.4(a)</b>	Restrictions on Umpires Participating as Players	\$1,000
<b>3.7.4.3(a)</b>	Club Doctors & Physiotherapists	\$1,000
<b>3.7.4.5(a) - (c)</b>	Trainers / Water Carriers Procedures	\$100
<b>4.2.1(a) – (c)</b>	Sirens for extra time	\$1,000
<b>5.6.1(a) – (e)</b>	Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments	\$500
<b>5.6.1(d &amp; f)</b>	Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments First Offence: Second Offence:	\$250 + \$50 per day late \$500 + \$50 per day late
<b>5.6.1(g)</b>	Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments	\$500 + \$50 per day late
<b>5.6.1(i)</b>	Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments	\$500 + \$50 per day late
<b>5.6.1(j)</b>	Details of Player Contracts & Football Payments	\$500
<b>10</b>	Integrity	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>11.1</b>	Rules Relating to the Colts Competition	\$3,000
<b>12</b>	WAFL COLTS & FUTURES COMPETITION	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 1</b>	Heat Policy	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 2</b>	Schedule 2	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 3</b>	Schedule 3 Gambling Policy	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 4</b>	Schedule 4 Anti-Doping Policy	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 5</b>	Schedule 5 Working with Children Policy	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 6</b>	Bleeding & Blood Borne Infection Policy	\$200
<b>Schedule 7</b>	Venues Policy	at the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 9</b>	Uniform Policy	\$1,000
<b>Schedule 10</b>	Concussion Policy Failure to upload documents to WAFL Online Playing in any competition before medical clearance is lodged with the WAFL	\$1,000 At the absolute discretion of the WAFC
<b>Schedule 13</b>	Broadcasting Policy	\$50,000
<b>Schedule 16</b>	COVID-19 Process	At the absolute discretion of the WAFC

**All Rules and Schedules**

Any other Rule or Schedule without penalty prescribed

at the absolute discretion of the WAFC

## 15 DEFINITIONS

In these Rules and Regulations, unless there is something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith, the following expressions have the following meanings:

Term	Definition
<b>50 Metre Arc</b>	the line in the shape of an arc at each end of the playing surface to show the distance to the centre of the goal line is 50 metres as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>AFL</b>	Australian Football League
<b>AFL Aligned Club</b>	a Club which holds an AFL approved agreement with an AFL Club that has not been issued a full Competition licence.
<b>AFL Club</b>	Club that competes in the AFL
<b>AFL Coaching Accreditation</b>	the minimum level of accreditation required to coach Australian football
<b>AFL Contracted Player</b>	A registered and contracted Player who has been drafted to an AFL Club and the players Primary registration is held by the AFL Club.
<b>AFL Draft Fee</b>	the fee payable to the primary WAFL Club when a Player is drafted to the AFL
<b>AFL Footyweb</b>	the online national registration database
<b>AFL Game</b>	a match played as part of the AFL season
<b>AFL National Transfer Regulations</b>	the National Player Transfer Regulations enforced by the AFL operating as an agreement between and amongst all football bodies across Australia and elite, State, Territory and community based Leagues
<b>AFL Player</b>	a current Player drafted to the AFL
<b>AFL Rookie Fee</b>	the fee payable to the Primary WAFL Club upon a Player being drafted to the AFL
<b>AFL Service Agreement</b>	an agreement between the WAFC, the WAFL and the WA based AFL Clubs dealing with the movement of Players between the AFL and WAFL competitions
<b>AFL Stand Alone WAFL Team</b>	the AFL Club participating in the Stand Alone Team Model
<b>Appeals Panel</b>	the Appeal Panel appointed in accordance with Rule 6.11 responsible for the administration of these Rules
<b>Associate</b>	In respect of a Player, any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Any parent, adoptive parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child of the Player or his spouse, or the spouse of the Player or any of the foregoing;</li> <li>b) A corporation wherein the Player, a person referred to in paragraph (a) or two or more such persons together have a direct or indirect beneficial interest in shares the nominal value of which is not less than 10% of the nominal value of the class of issued share capital of the corporation in which the shares are comprised;</li> <li>c) A partnership in which the Player or any person referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) is a member, and</li> <li>d) A trustee of a trust in which the Player or any persons referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) has or may have a beneficial interest.</li> </ul>

<b>Authorised Officer</b>	a nominated Club person who has the authority to represent the Club. An Authorised Officer may include but is not limited to President, Chief Executive, Football Operations Manager, Talent Manager and any other employee holding a position delegated with responsibility to act on the Clubs behalf.
<b>Bench Area</b>	the bench area as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Blood Rule</b>	the Blood Rule as set out in the infectious diseases provision contained in the AFL Laws of Australian Football
<b>Boundary Line</b>	the white line marked on the ground to identify the playing surface as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Broadcasting Rights</b>	means any exploitation of any audio or visual media, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) electronic, wireless or optical communication, whether in existence or not at the time of the introduction of this rule, whether broadcast or not, whether incorporated into the broadcast signal or not, to a device or combination of devices capable of receiving and displaying television programs, including datacasting;</li> <li>b) free to air television and radio broadcasting and subscription television and radio broadcasting;</li> <li>c) in flight, ship at sea and other forms of transport rights;</li> <li>d) digital terrestrial television, cable and satellite audio visual broadcasting;</li> <li>e) electronic, wireless or optical communication whether in existence or not at the time of the introduction of this rule, using protocols whether in existence or not at the time of the introduction of this rule including internet protocol, television, streaming, the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP), secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS), file transfer protocol (FTP), the wireless application protocol (WAP) and short message service (SMS) over cellular and networks (and other wireless or cellular networks as may be implemented); and</li> <li>f) digital platforms including online, mobile and social media.</li> </ul>
<b>Calendar Year</b>	the period from January 1st to December 31st (inclusive)
<b>Category (b) Rookie</b>	a Player drafted from a sport other than AFL or from overseas who is classified as a free agent, with the exception of any Player from a sport other than AFL or from overseas who is drafted directly into the AFL system.
<b>Closed Period</b>	the period from July 1st to a time set out by the WAFC post WAFL Grand Final during which Players cannot be transferred between Clubs and no player discussions can occur. This includes the Christmas Closed Period as set out by the WAFC each year in accordance with Rule 1.4.1 c)
<b>Club</b>	a Club which is a member of the WAFL or of an association affiliated with the League.
<b>Club Doctor</b>	a person licensed to practice medicine
<b>Club Official</b>	a person engaged by a WAFL Club: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to work with, treat, advise or assist a Player or the football department of a Club in relation to participation in or preparation for the AFL Competition and does so on an ongoing or regular basis;</li> <li>(b) to work with, treat, advise or assist a Player or the football department of a Club in relation to participation in or preparation for the AFL Competition and does so on the premises of the Club; or</li> <li>(c) to at any time undertake official duties for the Club in connection with the playing of a Match.</li> </ul>

<b>Club Officer</b>	means a president, chairperson, vice president, vice chairperson, general manager, chief executive officer, football manager, Coach, board or committee member of a Club or any other servant or agent, whether formally appointed or not, who makes or participates in the decision making that affects the whole, or a substantial part, of the business or operations of a Club
<b>Club of Origin</b>	is defined by the first senior CFWA Club to which a Player was registered
<b>Club Sponsor</b>	a person, firm or organization who provides goods or services to a WAFL Club
<b>Colts List</b>	means the Colts List set out in Rule 12.2 Colts List
<b>Colts Team</b>	a team fielded by a Club in a competition in which all members are registered Players aged between the minimum for a WAFL Player and under the age of 19, as at the 30th June in that year, including persons selected as interchange Players in such team where Players who turn 19 between July and December of the current season are eligible to play in the colt's competition
<b>Colts Coach</b>	the coach of the Colts Team as appointed by the WAFL Club
<b>Colts Grade</b>	the level of competition in which a Colts Team participates
<b>Colts Match</b>	any game at the direction of, or in any competition conducted by, the WAFL in which any Colts Team participates
<b>Community Football League</b>	any of the Perth Football League, the Metro Football League or the West Australian Country Football League.
<b>Competition</b>	means the West Australian Football League competition, conducted by the WAFC
<b>Contravening Person</b>	Has the meaning given to that term in Schedule 2.3 a) i)
<b>Controlling Body</b>	Means <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the AFL;</li> <li>b) an AFL Affiliate;</li> <li>c) any league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of Matches of Australian Football which is affiliated to an AFL Affiliate;</li> <li>d) any league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of Matches of Australian Football, which has determined to adopt and enforce the National Community Policy Handbook, these Rules and Regulations or any part of the Policy Handbook and Rules and Regulations.</li> </ul>
<b>Country Zone</b>	in respect of each Club, the country district allocated to that Club pursuant to Rule 10
<b>Country Club</b>	a Club which is a member of an association which is affiliated with the CFWA
<b>Country Metropolitan League Player</b>	a Player that is no longer currently regarded as Registered Player of the respective WAFL Club
<b>Declared Player</b>	Means a Player who has entered into a current, valid Standard Player Declaration with a Club.
<b>Destination Club</b>	the Club to which a Player is being transferred



<b>Disciplinary History</b>	Means the recorded history of any charges laid and sanctions imposed for Reportable Offences in respect of a Person
<b>District Club</b>	a Club which is affiliated with any League which is not recognised as the State League
<b>Draft Fees</b>	the draft fees received for WAFL Players from the AFL, retained by the WAFC
<b>Equivalent Offer</b>	in respect of a Player wishing to transfer from one WAFL Club to another, an offer in writing made by the Primary Club to the transferring Player, no less favourable to the transferring Player than that stated to be offered by the Destination Club
<b>Fairest and Best Player</b>	a Player awarded the fairest and best Player award in accordance with Rule 7.3
<b>Field Umpire</b>	person(s) who officiate and have full control of a match as approved by the WAFC
<b>Finals Matches</b>	a series of matches played at the conclusion of the home and away season to determine a premiership team
<b>Five (5) Game Rule</b>	the Five (5) Game Rule as set out in Rule 4.1(d)
<b>Football Payments</b>	in respect of a Player the aggregate value of all money, consideration and other benefits whatsoever that are, in any period, given, directly or indirectly to the individual or any Associate of the individual or applied for the benefit of the individual in respect of or incidental to the individual's past, present or future services with a Club or in respect of or incidental to the individual's reputation and identity as an Australian Football Player or in respect of or incidental to any Agreement which is in substance or effect an Agreement to join a Club or refrain from joining any Club. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing and for the purposes of this definition, any money, consideration or benefit given, directly or indirectly, to an individual or to an Associate of the individual or applied for the benefit of the individual or any Associate of the individual by the Club with which he is, was or may be Player by any person acting in concert with the Club or by any person acting pursuant to any Agreement, arrangement or understanding, formal or informal, with the Club shall be deemed to be given in respect of the individual's past, present or future services with the Club or in respect of the individual's reputation and identity as an Australian Football Player unless the individual and the Club can demonstrate that such money, consideration or benefits are given otherwise than in respect of or incidental to such past, present or future services with a Club or in respect of or incidental to the individual's reputation and identity as an Australian Football Player or in respect of or incidental to any Agreement which is in substance or effect an Agreement to join a Club or to refrain from joining any Club.
<b>Club Salary Cap</b>	the maximum aggregate amount or value of all Football Payments that may be given to or applied for the benefit of Players with each Club and Associates of such Players in any Calendar Year
<b>FOM</b>	Football Operations Manager
<b>Football Budget</b>	the in season weekly publication used to display team lists for each round of the season

<b>Football Year</b>	the period from the day after the last Grand Final to be played in any of the competitions conducted by WAFL in any year to the day of the last such Grand Final in the following year
<b>Free Agent</b>	any Player aged over nineteen (19) years of age who is not listed by any Club whether that Player is registered, contracted or living within a particular Clubs zone; where that Player is not listed he is deemed a free agent and able to move to any other Club unencumbered
<b>Funding Agreement</b>	the WAFL Club Funding Grant Agreement between the WAFC and a WAFL Club, as amended from time to time
<b>Grand Final</b>	final match played to determine a premiership team in accordance with these Rules
<b>Home and Away Match</b>	matches played between two (2) WAFL Clubs before the finals series
<b>Health Practitioner (Registered)</b>	<p><i>Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) keeps a list of every health practitioner who is registered to practise in Australia in the professions below:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice</i></li> <li>• <i>Chinese Medicine</i></li> <li>• <i>Chiropractic</i></li> <li>• <i>Dental practice</i></li> <li>• <i>Medical practice (doctors)</i></li> <li>• <i>Medical radiation practice</i></li> <li>• <i>Nursing</i></li> <li>• <i>Midwifery</i></li> <li>• <i>Occupational therapy</i></li> <li>• <i>Optometry</i></li> <li>• <i>Osteopathy</i></li> <li>• <i>Paramedicine</i></li> <li>• <i>Pharmacy</i></li> <li>• <i>Physiotherapy</i></li> <li>• <i>Podiatry</i></li> <li>• <i>Psychology</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The list is called the 'Register of practitioners'. When a health practitioner's name appears on the list, you know that they are allowed to practise. Sometimes a registered practitioner has a type of registration or conditions that limit what they can do. This information is also published on the list.</i></p>
<b>Independent Investigations Officer</b>	person(s) who are appointed by the WAFC to investigate any matter
<b>Individual Development Plan</b>	a written program developed for the improvement of a Player
<b>Ineligible Player</b>	a Player who plays in any grade whilst not registered, without a weekly permission form or whilst under suspension
<b>Inter-Club Match</b>	involvement in any match activity between two (2) or more WAFL Clubs
<b>Interstate Player</b>	<p>a Player who has transferred to the WAFL Club in accordance with Rule 1.4 from another state outside of Western Australia and who did not have their first senior football registration recorded in Western Australia</p> <p>a Player who, in accordance with the Interstate Player Transfer Regulations of the AFL, must receive a transfer pursuant to such regulations before being eligible to</p>

	play in any of the competitions conducted by the WAFL
<b>Interchange Area</b>	the area marked on the boundary line through which Players may enter and leave the playing surface as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Interchange Player</b>	the Player(s) of a team who are not on the playing surface but who are listed on the team sheet and available to replace a Player on the playing surface
<b>Interchange Steward</b>	the person(s) appointed by the relevant controlling body to monitor and approve the interchange of Players during a match
<b>Interchange Stewards Form</b>	the official form used by the interchange stewards to record the interchange of Players on and off the playing surface
<b>Interstate List</b>	a list of Players that have been transferred from interstate
<b>Laws of Australian Football</b>	the overarching rules used to describe the rules of the game of Australian rules football as they have evolved and adapted since 1859 as amended from time to time
<b>League Grade</b>	the level of competition in which a WAFL League team participates
<b>League Match</b>	any game at the direction of, or in any competition conducted by, the WAFL which the League Team of the WAFL Club participates; or any interstate game
<b>League Team</b>	a team fielded by a Club in the first twenty two (22) Player competition conducted by the WAFL including all persons selected as interchange Players in such team
<b>Licence Agreement</b>	the Licence Agreement between the WAFC and a WAFL Club, as amended from time to time
<b>Life Membership</b>	membership conferred on those persons in accordance with Rule 7.1
<b>Listed Player</b>	a senior listed Player who is listed on the WAFL Club's 37 list or a colts Player who is listed on the Colts 28 list.
<b>Local District Player</b>	a Player who resides in the WAFL Club zone, both metro and country, and has been living in that address for greater than 18 months.
<b>Season Permit</b>	a permit granted in accordance with Rule 1.6.2
<b>Long Term Injury List</b>	a list of Players as provided by WAFL Clubs who are unable to play due to their injury status
<b>Long Term Injury Player</b>	a Player who is not able to play matches for an extended period of time due to injury as listed on the Long Term Injury List
<b>Marquee Player</b>	a Player who brings value to the Club and League both on and off the field
<b>Game Permit</b>	a permit for a single match provided in accordance with Rule 1.6.1
<b>Match Day Restricted Area</b>	any area defined in accordance with Rule 11.2
<b>Match Payment</b>	a financial benefit received by a Player for participating in a match of football in any way related to the WAFL
<b>Match Review Panel</b>	the match review panel appointed in accordance with Rule 6.6
<b>Marked Lines</b>	any line as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)

<b>Mel Whinnen Medal</b>	medal awarded to the Player adjudged best on ground in the WAFL Colts grand final in accordance with Rule 7.3
<b>Metropolitan</b>	in respect of each Club, the metropolitan district allocated to that Club
<b>Merv McIntosh Medal</b>	medal awarded to the Player adjudged best on ground in the WAFL reserves grand final in accordance with Rule 7.3
<b>Minimum Age Criteria</b>	the minimum age required to participate in any WAFL competition as determined by Rule 1.1.4
<b>National 18's Championships</b>	AFL endorsed national championship for Players aged 17 and 18 years old and nominated 19 year olds
<b>NEAFL</b>	North Eastern Australian Football League
<b>Non-Partner Club</b>	A WAFL Club that is not aligned to a West Australian based AFL Club
<b>Non-Zoned Player</b>	a Player that does not reside in the WAFL Club zone
<b>Notice of Breach</b>	means a notice of breach in relation to an alleged Rule or Policy Breach in the form set out in Appendix 6 or such other form prescribed by the WAFC from time to time.
<b>Notice of Player Discussion (Form 10)</b>	Official form that must be lodged to the WAFL and Primary Club within 48 hours of the discussion with a listed Player
<b>Number One Umpire</b>	the senior Umpire appointed to officiate the match
<b>Official</b>	A coach, team official or umpire
<b>Official Team Sheet</b>	Official form that discloses Players and officials participating in a match
<b>Order Off Rule</b>	the Order Off Law as set out in the AFL Laws of Australian Football
<b>Partnership Model</b>	the agreement made between the WAFC, the WAFL, the eight WAFL Non Partner Clubs, the West Coast Eagles Football Club (WCE & AFL Stand Alone WAFL Team), the Fremantle Football Club (FFC & AFL Partner Club), the Peel Thunder Football Club (PTFC & WAFL Partner Club).
<b>Partner Club</b>	either the AFL or WAFL Club (as applicable) participating in the Partnership Model
<b>Past Players and Officials Association</b>	the association of past Players and Officials are established by Rule 7.2
<b>Permanent Residence</b>	the address listed as the electoral address of the Player (or parents of Player) concerned
<b>Person</b>	means a Club, Football Official, Player, Club Member, parent or guardian of a player, spectator of a Match or any other person reasonably connected to Australian Football and within the purview of this Rules and Regulations.
<b>PFL</b>	Peel Football League
<b>Player</b>	a person who shall have been permitted to be registered to play with a Club which is a member of the WAFL, or is bound to a Club through zones includes a player registered to play Australian Football for a Club and/or participate in a Competition, Including a Declared Player
<b>Player List</b>	a list of Players setting out Players who are eligible to play only with that WAFL Club as listed, unless transferred to another Club pursuant to these Rules
<b>Point Category</b>	categories assigned to a Player based on their playing history

<b>Player Point Value</b>	the value assigned to a Player based on their Point Category
<b>Playing arena</b>	the area including the Playing Surface and area between the perimeter fence and boundary line as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Playing Surface</b>	the field of play inside the boundary line, goal line and behind line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Premiership Table</b>	the official record of games played, recording the wins, losses, draws, premiership points and percentage
<b>Primary Club</b>	the Club under in which a Player's primary registration is current
<b>Protected Player</b>	a Player listed on the Listed Player 37 list in accordance with Rule 8.4
<b>Registered Player</b>	a Player who is permitted to play in the WAFL competition
<b>Registration Card</b>	a form of identification to access restricted areas on match day
<b>Registration Process</b>	the process set out in Rule 1.1.1
<b>Reportable Offence</b>	an action of a Player or official defined as a reportable offence in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football
<b>Reserves Grade</b>	the level of competition in which a WAFL Reserves team participates
<b>Playing arena</b>	the area including the Playing Surface and area between the perimeter fence and boundary line as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Playing Surface</b>	the field of play inside the boundary line, goal line and behind line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence as set out in Schedule 7 (WAFL Venues Policy)
<b>Premiership Table</b>	the official record of games played, recording the wins, losses, draws, premiership points and percentage
<b>Primary Club</b>	the Club under in which a Player's primary registration is current
<b>Protected Player</b>	a Player listed on the Listed Player 37 list in accordance with Rule 8.4
<b>Registered Player</b>	a Player who is permitted to play in the WAFL competition
<b>Registration Card</b>	a form of identification to access restricted areas on match day
<b>Registration Process</b>	the process set out in Rule 1.1.1
<b>Reportable Offence</b>	an action of a Player or official defined as a reportable offence in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football
<b>Reserves Grade</b>	the level of competition in which a WAFL Reserves team participates
<b>Reserves Match</b>	any game at the direction of, or in any competition conducted by, the WAFL which the Reserves team of the WAFL Club participates
<b>Reserves Team</b>	a team fielded by a Club in the Reserve Grade competition conducted by the WAFL, including all persons selected as interchange Players in such team
<b>Rookie Player</b>	a Player who has been drafted to the AFL as a rookie listed Player
<b>the Rules</b>	these WAFL Rules and Regulations as amended from time to time
<b>SANFL</b>	South Australian National Football League

<b>Senior List</b>	a list of registered Players eligible to play in the WAFL reserves or league grades
<b>Senior Player Points List</b>	the list of a minimum of 55 senior Registered Players listed in accordance with Rule 2.1
<b>Simpson Medal</b>	the medal awarded to the Player adjudged best on ground in the WAFL League grand final or the medal awarded to the West Australian Player adjudged the best on ground in a State match
<b>SMA</b>	Sports Medicine Australia
<b>SFL</b>	Sunday Football League
<b>Sports Trainer</b>	a person who is trained in sports first aid and has the accreditation required by Rule 3.7.4.2
<b>Standard Player Declaration</b>	means a standard player declaration or Contract in such form as approved by the WAFC which sets out the details of the Player's arrangement to play for a Club
<b>State</b>	any of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth of Australia
<b>State 18s Competition</b>	the national underage competition that states compete against each other
<b>State Academy</b>	WAFC state program to develop under 16's and 18's Players for a national carnival
<b>State Game</b>	WAFL League match between two (2) states
<b>Supplementary List</b>	a list of Players who have transferred from the WAFL Club to a senior community Club that are still considered as a listed Player
<b>Supplementary List Player</b>	a Player who is listed on the Supplementary List
<b>Support Staff</b>	all reserve and other grade coaches, skills and assistant coaches, physical education instructors and assistants, training and property staff, doctors, team managers, team selectors, team runners, interchange stewards, statisticians, and all other persons involved in assisting the Club's teams to compete on the field
<b>Coates League</b>	State League 18's and under competition in Victoria
<b>Talent Manager</b>	the person appointed by the WAFC to manage underage programs and to identify talent
<b>Team</b>	A League Team, Reserve Team or Colts Team
<b>Team Manager</b>	the person appointed by a WAFL Club to manage the Colts, Reserves or League team as applicable
<b>Temporary Club</b>	the Club for which a Player competes temporarily under a permit granted in accordance with Rule 1.6
<b>Temporary Registration</b>	a temporary registration granted as part of a permit granted in accordance with Rule 1.6
<b>Temporary Transfer</b>	a temporary transfer allowing a Player to compete for another Club other than their Primary Club for an agreed period of time, maximum one season in accordance with Rule 1.6.3

<b>Tier 1 Competition</b>	means each of the following Competitions: (a) Victorian Football League senior Competitions conducted by AFL Victoria. (b) Coates League under 18's Competitions conducted by AFL Victoria (c) Tasmanian State League senior, reserves and under 18's Competitions conducted by AFL Tasmania (d) SANFL senior, reserves and under 18's competitions conducted by the SANFL (e) West Australian Football League senior, reserves and under 18's Competitions conducted by the WAFC.
<b>Tier 2 League</b>	means all other Leagues which conduct and administer Australian football competitions (other than the AFL, Tier 1 Leagues or AFL 9s competitions).
<b>Timekeeper</b>	the person(s) appointed by the relevant controlling body to measure or record the amount of time in a match
<b>Timekeepers Sheet</b>	the official form used by the timekeeper to record the timings for the match
<b>Top Up Player</b>	a Player who is permitted to play on permit but not included on the Clubs Senior List
<b>Top Up Player List</b>	a list of Players who are permitted to play on permit but not included on the Clubs Senior List
<b>Total Player Payments (TPP)</b>	the value of all or any part of any money, consideration or other benefit paid or provided to the Player in respect of any match played
<b>TPP Officer</b>	the person(s) appointed by the relevant controlling body to audit WAFL club TPP
<b>Training</b>	involvement in any team activity or any activities supervised by any member of the coaching staff at a Club
<b>Transfer</b>	movement of a Player from a Primary Club to a Destination Club
<b>Transfer Application Period</b>	the period of time in which a Player can be transferred being between 1 Feb and 30 June
<b>Travel Allowance</b>	the allowance a Player who travels 50km or more as a round trip to a playing commitment that can be claimed under the TPP
<b>Tribunal</b>	a body established and constituted by the WAFC to hear and determine charges brought before it under these Rules
<b>Transfer Fee</b>	the fee attributed to the movement of a Player from the Primary Club to a Destination Club
<b>Umpire</b>	Includes a registered field, boundary, goal or emergency umpire
<b>Veterans Allowance</b>	a Player who has played over one hundred (100) WAFL League or AFL Games and Player is returning to Club of origin
<b>WA State Academy</b>	WAFC state program to develop under 16's and 18's Players for a national carnival
<b>WAAFL</b>	Western Australian Amateur Football League
<b>CFWA</b>	Country Football Western Australia League
<b>WAFC</b>	West Australian Football Commission
<b>WAFC Corporate Governance Team</b>	a subcommittee of the WAFC that oversees Corporate Governance for WA Football

<b>WA AFL Clubs</b>	West Coast Eagles and Fremantle Dockers (those Clubs in AFL based in WA)
<b>WAFL</b>	the West Australian Football League
<b>WAFL Arbitrator</b>	a person appointed by the WAFC to arbitrate on any matter referred to him pursuant to these Rules
<b>WAFL Club</b>	a State League Club issued with a licence from the WAFC
<b>WAFL Club Zone</b>	a geographical area (metro and regional) aligned to a WAFL Club
<b>WAFL Management Committee</b>	the Chief Executive Officers of each of the WAFL Clubs as constituted to provide recommendations on all matters pertaining to the running of the WAFL competition
<b>WAFL Match</b>	any sanctioned match at the direction of, or in any competition conducted by, the WAFL which any Grade of the WAFL Club participates; or any interstate game
<b>WAFL Online</b>	the online Sports management system for the WAFL competition
<b>WAFL Registration Form</b>	the official form to register Players in the WAFL competition as provided by the WAFC
<b>WAFL Report Review Panel</b>	an independent panel responsible for reviewing reports and notice of investigations pursuant to the Laws of Australian Football
<b>WAFL Standalone Club</b>	a Club which is a Competition licence holder and, for the avoidance of doubt, has no alignment with an AFL Club
<b>WAFL Talent Manager</b>	the WAFL Talent Manager as appointed by the WAFC
<b>WAFL Tribunal</b>	the disciplinary tribunal of the WAFL
<b>WAFL Venue</b>	which includes all surrounding areas under the control of the venue owner or hirer
<b>WAFL Website</b>	the official website of the West Australian Football League <a href="https://wafl.com.au/">https://wafl.com.au/</a>
<b>WAFTA</b>	West Australian Football Trainers Association
<b>Water Carrier</b>	an individual who is permitted to carry water on the field of play during a WAFL match
<b>Written Notice</b>	a notice handwritten or typed or sent by telegram, telex, facsimile or computer system printout
<b>Zoned Player</b>	an individual who resides in the geographical boundary of the WAFL Club
<b>Zone</b>	the geographic area allocated to a WAFL Club as defined in Rule 10



## Schedule 1 Heat Policy

Heat-related stress can lead to impaired player performance (eg dizziness, headaches, collapse and illness). In its extreme form, heat can be life threatening. Preventing heat stress and injury maintains optimum performance and improves recovery. To prevent heat stress, careful planning and preparation is required in accordance with this Schedule 1.

A number of management strategies to minimise any potential heat injury have been identified over recent seasons. The recommended prevention methods that follow are a result of experience gained from the AFL Preseason, WAFL Preseason and early season Premiership rounds.

**Overarching message of Strip/ Soak/ Fan any person suspected of any heat stress and where possible Immerse/ Cover and Call an ambulance if no improvement after 2 mins.**

### Preliminary Assessment

The WAFC will assess the heat stress risk by reviewing information provided by the Bureau of Meteorology. Heat stress management strategies should also be applied at all training sessions. The WAFC, at its absolute discretion, can implement parts or the policy in full.

The WAFC will monitor weather conditions in the lead up to each match. Where the bureau of Meteorology forecast is for excessive heat (wet bulb global temperature reading 28 or higher) or with an ambient temperature between 33-37 degrees (with consideration to the humidity that exceeds 50%) the WAFC will implement the Heat Policy. The WAFC may postpone or cancel matches if the ambient temperature is 38 degrees or higher (with consideration to the humidity exceeding 30% or higher), the heat policy may be enacted.

The WAFC will contact the clubs concerned in the lead up to the match to ensure there is adequate preparation for match day.

The WAFC will make this decision prior to 5pm on the Thursday before the match utilizing the BOM 3-day forecast. A decision to postpone or cancel matches may be made up until the day before the scheduled match. Should the Heat Policy be enacted, and the temperature forecast be adjusted below the Heat Policies range (as above) the extra player will remain in place however, other match conditions may be retracted. A decision will be made at the absolute discretion of the WAFC.

Should a match be postponed, the competition will reschedule the matches during the bye weekends. Should a match not be able to be postponed or played at a later date, it will be declared a draw. Should a club abstain from playing in a sanctioned match it will be deemed a forfeit.

It will be the Home Team's responsibility for the following should The Heat Policy be implemented:

- Supply a minimum of 1 x bags of ice per team at all times. Should clubs require more, please liaise with the home club or make other arrangements.
- Provide at a 2 x minimum pedestal fans for each team
- Ensure complete shade in for the bench.

### Players / Umpires

Players have a responsibility to ensure that the impact of environmental factors such as extreme heat is not exacerbated by their own conduct. Accordingly, the following general guidelines should be followed:

- Ensure adequate fluid intake prior to game and during game (500-700mls per quarter);

- monitor hydration;
- notify medical and coaching staffs when effected by heat or when performance is noticeably effected;
- Use water and electrolyte drinks;
- use pre-game, game and post-game cooling strategies;
- do not play in the heat with an illness; and
- Apply 50+ sunscreen in sunny conditions.

### **Clubs Responsibility**

All Clubs competing in a competition administered by the Football Body should monitor environmental factors such as extreme heat both in Matches and at any Australian Football training session administered by the Club. The Club should assess the heat stress risk by reviewing information provided by the Bureau of Meteorology. Heat stress management strategies should also be applied at all training sessions administered by the Club.

The following general guidelines should be followed:

- Use cooling aids – ice vests, spray bottles, sponges, fans (in rooms and on interchange bench) and shade;
- Choose heat permeable jumpers and socks;
- Mandatory reporting of incidents of heat stress illness in all players to the Football Body;
- Use a Club official to be delegated the primary responsibility of monitoring and manage players for heat stress issues as they arise during a Match;
- Provide adequate fluids in appropriate bottles;
- Ensure trainers are fit enough to access as many Players as possible during the game;
- provide facilities for player cooling – shade, air conditioning, sprays and fans whether training or playing;
- coordinate training times outside extreme conditions;
- Include additional Player(s) to squad (Approval by the WAFC); and
- Nomination of one Player payment to sit outside the TPP in home and away matches;

### **Coaches**

- Rotate Players regularly, especially running Players, through interchange bench

### **Medical**

- identify “at risk” players and monitor their core temperatures, physical and mental performance and hydration state;
- Do not play Players suffering from a febrile illness, vomiting or diarrhea;
- Weigh Players before the game, half time and at the end of the game to identify fluid replacement requirements;
- avoid adrenaline-like medication;
- provide thermometers (including rectal), equipment for resuscitation and intravenous fluid replacement;
- if playing in potentially difficult circumstances delegate management of heat stress and illness to one (1) responsible medical officer;
- have adequate medical equipment available for managing heat stress conditions;
- report all cases of heat stress and heat stress illness in training sessions and games to the WAFC;

- provide player education on the issue and how the club will manage such circumstances.

**Overarching message of Strip/ Soak/ Fan any person suspected of any heat stress and where possible Immerse/ Cover and Call an ambulance if no improvement after 2 mins.**

## **WAFC**

Where possible, the **WAFC should schedule Matches as much to avoid extremes of heat and allow for increased recovery from those conditions.**

- Schedule games to avoid hot conditions where possible (e.g. Pre-season games – night or twilight or early morning) particularly night games in March/April.
- Ensure venues provide change rooms with cooling facilities e.g. Fans, air conditioning.
- Increase the number of water runners to run fluids in high risk conditions (extra three)
- Increase the length of intervals to enable teams to leave the field for the shade of the rooms at each change in high risk conditions i.e. 25 minutes for ½ time and/or 10 minutes for ¼ and ¾ time.
- Provide extra field and boundary Umpires for February and March games (Pre-season competition) in high to extreme risk conditions.
- WAFL Clubs to include an additional Player and Clubs can select one Player's match payment to sit outside the TPP. This selection must be highlighted on the WAFL form 2b
- Reduce length of quarters e.g. 25 minutes maximum in February and March in extreme risk conditions.
- Consider postponing or rescheduling games in extreme risk conditions.

## **Additional Resources for Clubs**

Sports Medicine Australia: <https://sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/beat-the-heat-2011.pdf>

Sports Medicine Australia: <https://sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/SMA-Extreme-Heat-Policy-2021-Final-1.pdf>

## Schedule 2 Vilification and Discrimination

### 1. Prohibited Contact

No Person shall act towards or speak to any other person in a manner, or engage in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person or group of persons on any basis, including but not limited to, a person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.

### 2. AFL Vilification & Discrimination Panel

#### a. Appointment by AFL

The AFL may, from time to time, appoint persons to the AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel.

#### b. Qualifications of panel members

The AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel will consist of a panel of persons who:

- i. meet the Tribunal qualification requirements specified in Rule 6.8 and
- ii. in the opinion of the AFL:
  1. have demonstrated knowledge and skills in the resolution of vilification and discrimination matters;
  2. possess sufficient knowledge of Australian Football; and
  3. are sufficiently qualified to competently perform the role of AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel member.

#### c. Function

The function of the AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel is to provide expert assistance to the AFL and other Controlling Bodies in respect of the conciliation process under Section 10.

#### d. Levy of Fee

A Controlling Body may levy a fee for the administration of a conciliation under Section 10 including the involvement of the AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel (with the fee amount to be determined by the Controlling Body).

### 3. Preliminary conciliation process

- a. Where Schedule 18.2(a)(i) or Schedule 18.2(c)(i) applies in relation to an alleged breach of Schedule 2.1, the AFL or WAFC (as applicable) must as soon as practicable:
  - i. inform the person alleged to have breached Schedule 2.1 (Contravening Person) of the alleged breach and provide that person with an opportunity to respond to the complaint;
  - ii. use reasonable measures to establish the facts of the alleged Policy Breach;
- b. If, following completion of the steps in Schedule 2.3(a), the AFL or WAFC (as applicable) is reasonably satisfied that a breach of Schedule 2.1 may have occurred, it will arrange for the complaint to be conciliated and take all steps necessary for the complaint to be conciliated.
- c. The AFL or WAFC will determine the arrangements for the conciliation, including appointment of a conciliator and the date, time and place/forum (e.g. in person or virtually).
- d. Where the WAFC arranges to hold a conciliation, it may inform the AFL prior to the conciliation and, in consultation with the AFL, appoint a conciliator. The relevant WAFC may, by written notice, request the assistance of an AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel member to conduct the conciliation and the AFL may, subject to the availability of the AFL Vilification and Discrimination Panel, arrange for that requested assistance.
- e. Persons entitled to attend a conciliation are as follows:
  - i. person(s) vilified;
  - ii. the Contravening Person;
  - iii. other person(s) directly involved in the complaint whom in the reasonable opinion of

- the AFL or WAFC ought to attend the conciliation;
- iv. where the alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 was not about or did not directly impact a specific person or persons (e.g. the prohibited conduct vilified a group of persons generally without specifying any individual), a representative of that group may attend the conciliation at the invitation of the AFL or WAFC for the purpose of providing a victim impact statement and more generally to provide the perspectives of that group of vilified persons in the conduct of the conciliation;
- v. conciliator; and
- vi. where a Person involved in a conciliation is under the age of eighteen (18) years:
  1. the Person must always be represented by a Club Officer (and such representative must not be a parent or guardian of the Person); and
  2. All conciliation participants are discouraged from having a legal practitioner as their support person or in any other capacity in conciliation.
- vii. All conciliation participants are permitted and encouraged to have a support person present at the conciliation. Support persons will not be advocates or actively participate in the conciliation.
- viii. All conciliation participants are discouraged from having a legal practitioner as their support person or in any other capacity in conciliation.

#### **4. Agreed outcomes at conciliation**

- a. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules and Regulations, the conciliation participants will be at liberty to consider and agree to any outcome or sanction including but not limited to any of the following (or a combination of them):
  - i. suspension of a Contravening Person from playing and/or officiating in Matches at any level;
  - ii. if reasonably practicable, attendance at or participation in a community service program by the Contravening Person;
  - iii. the provision of a public apology or apologies by a Contravening Person
- b. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - i. the person(s) vilified, the Contravening Person and the AFL or WAFC must all agree to any outcome or sanction;
  - ii. the conciliation participants may not agree to any outcome that binds or sanctions any Person that is not a conciliation participant;
  - iii. the effect of any suspension agreed under Schedule 2.4(a)(i) will be the same as a suspension under Rule 6.
- c. In their consideration of agreed outcomes and sanctions, the conciliation participants should have regard to the following:
  - i. the nature of the Policy Breach and all the circumstances in which it was undertaken including the setting (e.g. during the course of a Match, during the course of an official or unofficial Club activity, in a public place, in a private setting);
  - ii. the extent to which the Policy Breach caused offence or hurt to the vilified person or others (e.g. was it undertaken in an aggressive or threatening way, did it offend or hurt a large number of people);
  - iii. whether there have been previous instances of Policy Breaches by the Contravening Person;
  - iv. whether the Contravening Person has received any relevant training and education

#### **5. Confidentiality and public statement**

- a. Subject to Schedule 2.5(b):
  - i. the particulars of a complaint and the conciliation shall at all times remain confidential; and
  - ii. a person shall not publicly comment on or disseminate to any person information

concerning a complaint or conciliation at any time prior to, during or after the conciliation.

- b. Where a complaint is resolved by conciliation, any public statement (including any apology) made concerning the complaint and its resolution shall be agreed upon by the parties.

## 6. Unsuccessful conciliation

Where the AFL or WAFC (as applicable) is of the opinion that the matter has not been resolved by conciliation, the AFL or WAFC must:

- a. complete a Notice of Breach and issue it to the Contravening Person and the Contravening Person's Club;
- b. provide the person(s) vilified and that person's Club (if applicable) with a copy of the Notice of Breach; and
- c. proceed to deal with the matter under Schedule 18.5 (Early Guilty Plea – Policy Breach).

### ***Vilification Process prior to Schedule update:***

- a) *No Player in his capacity as a Player of a WAFL Club or, in the course of carrying out his duties or functions as or incidental to a Player of a WAFL Club or any Director, Officer, Servant or agent of a WAFL Club (including without limitation any coach, assistant coach, trainer, medical officer, runner or person entitled to enter the arena during the course of or prior to or during a break in play in any match) shall act towards or speak to any other person in a manner, or engage in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person ("the person vilified") on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour descent or national or ethnic origin, sexual preference, orientation or identity, special ability or disability. The scope of this rule does not exclude incidents off the playing arena.*
- b) *In the event that it is alleged that a person has contravened Schedule 2 a WAFL Umpire, WAFL Club or WAFL Player may, by 5.00 pm on the first working day following the day on which the contravention is alleged to have occurred, lodge a complaint in writing to the WAFC.*
- c) *The WAFC will put in place a conciliation meeting and all WAFL Clubs and individuals concerned must attend. This process must be private and no public statement is allowed by the WAFL Clubs, Players or any representative of the WAFL Club(s) involved and must be within three (3) working days of the incident.*
- d) *The WAFL Tribunal will hear the evidence at the conciliation meeting and can:*
  - i. *Determine that there is no case to answer.*
  - ii. *Mediate and assist in resolving the issue.*
  - iii. *Refer the case to the WAFL Tribunal*

*If the matter is referred to the WAFL Tribunal and found guilty the following guidelines are used for penalty:*

<i>1st Offence</i>	<i>Player to be suspended for a minimum of three (3) playing dates.</i>
<i>2nd Offence</i>	<i>Player to be suspended for a minimum of six (6) playing dates.</i>
<i>3rd Offence</i>	<i>Player to have his registration revoked to play in the WAFL competition as determined by the WAFC and must make written application to the WAFC to have his registration re-instated.</i>

## Schedule 3 Gambling Policy

### Application

- a) For the purposes of this Regulation (Gambling):
  - i. in respect of Players, coaches, Umpires and Club Officials from AFL Standalone Clubs (WAFL Partner Clubs and AFL Standalone Clubs):
  - ii. Match means any Australian football match played between or involving a Competition Club or AFL Club including without limitation any competition match, practice match, trial match, representative match or exhibition match; and
  - iii. Australian Football Contingency means any Match or aspect of a Match (as defined in (a) above) or any contingency related to the Competition or AFL competition; and
  - iv. in respect of Players, coaches and Club Officials from WAFL Standalone Clubs:
    - a. **Match** means any Australian football match played between or involving any Competition Club including without limitation any competition match, practice match, trial match, representative match or exhibition match; and
    - b. **Australian Football Contingency** means any Match or aspect of a Match (as defined in (i)(a) above) or any contingency related to the Competition.

### Players and Umpires

- a) The obligations imposed upon a Player under this Schedule 3 are in addition to the obligations of a Player under the standard Competition playing or umpiring contract.

### Corrupt Conduct

- a) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official must not contrive or attempt to contrive or otherwise influence improperly the result of a Match or an Australian Football Contingency.
- b) A person must not seek, accept, offer or agree to accept any bribe or reward to contrive or attempt to contrive or otherwise influence improperly the result of any WAFL Contingency.
- c) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official must not provide or receive any gift, payment or other benefit (whether of a monetary value or otherwise) in circumstances likely to prejudice the interests or reputation of the WAFL or the Competition or to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute.

### No Gambling

- a) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official must not:
  - i. bet or wager on any Australian Football Contingency;
  - ii. have an interest in any bet or wager, or have someone else place a bet or wager on their behalf on any Australian Football Contingency;
  - iii. facilitate or assist the making of a bet or wager on an Australian Football Contingency; or
  - iv. without the prior permission of the WAFL, encourage, induce, advertise or promote betting on an Australian Football Contingency.

For the avoidance of doubt, Australian Football Contingency is defined by the competition they are registered within (WAFL) and any contingency involving the AFL

- Club that the Partner or Standalone AFL Team is affiliated (WCE and Fremantle FC)
- b) The prohibition on gambling under this Schedule includes a prohibition on taking part in tipping exchanges (being an avenue through which tipsters sell their tips online) in respect of Australian Football Contingencies. For the avoidance of doubt, this Regulation 11.3 does not preclude Players, coaches, Clubs and Club Officials from participating in ordinary footy tipping competitions.

#### **Inside Information**

- a) A Player, coach, Club or Club Official must not disclose or provide any information, advice or opinion to any other person about the Teams playing in any Match (including but not limited to, the actual or likely composition of the Team, Player injuries, the form of Players and tactics), unless the Player, coach, Club or Club Official can establish to the satisfaction of the WAFL that at least one of the following applies:
  - i. such information was already in the public domain or given in a bona fide media interview; or
  - ii. the information was not provided in any of the following circumstances:
  - iii. for the purpose of betting or wagering by any person on an Australian Football Contingency; or
  - iv. where it might reasonably be expected that such information may be used for betting or wagering by any person on an Australian Football Contingency; or
  - v. for consideration or reward.

#### **Performance on One's Merits**

- a) In relation to any Match, aspect of a Match, or pre-Match planning and tactics, a Player, coach or member of the Match Committee must at all times Perform on their merits.
- b) No person may induce or encourage any Player, coach or member of the Match Committee to breach (a) above for any reason whatsoever.

#### **Notification**

- a) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official who directly or indirectly, formally or informally receives an approach or invitation from any other person to engage in any conduct prohibited by this Rule, must as soon as practicable, advise and provide a full details of such approach to the WAFL.
- b) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official or any other person must as soon as practicable, advise and provide full details to the WAFL of any incident, fact, or matter that comes to their attention that may evidence an offence under this Rule by another party, including (without limitation) approaches or invitations that have been received by any other party to engage in conduct that would amount to a breach of this Rule.

#### **Sanctions**

- a) A Player, coach, Club, Club Official, Umpire or Umpire Official, who does not fully and strictly comply with the provisions of this Rule, shall be dealt with in such manner as the WAFL in its absolute discretion thinks fit.
- b) The WAFL in its absolute discretion impose a penalty on the relevant Club in addition to or in place of a penalty on an individual.

#### **Player Awards**

- a) A Club must not conduct any Player award that (to its knowledge) is, or may be, subject to an Australian Football Contingency without receiving the prior written approval of the WAFL



## **Schedule 4 Anti-Doping Policy**

- a) The WAFL competition will follow the AFL Anti-Doping Code as amended from time to time by the AFL.
- b) Where financial penalty is incurred in the form of penalty points the WAFL will fine \$100 for each penalty point imposed by the AFL policy.
- c) The “WAFL Anti-Doping Education Course” must be completed prior to any Player being selected to play in a WAFL League match. In addition, completion of this course remains a compulsory requirement of all WAFL Players.
- d) All WAFL Clubs are to ensure that Anti-Doping signage provided by the League is permanently displayed in areas frequented by Players.
- e) All WAFL Clubs are to conduct during the Pre-Season period an Anti-Doping Player education presentation prior to the commencement of the qualifying WAFL season.
- f) The WAFL and WAFL Club will provide some assistance for Players found guilty under this policy and support the Player given the parameters of the sanction.

## Schedule 5 Working with Children Policy

The Working with Children Policy sets out the screening process for people in the WAFL who work, coach, supervise or have regular unsupervised contact with people under the age of 18 years. In accordance with the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004, WAFL Clubs must ensure that any person in child-related work have an Assessment Notice in the form of a WWC Card following completion of a Working with Children Check.

### Purpose of Working with Children Check

The Working with Children Check (WWC Check) is a compulsory and rigorous criminal record check for certain people who carry out 'child-related work' in WA. A person is in 'child-related work' if the usual duties of their work involves, or is likely to involve contact with a child in connection with specified categories of work (see the website below for further details) It includes child-related work carried out by paid employees, volunteers, unpaid people and the self-employed.

Parents volunteering in connection with their child's activity are exempt (although this does not apply to overnight camps); however they should still be required to complete the non-WWC Check screening process. There are other exemptions, for example volunteers under 18 years old. Further details about exemptions can be found on the website [www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au](http://www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au). Only those in child-related work under the Act may apply.

Applicants will be issued with either:

- An Assessment Notice in the form of a WWC Card enabling them to be in all types of child-related work for three years unless there are new offences of concern.
- An Interim Negative Notice, which prohibits them from child-related work until a final decision is made on their application.
- A Negative Notice, which prohibits them from child-related work.

There are set obligations and strong penalties for non-compliance including for WAFL Clubs, whether they be an employer or volunteer co-coordinator of those people who are working with children.

### WAFL Club obligations

Every WAFL Club is required to:

- a) Identify positions that involve working, coaching, supervising or regular unsupervised contact with people under the age of 18 years.
- b) Obtain a completed Member Protection Declaration (MPD) (available via WAFL Online) from all people who are identified in the above step and keep it in a secure place.
- c) Provide an opportunity for a person to give an explanation if a MPD isn't provided or it reveals that the person doesn't satisfactorily meet any of the clauses in the MPD. The WAFLC will then make an assessment as to whether the person may be unsuitable to work with people under the age of 18 years. If unsatisfied the WAFLC will not permit the appointment of that person to the role/position.
- d) Where possible, check a person's referees (verbal or written) about his/her suitability for the role.

- e) Ask the people identified in step 1 to sign a consent form for a national police check.
- f) Possibly request (or ask the person to request) a national 'Part Exclusion' police check from Western Australia police. This check excludes irrelevant records. If the police check indicates a relevant offence, the WAFC will provide an opportunity for the person to give an explanation, and then the WAFC will make an assessment as to whether the person may pose a risk to or be unsuitable to work with people under the age of 18 years. If unsatisfied the WAFC will not will not permit the appointment of that person to the role/position.
- g) Make an assessment as to whether the person may be unsuitable to work with people under the age of 18 years if the person does not agree to a national police check after explaining why it is a requirement under our policy. If unsatisfied, the WAFC will not will not permit the appointment of that person to the role/position.
- h) Decide whether to offer the person the position taking into account the result of the police check and any other information the Club has available to it. Where it is not practical to complete the police check prior to the person commencing in the position, WAFL Clubs must arrange for the check to be completed as soon as possible, and if necessary, act immediately on the outcome.
- i) Protect the privacy of any person who is checked and maintain confidentiality of any information obtained through the checking process.
- j) Return information collected during screening (such as a completed MPD form, police records and referee reports) to the relevant person if that person is not appointed to the position, or otherwise be destroyed within twenty eight (28) days of the date of the decision or the expiry of any appeal period, unless within that time the person requests that the documents be returned to them. For appointed persons, information will be kept on file in a secure location.

## **Schedule 6 Bleeding & Blood Borne Infection Policy**

- a) The WAFL follows the AFL policy in this area.
- b) Any Club not adhering to the policy set out in the Laws of Australian Football may be fined in accordance with Rule 14.

## Schedule 7 WAFL Venues Policy

The WAFL Venues Policy is developed in conjunction with the AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines, whereby state league competitions are defined. These AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines should be used to inform the provision and development of venues, facilities and amenities. The Guidelines outline the preferred facility requirements for competition, training and programing activities that may take place at the venue, specifically minimum standards to facilitate State League Football.

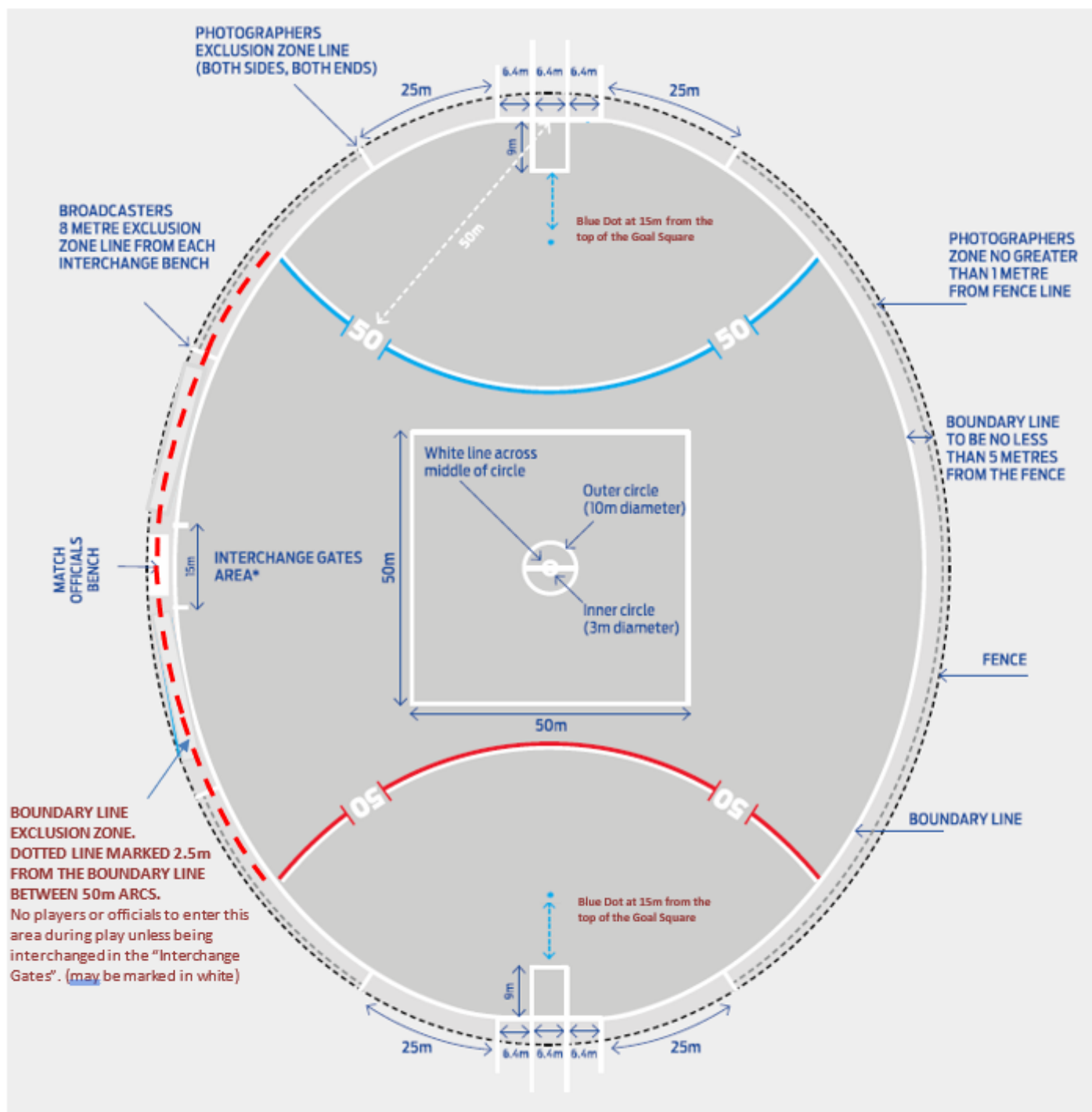
The information presented within the guidelines refers to the **typical minimum levels** of provision recommended for each venue type and its defined use for Australian Football as defined below:

- They primarily service State League and elite underage competitions and are viewed as second tier competition venues
- Used for high performance training and community competition finals, they are maintained to a showcase level, offering higher standards of amenities with perimeter and reserve fencing and the capacity to cater for larger crowds.
- There is a growing need for State Level facilities to provide year-round football activity for talent and pathway training and programing.

The WAFC, specifically WAFL Operations, is required to be involved in all aspects of the planning and execution of a new facility. Should any deviation occur from the current guidelines, the WAFC has the final decision on what is considered the minimum standard at that given time and can operate outside of the minimum standards guidelines, acting in the best interests for football.

Link to [AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines](#)

- a) At WAFL venues the Playing Arena set out in the diagram below shall apply, as extracted from the Laws of Australian Football:



b) The Playing field preferred oval dimensions shall be oval in shape at least 150 metres in length and 110 metres in width (unless otherwise approved) – for new developments the preferred playing dimensions are 165m (length) and 135m (width) and marked in accordance with Law 3.2 (b) of the Laws of Australian Football as follows:

- i. A white line shall be marked on the ground to identify the Playing Surface.
- ii. This white line shall be drawn in the shape of an arc from the behind post at one end of the Playing Surface to the behind post at the other end of the Playing Surface.
- iii. The white lines which are drawn are called the Boundary Lines.

- c) In accordance with Law 3.5 of the Laws of Australian Football, the following areas shall be marked on the Playing Surface:
- i. Located in the centre of the Playing Surface, the centre square is to be 50 metres long and 50 metres wide.
  - ii. The Centre Circle is to be 3 metres in diameter and an outer circle 10 metres in diameter which shall:
  - iii. be located in the middle of the Centre Square; and
  - iv. both be divided into two semicircles, by drawing a straight line parallel with each goal line; and
  - v. in the event of adverse weather conditions the home Club have the option of a secondary centre circle which is off the cricket pitch table but still remains within the original centre square;
  - vi. An Interchange Area, which shall be 15 metres wide;
    - a. The interchange area must be marked in accordance with the “interchange gates’ markings
    - b. For the avoidance of doubt, the interchange area located on the wing, may be greater than 15m apart if the interchange gates are equidistant from both teams benches. If there is any doubt, contact WAFL Operations.
  - vii. A Goal Square at each end of the Playing Surface;
  - viii. The Goal Line and Behind Line; and
  - ix. A Fifty-Metre Arc at each end of the Playing Surface.
- d) In accordance with the Laws of Australian Football the following requirements shall apply for the Goal Area:
- i. Two (2) Goal Posts located 6.4 metres apart and shall be placed at each end of the playing ground; and
  - ii. Two (2) Behind Posts shall be placed at a distance of 6.4 metres from each goal post and in a straight line with them; and
  - iii. Two (2) lines shall be drawn at right angles to the goal line for a distance of nine metres from each post. The outer end of these lines shall be connected by a straight line. These lines shall be marked in white and known as the kick off lines.
- e) In accordance with the Laws of Australian Football the following requirements shall apply for the dimensions and covering of goal and behind posts:
- i. the goal posts are to be tapered and be a minimum length of 10 metres out of the ground (preferred is greater than 12 metres - AFL is 15 metres out of the ground);
  - ii. the diameter of the base is to be 115mm, or as determined by constructions specifications;
  - iii. the diameter of the top is to be 90mm, or as determined by constructions specifications;
  - iv. the point posts are to be tapered and a minimum length of 6.5 metres out of ground (preferred is two thirds the height of the goal posts - AFL is 10 metres out of the ground) with the following dimensions;
  - v. the diameter of the base is to be 75mm, or as determined by constructions specifications; and
  - vi. the diameter of the top is to be 55mm, or as determined by constructions

specifications.

- vii. goal and behind post padding (wrap arounds) with the following dimensions
  - viii. Minimum length of 2.5 metres (preferred is 3 metres)
  - ix. Thickness of 35mm (preferred is 50mm)
  - x. Width to suit post diameter
  - xi. Padding to have threaded cord and/or Velcro holding padding secure to post
  - xii. Made from high impact foam padding covered in white waterproof material
  - xiii. Flag Holders (attached to Goal Posts)
  - xiv. The Flag Holders are to be made of PVC, and capped at the bottom
  - xv. The diameter of the Flag Holder is to be 50mm
  - xvi. The length of the Flag Holder is to be 500mm
  - xvii. The flag holders are to be attached to the Goal Posts at a height of 600mm from the ground
- f) The ground must be fully enclosed to effect entry and exit points. Turnstiles or other appropriate measures should be installed to ensure that accurate crowd attendance figures are recorded. (Reserve or Enclosed Venue Fencing)
- g) Playing Arena Fencing should be approximately 900mm high with mesh in-fill, white pickets or similar and allow adequate run-off distance from the playing field boundary line (minimum boundary run-off of 5.5m).
- h) Adequate gates/access for maintenance and emergency vehicles, Players and officials is required.
- i) Every WAFL Venue must provide bench seating in the Interchange Bench area to each of the competing teams in accordance with the following requirements:
- i. bench seating is to be a minimum of six (6) metres long to cater for up to twelve (12) people;
  - ii. each bench is to be covered with roof or canopy for protection against the weather, should have at least three fixed sides to provide shelter and not impede viewing – preferably made from a clear Perspex material to aid spectator viewing. Both benches are to be sufficient distance from the fence line to prevent any contact with the football public.
  - iii. the location of the benches should be on centre wing – ideally on the western side of the oval (or side not facing the sun) to reduce sun glare, a sufficient distance apart, so there is no contact with opposition team;
  - iv. Interchange benches should be located outside the minimum oval run-off area, but may form part of the boundary fence (ensuring any part of the structure does not impeded on or into the field of play).
  - v. the provision of water and power to interchange areas is required to provide enhanced benefits and functionality and support boundary-side technology use by coaching personnel.
  - vi. Umpires/officials box should be located between the two interchange benches and be a similar construction.
  - vii. the interchange gate markings are to be outlined by the home team prior to the game and must be within 10 meters of the interchange benches for both Clubs.
  - viii. The use of plastic cones to mark the interchange area is strictly prohibited.
  - ix. Player and Umpire races; designed to separate spectators, teams and umpires



- when entering and exiting the field of play.
- x. Player races should be at least 20m apart from each other and provide a direct path from player change rooms to field of play.
  - xi. A separate race for umpires to enter the field of play directly from the umpires' amenities is desirable.
- j) The minimum requirements for change rooms at all WAFL Venues are as follows:
- i. separate change rooms for each competing Club;
  - ii. changeroom size of not less than 75 m<sup>2</sup> (preferred is 75-95m<sup>2</sup>);
  - iii. floors must be carpeted or, alternatively, heavy industrial non-slip matting should be used;
  - iv. player amenities (Wet areas) of not less than 35m<sup>2</sup>;
  - v. bathroom and shower floors are to be safe for all Players and staff to walk on with any type of footwear;
  - vi. a recommended minimum of thirty (30) lockers to be available for use by Players/team staff;
  - vii. Bench seating to be provided in front of lockers;
  - viii. a minimum of five (5) lockable shower cubicles per amenity area ;
  - ix. a minimum of five (5) pan toilet cubicles per amenity area;
  - x. all toilet cubicles should provide sanitary bins and lockable doors to support inclusive use.
- k) All WAFL venues must provide sufficient area for Players to stretch and exercise in preparation for the game.
- l) All WAFL venues should provide a Trainers Room at a minimum size of 20m<sup>2</sup>.
- m) All WAFL venues should provide a Doctors Room at a minimum size of 15m<sup>2</sup>
- n) All WAFL venues should provide a First Aid/Medical Room at a minimum size of 15m<sup>2</sup>, containing the following features:
- i. relevant phone numbers of Ambulance, Relevant hospitals, emergency centres and other medical emergency contacts;
  - ii. at least four (4) massage tables are to be provided for the purpose of rub downs and strapping.
  - iii. flexible or mobile light examination couch;
  - iv. power points;
  - v. sink with hot and cold water, central nozzle and lever taps (to scrub for sterile procedures);
  - vi. sharp disposable containers with wide mouth access so syringes and needles can be disposed of;
  - vii. disposal unit for bloodied dressing;
  - viii. rubbish bins;
  - ix. soap dispenser above or near sink;
  - x. hand towel dispenser or loose paper leaves dispenser near sink; and
  - xi. Jordan Frame/Ferno Scoop stretcher
- o) A separate room with toilet facilities allowing for privacy must be available for the purpose of drug testing.
- p) A separate lock-up room must be provided for storage of player's personal belongings is preferable, or alternatively a secure area within the change rooms. This area can also be

utilised for the distribution of all Players' uniforms, boots etc.

- q) A room/area separate from the change rooms (preferably theatre style) is to be provided with accommodates up to 30 Players/officials providing privacy for the Coach to address the Players. Where this is not possible there must be adequate room and equipment for a Coach to address the Players.
- r) A covered coaches box suitable for accommodating at least seven (7) persons shall be provided for each participating team positioned as near as practicable to the interchange area.
- s) Both the Home and Visiting Coaching Boxes must have a suitable telephone / wireless communication device from the Coaches Box to the interchange bench.
- t) Races shall be provided for the Umpires and both teams and must be manned and closed when Players are to enter or leave the arena. Spectators should not enter race area. A stretcher is to be provided in each Player's race.
- u) A room of at least thirty (30m<sup>2</sup> – 40m<sup>2</sup>) must be provided to the Umpires' for their use, and have the following features:
  - Umpire change rooms should accommodate for all genders using and sharing the space concurrently. All personal changing is recommended to take place within designated ensuite cubicle areas.
  - To better cater for this, it is recommended that any new or redeveloped umpire amenities are designed with individual ensuite cubicles that contain a shower, change space, pan toilet and hand basin. Providing pan toilet cubicles separate to shower cubicles may also be considered to increase flexibility of use.
  - The inclusion of an umpires briefing room or area for umpire panel discussions (pre, during and post match) is preferred and strongly encouraged.
    - i. at least four (4) lockable amenity ensuite cubicles;
    - ii. minimum of fourteen (14) hooks;
    - iii. at least one (1) rub down table;
    - iv. mirror;
    - v. lights; and
    - vi. Umpires must not be required to enter either team's change rooms to use their facilities.
- v) An appropriate viewing area, undercover with a clear unobstructed view of the entire ground is to be provided for Competition Statisticians, Broadcasters (Television, Live Stream, Radio and Print Media).
- w) All Venues must allocate an elevated position in the centre of the ground (on the northern or western wing depending on ground orientation) with a minimum number of seats and benches for commentators with unrestricted view of the ground. It is particularly important that the camera and commentary position be located right on centre wing.
- x) All Venues must allocate an elevated position in the centre of the ground, which is undercover with a clear unobstructed view of the entire ground (on the northern or western wing depending on ground orientation) for Vision Capture (Broadcast and Match Capture);
  - i. The WAFL's official broadcaster/s will require access to both ground level and elevated locations around the Venue to position cameras and associated equipment.
  - ii. The number of camera positions required will depend on the nature of the Match and will be advised by the WAFL.
  - iii. The camera area must be suitable for the camera operators to set up their

cameras appropriately and to be able to pan the cameras without any obstructions.

- iv. Typical camera positions for Matches include the following:
  - a. Camera 1 – Main camera position (centre wing);
  - b. Camera 2 – Main camera position (centre wing);
  - c. Camera 3 – 25 metre low left;
  - d. Camera 4 – 25 metre low right;
  - e. Camera 5 – Behind Goals
  - f. Interchange bench cameras;
- y) A suitable separate area shall be provided under cover to accommodate the timekeepers who shall be separated from the press/media area. This area should be centrally located to the oval.
- z) All WAFL Venues shall have a public address system that is audible in all parts of the ground capable of accommodating spectators.
- aa) A time clock must be provided at all WAFL Venues. (exemptions may be requested for regional fixtures)
- bb) All WAFL venues should have access to defibrillator.
- cc) All WAFL venues are to have an AFL approved siren, and an emergency siren/bell shall be provided to cover any failure of the main unit. The venue must be able to test all sirens individually prior to game day.
- dd) A scoreboard must be provided at all venues.
- ee) For the avoidance of doubt, WAFL Venues should adhere to the benchmark standards within the AFL Venue Guidelines.
- ff) Any breach of this schedule or any policy contained in these Rules may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14 or at the absolute discretion of the WAFC .

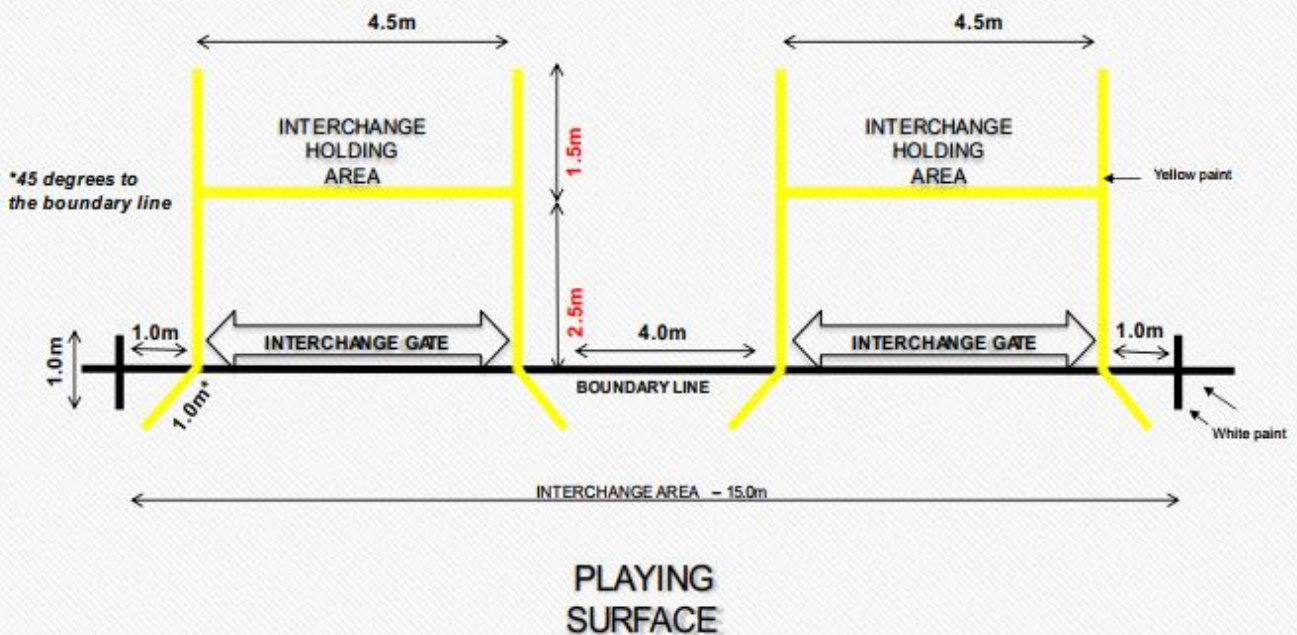
### **Boundary Line Exclusion Zone**

The following requirements will apply to all venues approved for WAFL matches.

- i. A white dotted line must be marked 2.5m from the boundary line between the 50m arcs on the side of the ground where the interchange gates are located.
- ii. This marked line should intersect with the 2.5m 'Interchange Gates' markings.
- iii. No Players or Officials may enter this area during play unless being interchanged in the 'interchange gates' as per Rule 3.6.2 b).

### **Interchange Gates**

## AFL Interchange Gate Markings



### Synthetic Turf

- There must be clearance of at least 1.5 metres of natural turf between any synthetic turf and the boundary line (unless otherwise approved).
- The synthetic turf must be provided and installed by an AFL approved supplier. Refer to [www.aflcommunityclub.com.au](http://www.aflcommunityclub.com.au) for further details of synthetic turf suppliers. The synthetic turf must be tested to meet the performance standards and have certification from the AFL Competition Operations Manager and Facilities and Project Manager

## Schedule 8 Lighting for Night Football Policy

### Minimum Standards

- a) The following lighting standard is the recommended minimum for the conduct of games for the WAFL competition under lights:

Maintained illuminance	500 lux (horizontal)
Minimum uniformity ( $U_1$ )	0.7
Minimum uniformity ( $U_2$ )	0.5
Insurance	All Clubs are advised to notify their insurer that night football is to be played at their venue

- b) In the event a ground has existing lighting the following minimum standard may apply, however the Club is expected to make every endeavour to achieve the standard as detailed above. Between the months of April to October, or otherwise determined by the WAFC, the WAFC may not sanction a night game below the standard detailed below:

Maintained illuminance	200 lux (horizontal)
Minimum uniformity ( $U_1$ )	0.6
Minimum uniformity ( $U_2$ )	0.4

### Maintained Illuminance

- a) The maintained illumination within the playing arena, on a horizontal plane at ground level, allows for depreciation of the lumen output of the lamp and an accumulation of dirt on the floodlights.
- b) It is necessary to make an adjustment to the installed level to determine the maintained illuminance.
- c) Although the depreciation of the lamp lumen output will depend on the lamp selected, a depreciation factor of approximately 0.8 would apply.
- d) Technical data from the selected lamps will allow specific calculations to be made.

### Uniformity

- a) The distribution of light across the playing surface should be reasonably uniform. The calculation of uniformity is normally undertaken as part of a computer program, but may be defined as:

Uniformity ( $U_2$ )	$E_{\min}/E_{\text{ave}}$
Where	$E_{\min}$ is the minimum value of the calculation or measurement grid $E_{\text{ave}}$ is the average illuminance of the calculation or measurement grid

### Measurements

- a) All measurements should be undertaken by an approved contractor who must present a recent calibration certificate for the meters used in obtaining the measurements. Measurements must be undertaken as per AS 2560.

**Australian Standard 2560.2.-2021**

- a) The WAFL lighting standards have been developed using the standards set by AS 2560 as a guide.
- b) From a Player comfort point of view the standards described in AS 2560 are at the lower end of the scale.
- c) WAFL standards have been increased accordingly and have been based on other successful installations around Australia.

## **Schedule 9 Uniform Policy WAFL teams**

### **Application of Licence Agreement**

- a) Nothing in this Uniform Policy shall in any way undermine the terms of the Licence Agreement as applied to the relevant WAFL Club.

The WAFL Club must fulfil all obligations set out in the Licence Agreement so far as they apply, including but not limited to those obligations relating to sponsors and advertising when applying this Uniform Policy.

### **Club Jumper Design & Colours**

- a) Every Club upon admission to the League by the WAFC shall apply for and obtain permission of the WAFC to use the colours, uniform and design in which the Club proposes to play. This uniform, when approved, shall be registered in the minutes of the WAFC Football Affairs meetings.
- b) Any Club desiring to vary or alter its colours, uniform or design shall first apply for and obtain the permission of the WAFC to make such variation or alteration and when approved the same shall be registered by the same process, provided always that notice of such change of colours or alteration of design is given to the League not later than the first day of December in the preceding year to that in which such change is to be effected.
- c) Registration of such colours, uniform and design by Clubs shall give such Clubs the exclusive right to such colours, uniform and design as against any other Club subsequently attempting to register the same colours, uniform and design.
- d) The materials used and the manufacturing process of Club uniforms must be approved by the WAFC, who will have regard to the product license agreements from time to time in force. Any variation to the approved material or manufacturing process must be approved by the WAFC.
- e) All jumpers must adhere to the agreed WAFL Jumper template. (see below).
- f) The WAFC may involve a competition apparel sponsor. If so then all Clubs must comply with the sponsorship requirements.
- g) The WAFC may also, on behalf of the Clubs and to be agreed by the Clubs, sell advertising on the jumpers, shorts or socks. All Clubs must comply with correct competition sponsors badges on their uniform.
- h) All sponsorships and apparel advertising must be agreed to by the WAFC. The WAFC may make decisions in this regard on behalf of the Clubs.
- i) The following guidelines cover advertising space on jumpers. Clubs must also obtain approval for the type of sponsor from the WAFC prior to any new sponsors' logos being displayed on Club Uniform.
- j) Any breach of this Uniform Policy may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14.

### Club Shorts

- a) Players are permitted to wear their Club uniform coloured shorts at all games except where there is deemed to be a clash of colours. In such situations, the "home" team will wear its Club uniform coloured shorts and the "away" team will wear white shorts.
- b) Home shorts colours are:
  - Claremont – Navy
  - East Fremantle – Blue
  - East Perth – Blue
  - Peel Thunder – Navy
  - Perth – Black
  - South Fremantle – Red
  - Subiaco – Maroon
  - Swan Districts – Black
  - West Perth – Blue
  - West Coast Eagles – White
- c) For the purposes of this Policy, the following colours are considered to clash:

Black	v	Black, Blue, Maroon, Navy
Blue	v	Blue, Navy, Black
Maroon	v	Navy, Black
Navy	v	Black, Blue, Maroon
Red	v	Nil
- d) Any Club whose Players to take the field in a uniform which does not comply with these requirements commits an offence in each match in which such uniform is worn.
- e) Undershorts may be worn by a Player provided that the material is of a neutral beige colour only, unless the WAFC has approved a Player to wear an alternative colour, and does not contain any Sponsor Advertising.

### Club Socks

- a) Players must wear their Clubs agreed coloured socks. These socks may have a sponsor's badge/logo on them. All changes to sock designs and or sponsor logos must be approved by the WAFC.
- b) Players socks must be the minimum approved length as determined by the WAFC.

### Club Sock Advertising Space

- a) No restriction on Logo size and can be placed anywhere but must be endorsed by the WAFC.
- b) Clubs may utilise the opportunity of using body transfers to promote sponsors. Transfers must be no larger than 5cm x 5cm (or equivalent) and are subject to approval by the WAFC.



## Other Apparel

- a) No Player shall wear any cap or hat during the course of a Match.
- b) Undershorts may be worn by a Player provided that the material is of a neutral beige colour only, unless the WAFC has approved a Player to wear an alternative colour, and does not contain any Sponsor Advertising.
- c) All bandages elasticised or otherwise shall be of soft material and neutral beige coloured.
- d) Gloves approved by the WAFC may be worn provided that all Sponsor Advertising has been removed from the gloves. No gloves other than those approved by the WAFC shall be worn during a Match.
- e) Armbands may be worn provided they are black in colour, and with no sponsorship or branding unless otherwise approved by the WAFC at its discretion.
- f) Any apparel that is attached to a Player's boots as an addition to the boot must first be approved by the WAFC at its discretion.
- g) Approval must be sought from the WAFC prior to Players wearing wristbands during a Match.
- h) Headbands worn during a Match must be unobtrusive and hair or Club colour.
- i) Bobby pins are not permitted to be worn during a Match.
- j) Metal stops on boots are not permitted to be worn during a Match
- k) No words that are offensive or prejudicial to the interests of the WAFC are permitted to be written on any uniform, bandages or skin of any Player or Person during a Match.
- l) It will be the sole discretion of the WAFC to allow or disallow the use of any other apparel not addressed in these schedules.
- m) Any breach of this schedule or any policy contained in these Rules may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14 or at the absolute discretion of the WAFC .

## On field Apparel Guidelines (table below)



# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

## WAFL LEAGUE & RESERVES

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
GUERNSEY				
A	Manufacturer Mark	Apparel Manufacturer	Max width 5 cm Total max 15 cm <sup>2</sup>	Sekem, ISC or New Balance
B	Competition Major Partner Front chest right	WAFC	Max width 11 cm	Sullivan Logistics
C	Club Partner 1 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
D	Club Partner 2 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
E	Club Partner 3 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
F	Club Partner 4 Front stomach	Club	1 partner Max 375 cm <sup>2</sup> Max height 15 cm Recommended use: 30 cm x 12.5 cm or 25 cm x 15 cm	
G H I	G: Club Logo H: WAFL Retro Logo I: Manufacturer Logo	Club / WAFC / Apparel Manufacturer	Total max 9 cm x 5 cm G / H: 3 cm width I: 6 cm width	Sekem, ISC or New Balance
J	Club Partner 5 Upper back	Club	1 logo only Shoulder width Max 8 cm high	
K	Club Partner 6 Lower back	Club	1 logo 27 cm wide x 12.25 cm high	

NB: Playing numbers must remain as shown with the WAFL retro logo placed inside rear jumper numbers. WAFL retro logo must remain in centre chest



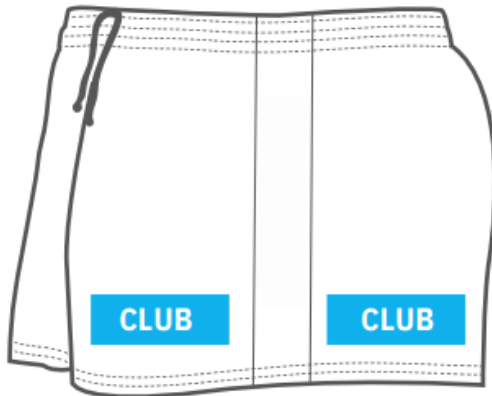


# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

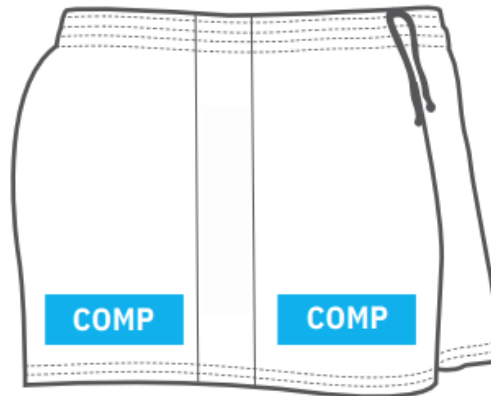
## WAFL LEAGUE & RESERVES

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
<b>SHORTS</b>				
Front Right	Competition Partner 1	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	Channel 7
Back Right	Competition Partner 2	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Front Left	Club partner 1	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Back Left	Club partner 2	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	

LEFT LEG



RIGHT LEG



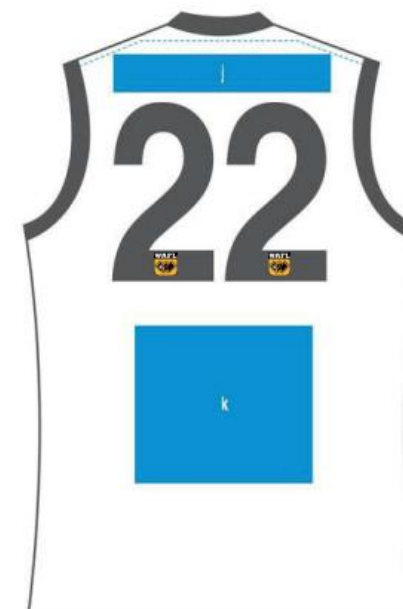


# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

## WAFL COLTS

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
<b>GUERNSEY</b>				
A	Manufacturer Mark	Apparel Manufacturer	Max width 5 cm Total max 15 cm <sup>2</sup>	Sekem or ISC
B	Competition Naming Rights Partner. Front chest right	WAFC	Max width 11 cm	Electrical Group Training (EGT)
C	Club Partner 1 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
D	Club Partner 2 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
E	Club Partner 3 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
F	Club Partner 4 Front stomach	Club	1 partner Max 375 cm <sup>2</sup> Max height 15 cm Recommended use: 30 cm x 12.5 cm or 25 cm x 15 cm	
G H I	G: Club Logo H: WAFL Retro Logo I: Manufacturer Logo	Club / WAFC / Apparel Manufacturer	Total max 9 cm x 5 cm G / H: 3 cm width I: 6 cm width	Sekem or ISC
J	Club Partner 5 Upper back	Club	1 logo only Shoulder width Max 8 cm high	
K	Competition Partner Lower back	WAFC	1 logo 27 cm wide x 12.25 cm high	

NB: Playing numbers must remain as shown with the WAFL retro logo placed inside rear jumper numbers. WAFL retro logo must remain in centre chest

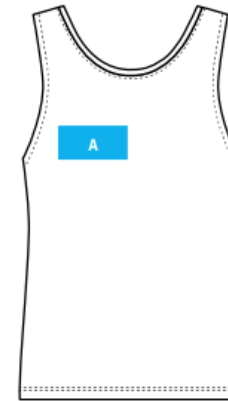
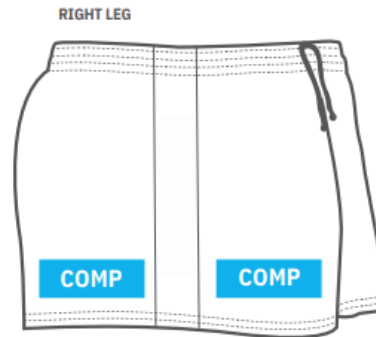
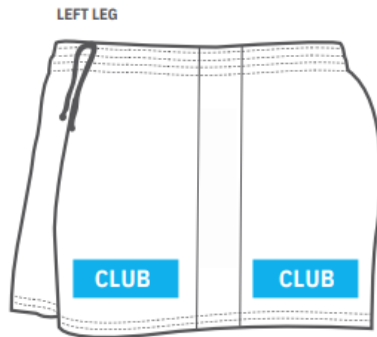




# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

## WAFL COLTS

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
<b>SHORTS</b>				
Front Right	Competition Partner	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	Sullivan Logistics
Back Right	Competition Naming Rights Partner	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	Electrical Group Training (EGT)
Front Left	Club Partner 1	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Back Left	Club Partner 2	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	



### OFF-FIELD (UPPER BODY ONLY)

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS
<b>TRAINING SHIRTS / SINGLETS / JUMPERS / JACKETS</b>			
A	Club Partner	Club	Max width 11 cm

NB: No other WAFC partner branding requirements for off-field / training apparel. Club may utilise any other positions

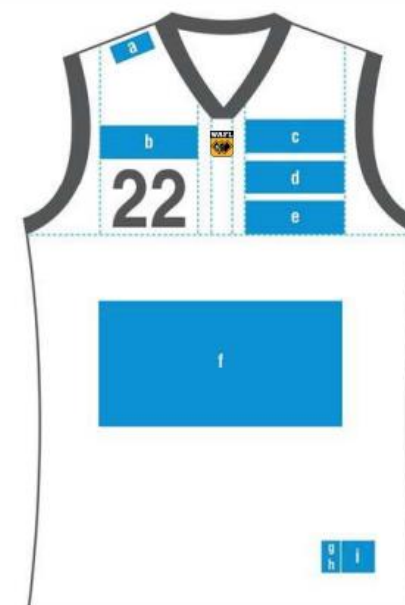


# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

## WAFL FUTURES PROGRAM

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
<b>GUERNEY</b>				
A	Manufacturer Mark	Apparel Manufacturer	Max width 5 cm Total max 15 cm <sup>2</sup>	Sekem or ISC
B	Competition Naming Rights Partner. Front chest right	WAFC	Max width 11 cm	
C	Club Partner 1 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
D	Club Partner 2 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
E	Club Partner 3 Front chest left	Club	Max width 11 cm per logo (70 cm <sup>2</sup> per logo) Total max C, D & E (all 3 logos) 210 cm <sup>2</sup>	
F	Club Partner 4 Front stomach	Club	1 partner Max 375 cm <sup>2</sup> Max height 15 cm Recommended use: 30 cm x 12.5 cm or 25 cm x 15 cm	
G H I	G: Club Logo H: WAFL Retro Logo I: Manufacturer Logo	Club / WAFC / Apparel Manufacturer	Total max 9 cm x 5 cm G / H: 3 cm width I: 6 cm width	Sekem or ISC
J	Club Partner 5 Upper back	Club	1 logo only Shoulder width Max 8 cm high	
K	Competition Partner Lower back	WAFC	1 logo 27 cm wide x 12.25 cm high	

NB: Playing numbers must remain as shown with the WAFL retro logo placed inside rear jumper numbers. WAFL retro logo must remain in centre chest



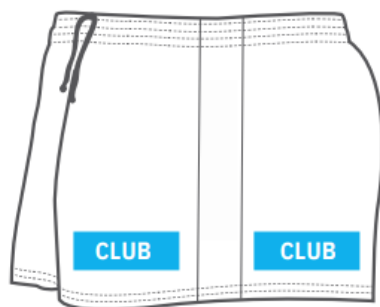


# 2024 APPAREL GUIDELINES

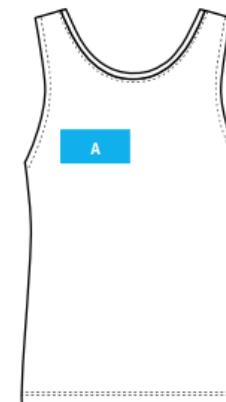
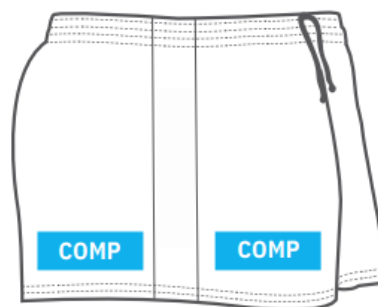
## WAFL FUTURES PROGRAM

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS	2024 PARTNER
<b>SHORTS</b>				
Front Right	Competition Partner 1	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Back Right	Competition Partner 2	WAFC	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Front Left	Club Partner 1	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	
Back Left	Club Partner 2	Club	Max width 12 cm, max 70 cm <sup>2</sup>	

LEFT LEG



RIGHT LEG



### OFF-FIELD (UPPER BODY ONLY)

KEY	PROPERTY	ASSET OWNER	DIMENSIONS
<b>TRAINING SHIRTS / SINGLETS / JUMPERS / JACKETS</b>			
A	Club Partner	Club	Max width 11 cm

NB: No other WAFC partner branding requirements for off-field / training apparel. Club may utilise any other positions



Approval for all short logos must be sought from the WAFC.

### Club Football Boots

- a) Football Boots must be worn when playing in the WAFL and form a part of the official uniform.

### Umpires Uniform

- a) The standard Umpire's (field and boundary) uniform is a predominantly green shirt worn with grey shorts and Green socks.
- b) The standard Umpire's (Goal) uniform is a predominately green shirt worn with black pants.

#### Field Umpires



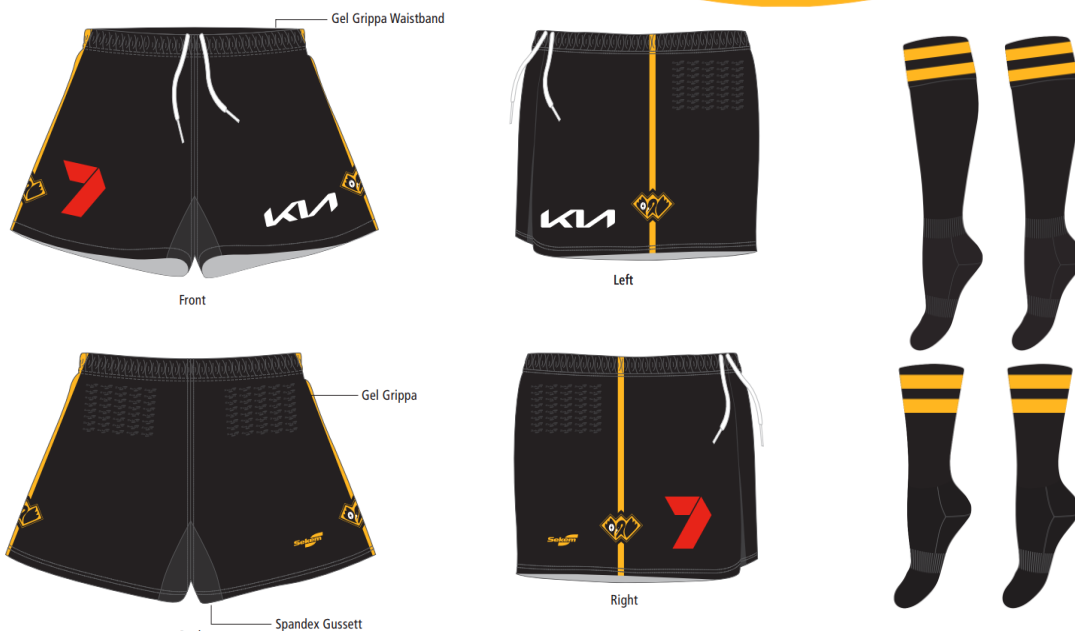
#### Boundary Umpires





## State Team

- a) The design of the State Jumper shall be gold and black, with a swan insignia on the front of the Jumper.



## Schedule 10 Concussion Policy

The WAFL Competition will be guided by the AFL Concussion Management Policy “The Management of Sport-Related Concussion in Australian Football”

<https://play.afl/learning-resource/afl-community-concussion-guidelines#article-0>

**These guidelines are intended to assist in the management of concussion and do not replace the need to seek medical assessment.**

Below is an excerpt from The Management of Sport-Related Concussion in Australian Football which the WAFL have adopted:

### **Purpose:**

1. To ensure that healthcare practitioners (including, but not limited to, general practitioners and physiotherapists), AFL First Aiders and sports trainers, coaches, teachers, players and parents understand how to recognise and manage concussion in Australian Football
2. To protect the short and long-term health and safety of all Australian Football players across all levels of competition from the risks presented by concussion and repeated head trauma.

Head impacts can be associated with serious and potentially fatal brain injuries.

In the early stages of injury, it is often not clear whether you are dealing with a concussion or there is a more severe underlying structural head injury. For this reason, the most important steps in initial management include:

### **Day of Injury Management:**

1. **Recognising** that a player may have suffered a concussion or injury to their brain;
  2. **Removing** the player from the match or training; and
  3. **Referring** the player to a medical doctor for assessment
  4. Where there is no medical doctor present to assess the player, or the diagnosis of concussion cannot be ruled out at the time of injury, the player must NOT be allowed to return to play in the same match / training session.
- 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 match or training session.
  - At a minimum, there should be an appropriately accredited AFL First Aider or sports trainer at every match and the basic rules of first aid should be used when dealing with any player who is unconscious or injured.

### **Return to play protocols:**

The most important aspect of return to play protocols is guiding the player through key stages rather than simply following suggested timeframes or the number of days post injury:

The critical stages for return to play following concussion include:

1. A **brief** period of **relative rest** (24-48 hours)
2. A period of **recovery**
3. A **graded loading program** (with medical clearance required before full contact training),
4. Clearance by a medical doctor (prior to returning to competitive contact sport / full contact training sessions).

- Players should not enter stage 3, the graded loading program, until they have recovered from their concussion. Recovery means that all concussion-related symptoms and signs have fully resolved (for at least 24 hours) at rest and with intense physical exertion, and they have successfully returned to work and/or study, without restrictions.
- Any concussed player must not return to competitive contact sport (including full contact training sessions) before they have completed all stages of the return to play process and obtained medical clearance.
- How concussion presents and the rate and pattern of recovery vary from person to person and injury to injury. Players will also have different individual circumstances (e.g. the number of previous concussions) and priorities (e.g. return to school in young people). The return to play program must be individualised based on progress, rather than the number of days since the incident.
- The earliest that the player may return to play (once they have completed a graded loading program and have obtained medical clearance) is on the 21st day following the concussion (where the day of concussion is designated day "0", see Figures 3 and 4). This means that a player who is concussed in a match on a Saturday will miss at least the next two Saturday matches and will only be able to return to play on the third Saturday (i.e. the 21st day after the concussion was sustained) if they have recovered according to the protocols and have been medically cleared to return to play. In many cases, recovery will be slower than the minimum 21 days.

#### What is Concussion:

- Concussion should be suspected when there is a possible mechanism of injury (e.g. direct knock to the head or forceful impact to the body) that may have been observed or reported, and/or the player exhibits any one or more visual signs or reports any symptoms.
- In many cases, the trainer may not see exactly what happened and the possibility of a concussion should be kept in mind.
- The key to recognising concussion is looking, asking and listening, and then monitoring the player for any changes over time.

**Look** for visual clues suggesting a possible concussion. These include:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Loss of consciousness or responsiveness</li> <li>iii. Vomiting</li> <li>v. Unsteady on feet/balance problems or falling over/incoordination</li> <li>vii. Dazed, blank or vacant look</li> <li>ix. Impaired memory (unable to recall events leading up to or following the injury)</li> <li>xi. Player does not seem like their normal self</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Lying motionless on the ground/slow to get up</li> <li>iv. Tonic posturing or impact seizure</li> <li>vi. Grabbing/clutching of the head</li> <li>viii. Confused/not aware of plays or events</li> <li>x. Facial injury</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

Loss of consciousness, confusion and memory disturbance are all classic features of concussion. The problem with relying on these features to identify a suspected concussion is that they are not present in every case.

**Ask** about (and listen for) symptoms reported by the player. Symptoms that should raise suspicion of concussion include:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| i. Headache                        | ii. Nausea or feeling like vomiting          |
| iii. Blurred vision                | iv. Balance problems or dizziness            |
| v. Feeling “dinged” or “dazed”     | vi. “Don’t feel right”                       |
| vii. Sensitivity to light or noise | viii. More emotional or irritable than usual |
| ix. Sadness                        | x. Feeling nervous or anxious                |
| xi. Neck pain                      | xii. Feeling slowed down                     |
| xiii. Feeling like in a fog        | xiv. Difficulty concentrating                |
| xv. Difficulty remembering         |  |

### **Removing the player from the match or training**

- The basic rules of first aid should be used when dealing with any player who is unconscious or injured (see below).
- Removing the conscious player from the match or training session allows the first aid provider time and space to assess the player properly. Ideally, the assessment should take place in a quiet, distraction-free environment, such as the change rooms.
- **Any player with a concussion or suspected concussion must be immediately removed from practice or play and not be allowed to return in the same match or training session.** Do not be swayed by the opinion of the player, teammates, trainers, coaching staff, parents or others suggesting a premature return to play.

### **For teams with a medical doctor on the sideline**

- For teams with a medical doctor on the sidelines **who has experience in the management of concussion in sport, and has an ongoing role in the care of the players**, the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 6th Edition (SCAT6) can be used in the assessment and management of the player.
- The player should be removed from the field and must be assessed in a quiet distraction-free environment (such as the team rooms) with the player in a resting state.
- The player should then be thoroughly assessed, including the use of the SCAT6.
- The time taken to complete the SCAT6 is at least 10 minutes.
- If the diagnosis of concussion is confirmed following assessment, then the player must not be returned to play or training on the day.
- In cases where the doctor has conducted a thorough sideline assessment and is satisfied that the player does not have a concussion, then the doctor can clear the player to return to play.
- The clinical features of concussion may be delayed or evolve over several hours. Consequently, in any cases where there is uncertainty about the diagnosis after an initial assessment, the player must be managed conservatively on the day of injury (i.e. not returned to play).
- Furthermore, all players who have had a concussion assessment during the match and are

returned to play must be regularly medically assessed during the match and when clinically indicated undergo repeat SCAT6 assessment after the match (or the following day).

- The doctor is expected to maintain comprehensive notes on any assessment conducted on the players under their care.

#### **For teams with allied healthcare practitioners involved in the care of players**

- Experienced allied healthcare practitioners (e.g., physiotherapists, osteopaths, chiropractors) are an important part of the team in the recognition and management of concussion. Allied healthcare practitioners who are familiar with the use of the SCAT6 (including its interpretation, strengths and limitations) may use the tool in the initial assessment and to help guide the progress of players through the return to play protocols. It is important to note however that the confirmation of the **diagnosis of concussion** and **clearance** before return to full contact training **must** still be made by a **medical doctor**.

#### **For teams without an allied healthcare practitioners involved in the care of players**

- Tools such as the Concussion Recognition Tool 6th edition (CRT6) and the HeadCheck App should be used to help identify a suspected concussion.
- The AFL has also developed a Match Day Head Injury Assessment Tool and Referral Form for community competitions to assist in the recognition and management of concussion ([afl-community-concussion-guidelines](#) - see Appendix 2). The form also ensures that important information about the injury and the player's initial symptoms are communicated accurately and completely to the doctor assessing the player.
- It is important to note that brief sideline evaluation tools are not intended to replace a more comprehensive medical assessment and should never be used as a stand-alone tool for the management of concussion.
- A pre-match/pre-training checklist should be printed and provided to trainers and other staff involved in the care of players. The checklist should include contact details for:
  - Local hospital emergency departments,
  - Ambulance services (000) and access to the venue, and
  - Local general practices.
- The pre-match checklist should also be provided to trainers and medical staff of the away team, who are likely to be less familiar with local medical services.

### **1. Process for WAFL Clubs**

- a) A Player suspected of having suffered a head injury/concussion or is knocked unconscious shall:
  - i. Be assessed by any Healthcare Practitioner (AHPRA registered health care practitioner with appropriate training and experience in concussion assessment and management) using the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool ([SCAT6](#)), preferably within 10 minutes of the incident.

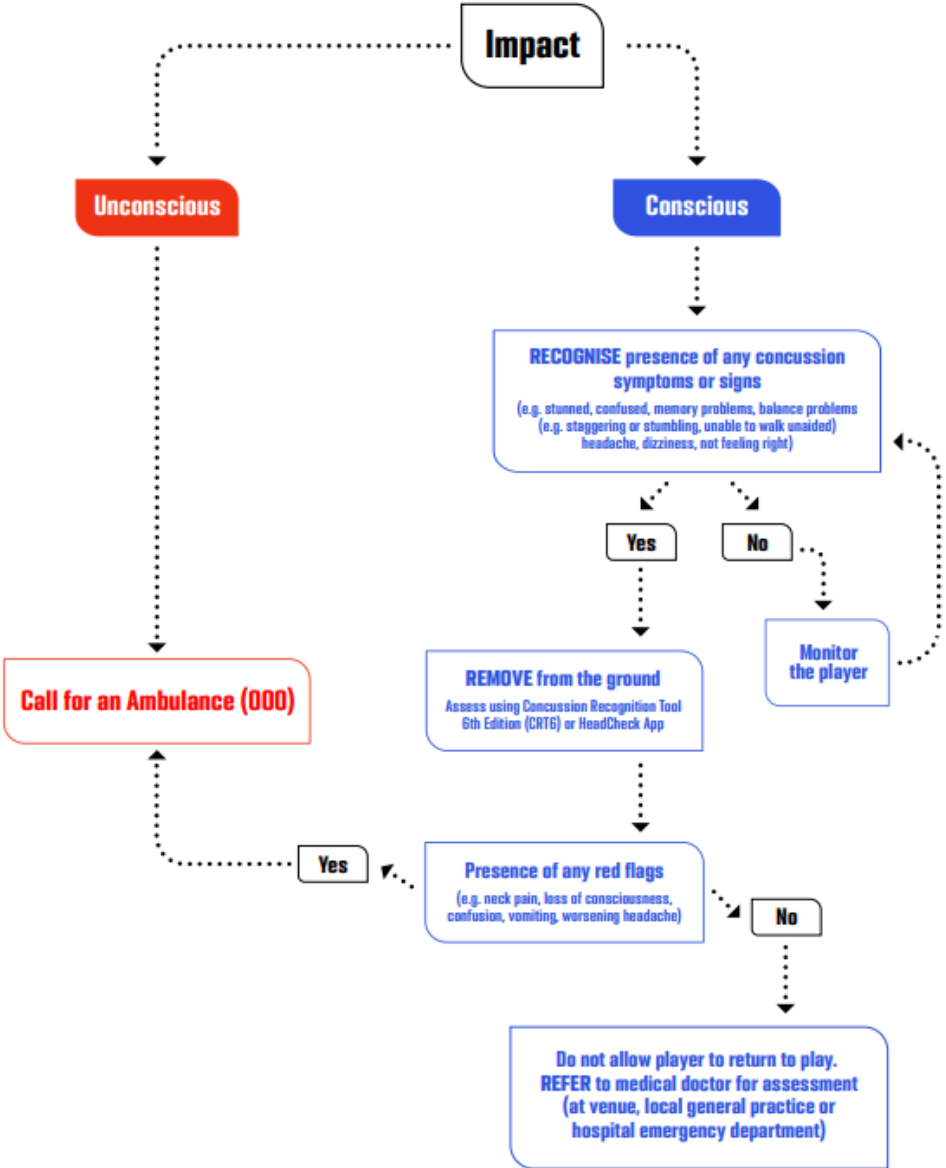
- b) Any player suspected of a Head injury or Concussion (match day and/or training session) must undertake a [SCAT6](#) by health practitioner (with appropriate training and experience in concussion assessment and management) and the information uploaded to the WAFL Online system with all available information, including but not limited, [SCAT6](#) document, video evidence and scheduled date return to play.
  - i. All documents are required to be uploaded within 12 hours of the incident occurring.
- c) Any Player who **FAILS** the [SCAT6](#) assessment:
  - i. Is not permitted to return to the playing surface; and
  - ii. Must follow the 21 Day return to play protocol.
- d) In following the AFL Concussion Management Policy, the earliest that a WAFL Player can return to play after a concussion is on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the day on which the concussion was suffered.
  - i. The day on which the concussion is sustained is Day 0. Day 1 of the minimum 21-day protocol is the day after the match/ training session.
  - ii. For the avoidance of doubt, AFL Contracted Players competing in the WAFL competitions will follow the AFL return to play protocols which has a mandatory minimum 12-day return to play guideline.
    - AFL Contracted Players will have the benefit of ‘Advanced Care Settings’ to closely monitor the recovery and progression through the minimum 12-day protocol, before returning to play in the WAFL competition.
- e) A Player whose name is submitted to the WAFL as having **FAILED** the [SCAT6](#) is **NOT** permitted to play in the WAFL until the WAFL competitions receives a Medical Certification clearing them to play.
  - i. For the avoidance of doubt, the [Concussion Return to Play](#) document must be signed and lodged (uploaded) to the Players Sportix Profile.
- f) Non-compliance in uploading the information will result in a penalty under Rule 14.
- g) Any player who has sustained a concussion prior to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March is subject to the previous 12-day protocol.
  - i. Any player who has been diagnosed with a concussion on or after Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March will be subject to the 21-day concussion protocol.

**Figure 1:**

**How to Recognise concussion:**



**Figure 2.**  
**Summary of the Initial Sideline Management**



*Note: For any player with loss of consciousness, basic first aid principles should be used (i.e. danger, response, airways, breathing, circulation). Care must also be taken with the player's neck, which may have also been injured in the collision. The unconscious player must not be moved by anyone other than a medical professional or ambulance officer. An ambulance should be called, and these players transported to hospital immediately for further assessment and management.*

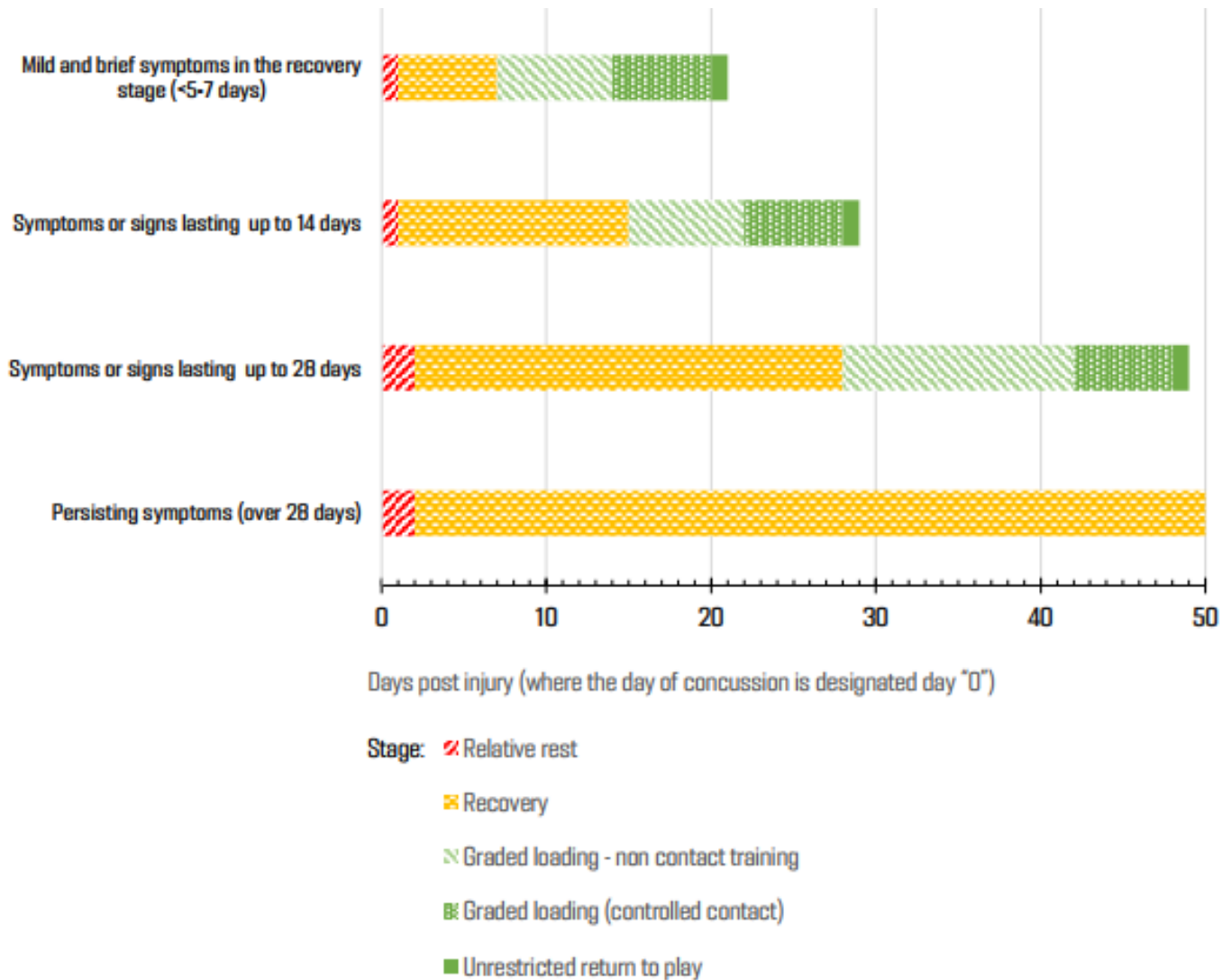
## Stages of Graded Return to Play

STAGE 1: RELATIVE REST		
<b>ACTIVITY</b> <b>Relative rest</b> Gentle day-to-day activities - as guided by symptoms. Minimise screen time (TV, computer/homework/work, phone/social media and gaming)	<b>DURATION</b> 1-2 days	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Nothing specific - should progress after 1-2 days
STAGE 2: RECOVERY		
<b>ACTIVITY</b> <b>i. Daily activities that do not provoke symptoms</b> Increase day-to-day activities - as guided by symptoms. Include short walks. Limit screen time (TV, computer/homework/work, phone/social media and gaming) -duration depends on symptoms No team training drills. No resistance training.	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum 1 day	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if concussion-related symptoms resolved or not worsened from their previous level (either during activity or by the next day)
<b>ii. Light aerobic exercise</b> Start light activity e.g., walking, jogging or cycling at a slow to medium pace. Aim for about 50-60% maximum heart rate (can carry a conversation when exercising) No team training drills. No resistance training.	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum 1 day	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if concussion-related symptoms resolved or not worsened from their previous level (either during activity or by the next day)
<b>iii. Moderate aerobic exercise</b> Start moderate aerobic exercise e.g., walking, jogging or cycling at a medium pace. Aim for about 60-80% maximum heart rate. May continue with moderate aerobic exercise over a number of days/ sessions if still has symptoms related to concussion. No team training drills. No resistance training.	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum 2 days	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if concussion-related symptoms resolved or not worsened from their previous level (either during activity or by the next day)
<b>iv. High intensity aerobic exercise</b> Start high-intensity aerobic exercise (e.g. running or cycling at high intensity) Up to maximum heart rate. No team training drills. Can commence gentle resistance training (50-75% of usual loads)	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum 2 days	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if a) Complete recovery of all concussion-related symptoms and signs at rest and with high intensity training; b) Have returned to school or work (without any need for modifications);
STAGE 3: GRADED LOADING PROGRAM		
<b>ACTIVITY</b> <b>i. Non-contact training</b> Return to full team training sessions - <u>non-contact activities only</u> Minimum of 2-3 training sessions with no consecutive days of football training (to allow for rest and recovery)	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum 7 days	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if remaining completely free of any concussion-related symptoms*
<b>ii. Limited contact training</b> Full team training allowed -able to participate in drills with incidental and/or controlled contact (including tackling) <u>No consecutive days of training (i.e. must have 'non-contact activity' days in between training sessions)</u>	<b>DURATION</b> Minimum of 7 days to progress through graded contact training	<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if: a) Remaining completely free of any concussion-related symptoms* b) Player is confident to return to full contact training c) <b>Player has medical clearance to return to full contact training</b>
<b>iii. Full contact training</b>		<b>CRITERIA TO PROGRESS</b> Progress if: a) Remaining completely free of any concussion-related symptoms* b) <b>Player is confident to return to play</b>
STAGE 4: UNRESTRICTED RETURN TO PLAY		

\*If concussion-related symptoms reappear at any time in stage 3 (Graded loading program) then the player should go back to the previous symptom-free step in stage 2 (Recovery) and seek medical review from a doctor.



**Examples of Return-To-Play Timelines Based on Patterns of Recovery Following Concussion\***



\*The timing of return to play depends largely on the duration of the recovery stage, which is variable in length from injury to injury and person to person.

**Australian Sports Commission Statement and Resources**

<https://www.concussioninsport.gov.au/Concussion-and-Brain-Health-Position-Statement-2024-FA.pdf>

For more information on Sports Related Concussion Short Courses, please visit:

<https://www.connectivity.org.au/courses/sport-related-concussion-course>

## Schedule 11 Social Media Policy

### 1. AFL commitment to online safety

The AFL has signed the [Online Safety Statement of Commitment](#) alongside 23 other major sporting organisations from around Australia to actively support the work of the Commonwealth Government eSafety Commissioner to help keep all Australians, from grassroots to professional athletes, team members and officials, safe online.

### 2. What is Social Media?

Social Media includes:

- a. external and internal social networking sites (e.g. Facebook, Bebo, LinkedIn, MySite, WhatsApp, Tinder and Yammer);
- b. video and photo sharing websites (e.g. Instagram, SnapChat, TikTok, Flickr, YouTube, Periscope);
- c. micro-blogging sites (e.g. Twitter);
- d. weblogs, including corporate or personal blogs, or blogs hosted by traditional media publications (e.g. 'comments' or 'your say' features on newspaper websites);
- e. forums and discussion boards (e.g. Whirlpool, Yahoo! Groups or Google Groups);
- f. online encyclopaedias (e.g. Wikipedia);
- g. instant messaging (including SMS);
- h. podcasting; and
- i. any other website or application that enables users to create and share content or participate in social networking.

### 3. AFL statement on Social Media

- a. It is important to understand that content posted on Social Media can have serious ramifications for the Person involved, the AFL and other Controlling Bodies, their people, commercial partners or other related organisations and individuals. Comments may be mistakenly attributed to the AFL or other Controlling Body in some circumstances. It is therefore important that a Person always think twice before posting.
- b. Before using Social Media, the AFL encourages all Persons to ask themselves the following questions:
  - i. Am I revealing any sensitive or confidential information?
  - ii. Would I want my Coach, team, family or friends to see this?
  - iii. Will I regret my actions?
  - iv. Could this negatively impact the reputation of the AFL, other Controlling Body or a Club?
  - v. Could this be seen as inappropriate, discriminatory, defamatory or in breach of any laws?

### 4. Behavioural standards on Social Media

When using Social Media, a Person must:

- a. respect the privacy of others;
- b. ensure that content published is factually accurate;

- c. be polite and respectful with others; and
- d. adhere to the terms of use of the relevant Social Media, as well as copyright, privacy, defamation, contempt of court, discrimination, harassment and other applicable laws.

## 5. Prohibited conduct on Social Media

When using Social Media, a Person must not:

- a. post or engage with (e.g. like, comment on, share, forward) material that is offensive, obscene, disparaging, defamatory, threatening, harassment, bullying, discriminatory, homophobic, hateful, racist, sexist, infringes copyright, constitutes a contempt of court, breaches a court suppression order, or is otherwise unlawful;
- b. talk negatively about a Controlling Body, its employees, its competitors, corporate partners, broadcast partners, sponsors, or customers/fans or any other related organisation;
- c. represent a personal view as that of a Controlling Body;
- d. bring a Controlling Body's brand and reputation into disrepute;
- e. post or release any Controlling Body information or material (including images or video) prior to its official launch or announcement by the Controlling Body in the public domain;
- f. plagiarise or breach copyright of another person;
- g. access, download or transmit any kind of sexually explicit material (including child pornography), violent and/or graphic images (without medical purpose);
- h. access, download or transmit information on the use and construction of weapons, explosives and/or other tools of violence or terrorism;
- i. breach the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person; or
- j. access to the computing resources of a Controlling Body without the prior consent of the Controlling Body

## 6. Official Social Media engagement

Before engaging in Social Media as a representative of a Controlling Body, a Person must be formally authorised to do so by the relevant Controlling Body.

*Below is the previous social media policy for reference.*

- a) *the Any Person who is found to have engaged in or is suspected of engaging in the unacceptable use of Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or any other social networking site, including blogs, in connection with the game of Australian Football in any way, may be dealt with by the WAFL as it deems fit, notwithstanding the behaviour did not occur on the playing field.*
- b) *Without limiting the operation of this Rule, unacceptable use may involve the Person:*
  - i. *Criticising Umpires, Players or any other person involved in Australian Football;*
  - ii. *Engaging in bullying behaviour including but not limited to name-calling or making condescending, offensive (including racist or sexist) or abusive remarks about any person; or*
  - iii. *Engaging in any other behaviour which the WAFL reasonably determines, in its absolute discretion, to have breached this policy.*
- c) *It is not relevant that the person making the remarks was not aware that the content could or would be made publicly available.*
- d) *This Schedule 11 is to be interpreted and applied broadly.*

## **Schedule 12 Protective Equipment Policy**

### **a) Laws of the Game**

- i. Law 9 of the Laws of the Game regulates the management and use of Protective Equipment in Australian Football.
- ii. Schedule 12 is supplementary to Law 9 of the Laws of the Game and aims to assist Controlling Bodies to apply Law 9 of the Laws of the Game and regulate the use of Protective Equipment

### **b) Categories of Protective Equipment**

- i. Protective Equipment will be categorised as follows:
  - a. Category 1 Protective Equipment
  - b. Category 2 Protective Equipment; and
  - c. Category 3 Protective Equipment
- ii. The three (3) categories of Protective Equipment are defined in Schedule 12

### **c) Using Protective Equipment**

- i. During a match, a Player may use:
  - a. Category 1 Protective Equipment: no prior notification, inspection or approval is required;
  - b. Category 2 Protective Equipment: inspection of Class 2 Protective Equipment by relevant Controlling Body required prior to the relevant Match;
  - c. Category 3 Protective Equipment: prior approval of the WAFC required in accordance with Schedule 12 c) ii)
- ii. The WAFC may only grant approval under Schedule 12 c) i.c. following a physical inspection of the Category 3 Protective Equipment. To assist the WAFC with its assessment, Players are encouraged to provide medical certification from a Qualified Medical Practitioner which outlines the clinical need for the Category 3 Protective Equipment and confirms that it does not pose any unreasonable safety risk to the Players or other Person's.
- iii. Any approval granted in respect of Category 3 Protective Equipment may be withdrawn by the WAFC at any time.

### **d) Prohibited protective equipment**

- i. Equipment with any of the following characteristics will not be classified as Protective Equipment and must not be approved by the WAFC:
  - a. Equipment made with metal;
  - b. Equipment with an exposed hinge;
  - c. Equipment with an exposed point, strap or edge;
  - d. Equipment with sharp edges;
  - e. Equipment made with hard plastic (other than Thermoplastic where there is sufficient exterior padding)

### **e) Mouthguards**

- i. Mouthguards have a definite role in preventing injuries to the teeth and face and for this reason they are strongly recommended at all levels of football. Mouthguards should be worn for all Matches and contact training sessions.
- ii. Dentally fitted laminated mouthguards offer the best protection and should be used by all the Players. "Boil and Bite" type mouthguards are not as effective and, in rare cases, can dislodge during play and block the airway.

**f) Spectacles**

- i. Players who wish to wear spectacles during Matches and training sessions should wear spectacles with plastic frames and lenses. A band must also hold the spectacles on securely.

**g) Category 1 Protective Equipment**



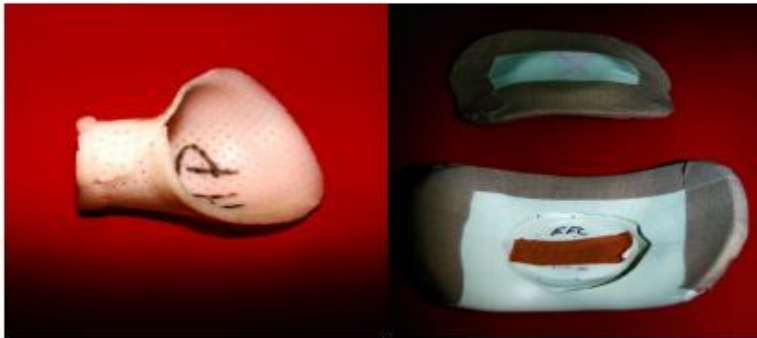
Category 1 Protective Equipment includes:

<b>Protective Equipment</b>	<b>Guidance notes</b>
Mouthguard	
Thigh padded shorts	Example – rhino shorts
Shin guard	A shin guard is defined as a guard that protects the shin, is below the standard sock and not designed for any other function
Ankle brace	
Simple Neoprene only devices	No straps or exposed plastic or metal
Breast protection	Example – Boob Armour, Zena Z1

**h) Category 2 Protective Equipment**

Category 2 Protective Equipment includes:

<b>Protective Equipment</b>	<b>Guidance notes</b>
Shoulder guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thermoplastic AC joint</li><li>• No edges exposed</li></ul>
Arm guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thermoplastic material with exterior padding &gt; 3mm</li><li>• Surgical foam or Neoprene</li><li>• No edges or straps exposed</li><li>• Minimum thickness as clinically indicated</li><li>• All appliances to be neoprene covered</li></ul>
Hand and finger guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thermoplastic material</li><li>• Not beyond end of the finger but acceptable if contoured around distal end of finger and this is clinically indicated</li><li>• Covered by tape</li><li>• No exposed edges and material thickness as indicated below:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Finger = 1.6mm thickness</li><li>○ Thumb = 3mm thickness</li><li>○ Metacarpal = 3mm thickness</li></ul></li><li>• Refer to images below:</li></ul>

	 <p>ORFIT FINGER SPLINT                      ORFIT FINGER SPLINT</p>  <p>ORFIT THUMBGUARD                      ORFIT THUMBGUARD</p>  <p>ORFIT THUMBGUARD                      RIB GUARDS</p>
Trunk guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thermoplastic material</li> <li>• Covered by foam rubber or Neoprene</li> <li>• No edges</li> <li>• 3.2mm maximum thickness</li> </ul>
Hip, pelvis and thigh guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neoprene</li> <li>• Soft padding (foam rubber)</li> </ul>

### i) Category 3 Protective Equipment

Category 3 Protective Equipment includes any protective equipment other than Category 1 Protective Equipment and Category 2 Protective Equipment. Category 3 Protective Equipment may include:

- i. knee braces (other than simple Neoprene only devices);
- ii. helmets;
- iii. gloves;
- iv. shoulder pads;
- v. back supports; and
- vi. arm guards

**j) Materials approved for use**

The following materials are approved materials for Protective Equipment:

Material	Guidance notes
Neoprene	
Thermoplastic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preference low temperature thermoplastic:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Aquaplast</li><li>○ ORFIT</li><li>○ Braceform</li><li>○ Polyflex II</li><li>○ Orthoplast</li></ul></li><li>• Maximum thickness is 3.2mm</li><li>• Together with padding as specified in this Appendix</li></ul> <p><i>Note: The WAFC and AFL's preference is products made from thermoplastic.</i></p>
Foam / rubber padding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leukofoam</li><li>• Neoprene</li></ul>

**k) Rules relating to Protective Equipment**

- i. 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'.
- ii. No Sponsor Advertising shall be placed or displayed on any item of Protective Equipment.
- iii. A field Umpire may order from the Playing Surface a Player who:
  - a. wears or uses Protective Equipment in a Match which has not been approved by the WAFC; or
  - b. is wearing or using an approved item of Protective Equipment, if they are satisfied that such Protective Equipment has, during the Match, become dangerous or increased the risk of injury to the Player wearing or using the Protective Equipment or the other Players competing in the Match.
- iv. Where a Player is ordered from the Playing Surface under this Regulation:
  - a. an Interchange Player may replace the Player ordered from the Playing Surface; and
  - b. the Player ordered from the Playing Surface may only re-enter the Playing Surface if he or she is no longer wearing or using the Protective Equipment or the Umpire is satisfied that the Protective Equipment is no longer dangerous.
- v. Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Surface when ordered to do so by a field Umpire, the following shall apply:
  - a. the field Umpire shall warn the Player that a free kick will be awarded and that he or she may be reported if he or she does not leave the Playing Surface;
  - b. if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Surface, the field Umpire shall award a free kick to the Player of the opposing Team at a point nearest to where the warning was given or where the football is at the time, whichever is the greatest penalty against the offending Player's Team; and
  - c. if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Surface:
    - i. the field Umpire shall report the Player for misconduct in failing to

- follow a direction of an Umpire;
- ii. the Match shall immediately end and the reported Player's Team shall forfeit the Match; and
- iii. the Laws of Australian Football shall apply concerning the forfeiture of the Match.
- vi. It will be the sole discretion of the WAFL to allow or disallow the use of any other protective gear not addressed in these schedules.
- vii. Any breach of this schedule or any policy contained in these Rule may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14 or at the absolute discretion of the WAFC .



## Schedule 13 Broadcasting Policy

- a) Nothing in this Broadcasting Policy shall in any way undermine the terms of the Licence Agreement as applied to the relevant WAFL Club.
- b) The WAFL Club must fulfil all obligations set out in the Licence Agreement so far as they apply, including but not limited to in relation to sponsors and advertising when applying this Broadcasting Policy.
- c) No Club shall grant any Broadcasting Rights in respect of a WAFL match to a third party.
- d) In the event that a Club breaches this Policy, the following penalties will apply:
  - i. any Club breaching Schedule 13 in respect of a WAFL Match will lose all premiership points and these will be awarded to the opposition team, where applicable;
  - ii. any Club breaching Schedule 13 will record a match score of zero (0) points for and maintain the original opposition's score as their points against, however the team in opposition will maintain the original match percentage (the scores stand);
  - iii. individual Player statistics for the match will stand as recorded, meaning all Players receive a match credit for games totals. Match statistics are included in Player tallies and any reports to be assessed by the WAFL Tribunal stand;
  - iv. a fine of \$50,000 may be imposed by the Board of the WAFC.
- e) All matches (including broadcast matches) will be captured by a contractor approved by the WAFC. The vision will be made available to clubs by the first working day following the match.
- f) The vision capture of any match by a third party, other than the approved WAFC contractor, will require a written application and approval by the WAFC. Should the approval be granted to capture match footage of any grade, then all vision files must be provided to the WAFC upon request or by the first working day of the match.
- g) Should approval be granted to a third party to capture any match, this will be subject to the home team approving that there is space available at the venue to capture the match. It is the responsibility of the third party to contact the Home Club direct. Priority will be given to WAFC approved media outlets.
- h) Any breach of this schedule (e-g) or any policy contained in these Rule may be penalised in accordance with Rule 14 or at the absolute discretion of the WAFC .

## **Schedule 14 Assessment Criteria for WAFL Playing Surface**

In regard to the assessment and suitability of sports fields for WAFL football the following minimum requirements are recommended.

### **Turf Cover**

In terms of turfgrass coverage, ideally there will be a complete coverage of grass across the field. The loss or thinning of the grass coverage must not result in surface instability, loss of traction or excessive hardness. Any unstable or aesthetically poor areas due to a loss of turfgrass coverage must be replaced with an appropriate turf replacement product that has sufficient stability to allow immediate play following laying.

### **Levelness of the surface**

Playing surfaces must be level or even in that there are no sharp changes in levels that will affect footing. This includes but not exclusive to; holes, localised depressions, cracks, gaps between turf rolls and elevation changes between cricket wickets and the outfield.

There should be no obvious depressions in the surface. Of most concern are the depressions where there is a sudden or sharp drop such as what will occur with a hole. A hole, in the WAFL's opinion, is a depression greater than about 10cm x 10cm in area and greater than about 2-5cm in depth with sharp or well defined sides.

Holes must be repaired with a turf block using a "turf doctor" or similar device that provides a turf block that is 15cm x 15cm in area and about 20cm in depth. Repair with specialist thick turf that is a minimum of 5cm thick and 200cm x 100cm (2m x 1m) in area, is also permissible.

Under no circumstances should holes be filled with loose sand.

Slight undulations that occur over a metre or more are generally of no concern.

### **Surface stability**

Ideally there will be good footing or surface "grip" and no loose turf sods (particularly where new turf sods have been laid). It is important to note that the nature of the sport and the foot wear the players wear is such that some turf/grass dislodgement is always a possibility.

### **Irrigation**

The selected field must be irrigated and there must be a high degree of uniformity in water distribution. That is, there must not be dry areas and wet areas across the surface.

The selected fields must not be affected by water restrictions as this is the main tool in controlling the quality and condition of the turf and surface hardness.

### **Sprinklers**

Sprinklers must not protrude above the soil level, in fact ideally about 10-15mm below, and the area surrounding the sprinkler must be level. If the sprinklers are lower than 15mm below the surface the void must be filled with crumbed rubber. Sprinklers must have rubber or soft tops and where value boxes occur within 5.5 metres of the boundary fence line they must be covered with an AFL approved synthetic turf.

### **Surface hardness**

Surface hardness must be monitored using the Clegg Impact Soil Tester (CSIT) using the 2.25kg hammer with a drop height of 455 mm.

The hardness of the surface as measured by the first drop of the CIST will ideally be within the preferred range (Table 1) when undertaken at 45 locations across the outfield.

Any areas of synthetic turf within 5.5 metres of the boundary line must also conform to the standards of natural turf for surface hardness. If areas are unacceptably hard that must be rectified by either replacing or rejuvenating the synthetic turf with an AFL approved product.

**Table 1: Classifications for surface hardness using the 2.25 kg Clegg Impact Soil Tester**

Performance Indicator	Unacceptably Low	Low Normal	Preferred Range	High Normal	Unacceptably High
Surface Hardness (gravities)	<30	31 – 55	56 – 75	76 – 120	>120

**Summer surface management**

Pre-Season Competition and AFLW Matches are typically scheduled throughout the warmer months of the year where evaporation and heat can lead to increased surface hardness. Regular monitoring of surface hardness and irrigation performance is required in the lead up to and during these competitions. Prior to hosting Matches, monthly surface hardness readings should be undertaken using a Clegg hammer and the results recorded, these results should be made available at the request of the WAFL. The surface should be de-compacted if hardness exceeds the preferred range. Regular decompaction may be required to maintain surface hardness within the preferred range and assist with providing uniform surface moisture. Irrigation system performance should be monitored to ensure uniform delivery of irrigation across the surface and avoid isolated dry patches which can contribute to excessive surface hardness.

**Surface Traction**

Surface traction will be measured by using the studded boot device at 13 locations across the field, although only 12 are taken if there is a cricket wicket table present. The traction device consists of a central component which is a 150 mm diameter horizontal disc into which six (6) football studs (15 mm long) are fitted equidistant from the central vertical shaft. The disc is weighted with 40 kg and is dropped onto the playing surface from a height of 50 mm to ensure stud penetration. The torque required for the rotating disc to tear the turf is measured with an industrial torque wrench.

The traction of the surface should be within the preferred range (Table 2) and have a low variability (i.e. low standard deviation from the mean). Any areas of synthetic turf within 5.5 metres of the boundary line must also conform to the standards of natural turf for surface traction. If areas are unacceptably high they must be rectified by either replacing or rejuvenating the synthetic turf with an AFL approved product.

**Table 2: Classifications for surface hardness using the Studded Disc Apparatus**

Performance Indicator	Unacceptably Low	Low Normal	Preferred Range	High Normal	Unacceptably High
Traction (Nm)	<20	21 – 39	40 – 55	55 – 74	>75

**Surface consistency**

This is an all-encompassing overview of the field where we look for inconsistencies in turf cover, firmness, stability and levelness.

**Cricket wickets**

Cricket wickets on grounds used for WAFL & WAFLW football may present a difference in soil type, clegg hammer readings and turfgrass coverage compared to the remainder of the field.

Cricket wickets must meet the following minimum criteria;

1. There must not be a sharp drop or distinct change in levels between the edge of the wicket table and the surrounding outfield. The transition from the wicket table onto the outfield should be no more than 1:40 or 75 mm over 3.0 metres (McIntyre and McIntyre, 2001).
2. The preparation of wickets for play generally results in a diminished turfgrass coverage. The last used wicket strip should have at least 2 weeks (preferably longer) recovery before being used for football Matches. The hardness (measured using the Clegg Impact Soil Tester) of this strip must be no greater than that for the remainder of the wicket table and as similar as possible to the outfield. It should be noted that at some major venues that host both AFL football and first class cricket fixtures, including Sheffield Shield and International fixtures, may not be able to have a complete grass coverage because

of the overlap between of seasons/fixtures. The onus will be on the venue to ensure that the surface hardness of the wicket table though meets the necessary criteria outlined in Table 1.

### **Artificial Wickets**

Artificial wickets will be covered with turf so that a flat, even and solid surface is produced. The new turf must be fixed and allow no greater movement than the surrounding surface.

Where this cannot be achieved the artificial surface **must**

1. be removed; and
2. **Not be** covered with rubber matting as this may shift during play.

**VENUE MANAGERS INSPECTION**

<b>Venue:</b>	<b>24 Hours</b>	<b>48 Hours</b>
<b>Rainfall/ Irrigation (mm)</b>		
<b>Training/ Matches (hrs)</b>		

	<b>Clegg Drop 1</b>		<b>Clegg Drop 1</b>		<b>Clegg Drop 1</b>
<b>Location 1</b>		<b>Location 16</b>		<b>Location 31</b>	
<b>Location 2</b>		<b>Location 17</b>		<b>Location 32</b>	
<b>Location 3</b>		<b>Location 18</b>		<b>Location 33</b>	
<b>Location 4</b>		<b>Location 19</b>		<b>Location 34</b>	
<b>Location 5</b>		<b>Location 20</b>		<b>Location 35</b>	
<b>Location 6</b>		<b>Location 21</b>		<b>Location 36</b>	
<b>Location 7</b>		<b>Location 22</b>		<b>Location 37</b>	
<b>Location 8</b>		<b>Location 23</b>		<b>Location 38</b>	
<b>Location 9</b>		<b>Location 24</b>		<b>Location 39</b>	
<b>Location 10</b>		<b>Location 25</b>		<b>Location 40</b>	
<b>Location 11</b>		<b>Location 26</b>		<b>Location 41</b>	
<b>Location 12</b>		<b>Locations 27</b>		<b>Location 42</b>	
<b>Location 13</b>		<b>Locations 28</b>		<b>Location 43</b>	
<b>Location 14</b>		<b>Location 29</b>		<b>Location 44</b>	
<b>Location 15</b>		<b>Location 30</b>		<b>Location 45</b>	

<b>General Comments</b>

<b>Activity scheduled between inspection and Match Day(s)</b>	
<b>Training</b>	
<b>Curtain Raisers</b>	
<b>Turf Maintenance</b>	
<b>Other Events</b>	
<b>Other</b>	

## Schedule 15 Lightning Policy

### 1. AS1768-2007 – Lightning Protection

The Football Body should comply with AS1768-2007, entitled The Lightning Protection Standard, published on 10 January 2007 (Lightning Standard). While the Lightning Standard will not necessarily prevent damage or personal injury due to lightning, it will reduce the probability of such damage or injury occurring.

### 2. 30/30 Safety Guideline

In the absence of specific information from weather radar, a lightning location system, or a specialised warning device then the 30/30 Safety Guideline should be used.

According to the 30/30 Safety Guideline, when lightning is considered to be a possible or actual threat to an Australian Football Match the following procedures are applicable:

- a) The observation of approaching storm clouds, the first flash of lightning or clap of thunder, no matter how far away should heighten lightning awareness. The level of risk depends on one's location (direction and distance) relative to the storm cell and the direction in which the storm system is traveling.
- b) A simple method of determining the distance to the storm cell is to measure the time elapsed from when the lightning flash is observed and when the associated clap of thunder is heard.
- c) Light travels faster than sound. Assuming that the light from the flash reaches the observer instantaneously, and knowing that sound takes approximately three (3) seconds to travel one (1) kilometre, the distance can be determined by using the following rule:
  - i. Distance (in Km) = Time from observing the flash to hearing thunder (in 3 seconds)
- d) It is important to remember that lightning may be obscured by clouds so it must be assumed that when thunder is heard, lightning is in the vicinity. In such cases, careful judgment must be used to determine whether a threat exists
- e) The first part of the "30/30" rule is a guide to the postponement or suspension of activities. Most experts agree that the accepted "safe" distance from lightning is greater than 10km. This means that as the time interval between observing the flash and hearing the thunder approaches 30 seconds, all those in exposed areas should be seeking or already inside safe shelters. A storm cell with lightning activity within 10km constitutes a threat.
- f) The second part of the 30/30 rule provides the criteria for the resumption of activity which is applicable to decisions made with BOM access as well. Here, it is recommended that people wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or sound of thunder. This figure is based on the observation that the typical storm moves at about 40km/h. Thus, waiting 30 minutes allows the thunderstorm to be about 20km away, minimising the likelihood of a nearby lightning strike.
- g) It is important to emphasise that blue skies and lack of rainfall are not adequate reasons to breach the 30-minute minimum return-to-activity rule.

### 3. General Lightning Safety Guideline

- a) Prior to Match Day
  - i. where weather forecasts provide important warning of possible thunderstorm activity the Football Body should monitor weather forecasts commencing Tuesday prior to scheduled Matches using the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website. Note should be taken off any warnings posted.
  - ii. The Football Body should continue to monitor the BOM site in the days leading up to the match.

- b) Match Day
  - i. Increased awareness of lightning risk should continue on the Match day until the activity has finished.
  - ii. Teams and officials should proceed to the venue unless otherwise directed.
  - iii. If lightning is predicted within no less than 10km of the match venue at the scheduled starting time the game commencement time may be delayed by up to 60 minutes.
  - iv. This decision to delay or suspend play as well as resume play will be made by the Umpire based on information obtained from the BOM and discussions with the Clubs.

#### **4. Club Responsibility**

All Clubs competing in a competition administered by the Football Body should monitor environmental factors such as lightning both in Matches and at any Australian Football training session administered by the Club. The Club should assess the lightning risk by reviewing information provided by the BOM.

- a) The following general guidelines should also be followed:
  - i. If a lightning threat emerges, the nominated Club Official must contact all relevant coaching, rehabilitation and training staff and provide updates on a regular basis.
  - ii. A decision to delay, suspend or resume training should be made in consultation with relevant coaching and administration staff.
  - iii. If players are training when the lightning threat becomes real, then they should leave the training venue immediately and take shelter inside a building or metal framed car. They should not shelter under or near trees.
  - iv. Once the storm's path has been reassessed, there must be a minimum of 30 minutes elapsed before returning to training.  
When there is no access to the BOM, the "30/30" rule serves as a guide for the suspension and subsequent resumption of activities.

## Schedule 16 Injury Management

### 1. AFL/ WAFC Statement on Injury Management

- a. The AFL and WAFC expects that Matches at all levels are played in a safe environment. To ensure the prevention of, and prompt attention to, injuries in Australian Football, it is important that adequate and timely first aid is delivered. Sports trainers and first aid providers play a key role in player preparation and safety at all levels.
- b. It is important that sports trainers and first aid providers are well trained in the first aid needs relevant to Australian Football at the level at which they are involved.
- c. A sports trainer or first aid provider involved with a Club should have a clear understanding of the role and importance of injury prevention and immediate emergency and injury management in Australian Football.

### 2. Minimum requirements

- a. Unless otherwise notified by the WAFC, each Club must ensure that at each Match or training session:
  - i. at least one person with Appropriate Minimum Qualifications (see Schedule 16, 3) for the relevant level of Australian Football is in attendance; and
  - ii. an appropriately stocked first aid kit and adequate sport-specific rescue/transport equipment (e.g. stretcher and neck brace) are available
- b. Where the minimum requirements specified in Schedule 16.2 (a) are not met, the Match or training session may be postponed, rescheduled or cancelled and must not commence until such time as the minimum requirements are met.

In addition to the minimum requirements, the AFL strongly recommends that each Club has a defibrillator available at each Match or training session.

### 3. Appropriate Minimum Qualifications

- a. Unless otherwise notified by the WAFC, for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, Appropriate Minimum Qualifications means the minimum qualifications set out in the following Table:

<b>Appropriate Minimum Qualifications</b>					
<b>Level (Age)</b>	<b>AFL/AFLW</b>	<b>State League</b>	<b>Senior (18+)</b>	<b>Youth (13-17)</b>	<b>Auskick/Junior (5-12)</b>
Recommended	Level 2 Sports Trainer or QMP	Level 2 Sports Trainer and QMP	Sports Trainer (Level 1 or 2) or QMP	Sports Trainer (Level 1 or 2) or QMP	Sports Trainer (Level 1 or 2) or QMP
Minimum	Level 2 Sports Trainer or QMP	Sports Trainer (Level 2) and QMP	Sports Trainer (Level 1) or QMP or ERC	Sports Trainer (Level 1) or QMP or ERC	Sports Trainer (Level 1) or QMP or ERC or First Aide

- b. The terms specified in Table 1 have the following meanings:
  - i. ERC means a person who has completed an AFL-approved Emergency Response Coordinator Course which is current and up to date;
  - ii. First Aider means a person who has obtained a nationally accredited first aid certificate which is current and up-to-date and includes assessed competencies HLTAID003 (Provide First Aid);
  - iii. Level 2 Sports Trainer means a person who has completed a Controlling Body-approved Level 2 Sports Trainer Course which is current and up to date;
  - iv. Level 1 Sports Trainer means a person who has completed a Controlling Body-approved Level 1 Sports Trainer Course which is current and up to date;



- v. Qualified Medical Professional (QMP) means a qualified doctor, paramedic, physiotherapist, osteopath, chiropractor, registered nurse or firefighter with Emergency Management Competency and appropriate first aid competencies.

#### **4. Approved Courses**

- a. Where a person completes a Controlling Body-approved Level 2 Sports Trainer Course or AFL-approved Emergency Response Coordinator Course that person will achieve Emergency Management Competency.

#### **5. Emergency Management Competency**

For the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, Emergency Management Competency means proficiency in the following areas:

- a. emergency planning including:
  - i. ensuring access to a telephone and calling an ambulance if required;
  - ii. venue access for emergency vehicles; and
  - iii. access to appropriate and adequate first aid equipment and supplies
- b. understanding emergency response priorities and applying emergency procedures including the DRSABCD procedure (Danger, Response, Send for help, Airway, Breathing, and CPR and Defibrillation);
- c. assessment of injured participants including:
  - i. application of STOP (Stop, Talk, Observe, Prevent) and TOTAPS (Talk, Observe, Touch, Active movement, Passive movement & Skills);
  - ii. immediate management of severe injuries and life-threatening medical emergencies, including:
    - 1. spinal & neck injuries;
    - 2. intracranial (brain) injuries & concussion (definition, causes, signs and management);
    - 3. unconscious casualties;
    - 4. airway/respiratory distress such as choking, airway obstructions & asthma;
    - 5. management of open wounds and application of the blood rule; and
    - 6. soft tissue injury management and application of RICER (Rest, Ice, Compression, Elevation, Referral) with no harm;
    - 7. Compression, Elevation, Referral) with no harm;
- d. on-field and off-field communication including:
  - i. liaising with Umpires, other Football Officials, Qualified Medical Professionals and parents/guardians;
  - ii. visible and clearly understood signals used for emergency and injury management;
  - iii. encouraging teamwork; and
  - iv. record keeping; and
- e. transporting injured participants including lifts, carries and use of an appropriate stretcher (pole and scoop).

## Schedule 17 Safeguarding Children and Young People

### 1. AFL commitment to safeguarding Children and Young People

All Children and Young People, regardless of their gender, race, religious beliefs, age, disability, sexual orientation, or family or social background, have equal rights to protection from Child Abuse. The AFL is committed to promoting and protecting the safety and wellbeing of all Children and Young People.

### 2. WAFC commitment to safeguarding Children and Young People

- a. To support the AFL's commitment under Schedule 11.1, the WAFC will commit to the following:
  - i. the WAFC will have zero tolerance for Child Abuse;
  - ii. the WAFC will seek to provide an environment in which all Children and Young People feel supported and respected;
  - iii. the WAFC will recognise the particular needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People, LGBTIQ+ Children and Young People, Children and Young People from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and Children and Young People with a disability and will implement culturally appropriate practices and procedures to address those needs;
  - iv. the WAFC will consider the opinions of Children and Young People and use their opinions to inform the development of policies and procedures in relation to the protection of Children and Young People;
  - v. the WAFC will engage with Children and Young People and their parents/guardians about safeguarding practices and help empower them to speak up when they see or hear something that makes them feel unsafe and ensure that relevant information and resources are accessible to them; and
  - vi. in the event a concern or allegation is raised in relation to Child Abuse or any other inappropriate behaviour towards a Child or Young Person that has occurred while a Child or Young Person is under the WAFC's care, the WAFC will ensure it is treated seriously, in a culturally sensitive manner and fully investigated in accordance with this Rule and any other related policies or procedures and relevant legislation.
- b. The WAFC and Club must ensure that it complies with all statutory requirements in respect of safeguarding Children and Young People, including ensuring all relevant Persons who work with Children and Young People have complied with their working with children obligations applicable to their State or Territory.

### 3. Behavioural standards

- a. A Person must:
  - i. treat all Children and Young People with respect;
  - ii. wherever possible ensure that another adult is present when working near or with Children and Young People;
  - iii. use disciplinary strategies that are fair, respectful and appropriate to the developmental stage of the Children or Young People involved;
  - iv. wherever possible ensure that all email, text messages and other forms of communication sent to a Child or Young Person are copied to their

parent/guardian;

- v. ensure that approval has been obtained from a Child or Young Person and their parent/guardian prior to any photograph or film being taken of a Child or Young Person;
  - vi. ensure that any photograph or film taken of a Child or Young Person is taken in circumstances that are directly relevant to the Child's or Young Person's participation in a WAFC program and the Child or Young Person is appropriately dressed and posed;
  - vii. immediately report any concern for the safety or wellbeing of a Child or Young Person, or a suspected breach of this Schedule 11, in accordance with these Rules.
- b. A Person must in the course of their employment or engagement by the WAFC:
- i. ensure that all Children and Young People are appropriately supervised while participating in a WAFC program while respecting the privacy of Children and Young People;
  - ii. limit all interactions with Children and Young People to the confines of official duties;
  - iii. use best endeavours to complete a risk assessment for any WAFC program that involves Children or Young People prior to carrying out that WAFC program;
  - iv. immediately disclose any charges or convictions affecting their suitability to engage with Children and Young People to WAFC senior management.

#### **4. Prohibited conduct**

- a. A Person must not:
- i. engage in any form of sexual behaviour with or in the presence of Children or Young People;
  - ii. engage in any other form of behaviour that may reasonably be considered to be Child Abuse;
  - iii. initiate unnecessary physical contact with a Child or Young Person, or do things of a personal nature for them that they can do themselves;
  - iv. take disciplinary action involving physical punishment or any other form of treatment that could reasonably be considered as degrading, cruel, frightening or humiliating;
  - v. use language or behaviour towards Children or Young People that is inappropriate, harassment, abusive, sexually provocative, intended to humiliate or culturally inappropriate;
  - vi. consume alcohol, drugs or tobacco when working with any Children or Young People; or
  - vii. use a computer, mobile phone, video camera, camera or Social Media to exploit or harass Children or Young People, or access child exploitation material.
- b. A Person must not in the course of their employment or engagement by WAFC:
- i. give a gift to a Child or Young Person engaged in a WAFC program, activity or service without the permission of WAFC senior management and the Child's or Young Person's parent/guardian;
  - ii. transport any Children or Young People without the permission of WAFC senior management and the Child's or Young Person's parent/guardian;

- iii. arrange contact, including online contact, with Children or Young People outside of the WAFC's programs, activities or services.

## **5. Reporting procedures**

- a. If a Person believes that a Child or Young Person is in imminent risk of Harm or immediate danger, that Person must report the situation directly to the police – CALL '000'.
- b. If a person (including a Person (as defined) or member of the public) believes that a Person has committed a breach of Schedule 11, that person must:
  - i. contact the relevant WAFC immediately; and
  - ii. as soon as practicable, submit a written complaint to the AFL under Schedule 18.1(a)
- c. When the WAFC is notified by a reporting person of an alleged breach of Schedule 11, the WAFC must use best endeavours to ensure the reporting person submits a written complaint to the AFL under Schedule 18.1(a) and support the reporting person to do so.
- d. For the avoidance of doubt, once a written complaint is received by the WAFC under Schedule 18.1(a) it will then be processed under the applicable provisions of Rule 6, including an assessment of the written complaint under Schedule 18.1(a)

## Schedule 18 Rules and Regulations Breaches

### 1. Making a complaint

#### a) Written complaint by person

Subject to Schedule 18.1(b), if a Person considers that another Person has committed a Policy Breach, the first Person may submit a written complaint to:

- i. the WAFC (other than the AFL) by submitting a Complaint Submission Form to WAFC; OR [Guidance note: If complaint submitted to WAFC, refer to Schedule 18.2(c).]
- ii. the AFL via the AFL's electronic complaint submission platform; or [Guidance note: If complaint submitted to AFL, refer to Schedule 18.2(a).]
- iii. otherwise in the manner specified by the AFL or WAFC from time to time.

#### b) Time limitation

- i. Subject to Schedule 18.1(b)(ii), a written complaint under Schedule 18.1(a) must be submitted as soon as practicable but no later than 30 days after the alleged incident except that a written complaint which relates to an alleged breach of Schedule 17 (Safeguarding Children and Young People) may be submitted at any time after the alleged incident.
- ii. If a Club (including a Club Officer) considers that a Person has committed a Policy Breach in connection with a Match, that Club must, by no later than 5:00pm on the next business day after the relevant Match or such other time as the relevant Controlling Body determines, submit a written complaint in accordance with Schedule 18.1(a)

[Guidance note: Clubs are held to a higher standard. Clubs must submit a complaint in relation to a suspected Rule Breach during a Match, whereas an ordinary person may choose to do so but within the time parameters stated.]

#### c) Levy of fee

A Controlling Body may levy a fee for the administration of a written complaint (with the fee amount to be determined by the Controlling Body), which may be refunded if the Controlling Body determines that the Person who is the subject of the written complaint may have committed a Policy Breach.

#### d) Withdrawal of complaint

A complaint submitted in accordance with Schedule 18.1(a) cannot be withdrawn by the submitting party after it has been submitted, unless otherwise approved by the WAFC.

### 2. Assessing and investigating a complaint

#### a) AFL assessment following receipt of complaint

- i. Subject to Schedule 18.2(a)(ii), as soon as practicable after the AFL receives a written complaint under Schedule 18.1(a)(ii) or from a Controlling Body under Schedule 18.2(c)(i)(A), the AFL must undertake an assessment of the alleged Policy Breach set out in the written complaint and following its assessment, the AFL may:
  - A. investigate the matter in accordance with Schedule 18.2(b); or
  - B. delegate the matter to the WAFC to be dealt with in accordance with Schedule 18.2(d); or
  - C. refer the matter to a government authority (including the police); or
  - D. refer the matter to the WAFC to be assessed as an alleged Reportable Offence in accordance with Rule 6.

- ii. As soon as practicable after the AFL receives a written complaint under Schedule 18.1(a)(ii) which relates to an alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 (Vilification and discrimination – Prohibited conduct), the AFL must undertake an assessment of the alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 and following its assessment, the AFL must either:
  - A. undertake the preliminary resolution process set out in Schedule 2.3; or
  - B. delegate the matter to the WAFC to be dealt with in accordance with Schedule 18.2(d).

**b) AFL investigation**

- i. Except where prohibited by law, the AFL may investigate and deal with any matter in connection with these Rules and Regulations and the National Community Policy Handbook including to:
  - A. use reasonable measures to establish the facts of the alleged Policy or Rules and Regulations Breach (including by interviewing any relevant Person and taking witness statements);
  - B. determine all questions arising or objections made in relation to an alleged Policy or Rules and Regulations Breach;
  - C. refer any matter concerning an alleged Policy or Rules and Regulations Breach for hearing and determination, in whole or in part, by a body or person appointed by the AFL;
  - D. stand down any Person subject to any action specified under Schedules 18.2(a) to 18.2(e) (including any investigation or associated Tribunal or Appeal Board hearing) from participating in or in connection with a Competition;
  - E. consider external expert advice regarding cultural or religious matter or other relevant lived experience;
  - F. exercise any other powers conferred by these Rules and Regulations or Policy Handbook; and
  - G. delegate any of its powers under the Policy Handbook.
- ii. If the AFL elects to investigate a matter under the Community Football Policy Handbook, the AFL must give written notice to the Person(s) the subject of the investigation.
- iii. On completion of an investigation under this Schedule 18.2(b), the AFL must proceed with the matter in accordance with Schedule 18.3(a).

**c) WAFC assessment following receipt of complaint**

- i. Subject to Schedule 18.2(c)(ii), as soon as practicable after the WAFL receives a written complaint under Schedule 18.1(a)(i), the WAFC must undertake an assessment of the alleged Breach set out in the written complaint and following its assessment, the Controlling Body may:
  - A. escalate the written complaint to the AFL on behalf of the relevant Person in accordance with Schedule 18.1(a)(ii) and notify the relevant Person(s) of that escalation; or
  - B. procure the relevant Person to submit their written complaint to the AFL in accordance with Schedule 18.1(a)(ii); or
  - C. investigate the matter in accordance with Schedule 18.2(e); or
  - D. complete a Notice of Breach; or

- E. refer the matter to a government authority (including the police); or
  - F. refer the matter for assessment as an alleged Reportable Offence in accordance with Rule 6.
- ii. As soon as practicable after a Controlling Body receives a written complaint under Section 18.1(a)(i) which relates to an alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 (Vilification and discrimination – Prohibited conduct), the WAFC must undertake an assessment of the alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 and following its assessment, the WAFC must either:
    - A. undertake the preliminary resolution process set out in Schedule 2.3; or
    - B. escalate the written complaint to the AFL on behalf of the relevant Person in accordance with Schedule 18.1(a)(ii) and notify the relevant Person(s) of that escalation.

**d) Controlling Body assessment following delegation by AFL**

As soon as practicable after the AFL delegates a matter to a Controlling Body under Schedule 18.2(a)(i)(B), the Controlling Body must undertake an assessment of the alleged Policy Breach set out in the written complaint and following its assessment, the Controlling Body may, having regard to the AFL’s findings including any recommendations (if any):

- i. where the written complaint relates to an alleged breach of Schedule 2.1 (Vilification and discrimination – Prohibited conduct), undertake the preliminary resolution process set out in schedule 2.3; or
- ii. investigate the matter in accordance with Schedule 18.2(e); or
- iii. complete a Notice of Breach.

[Guidance note: This Section only applies where the AFL delegates a matter to the WAFC once the AFL has assessed the matter itself. With any delegation the AFL may provide recommendations as to the appropriate course of action.]

**e) WAFC investigation**

- i. If the WAFC elects to investigate a matter under Schedule 18.2(c)(i)(C) or 18.2(d)(ii), the WAFC must:
  - A. notify the Person(s) the subject of the investigation as soon as practicable; and
  - B. use reasonable measures to establish the facts of the alleged Rules and Regulations or Policy Breach (including by interviewing any relevant Person and taking witness statements).
- ii. The WAFC may engage a third party, appropriately qualified investigator to assist with an investigation.
- iii. On completion of its investigation, a Controlling Body must proceed with the matter in accordance with Schedule 18.3(b).

**f) State Football Body stand down rule**

A State Football Body may stand down any Person subject to any action specified under Schedule 18.2(a) to 18.2(e) (including any investigation or resulting Tribunal or Appeal Board hearing) from participating in or in connection with a Competition.

**g) Vexatious complaints**

A Person (including a Disciplinary Officer or Club) must not knowingly submit a complaint that is untrue, vexatious or malicious.

**h) Cooperation with investigation**

A Person the subject of an investigation under this Schedule 18.2 and other Persons relevant to an investigation must:

- i. co-operate with the investigation;
- ii. answer questions and provide statements truthfully during the investigation;
- iii. not make any false or misleading statement or act in a manner calculated to or which is likely to mislead.

**i) Investigations involving minors**

Where a Person involved in an investigation under this Schedule 18.2 is under the age of eighteen (18) years then during the investigation that Person must always be supported by:

- i. a parent or guardian of the Person; and
- ii. where possible, a Club Officer

[Guidance note: It is critical that all minors are always supported by an adult if they are the subject to or involved in any investigation.]

**j) Confidentiality**

- i. Subject to Schedule 18.2(j)(ii), a Controlling Body must use reasonable endeavours to keep confidential any information obtained under Schedule 18.2.
- ii. Information obtained under Schedule 18.2 may be used or disclosed by the WAFC in connection with investigations under these Rules or the Policy Handbook and in reporting any reasonable suspicion of criminal conduct to relevant authorities. Without limiting the foregoing, the WAFC may disclose such information to the public where it is reasonable to do so in the interests of the open administration of AFL and State Football Body disciplinary processes provided that no information that identifies a person will be disclosed other than a person's name and information about their participation in a Competition.

**3. Decision following investigation**

**a) AFL decision following investigation**

- i. On completion of an investigation under Schedule 18.2(b), the AFL may:
  - A. deliver its findings (including any recommendations) to the relevant Controlling Body and direct that Controlling Body to make a determination in accordance with Schedule 18.3(b); or
  - B. impose a sanction on any Person who has committed a Breach on any terms and conditions, including to reprimand, suspend or deregister a Person; or
  - C. deal with the matter in such other manner as the AFL sees fit which may include the AFL attempting to conciliate or mediate the matter or issuing a warning letter or dismissing the matter altogether.
- ii. All decisions of the AFL, including in connection with an alleged Policy Breach, are final and subject only to any rights of appeal provided by law.

**b) Controlling Body decision following investigation**

- i. On completion of an investigation under Schedule 18.2(e) or as soon as practicable after a direction from the AFL under Schedule 18.3(a)(i)(A), the WAFC may, having regard to the AFL's findings including any recommendations (if any):



- A. complete a Notice of Breach; or
  - B. deal with the matter in such other manner as the WAFC determines which may include the WAFC attempting to conciliate or mediate the matter or issuing a warning letter or dismissing the matter altogether.
- ii. On completing a Notice of Breach under Section 18.3(b)(i)(A), a Controlling Body may elect to refer the Notice of Breach directly to the Tribunal (to be determined under Rule 6) without prescribing a sanction.

**c) Appealing Controlling Body decision**

A decision by a Controlling Body under Schedule 18.3(b)(i)(B) may be appealed in accordance with Rule 6.14.

**4. Issuing or withdrawing Notice of Breach**

**a) Issuing Notice of Breach**

If the WAFC completes a Notice of Breach under Schedule 18.3(b)(i)(A) then the WAFC must:

- i. issue that Notice of Breach to the charged Person and that Person's Club (if applicable); and
- ii. provide the other Person and that Person's Club (if applicable) with a copy of the Notice of Breach.

**b) Completing a Notice of Breach**

A Notice of Breach must:

- i. categorise the alleged Policy Breach;
- ii. set out the sanction prescribed by the WAFC (for example, a reprimand, suspension or Deregistration) unless the matter is referred directly to the Tribunal in which case no prescribed sanction is required; and
- iii. include the details set out in the form of the Notice of Breach.

**c) Withdrawal of Notice of Breach**

A Controlling Body may withdraw a Notice of Breach completed under Schedule 18.3(b)(i)(A) at any time prior to a Tribunal hearing.

**5. Early Guilty Plea – Policy Breach**

**a) Person may enter Early Guilty Plea**

Subject to Schedule 18.5(c), where a Person has been issued a Notice of Breach, that Person may enter an Early Guilty Plea in relation to the Breach and accept the Early Guilty Plea penalty prescribed by the Controlling Body in the Notice of Breach or elect to contest the Notice of Breach, by no later than 48 hours after receipt of the Notice of Breach, or such other time as the WAFC determines.

**b) Proceed to Tribunal hearing**

- i. If a Person elects to contest a Notice of Breach issued under Schedule 18.5(a) then the WAFC must refer the matter to the Tribunal and that Person will not be entitled to any reduction to the sanction available with the Early Guilty Plea penalty.
- ii. If a Person fails to respond to a Notice of Breach issued under Schedule 18.5(a) then the WAFC may:
  - A. refer the matter to the Tribunal to be dealt with in accordance with Rule 6 and that Person will not be entitled to any reduction to the

sanction available with the Early Guilty Plea penalty; or

- B. apply the Early Guilty Plea penalty without referring the matter to the Tribunal.

**c) Early plea not available**

If a Notice of Breach is referred directly to the Tribunal in accordance with Schedule 18.3(b)(ii), the relevant Person may not enter an Early Guilty Plea.

## Schedule 19 Deregistration

### 1. Disciplinary History

- a. The Disciplinary History of a Player or Football Official will apply in respect of all Competitions. For the avoidance of doubt, all Players and Football Officials moving from one Club and/or Controlling Body to another do so on the basis that their Disciplinary History will continue to apply and will not be erased or amended.
- b. During the Transfer process, the Disciplinary History of a Player will be automatically sent to the Destination Controlling Body via the Competition Management Platform.
- c. Where a Football Official transfers to or registers with a Controlling Body, the following will apply:
  - i. the Source Controlling Body (if applicable) will use reasonable endeavours to disclose that Football Official's Disciplinary History to the Destination Controlling Body; and
  - ii. upon request by a Destination Controlling Body, the Source Controlling Body (if applicable) will provide that Person's Disciplinary History to the Destination Controlling Body.
- d. Club imposed penalties will not be included on the Disciplinary History of a Person

### 2. Criteria for Deregistration – Reportable Offences

#### a. Suspension threshold

- i. Subject to Schedule 19.6(b), a Player or Football Official shall be automatically Deregistered and, not allowed further registration with any Club or Controlling Body if the Player or Football Official has been suspended for a total of sixteen (16) matches (or greater) as a Player and/or Football Official (including during an AFL/AFLW Competition career, subject to Schedule 19.2(c)) as a result of Reportable Offences (**Reportable Offences Suspension Threshold**).
- ii. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - A. a Player or Football Official may apply for re-registration in accordance with Schedule 19.8;
  - B. the Reportable Offences Suspension Threshold relates to suspensions imposed as a result of Reportable Offences; and
  - C. any suspension or sanction imposed on a Player or Football Official in relation to a Policy Breach will not count in relation to the Reportable Offences Suspension Threshold.

#### b. Suspensions attained once 16 years or older apply

Only suspensions, sanctions and Citation Notices relating to Reportable Offences or Policy Breaches committed by a Player or Football Official after attaining the age of 16 years will count for the purposes of this Schedule 19.

#### c. AFL/AFLW Competition Career

Any suspension served by a Player or Football Official during their AFL/AFLW Competition career shall carry over and apply to Tier 1 and Tier 2 Competitions except that the total suspension period shall be reduced by 25% for the purposes of this Schedule 19 (to the decimal point).

*[Guidance note: For example, if a Player is suspended for six (6) matches whilst playing in the AFL/AFLW Competition, only four and one half (4.5) matches shall carry over for the purposes of this Schedule 19. For the avoidance of doubt, the 25% discount will not apply to any suspension imposed on an AFL/AFLW Listed Player for a Reportable Offence committed while playing outside of the AFL/AFLW Competition.]*

### **3. Criteria for Deregistration – serious or cumulative sanctions**

- a.** In addition to any sanction imposed on a Player or Football Official under Rule 6 of these Rules, the AFL or relevant State Football Body may determine to Deregister that Player or Football Official if the AFL or relevant State Football Body (in consultation with the AFL) is satisfied that the Policy Breach or Reportable Offence and sanction imposed, when assessed together with the factors in Schedule 19.3(b), warrants Deregistration.
- b.** If the AFL or relevant State Football Body establishes that a Player or Football Official has contravened the rules of a sport other than Australian Football (Contravention) and is reasonably satisfied that such Contravention warrants deregistration when assessed together with the factors in Schedule 19.3(c), then the AFL, or relevant State Football Body with the prior approval of the AFL, may determine to Deregister that Player or Football Official.
- c.** In making a determination under Schedule 19.3(a) and 19.3(b), the AFL or relevant State Football Body (as applicable) will have regard to the following factors:
  - i. the nature and seriousness of the Policy Breach, or Reportable Offence or Contravention;
  - ii. the Disciplinary History of the Player or Football Official;
  - iii. the health and safety of other Persons; and
  - iv. any other matter considered relevant by the AFL or relevant State Football Body.

### **4. Criteria for Deregistration – Coach citations**

- a.** Without limiting Schedule 19.2, 19.3 or 19.5, where a Coach is issued with three Citation Notices the AFL or Controlling Body may determine to Deregister that Coach. [\[Guidance note: Refer to Section 5.4. Coaches Section\]](#)
- b.** For the avoidance of doubt, a Coach may be Deregistered under Schedule 19.2, 18.3, 19.4 or 19.5.

### **5. Criteria for Deregistration – Serious Criminal Offence by Coach or Umpire**

- a.** If the AFL becomes aware of information regarding a Coach or Umpire which the Controlling Body or AFL reasonably considers gives rise to an inference that the Coach or Umpire may have committed a Serious Criminal Offence, then the Controlling Body or AFL may request additional information (including a current National Police Check) or clarification from the Coach or Umpire.
- b.** If:
  - i. a Coach or Umpire does not within a reasonable period comply with a request by the Controlling Body or AFL under Schedule 19.5(a); or
  - ii. following its assessment of the information or clarification provided under Schedule 19.5(a) or the provision of verified information from the police, the Controlling Body or AFL is satisfied that a Coach or Umpire has committed a Serious Criminal Offence,then the Controlling Body or AFL may Deregister that Coach or Umpire.
- c.** In making a determination under Schedule 19.5(b), the Controlling Body or AFL will have regard to the following factors:
  - i. the nature of the Serious Criminal Offence;
  - ii. the Disciplinary History of the Coach or Umpire, including in respect of Reportable Offences and any Policy Breaches committed by the Coach or Umpire;

- iii. the health and safety of other Persons; and
- iv. any other matter considered relevant by the AFL or relevant State Football Body.

## **6. Deregistration – general provisions**

### **a. Effect of Deregistration**

- i. If a Player or Football Official is Deregistered that Player or Football Official cannot:
  - A. register to play Australian Football for a Club or participate in a Competition; or
  - B. officiate or act as a Football Official for a Club or Competition; or
  - C. be entered on a team sheet
- ii. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - A. if a Player is Deregistered, that Player will also be prohibited from being a Football Official in any Competition; and
  - B. if a Football Official is Deregistered, that Football Official will also be prohibited from being a Player in any Competition.
- b. Should a Player or Football Official receive a sixteen (16) match (or greater) suspension as a “first offence” it shall be at the discretion of the AFL or relevant State Football Body (in consultation with any other relevant Controlling Body) as to whether or not that Player or Football Official will be Deregistered following suspension.

## **7. Notice of Deregistration**

### **a. Deregistration Warning – Reportable Offences only**

Where a Player or Football Official has served a total of ten (10) matches of suspensions as a Player or Football Official in respect of Reportable Offences, the relevant Controlling Body will use reasonable endeavours to notify the Player or Football Official and their Club in writing that the Player or Football Official faces the risk of Deregistration should the Player or Football Official incur further suspensions resulting in that Player or Football Official meeting the Reportable Offences Suspension Threshold (Deregistration Warning). A Deregistration Warning should be in the form of the Deregistration Warning template, or such other form approved by the Controlling Body.

### **b. Controlling Body obligations**

- i. The relevant Controlling Body will provide written notification of a Deregistration under Schedule 19.2 to the Player or Football Official and their Club and the relevant State Football Body (if applicable).
- ii. The AFL or relevant State Football Body (as applicable) will provide written notification of a Deregistration under Schedule 19.3, 19.4 or 19.5 to the Player or Football Official and their Club and any other relevant Controlling Body.
- iii. A central database of all Deregistered Players and Football Officials will be maintained by the AFL and State Football Bodies via the Competition Management Platform.

### **c. Club obligations**

- i. Each Club will at all times strive to ensure its Players and Football Officials do not risk Deregistration and implement measures (such as anger management training) to achieve this objective.

- ii. Upon receipt of a Deregistration Warning or written notification of a Deregistration under Schedule 19.7(b), a Club must use its best endeavours to confirm that its Player or Football Official has received such notice and promptly acknowledge to the relevant Controlling Body the steps taken by the Club to obtain this confirmation.

**d. Commencement of Deregistration**

- i. A Deregistration under Schedule 19.2 will commence on the date on which the most recent suspension of the Player or Football Official ends (being the suspension which resulted in that Player or Football Official being Deregistered).
- ii. A Deregistration under Schedule 19.3, 19.4 or 19.5 will commence on the date of notification of Deregistration by the AFL or State Football Body in accordance with Schedule 19.7(b)(ii).
- iii. A Player or Football Official will be categorised as deregistered in the Competition Management Platform (as distinct from Deregistration as defined in this Policy) at the time that the Player or Football Official receives a sanction which results in Deregistration.

**8. Application for re-registration**

- a. Subject to Schedule 19.8(e) and 19.8(f), a Deregistered Player or Football Official may, by written application to the relevant State Football Body in the form prescribed by that State Football Body, apply for re-registration no less than 12 calendar months after the date on which their Deregistration commenced (Re-Registration Application). The relevant State Football Body may levy a fee for the administration of a Re-Registration Application.
- b. Following receipt of a Re-Registration Application, the relevant State Football Body will convene a panel of at least three members (Re-Registration Panel) and arrange a hearing of the Re-Registration Panel to consider the Re-Registration Application (Re-Registration Hearing)
- c. The Re-Registration Panel must comprise of persons who in the opinion of the State Football Body possess sufficient knowledge of Australian Football and are sufficiently qualified to competently perform the role of Re-Registration Panel member.
- d. In respect of a Re-Registration Hearing, the following provisions apply:
  - i. a Re-Registration Hearing will be heard at the date, time and place/forum notified by the State Football Body;
  - ii. prior to the Re-Registration Hearing, the relevant Controlling Body will provide the Re-Registration Panel with a list of the suspension(s) of the Deregistered Player or Football Official, the grounds for those suspension(s) (i.e. the relevant Reportable Offence or Policy Breach) and any other relevant details regarding the deregistration of the Player or Football Official;
  - iii. the Deregistered Player or Football Official, their Club and the relevant Controlling Body may make brief submissions to the Re-Registration Panel regarding the Re-Registration Application;
  - iv. the Re-Registration Panel may either approve or reject a Re-Registration Application provided that the Re-Registration Panel must not approve a Player's or Football Official's Re-Registration Application unless the panel is reasonably satisfied that:
    - A. the Player or Football Official is genuinely rehabilitated and committed to ongoing rehabilitation; and

- B. the Player or Football Official is unlikely to re-offend; and
    - C. the Player or Football Official does not pose an unacceptable risk to other Persons;
  - v. the Re-Registration Panel may not approve a conditional re-registration in respect of a Player or Football Official (for example, allow re-registration as a particular kind of Football Official);
  - vi. the Re-Registration Panel:
    - A. may regulate any Re-Registration Hearing in such manner as the Re-Registration Panel determines; and
    - B. is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures
    - C. applicable to a court of law and may inform itself as to any matter in such manner as it determines; and
  - vii. the decision of the Re-Registration Panel shall be final and binding.
- e. A Player or Football Official may only submit one (1) Re-Registration Application per 12 month period.
- f. If a State Football Body considers that exceptional and compelling circumstances exist which may reasonably justify a Re-Registration Panel considering a Re-Registration Application prior to the end of the 12-month period specified in Schedule 19.8(a), then the State Football Body may, with the prior approval of the AFL Head of Community Football (or their nominee), waive a portion of that 12-month period and arrange an early Re-Registration Hearing.
- g. For the avoidance of doubt:
  - i. a Re-Registration Hearing is an application for re-registration only and is not a review or appeal of any previous sanctions;
  - ii. there is no review or appeal process in relation to a Deregistration;
  - iii. if a Player or Football Official is re-registered and subsequently receives a suspension as a result of a Reportable Offence or Policy Breach, that Player or Football Official will be permanently Deregistered from participating in any Competition as a Player or Football Official with no further right of appeal or right to apply for re-registration.

## **Schedule 20 Serious Criminal Offences**

The following offences are considered Serious Criminal Offences for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations:

- a) offences relating to assault and/or violence in relation to a child, whether physical, sexual and/or emotional;
- b) offences relating to violence or of a violent nature;
- c) offences relating to culpable and/or dangerous driving that can attract a detention or custodial sentence;
- d) offences relating to drug trafficking, abuse or supply;
- e) offences relating to the exploitation of children;
- f) offences relating to theft, felony and/or related offence of property or person;
- g) offences relating to fraud and/or any activity related to fraudulent behaviour; and
- h) offences relating to embezzlement or any impropriety relating to monies or property.



## Schedule 21 Relocation Expenses

- a) A Relocation Allowance of up to \$6,000 (excluding GST & FBT) (Relocation Allowance Cap) will be provided by Clubs to Players who are eligible in accordance with Rule 5.4.1 to cover actual costs of:
  - i. removal/storage of household goods;
  - ii. vehicle relocation
  - iii. other personal items not included in schedule A.
- or
- iv. if the Player is recruited by their Club, up to \$3,000 of the Relocation Allowance Cap may be provided to the Player for the reimbursement for purchase of essential household goods based on actual costs (specified assets) .
- b) Contribution for temporary accommodation for up to three (3) months, so long as the Player is in temporary accommodation and making reasonable and sustained efforts to buy or lease permanent accommodation as soon as possible;
- c) Where a Player is eligible for relocation support but determines to not relocate, the Club can agree to provide the Player with a petrol subsidy in lieu of relocation support of up to \$2,000 (excluding GST & FBT) as a once-off payment.
- d) Clubs may also provide Players who are eligible in accordance with Rule 5.4.1 to cover actual costs, not to be included in the Relocation Allowance Cap, of:
  - i. Personal travel costs (up to two adults) to the new location and return to the Player's original location at the end of the Players' Standard Playing Contract with that Club;
  - ii. connection of utilities; and
  - iii. loan for security deposit (rental).
- e) The Club will pay to each Player the Payment into the Player's nominated bank account in accordance with Rule 5.2 Football Match Payments
- f) For the avoidance of doubt, the WAFC may determine that relocation expenses, exceeding the amounts listed in schedule 21, are reasonable and make a determination on each application at their absolute discretion.

## **Schedule 22 WAFL Match Day Security Protocols**

### **1) General**

- a) All persons utilised by Clubs for the purpose of match day security will be trained, competent and licensed Crowd controllers as defined in the Security & Related Activities [Control] Act and Regulations.
- b) Hiring of Crowd Controllers will be the responsibility of the home Club and all payments for their services will be by arrangement between the home Club and the Security Company chosen.
- c) Clubs will utilise Security companies licensed as Security Agents to employ Crowd Controllers, as defined in the Security & Related Activities [Control] Act and Regulations.
- d) All WAFL crowd controllers must be smartly uniformed with good presentation.
- e) Clubs are not to utilise their Crowd Controllers for other purposes that take them away from these listed tasks in maintaining umpire security.
- f) The company concerned should also supply communication devices between the Ground manager and the security provided.

### **2) General Duties Umpire Security**

- a) Crowd Controllers will report to the Ground Manager before commencing duty. The Ground Manager will record their names and number.
- b) They will be in their company uniform and be carrying their licence as required by the above regulations.
- c) They will take their direction from and be responsible to the Ground Manager.
- d) A minimum of three [3] Crowd Controllers will be supplied for each WAFL League fixture, and they will be required to be in attendance from 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match until being released by the Ground Manager after the game.
  - i. NB For games where a larger than normal crowd could be anticipated it is expected Ground Managers through the Clubs will take additional steps to ensure the Umpires safety/security as they move from the playing surface into the change rooms and back out again.
- e) After a game Ground Managers will not release their Crowd Controllers until they are satisfied the Umpires are at no risk from members of the public.
- f) The Senior Field Umpire will be responsible for advising the Ground Manager when he is satisfied that there is no further security risk so that the Crowd Controllers may be dismissed for the day.

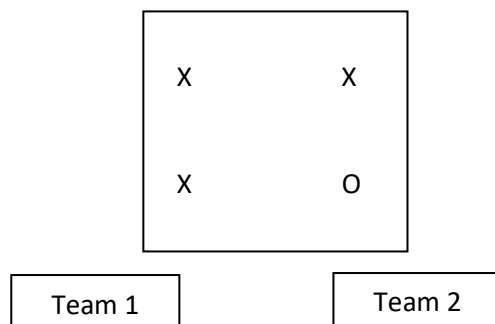
### **3) Specific Duties Umpire Security**

- a) At the commencement of the game and after the half time break two (2) Crowd Controllers will meet the Umpires at the door to the Umpires Room and escort them to the centre square.
- b) When the goal umpires move into position, they will then move to each end of the ground immediately behind the goal posts near the Goal Umpires where they will remain for the duration of the game time for that quarter. During this time they will coordinate the retrieval of the match ball, and prevent people returning the ball and hitting the Goal Umpires with it.
- c) The third crowd controller will have general duties assigned, not specifically related to the security of the Umpires. These duties will be detailed by the home team CEO and relayed to the security person through the Ground Manager. This Third controller should be the "supervisor" and available for any incidents that occur in the match.

- d) The third crowd controller will be involved in umpire security at each of the breaks in the game and in escorting the umpires from the ground at half and full time.
- e) At the ¼ and ¾ time breaks the two on-field crowd controllers will escort the Goal Umpires to the centre square and remain there until the end of the break when they will escort the Goal Umpires back to their goal areas. The third crowd controller will walk to the centre of the ground at these breaks to join the other two and position themselves around the umpires as shown below whilst directing members of the public to move outside of the square. The ground PA will ask patrons not to enter the centre square the Crowd Controllers should ask people to leave the centre square should they enter it.

X- 3 Crowd Controllers

O - Ground Manager



Team huddles should be in line with the corner of the centre square and in line and their respective interchange areas.

- f) At ½ time all 3 crowd controllers will move directly to the field umpires and escort the Umpires from the ground to the Umpires Room. All Umpires have been instructed to assemble before leaving the ground. They should also maintain visual contact with the Goal umpires and escort them as they make their way to the umpires race.
- g) During the ½ time break the Crowd Controllers may take a short personal break ensuring they are back at the Umpires Room 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the second half. The Senior Field Umpire will advise the Crowd Controllers what time he wants them back at the Umpires Room door.
- h) At the end of the game all three Crowd Controllers will move directly to the centre square and escort the Umpires from the ground to the Umpires Room and remain there until released by the Ground Manager. They should also maintain visual contact with the Goal umpires and escort them as they make their way to the umpires race.
- i) During game time they will be vigilant to deter members of the public entering the playing arena and interfering with the goal umpires whilst they are signaling scores.
- j) They will also be vigilant for members of the public entering the playing field to accost players or umpires during game time if this occurs the Crowd Controller will immediately escort the offender from the playing surface to the head of the home team players race.

## Schedule 22 WAFL Ticket and Entry Conditions

These WAFL Ticket and Entry Conditions (**Conditions**) form an agreement between the West Australian Football League (**WAFL**), WAFL Club or Venue Operator (**Venue Operator**) and any person who:

- (a) has a ticket or pass to an WAFL or WAFLW match or any other Australian Football match administered by the WAFL (**Match**), event or function at an WAFL Venue (which includes all surrounding areas under the control of the venue owner or hirer) (**Venue**);
- (b) has a right to attend any Match, event or function at a Venue; and/or
- (c) enters a Venue.

Each such Person (**You**) agrees to these Conditions and must ensure that any person under the age of 18 years of age (or otherwise incapable of giving consent) whom You buy or provide a ticket for or accompanies you to a Match, event or function at a Venue, will also comply.

### GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

You agree as follows:

1. from the time of entry to the Venue to at all times have in Your possession a valid ticket, pass and/or accreditation for entry to the Match, event or function, including entry into any restricted areas within the Venue;
2. not to bring into the Venue:
  - (a) any photographic, video or audio recording equipment for any purpose other than private non-commercial purposes, which includes, without limitation, video and/or audio recorders, camera tripods, monopods or lenses with a total focal length of greater than 200mm or any other commercial digital video equipment;
  - (b) any animal (other than a companion animal required for medical reasons as documented in a medical certificate provided by a trained medical specialist);
  - (c) any musical instruments or other similar device;
  - (d) any alcohol, glass, cans, firearms, weapons, fireworks or any other items deemed to be or which may be considered to be dangerous;
  - (e) any flag/banner poles or extendable flag/banner poles exceeding 1.4m in length or whose dimensions are in contravention of the Venue's specific conditions of entry;without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League;
3. not to:
  - (a) make any recording or take any photograph for any purpose other than private non-commercial purposes;
  - (b) make any recording or take any photograph of any person without the authorisation of that person; or
  - (c) sell, license or otherwise publish, disseminate or reproduce (or permit such), whether in whole or in part, any recordings taken or made inside the Venue (including, without limitation, photographs, video recordings, data recordings or sound recordings); without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League
4. if, notwithstanding paragraph 3, You upload, publish or disseminate any user generated content taken or made inside the Venue (including, without limitation, photographs, video recordings, data recordings or sound recordings) to a social media or any digital media

platform (**User Generated Content**), You consent to the commercial exploitation, throughout the world, of that User Generated Content by any means (including, without limitation, by re-sharing or re-posting such content) by the West Australian Football League and its commercial partners without compensation on a perpetual, irrevocable and worldwide basis;

5. not to broadcast or narrowcast by any means whatsoever (including, without limitation, by way of mobile telephone, transmitter or other wireless device of any kind) any images, sounds, data, results or commentary of or concerning any of the Matches or other activities at the Venue without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League;
6. not to:
  - (a) wear or otherwise display commercial, political, religious or offensive signage or logos of any kind;
  - (b) engage in ambush marketing of any kind;
  - (c) sell or distribute any goods or services or any other matter or thing;
  - (d) collect money or orders from other patrons for goods or services or any other matter or thing;
  - (e) inflate, or cause to inflate, any balloon, beach ball, receptacle, device or structure;
  - (f) open any umbrella if it has the effect of obstructing the view of any other patron or attendee;
  - (g) conduct public surveys or opinion polls, solicit money, donations or subscriptions from members of the public; or
  - (h) distribute commercial, political, religious or offensive advertising or other promotional material of any kind,

without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League;

7. to abide by all lawful and reasonable directions and procedures of the WAFL, Venue Operator, Venue personnel and security staff while at the Venue for Match, event or function;
8. that You are required to adhere to specific dress codes and other policies that may apply to the particular Match, event or function;
9. that entry to the Venue is only permitted to spectators who agree to be searched (including, without limitation, their bags, clothes or other possessions) on entry, and continued presence in the Venue is only permitted to spectators who agree to be searched (including, without limitation, their bags, clothes or other possessions) while in the Venue. WAFL and the Venue Operator reserves the right to inspect and search Your bags regardless of size. This may include visually or physically inspecting the bag and/or seeking Your assistance to remove items from the bag. WAFL and the Venue Operator also reserves the right to conduct 'pat down', 'wandering' or other reasonably personal checks of You as You enter or exit the Venue;
10. that the playing field or back of house and stage areas at the Venue shall be out of bounds at all times and You shall not enter the playing field or back of house and stage areas without prior written consent from the West Australian Football League or only during the breaks in play. Contravention of this condition may result in You being prosecuted for such contravention;
11. that You consent to:
  - (a) the recording of Your likeness and/or voice by any means (including but not limited to

audio and visual recordings by television cameras and photographers) (together 'Images'); and

- (b) the commercial exploitation, throughout the world, of their Images by any means by the West Australian Football League, WAFL affiliates and their respective commercial partners without compensation,

on a perpetual, irrevocable and worldwide basis;

12. that You are required to take appropriate care for Your safety including but not limited to sun protection, hydration and responsible consumption of alcohol;

13. that if You are deemed to be, or potentially be, affected by the consumption of alcohol or drugs You may, in the West Australian Football League's discretion, be refused entry to, or ejected from, the Venue by an authorised official;

14. that:

- (a) You are admitted to the Venue at Your own risk; and
- (b) that the West Australian Football League shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by You asserted to have been caused by any act or omission of the West Australian Football League, its agents or employees;

15. not to do any of the following in or around the Venue:

- (a) post, stick, place or attempt to post, stick or place any poster, placard, bill, banner, print, paper or any other advertising material on any building structure, fence, tree, cordon or other thing without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League;
- (b) misuse, deface, damage, remove from the Venue or tamper with or attempt to misuse, deface, damage, remove from the Venue or tamper with any building, seat, chair, toilet, sink, table structure, vehicle, craft, truck, pipe, tap, tap fitting, conduit, electrical equipment, wiring, sign or other thing or excavate or cause to be excavated any part of the area used for any of the Matches, events, functions or other activities at the Venue;
- (c) deposit litter, except in a receptacle provided for that purpose;
- (d) throw or attempt to throw any stone, bottle, projectile or other object;
- (e) engage in any conduct, act towards or speak to any player, umpire or other official, performer or other patron or attendee in a manner, or engage in any conduct, which threatens, offends, insults, humiliates, intimidates, disparages or vilifies that other person on any basis including, but not limited to, that other person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability or sexual orientation, preference or identity;
- (f) disrupt, interrupt or behave in any manner that may disrupt or interrupt any of the Matches, events, functions or other activities at the Venue, distract, hinder or interfere with a WAFL Official, player, umpire or performer, interfere with the comfort of other patrons or attendees or their enjoyment of any of the Matches, events, functions or other activities at the Venue;
- (g) use indecent or obscene language or threatening or insulting words, or otherwise behave in a threatening, abusive, riotous, indecent or insulting manner;
- (h) interfere with, obstruct or hinder the West Australian Football League or its employees, agents or contractors in the exercise of their powers, functions or duties;

- (i) collect, communicate or transmit any form of commentary, data or other material in relation to the conduct, progress, result or any other aspect of a Match taking place at the Venue for any improper purpose, illegal purpose, or unauthorised commercial purpose;
  - (j) in any way, or seek to in any way, improperly influence the conduct, progress, result or any other aspect of a Match, event or function taking place at the Venue, or offer to any third party any bribe or other reward to engage in such activities; or
  - (k) smoke or vape in areas within the Venue;
16. not to hold Yourself out or otherwise promote Yourself or any good or service as being associated with the West Australian Football League, Club or player where they are not authorised by the West Australian Football League to do so;
17. without prejudice to any other rights which the West Australian Football League or the Venue owner or hirer may have, that if You contravene any of these conditions of entry You may:
- (a) be refused entry to the Venue;
  - (b) be required by an authorised event official to provide your name, address, photograph (including submitting to the taking of a photograph) and other relevant personal information (Personal Information);
  - (c) be ejected from the Venue by an authorised official;
  - (d) have Your ticket confiscated and/or cancelled without refund or recompense;
  - (e) be prohibited and disqualified, by means of an Official Banning Notice, from purchasing tickets for and/or entering into any Venue or other function played or conducted under the auspices of the West Australian Football League; and/or
  - (f) have legal action taken against You in connection with such matters;
18. That:
- (a) If you are required to provide your Personal Information as set out in paragraph 18(b), the West Australian Football League will at all times deal with your Personal Information in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), You consent to the West Australian Football League, the Venue and any relevant third party service providers using Your Personal Information in connection with investigating, documenting and analysing any possible breach of these conditions of entry or the law; and
  - (b) If You receive an Official Banning Notice You are banned from engaging in any of the Prohibited Activities for the Banned Period (as set out in the Official Banning Notice), and the West Australian Football League may vary or re-issue the Official Banning Notice to You if it is satisfied it is reasonably appropriate to do so in the circumstances; and
  - (c) If You receive an Official Banning Notice you also consent to the West Australian Football League disclosing your Personal Information to third parties to take reasonable steps to enforce the Official Banning Notice.
19. that, in the event You are refused entry to or removed from the Venue for any reason in accordance with these conditions of entry, no refund will be paid in respect of the relevant ticket, except where expressly stated otherwise in these Conditions; and

20. to abide by any terms of entry into the Venue prescribed by the Venue manager to the extent those terms of entry do not conflict with these Conditions.

#### **WAFL Member Entry Conditions**

1. **Colts Competition - WAFL Club Members**

WAFL Club Members are entitled to gain free entry to any WAFL venue prior to half time of the WAFL Colts match.

#### **TICKET CONDITIONS**

1. Subject to any applicable legislation that permits re-selling up to a certain threshold, You agree not to re-sell or offer to re-sell any tickets to the Matches played, or events and functions held, at the Venue at a premium or to use any of them for advertising, promotional or other commercial purposes (including, without limitation, competitions) without the prior written consent of the West Australian Football League. If a ticket is sold or used or suspected to have been sold or used in contravention of this condition the bearer of the ticket may be denied admission to the Venue.
2. Mobile tickets are the preferred method for entry to Matches, events and functions at the Venue. You will be required to show Your ticket barcode on entry to the Venue. If You purchase tickets for a group and are utilising mobile tickets, ensure every adult has been forwarded and downloaded their ticket onto their mobile prior to entry to the Venue.

#### **TICKET REFUND CONDITIONS**

1. As a general policy, subject to these Conditions, a ticket to the Match, event or function at the Venue is non-refundable.
2. The WAFL may delay, reschedule or cancel the Match, event or function, including as a result of COVID-19 restrictions, regulations or directions issued by the relevant State or the Federal Government or the WAFL. In such circumstances, You will only be entitled to a refund for your ticket in accordance with these Conditions or where otherwise required by law.
3. If a Match, event or function is cancelled or rescheduled to another date and/or venue, you will be entitled to a full refund of the face value of Your ticket(s) purchased for that Match, event or function (excluding in respect of any complimentary tickets). Where a refund is made, the relevant ticket agent may, to the extent permitted by law, retain any fee it has charged for its ticketing services.
4. The WAFL will not be liable for any indirect losses as a result of the postponement, cancellation, rescheduling or relocation of the Match, event or function including losses in relation to accommodation and flights.
5. In the event of extenuating circumstances, the WAFL may also facilitate a refund of a ticket if You seek entry to the Venue but are not permitted access to the Venue due to any COVID-19 restrictions, including if you appear to have any COVID-19 symptoms, or if You can produce supporting evidence of Your incapacity to attend a Match, event or function in the circumstances set out in condition 3 under the heading 'COVID-19 Conditions' above.



## **ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE & INDEMNITY**

1. You acknowledge and agree that your attendance at a Match, event or function at the Venue is not without risk and you accept and voluntarily assume all of the risks, including inherent and obvious risks, arising from your attendance at the Venue. Such risks include but are not limited to suffering injury (including serious injury) or property damage as a result of being struck by a football, collisions with other people or objects, falling or slipping due to the surface or floor being wet, damaged or having rubbish or other items lying on them.
2. You agree that your attendance at a Match, event or function at the Venue may cause you personal injury or property damage for which you suffer loss and damage (including economic losses) and you agree to release the WAFL for any loss or damage that you may incur.
3. You agree that you are responsible for any loss, damage or injury you may cause to yourself or others and that you agree to indemnify the WAFL against any claim or liability in respect of such loss, damage or injury.

You acknowledge that, without limiting any other rights which the WAFL may have, if you breach any of these Conditions, then you may be refused entry or ejected from the Venue by an authorised official without refund or compensation, have a membership or other ticket confiscated and/or cancelled without refund or compensation, have sanctions imposed against me (including but not limited to being banned from attending, or prohibited from purchasing tickets for, Matches, events or functions in the future) or have legal action taken against you in connection with any breach (including criminal prosecution).

The WAFL may amend these Conditions from time to time at its sole discretion without notice. By order of the West Australian Football League