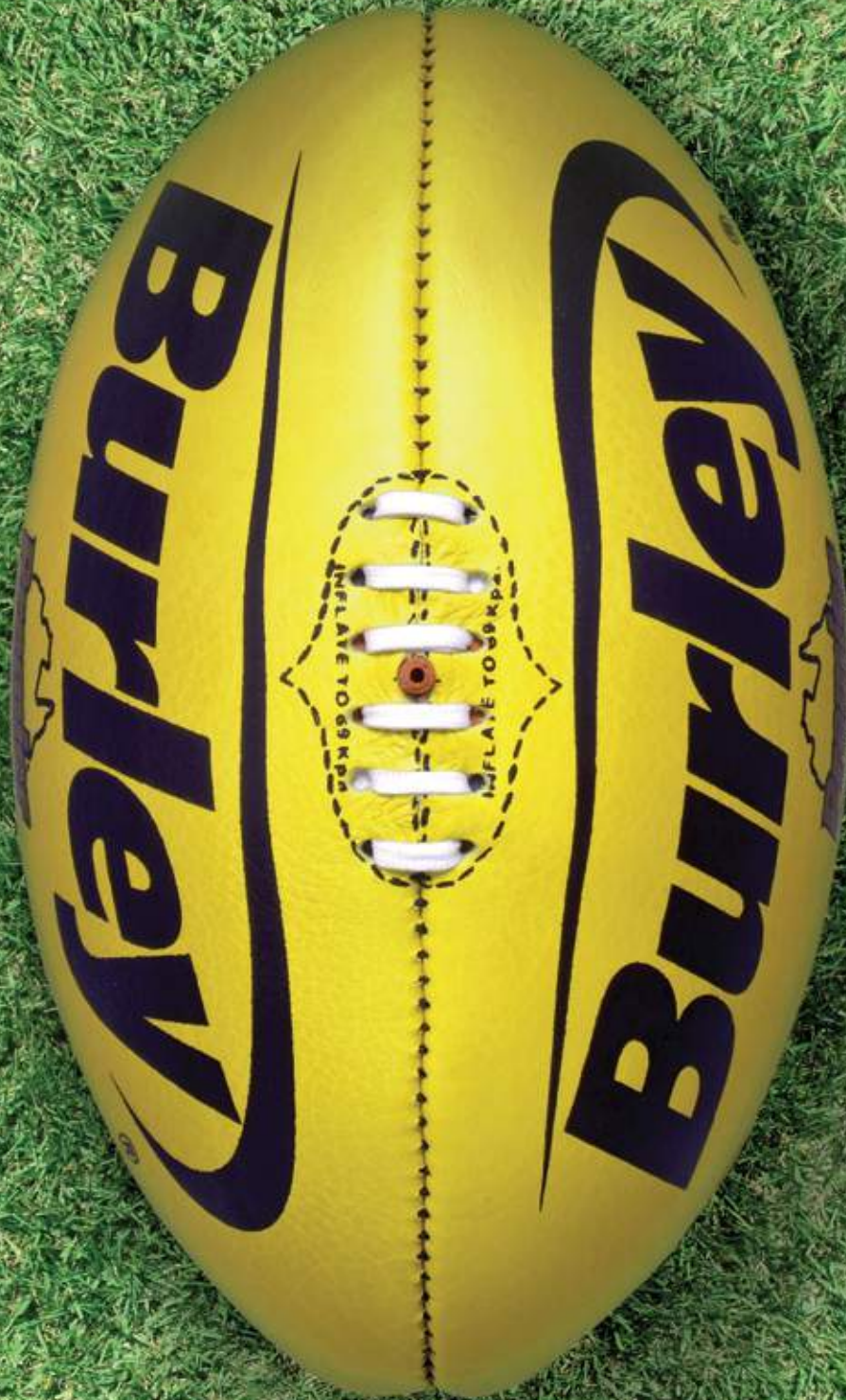


2018 JUNIOR CLUB MANUAL



WEST AUSTRALIAN
FOOTBALL COMMISSION INC.

Burley
Since 1907



supporting WA Football at all levels for generations

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IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS:

Junior Club President: _____

Team Manager: _____

Competition Director: _____

Ambulance: _____

Police: _____

Local Hospital: _____





WELCOME TO THE 2018 JUNIOR FOOTBALL SEASON

Junior Football across Western Australia has an objective to be fun, safe and fair for all participants, and as parents this needs to be the philosophy that we take along to all grounds each and every weekend. Whether we are supporting from the sidelines, coaching our kids or volunteering at the local club, we must remember that junior sport is for the kids, and it is our responsibility as adults to ensure that we retain the fun, we make it safe and welcoming and that it is fair and equitable for every single participant.

Junior Football is not the AFL, your local community ground is not Optus Stadium or the MCG, the kids playing and umpiring are not professionals, and your coach is a volunteer. As parents we must ensure that we remember this and not lose sight that the reason we want our kids to play sport is for all those associated benefits that come from playing in a community based team.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (formerly the Department of Sport & Recreation) has recently launched True Sport. It is a fantastic initiative that seeks to highlight and instil the values of what Sport is all about. True Sport's eight values should be part of everyday life both on and off the field. By embracing these values teams, clubs, participants and officials can work together to create fun, fair and safe environments for one and all to participate in sporting activities.

- **Have Fun** - It's healthy, it's a game, it's sport – enjoy it! Have fun training and competing at all levels,
- **Be Safe** - Ensure participants are safe on and off the field.
- **Play Fair** - Be honourable – do the right thing on and off the field.
- **Show Respect** - Demonstrate mutual respect for everyone – team-mates, opposition, clubs, community and treat others how you want to be treated.
- **Include All** - Invite everyone to participate and make sport meaningful for the whole community.
- **Be Healthy** - Look after the physical and mental wellbeing of yourself and others.
- **Give Back** - Volunteer, embrace opportunities to give back and thank those involved with bringing you the game.
- **Bring Your Best** - Bring your best to every game and enjoy the challenge – win, lose or draw.

Let's remember that the number one reason that kids play sport is to have fun with their friends, and it is imperative that all adults understand that this is their primary motivator to participate. For further information on True Sport visit <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/truesport>

2018 will be another big year in community football. Football has now moved to the new stadium, the WAFC has agreed to a new financial model with the state government, the WAFC has launched a clear strategic plan, and there are a number of recommendations that need to be addressed. Amidst all this, there will be over 330,000 participants playing our great game at some level, there will be 46,000+ volunteers week in and week out helping football run, and there will be countless sausages cooked on footy club BBQ's.

This manual will serve to provide all junior teams, clubs, leagues and administrators a clear set of by-laws, rules and policies that are consistently applied across all junior football environments. It is important that we strive to create the best environments possible in order to retain all participants and volunteers in our great game.

In conclusion, can I take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in junior football for their passion and dedication to our great game. We appreciate your efforts, we are grateful for the time you commit and we thank you for all the hard work you undertake. We can never say this enough as it truly is the tens of thousands of volunteers around the state who make our game such a great thing to be a part of.

All the very best!



TROY KIRKHAM
Executive Manager Engagement and Community Football
West Australian Football Commission

CONTACTS — METRO

METRO NORTH West Perth, Claremont, Subiaco

Community Development Manager Competitions & Club Development Team Leader Coach Coordinator CLAREMONT Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson SUBICAO Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson WEST PERTH Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson	Andrew Ridley Callum Warner Wesley Moran Declan Cormack John Thurtell Paul Donovan Matt DeBarro Lincoln Rollo Cindy Dunham TBC Natalie Sharman Chris Erikson	aridley@wafc.com.au cwarner@wafc.com.au wmoran@wafc.com.au dcormack@wafc.com.au jdth@bigpond.net.au mdebarro@wafc.com.au subiacocd@gmail.com TBC cd@falconsdistrict.com.au	0402 794 016 0437 965 912 0409 084 483 0484 843 880 0427 388 209 0418 921 254 0402 794 016 0416 690 445 0419 557 503 TBC 0409 404 054 0418 882 015
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METRO CENTRAL East Perth, Swan Districts, Perth

Community Development Manager Competitions & Club Development Team Leader Coach Coordinator EAST PERTH Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson PERTH Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson SWANS Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson	Isaac Stewart TBC Allana Dickie Corey Ranger Shaun Hughes Luke McNeice Chris Brown Marshall Hannah Sean Collingwood Christian Tufilli Dave Farthing Ian Westmore	istewart@wafc.com.au TBC adickie@wafc.com.au cranger@wafc.com.au shaunhughes@inet.net.au cbrown@wafc.com.au melaniehannah@bigpond.com ctufilli@wafc.com.au dave.1969.wa@gmail.com	0429 000 347 TBC 0439 971 010 0430 868 512 0428 131 107 0400 128 665 0412 676 857 0474 724 350 0429 084 413 0423 989 582 0474 148 499 0434 075 481
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METRO SOUTH Peel, East Fremantle, South Fremantle

Community Development Manager Competitions & Club Development Team Leader Coach Coordinator PEEL Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson EAST FREMANTLE Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson SOUTH FREMANTLE Development Officer Competition Director DFDC Chairperson	Bradd Gardiner Tom Atkinson Daren Bell Aaron Ballantyne Narelle Litchfield Brett Lee TBC Anthony Doig Geoff Wolfenden Regan Atkinson Mark Brookes Stephen Goodall	bgardiner@wafc.com.au tatkinson@wafc.com.au dbell@wafc.com.au aballantyne@wafc.com.au cd@peeldistrict.com.au TBC cd@sharkdistrict.com.au ratkinson@wafc.com.au sfjccd@gmail.com	0438 953 055 0433 117 568 0438 952 487 0400 230 072 0419 933 559 0427 220 660 TBC 0405 143 736 0447 711 933 0437 587 161 0402 399 139 0421 022 664
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CONTACTS – COUNTRY

GOLDFIELDS REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Gemma Harrison Justin Tarasinski	gharrison@wafc.com.au justintarasinski@gmail.com	0417 179 463 0448 039 923
GREAT SOUTHERN REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Tom Moir Brian Lee	tmoir@wafc.com.au wbrianlee28@gmail.com	0428 428 440 0418 441 536
KIMBERLEY REGION Regional Specialist Development Officer RFDC Chairperson	Michael Ellul Eamon Rice Geoff Davis	mellul@wafc.com.au erice@wafc.com.au yurabi1@bigpond.com	0406 801 942 0439 660 746 0429 092 777
MID WEST REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Kristian Diction Jerry Dawson	kdicton@wafc.com.au dingolingo92@icloud.com	0429 217 220 0409 688 012
MIDLANDS REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Glen Collins Milton Milloy	gcollins@wafc.com.au milton@meedac.com	0417 920 817 0400 603 962
PILBARA REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Vicki Agnew Daryl Mansfield	vagnew@wafc.com.au daryl.mansfield@education.wa.edu.au	0455 661 633 0415 998 896
SOUTH WEST REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Glenn Omodei Mark Blakely	gomodei@wafc.com.au mblakely@bunburytoyota.com.au	0419 955 173 0419 947 168
WHEATBELT REGION Regional Specialist RFDC Chairperson	Paul Reid Craig Gmeiner	preid@wafc.com.au Craig.gmeiner@education.wa.edu.au	0419 859 576 0429 647 651

For enquires and questions please follow the following communication protocol:

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

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook



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



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

Join the conversation #WAFooty



WAFC PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

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

Burley Sekem

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

Grand Cinemas & Ace Cinemas

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

For more information about the WAFL Little League contact:

Andrew King

Phone: 08 9287 5548

Pila Goalposts

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

Australian Football League (AFL)

The AFL provides funding and program support to the WAFC.
For further information visit: www.afl.com.au

WA Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

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

Fremantle Football Club

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

Interested in becoming a member?

Contact: Phone: (08) 9433 7111 or 1300 88 20 77
Email: membership@fremantlefc.com.au

West Coast Eagles Football Club

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

Interested in becoming a member?

Phone: (08) 9388 4566
Email: membership@westcoasteagles.com.au

National Australia Bank

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

Sunday Times

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

Mundella

Mundella Foods is Western Australia's leading dairy company and are now proud partners of the Female Football Pathway across Western Australia. For more information about Mundella and their delicious range of yoghurts and dairy products please visit <http://www.mundellafoods.com.au/>





From the KidSport team

Welcome to KidSport!

Sport and active recreation helps you step up and gives you confidence to become part of a team, make friends and kick goals. Sport is great practice for life on and off the playing field. Sport is not a luxury. It builds stronger, healthier, happier and safer communities and should be part of every child's life regardless of their circumstances, ability or where they come from.

Being part of KidSport is important because active children are more likely to be active adults. Sport and recreation is fun, but just as importantly, participation gives your child a better chance of doing well at school, improves coordination and balance, helps them sleep better, improves social and life skills and creates a greater sense of wellbeing. When kids play sport, the whole community wins.

WHAT IS KIDSPORT?

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

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must be aged 5 - 18 years.
- Applicants primary place of residence must be in the local government area they are applying to.
- Applicants must be listed on a valid Health Care or Pensioner Concession card.

What else?

- Maximum of \$150 per child per calendar year.
- Fees are only for the nominated registered season.
- No retrospective fees will be paid.
- No limitation to the number of applications per family as long as the criteria for each child is met.
- If applicants are NOT listed on a valid concession card but meet one of the KidSport Financial Exceptions they can apply for KidSport by contacting a KidSport Financial Assessor.
- Applicants can only receive KidSport funding for a Financial Exception once.



Who are KidSport Financial Assessors?

KidSport Financial Assessors are professional employees at agencies who provide support services for families. They will assess a family's financial situation against the KidSport Financial Exceptions and submit a KidSport application on their behalf. The Department will review the application.

KidSport Exceptions

- 1 Sudden loss of employment and subsequent income from the main income earner of the family. This does not include voluntary unemployment or circumstances where a redundancy payment has been received.
- 2 Death or serious illness of a parent/guardian causing significant impact on the household income.
- 3 Fire, flood or other natural disaster causing significant impact on the household's financial situation.
- 4 Situations when the child has been placed into care (of the State, foster or extended family) and the relevant concession cards are unavailable.

Contact your local government for your nearest KidSport Financial Assessor if you think you meet one of these exceptions.

To submit your application send to your local government office.

To enquire visit www.dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport or email kidsport@dsr.wa.gov.au.

To find a local club, go to the Department of Sport and Recreation's website at www.dsr.wa.gov.au/find-a-club.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR CLUB MANUAL

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

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

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

Your feedback on the continued layout and manual contents is always welcomed. Please email your feedback to tmalley@wafc.com.au

ABOUT FOOTBALL IN WA

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

The rich history of football in the community of Western Australia stretches back to 1895. Today it is the most popular sporting code in Western Australia with more than 330 000 active participants each weekend during the season. This is more than double any other sport. On top of this football clinics are provided to approx. 330 000 West Australian Children every year throughout our schools and communities across our state.

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

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

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

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





VISION

**Connecting and enhancing
WA communities** through our
great game

PILLARS

ENGAGEMENT

More people are engaged in footy than with any other sport in wa

TALENT

WA is recognised as best practice in talent identification and player development

SUSTAINABILITY

WA clubs and competitions are well-governed, operate with integrity and are sustainable

INDUSTRY ALIGNMENT

GOALS

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

- E1 Introduce all WA children to football
- E2 Increase the number of players who choose to continue to play football
- E3 Support all types of participants, including volunteers and fans
- E4 Deliver measurable community benefits through football
- E5 Maintain a quality State league competition

- T1 Increase the number and quality of AFL draftees
- T2 Ensure retention of talented players within WA football system
- T3 Ensure career pathways for talented coaches, umpires and administrators

- S1 Support the ongoing success of our AFL clubs
- S2 Ensure all parts of football have a sustainable business model
- S3 Improve the quality of governance
- S4 Build the capacity of staff and volunteers
- S5 Ensure football is supported through appropriate and quality facilities
- S6 Ensure effective integrity measures are in place

KPIs

HOW WILL WE MEASURE SUCCESS?

- Total participation
- Club participation
- Participant satisfaction
- WAFL competitiveness
- Social return on investment

- Total AFL draftees
- Total AFLW draftees
- AFL & WAFL club talent perception
- Umpire & coach pathway progression

- WAFC cash balance
- Annual governance review
- % of funding from commercial sources
- # of WAFL clubs with positive annual cash balance
- Board & Executive diversity target
- Employee satisfaction and capability result
- HSE internal compliance

WAFC SPECIFIC

STRATEGIES

AT THE WEST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COMMISSION WE VALUE:

OUR PEOPLE | OUR RELATIONSHIPS | BEING OUR VERY BEST | LEADING OUR INDUSTRY

WA FOOTBALL DISTRICT STRUCTURE

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

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

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

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

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

AFL GAME DEVELOPMENT

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

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



JUNIOR FOOTBALL POLICIES

MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY (MPP)

What is Member Protection?

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

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

As an affiliated state body of the AFL, the WAFC subscribes to the AFL Member Protection Policy which can be found at www.afl.com.au/policies.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

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

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

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

The West Australian Football Commission (WAFC) has an obligation to ensure that affiliated clubs maintain a safe physical and emotional environment for its members and this includes cyber safety and the safe and responsible use of ICT. Individual members also have a responsibility to use ICT in a safe and responsible way, and not bring the game into disrepute.

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

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

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



SPONSORSHIP POLICY

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

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

The following sponsors are regarded as inappropriate:

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

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

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

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

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

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

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

ALCOHOL POLICY

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

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

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

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

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

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

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

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

PREGNANCY POLICY

Sports Medicine Australia has developed guidelines entitled *“Participation of the Pregnant Athlete in Contact and Collision Sports”*.

The guidelines are intended to provide recommendations to the pregnant athlete and sporting organisations on safe participation in contact and collision sports during pregnancy.

Summary of the guidelines follows:

Football is classified as an unlimited contact and collision sport;

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

Recommendations:

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

Insurance and the Pregnant Player

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

PLAYER ROTATION POLICY – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The on-field rotation of players is a policy developed to enhance the participation and skill development of all players in Year 3 – Year 12 competitions.

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

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

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

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

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

‘PLAY AFL’ RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES

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

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

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

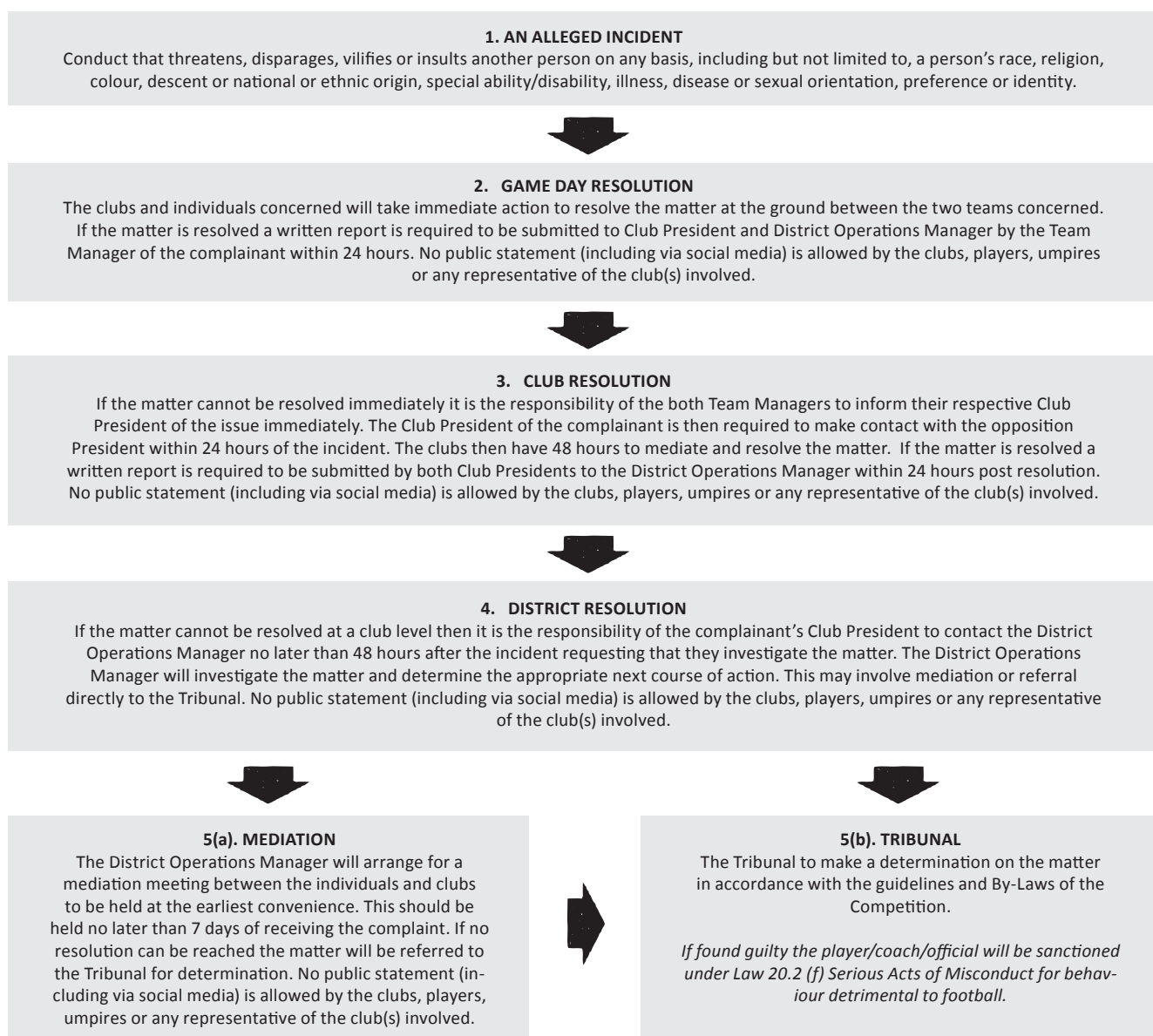


VILIFICATION POLICY

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

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

The vilification resolution process is:



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

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

PROHIBITED PERSONS DECLARATION FORM (PPD) - POLICY

1. The WA Football Commission is committed to providing an environment that is safe for participation in junior football physical activities. The WAFC will not tolerate the criminal act of child sexual maltreatment, which occurs when a child (defined as a person under the age of 18 years) has been exposed or subjected to sexual behaviours or acts which are exploitative and/or inappropriate to his or her developmental level. Such behaviour involves a wide range of sexual activities which exploit children and includes forcing, tricking, bribing, threatening or pressuring a child into sexual activity.
2. The Prohibited Persons Declaration forms conveys a message to all members and prospective members, responsible for junior football activities, particularly those involving members under 18 years of age, about minimizing risk exposure. Managers, coaches, officials, leaders, trainers and management personnel, have a responsibility to provide safeguards dedicated to the well-being of those under the age of 18 years (youth).
3. The abuse of youth members, by other members of external source, is not acceptable and WAFC encourages all incidents of such abuse as described above to be reported immediately to the appropriate authorities.
4. Working with Children Legislation will be adhered to. All volunteers must sign a PPD. For specific details on the Prohibited Persons Declaration Forms for junior football please refer to the WAFC website www.wafootball.com.au

WORKING WITH CHILDREN LEGISLATION POLICY

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

WAFC aims to minimize the risk of harm to children by ensuring clubs adhere to screening procedures when employing people in positions (paid or voluntary) whose usual duties involve, or are likely to involve, contact with children (those under the age of 18 years). As such the WAFC mandates that all volunteers must undertake a WWC Check where they are not exempt from doing so.

What is a WWC Check?

The Working with Children (WWC) Check is a compulsory screening strategy in Western Australia and the Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands for people who engage in certain paid or unpaid work with children, described as "child-related work" under the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (the WWC Act). The WWC Check includes a National Police History Check, but is different from a National Police Certificate because it involves the ongoing collection and assessment of information that is relevant to whether a child may be exposed to a risk of harm should a person engage in child-related work.

Clubs are required to:

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

Working with Children Checks

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

Exemptions

Certain people don't need to have a WWC Check and must not apply for one. Following are some examples of exemptions. For a full list, visit <https://workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au>.

- Volunteers and unpaid students on placement who are under 18 years of age.
- Parents volunteering in many activities where their child is also involved. This exemption does not apply to parents volunteering at overnight camps attended by their children.
- Short term visitors to Western Australia carrying out child-related work during the period of two weeks after their arrival in Western Australia, and for no more than two weeks in any period of 12 months.

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

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

This is legislation and affects volunteers as well as paid personnel. Please check the website <https://workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au/> for more information.

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

For the full WAFC Child Protection Policy please refer to the WAFC Member Protection Policy at www.wafootball.com.au

PRIVACY POLICY

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

PHOTOS & VIDEO POLICY

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

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

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

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

The Law

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

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

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

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

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

Potential Strategies - Acquiring Images

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

Potential Strategies - Displaying Images

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

RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

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

INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

Playing football, as with all team sports, involves players living and training in close contact with others. While this increases the risk of contracting common illnesses such as respiratory infections, skin infections or gastro-enteritis, simple measures can reduce the chances of transmission of these infections. Avoidance of sharing drink bottles, washing hands regularly, avoid spitting and a generally clean environment in change rooms is recommended. Specific rules apply to players with acute bleeding during a game. They should be removed from the ground immediately and the bleeding controlled. They may require medical attention. All open wounds should be covered before returning to play. All clothing contaminated with blood should be removed and washed. These measures reduce the risk of transmission of blood-borne viruses.

DRONE POLICY

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) recreational drone safety rules are designed to protect other people in the air and on the ground. You must not fly your drone in a way that creates a hazard to another aircraft, person or property, so CASA's rules must be followed every time you fly.

These rules do not apply to all drone flyers. If you hold a remote pilot licence (RePL) and operate according to a remotely piloted aircraft operator certificate (ReOC) or have an authorisation from CASA, you will be exempt.

The Rules:

1. You must not fly your drone higher than 120 metres (400 ft) above the ground.
2. You must not fly your drone over or near an area affecting public safety or where emergency operations are underway (without prior approval). This could include situations such as a car crash, police operations, a fire and associated firefighting efforts, and search and rescue operations.
3. You must not fly your drone within 30 metres of people, unless the other person is part of controlling or navigating the drone.
4. You must fly only one drone at a time.
5. If your drone weighs more than 100 grams:
 - a) You must keep your drone at least 5.5km away from controlled aerodromes (usually those with a control tower)
 - b) You may fly within 5.5km of a non-controlled aerodrome or helicopter landing site (HLS) only if manned aircraft are not operating to or from the aerodrome. If you become aware of manned aircraft operating to or from the aerodrome/ HLS, you must manoeuvre away from the aircraft and land as soon as safely possible. This includes:
 - not operating your drone within the airfield boundary (*without approval)
 - not operating your drone in the approach and departure paths of the aerodrome (*without approval)

6. You must only fly during the day and keep your drone within visual line-of sight.
 - a) This means being able to orientate, navigate and see the aircraft with your own eyes at all times (rather than through a device; for example, through goggles or on a video screen).
7. You must not fly over or above people. This could include festivals, sporting ovals, populated beaches, parks, busy roads and footpaths.
8. You must not operate your drone in a way that creates a hazard to another aircraft, person, or property
9. You must not operate your drone in prohibited or restricted areas.

* Approval is generally linked to an approved model flying association and its members.

Please respect personal privacy. Don't record or photograph people without their consent—this may breach state laws.

HEAT POLICY

Vigorous exercise in sport places some people at risk of heat illness. Even in cool weather, heat illness may occur in people exercising at high intensity for more than about 45 minutes. The risk of heat illness is obviously greater in hot and humid weather because:

- during high intensity exercise in hot weather, people may not be able to produce enough perspiration for adequate cooling;
- high humidity may prevent adequate evaporation of sweat.

Children perspire less and get less evaporative cooling than adults. In warm and hot weather, they have greater difficulty in getting rid of heat; they look flushed and feel hotter and more stressed than adults. Overweight children are particularly disadvantaged exercising in warm weather. Children should always be allowed to exercise at their preferred intensity, they should never be urged to exercise harder or compelled to play strenuous sport in warm weather. If children appear distressed or complain of feeling unwell, they should stop the activity. In high temperatures and humid conditions, junior leagues and schools should consider postponing to a cooler part of the day or cancelling scheduled matches. It is recommended that junior football providers follow the Sports Medicine Australia guidelines available on their website www.sma.org.au

COLD POLICY

In extremely cold temperatures, junior leagues and schools should consider postponing or cancelling scheduled matches. The WAFC and AFL recommends that junior leagues and schools apply common sense guidelines to climatic conditions that exist within their respective regions. Sport Medicine Australia (SMA) should be consulted when developing appropriate local policies to manage environmental conditions.

FLUID BALANCE

Substantial amounts of water are lost through perspiration when exercising vigorously in the heat, hence fluid balance is important at any time but needs more attention in some weather conditions. Junior participants do not instinctively drink enough to replace fluid lost during activity. Junior participants must be reminded to drink before, during and after training and competition.

- Water is the most appropriate drink for re-hydration. However, diluted cordial or sports drinks may be supplied. Flavoured drinks may be more palatable to children who have consistently poor drinking habits during exercise, although water should be the preferred drink of choice for junior participants as children don't require the additional sugar contained within sports drinks.
- Players should be encouraged to have their own drink bottles. This ensures that each player has access to an adequate level of replacement fluids and reduces the risk of contamination and passing on of viruses.
- Where cups and a large container are supplied, cups should not be dipped into the container. Used cups should be washed or disposed of after use.
- Cups should not be shared.

SUN PROTECTION

Junior clubs have a responsibility to protect junior participants, to the greatest extent practical, from the dangers of sun exposure. Junior participants should be encouraged to protect themselves against sun exposure by applying a 30+ sunscreen in warm weather. Junior leagues and clubs should also maximise the provision of shaded areas at venues and events and/or erect artificial shade. Sports Medicine Australia has developed a policy related to preventing heat illness in sport. These general safety guidelines, which are specific to geographical locations, are available on the SMA website at www.sma.org.au

LIGHTNING

The AFL has produced a lightning policy for adoption by junior leagues and clubs. The policy provides a step-by-step process to assist volunteers when making the difficult decision to postpone matches and or remove participants from the playing surface. The full policy can be found at www.aflcommunity.com.au **Please also refer to the Inclement Weather By-Law.**

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT POLICY

Mouth guards

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

Goal Post Padding

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

Protective Head Gear

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

Associations should adopt policies to cover:

- (a) Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical conditions; Whereby the player is required to produce a certificate that the player will, in the view of a medical practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective head gear.
- (b) Players not suffering from any known disabilities or medical conditions; Whereby the parent or guardian is required to submit a certificate to state that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical conditions which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the protective head gear.

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

SPECTACLES POLICY

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



CONCUSSION POLICY

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

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

Key Considerations

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

For the updated Concussion Management Document please visit: www.wafootball.com.au

Pocket CONCUSSION RECOGNITION TOOL



To help identify concussion in children, youth and adults







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

1. Visible clues of suspected concussion
Any one or more of the following visual clues can indicate a possible concussion:

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

2. Signs and symptoms of suspected concussion
Presence of any one or more of the following signs & symptoms may suggest a concussion:

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

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

"What venue are we at today?"
"Which half is it now?"
"Who scored last in this game?"
"What team did you play last week / game?"
"Did your team win the last game?"

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

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

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

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

Remember:

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

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

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

Key Components of Concussion Management

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

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

Recognise Concussion

1. Visible clues of suspected concussion

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

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

2. Signs and symptoms of suspected concussion

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

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

Manage Concussion

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

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

"IF IN DOUBT, SIT THEM OUT"



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

INSURANCE POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

Clubs wishing to contact JLT can do so on 1300 130 373 or via the website www.jltsport.com.au

Junior Clubs should ensure the following:

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

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

Overview

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

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

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

MANAGING COMMUNITY CLUB FINANCES – A GUIDE

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

Reporting

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

GST (extract from the ATO website www.ato.gov.au)

Due dates for lodging and paying your BAS

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

Quarterly BAS reporting

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

* Using the ATO Business Portal is a secure and easy way to lodge your BAS return www.bp.ato.gov.au/

Monthly BAS reporting

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

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

Useful Financial Management Programs

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

Consider using the cloud version of the program and then your data can be retrieved via an internet connection and the password. It's a secure way to store your data in one place and allows a seamless handover when there is a change of Treasurer.

Checks and Balances

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

Some Useful Resources

AFL Community: www.aflcommunity.com.au
Advice for Treasurers: <https://www.ourcommunity.com.au/files/DamnGoodAdvice.pdf>
Department of Sport and Recreation Organisational Development:
<http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/support-and-advice/organisational-development>



GROUND LIGHTING

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

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

BALL SIZE

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

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

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

FOOTBALL TRAINERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

UMPIRES HANDSHAKE POLICY

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

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

TRUE SPORT⁺

Be a True Sport

The way we play together shapes the way we live together

#HaveFun

It's healthy, it's a game, it's sport
– enjoy it! Have fun training
and competing at all levels.

#GiveBack

Volunteer, embrace
opportunities to give back
and thank those involved
with bringing you the game.

#BeSafe

Ensure participants
are safe on and off
the field.

#PlayFair

Be honourable –
do the right thing on
and off the field.



#BeHealthy

Look after the physical
and mental wellbeing of
yourself and others.

#BringYourBest

Bring your best to every game
and enjoy the challenge – win,
lose or draw.

#ShowRespect

Demonstrate mutual respect
for everyone – team-mates,
opposition, clubs, community
and treat others how you
want to be treated.

#IncludeAll

Invite everyone to participate
and make sport meaningful
for the whole community.



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

Share your stories about the true value
of sport and recreation @TrueSportWA





TRUE SPORT - CODES OF CONDUCT

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

True Sport

True Sport is an initiative by the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries that supports local sporting clubs and associations to use eight values to share the benefits of sport and recreation to our whole community. After consulting with members of the sporting industry, it is apparent that what people believe that strong community values are an important part of having a positive sporting experience in our State.

True Sport is the sport we want. Good sport can make a huge difference to our community and it is important to help sports work together to share this message through using a common language that everyone understands.

True Sport's eight values should be part of everyday life both on and off the field. By embracing these values, teams, clubs, participants and officials can work together to create fun, fair and safe environments for one and all to participate in sporting activities.

The eight True Sport Values are:

- Have Fun
- Be Safe
- Give Back
- Be Healthy
- Play Fair
- Bring Your Best
- Show Respect
- Include All

RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter

The WA Football Industry recently indicated that providing a positive and safe game day environment is the most important factor to the success¹ of football and therefore protecting and enhancing our Game Environment will always be a strategic focus.

The RED FLAG reporting tool is vital in monitoring and recording the standard of the environment and the spirit in which they are played in all segments of the game. The Red Flag system has been developed whereby key football stakeholders are able to identify and bring to the attention of governing bodies any undesirable behaviours and actions that may breach any of the Codes of Conduct or By-Law 1 “The Spirit of Junior Football”. This is vital to allow the WAFC to track, record and address any negative behaviours

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

Who has access to Red Flag?

- WAFC Staff
- Competition Officials
- Club Presidents

What should be Red Flagged?

- Any person displaying behaviour seen as negatively influencing the game day environment or development/enjoyment of players playing the game.
- Any person who is sent to a Tribunal or suspended via the prescribed penalty system.

Once a person is red flagged an investigation into the behaviour will be triggered.

Please contact the WAFC Manager Participation & Engagement, Josh Bowler to secure your access to the Reporting Link.

TRUE SPORT ADMINISTRATOR’S AND VOLUNTEERS CODE OF CONDUCT

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

TRUE SPORT COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

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

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

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

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



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

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

TRUE SPORT PARENT'S & SPECTATOR'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- Encourage children to participate in Sport and have fun. Although remember this is about their ambition, and not yours. **#HaveFun**
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules. **#PlayFair**
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game. **#ShowRespect**
- Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by both teams. **#ShowRespect**
- If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public. **#ShowRespect**
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities. **#ShowRespect**
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and helpers. Put your hand up to volunteer yourself. **#GiveBack**
- Remember that children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they are not mini adults. Let them have fun and enjoy their junior sport experience. **#HaveFun**
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players. **#ShowRespect**
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the umpire's decisions. **#PlayFair**
- Encourage your child to play multiple sports – they do not need to specialise and play one sport all year round. **#BeHealthy**
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not swearing, using derogatory language, harassing players, coaches, umpires or volunteers. **#ShowRespect**



TRUE SPORT PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

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

TRUE SPORT RUNNER'S/WATER STEWARDS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
- The runner SHOULD BE AN ADULT. **#GiveBack**
- The runner must be clearly identified. **#BeSafe**
- The runner's name must be entered on team sheets. **#BeSafe**
- No abusive language or swearing. **#ShowRespect**
- Support the decision of the umpires at all times and never question decisions. **#ShowRespect**
- Deliver message/water and leave the ground immediately. Your role is not to coach or direct players. Do not remain on the ground. The game is for the kids, not you. **#ShowRespect**

TRUE SPORT UMPIRE'S CODE OF CONDUCT

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



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WA's Own Sporting Apparel Brand.

Supporting WA Football at all levels since 1923

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Let Kids be Kids

stop poor sideline behaviour in junior sport



that's
60%



Here's what they want from sport



1. To have fun.
2. To do something they're good at.
3. To improve their skills.
4. To stay in shape.
5. To get exercise.²



Sport is generally a positive experience for most kids, but...

75%

A UK study showed that 75% of children who participated in organised sport up to the age of 16 had been criticised for their performance, had been shouted or sworn at or had been embarrassed or humiliated by a coach, parent, peer or sports administrator.³

"Mum and Dad, I sure love sports, but it seems like my sports make you guys angry more than they make you happy."⁵



Australian research shows that aggressive behaviour on the sidelines is embarrassing junior footballers, making them lose confidence and can lead to them quitting the sport.⁴

How to recognise poor behaviour

1. Emphasis on winning/results
2. Abuse/intimidation of coaches/officials
3. Excessive instruction from the sideline
4. Putting down children in front of others
5. Criticise performances on the drive home

Positive things we can do

- Respect all athletes, coaches and officials
- Support, encourage and praise efforts
- Be enthusiastic and positive
- Emphasise fun and enjoyment
- Be quiet and listen

Free resources to help

Free toolkit:
<http://playbytherules.net.au/let-kids-be-kids>



making sport inclusive, safe and fair.

www.playbytherules.net.au

1 4156.0 – Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2012.
2 Clark, M. A. (n.d.). Winning! How Important Is It in Youth Sports? Retrieved November 11, 2004.
3 Kate Alexander, Anne Stafford, Ruth Lewis (2011). The experiences of children participating in organised sport in the UK. The University of Edinburgh/NSPCC Child Protection Research Centre.
4 Samuel Elliott and Murray Drummond. "Parents in youth sport: what happens after the game?" Sport, Education and Society, May 6, 2015.
5 O'Sullivan, John (31 January 2017). "An open letter from the back seat" in Sports Parenting.

FOOTBALL CLUBS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

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

REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PLAYER HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the Emergency Action Plan;

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

ACCIDENT / INJURY REPORTING

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

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

FOOTBALL DISTRICTS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

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

REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PARTICIPANT HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the District Emergency Action Plan;

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

MEDICAL

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

OPERATIONAL

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

BOTH

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

FIRST AID BASICS

The following basic steps outline a First Aid Protocol;

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



FIRST AID PERSONNEL

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

CLUB & VOLUNTEER APPOINTMENTS

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

NATIONAL COACHING STRATEGY: A NEW APPROACH

Prior to the commencement of the 2018 football season, following extensive research, analysis and consultation with stakeholders across the industry, a new approach to accreditation and support of the coaching community will be introduced.

The primary objectives of the new approach are to:

- Reduce the barriers to entry of becoming an accredited coach
- Build a deeper understanding of the coaching community
- Use this understanding to increase the accessibility of targeted quality resources for coaches
- Provide ongoing education and development opportunities for all coaches
- Ensure all coaches understand their responsibilities and obligations

The National Coaching Strategy will commence its roll out in early March, key features of this new approach include:

1.0 IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY TO ENTRY LEVEL ACCREDITATION

As has been the case for many years, coaching accreditation will continue to be mandatory for all those wishing to fulfil a coaching role on match day. However, entry level accreditation is being changed to improve its accessibility.

The current 4-year accreditation scheme will be replaced a **New Coach AFL Membership Model** featuring annual membership, administered via the **Coach.AFL online platform**. An annual membership fee will apply.

Foundation Level Accreditation (previously Level 1) will be included as a benefit of Coach.AFL membership and will be achieved through the completion of an online Foundation Course specific to the age of the team being coached whether it be senior, youth or junior (including Auskick). **There will be NO requirement to attend a coaching workshop in person prior to achieve this Foundation Level Accreditation and commencing coaching in 2018.** This online Foundation Level Accreditation will take between 60-90 minutes to complete.



2.0 NEW COACH.AFL MEMBERSHIP MODEL

Coach.AFL will be based on annual membership model supporting ongoing coach education. Coaches will attain points for annual re-accreditation via a number of means including but not limited to coaching experience, online education on Coach.AFL and attendance at seminars, workshops and conferences run by WAFC District or Regional Staff. Please contact your local District or Regional staff member after March 1 for further details.

Coaches accrediting for the first time:

- Complete contact details and coaching profile
- Acceptance and agreement to the Coaches' Code of Conduct
- Complete online Foundation Course specific to the age of the playing group (senior, youth or junior)
- Payment of annual membership fee

Coaches with current accreditation:

- Complete contact details and coaching profile
- Acceptance and agreement to the Coaches' Code of Conduct
- Complete prescribed online education module
- Note: Payment of annual membership fee will be waived for the remaining years of their current accreditation period

Coaches with accreditation expiring in 2017:

- Complete contact details and coaching profile
- Acceptance and agreement to the Coaches' Code of Conduct
- Complete prescribed online education module
- Payment of annual membership fee

3.0 COACH.AFL ONLINE PLATFORM

The Coach.AFL online platform is designed as a central resource centre for coaches. It will serve as a national membership database, enable coaches to manage their **Coach.AFL Membership** (including accreditation, ongoing education and compliance) and provide access to a central **Online Repository** housing quality coaching resources and educational support.

Coach.AFL members will have exclusive access to high quality and consistent information that will:

- Explain the development pathway for coaches of all age groups
- Provide online educational and development opportunities
- Provide accessible resources to guide coaches on their journey
- Ensure aspiring coaches understand the significance of the role they play and how to positively influence the personal development of players of all ages and ability levels
- Ensures coaches understand their obligations

Coach.AFL is scheduled for launch in early March 2018 but will continue to progressively build and be refined over the years to come.

4.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

For any further enquiries please contact your local District or Regional WAFC staff member.

WA COACHES – DEREGISTRATION PROCEDURES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note – District tribunals can suspend coaches PRIOR to Deregistration

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

FOOTYWEB

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

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

Sports TG Support Page: <http://support.sportstg.com/help>

Sports TG Helpdesk Website: <https://request.sportstg.com/hc/en-us>

Email: support@foxsportspulse.com

WAFC MULTICULTURAL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

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

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

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

Key Multicultural Programs include:

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

To find out more about the WAFC Multicultural Program contact Louanne Wakefield on (08) 9381 5559 or lwakefield@wafc.com.au



W AFC ABORIGINAL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

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

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

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

Key Programs & Events include:

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

To find out more about the W AFC Aboriginal Football Program contact Louanne Wakefield on (08) 9381 5559 or lwakefield@wafc.com.au

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

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

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

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

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

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





NAB AFL AUSKICK – AFL GRID GAMES

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

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

AFL LITTLE LEAGUE GAMES

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

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

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



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY FOOTBALL

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

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

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

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

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

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

The WAFC works closely with key advisory groups;

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

In designing and implementing quality football education programs.

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

PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE FOOTBALL

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

2018 AFL SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Calling all primary and secondary teachers!

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

Thanks to the AFL all active AFL School Ambassadors (AFLSA) will receive a key football resources by the end of Week 2, Term 2, 2017. To qualify each teacher must complete both steps below:

1. Contact or update your AFLSA details with your local Football Development Officer
or
Register online to become an AFLSA at aflcommunityclub.com.au/index.php?id=393
2. Register for and participate in at least one recognised program and competition run during 2018 by contacting your local Football Development Officer.

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

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

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

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

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

AFL School Ambassador Tiers according to school level and engagement

AFLSA Level	Engagement (over 2 school years)	Resources (*subject to eligibility and availability)
Gold	4 or more endorsed programs/competitions/surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver Resources & • Woolworths AFLSA apparel
Silver	2-3 endorsed programs/competitions/surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze Resources
Bronze	1 endorsed program/competition/survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football, fixture pen, key ring, lanyard, whistle (or similar resources) • Access to free curriculum resources • Access to free/reduced cost Professional Development* • Access to AFL Schools Grants for permanent posts, post padding and jumpers* • Access to WAFC/AFL travel subsidy* • Eligibility to nominate for 2018 AFLSA of the Year Awards

For information on School Football and the AFL School Ambassador Program please go to wafootball.com.au/ and click on Schools.



AFL 9s

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

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

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

An AFL 9s competition will be running near your club. All you need to do is go to www.afl9s.com.au and utilise the locator.

TALENT

The establishment of the new WA Talent model in 2018 provides the WA football community with an opportunity to refocus its energy and resources on the most important asset we have – the players.

The new WA Talent Model has been designed following extensive consultation with key stakeholders, strong analysis of data and trends along with significant input from key partners such as the AFL and the WAFL Clubs.

The aim of the WA Talent Model is to provide a more consistent approach to player development in WA whilst providing enhanced levels of resources, capability and support to our players. The model will be clearly aligned to the AFL and National best practice and will be strategically and financially driven by the WAFC, whilst the actual delivery of the program will be underpinned by a strong partnership between the WAFL Clubs and the WAFC.

State Representation Policy

The Talent Pathway is quite clearly defined for our youth in Western Australia.

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

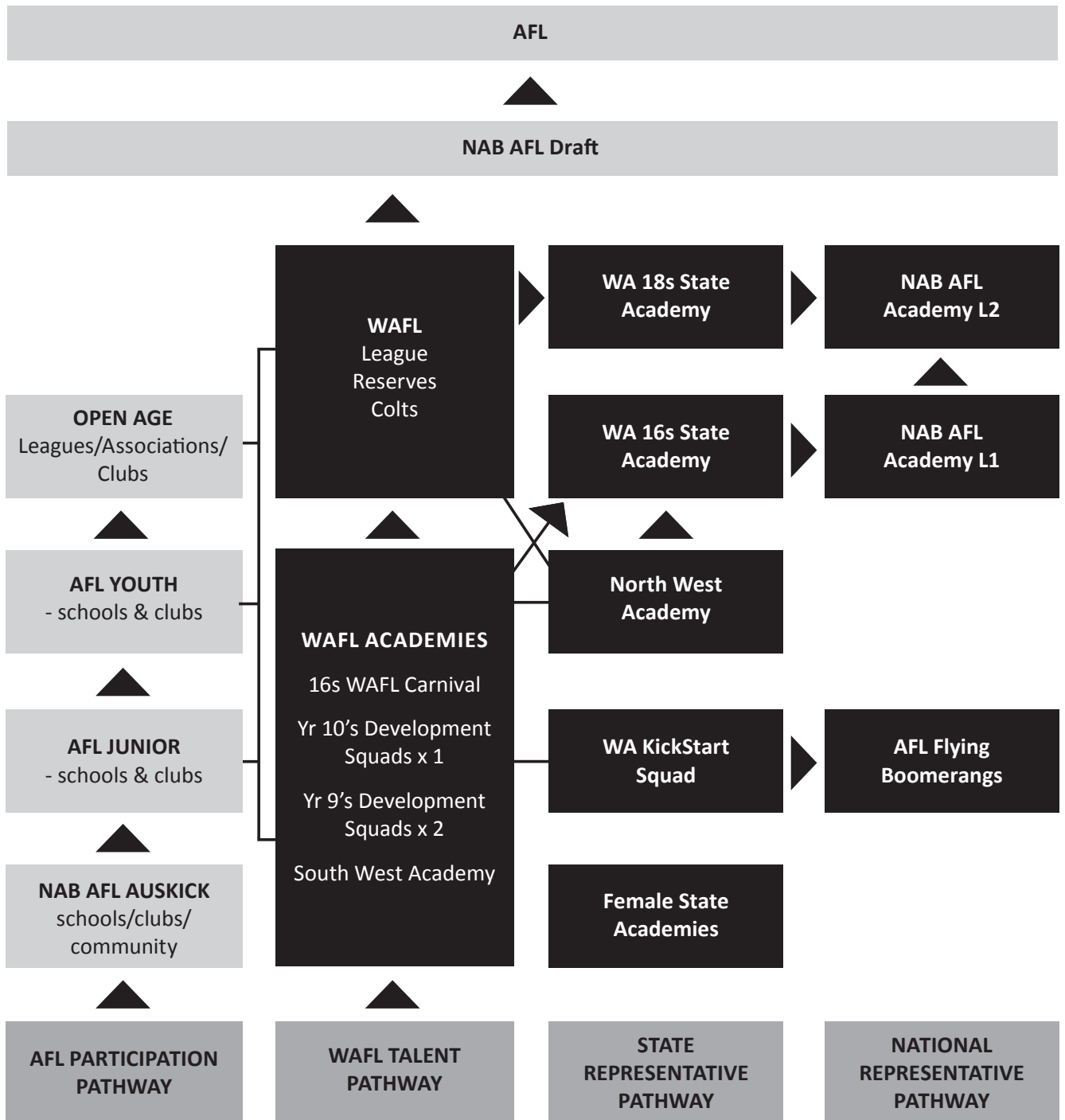
It should be noted that some trial match and state academy training dates can be scheduled during Community and Regional competition fixtures which can result in State Academy players being absent from Junior competition matches and training.

In reference to the official Championship matches and State Academy Trial Matches, State representatives should be credited with local home and away games for the age group they were playing in prior to WA State 16's Academy and State Schoolboys selection, in a similar fashion to the situation involving the WAFL and AFL club policy.

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



WA TALENT/ACADEMY PATHWAY



WAFC STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

Season	WAFC State Champions	District
2014	Mt Lawley Inglewood JFC	East Perth District
2015	Mazenod JFC	Swans District
2016	Joondalup Kinross JFC	West Perth District
2017	Winnacott JFC	East Fremantle District

FEMALE FOOTBALL

Did you know that in 2017 there were over 90,000 female participants in WA? Let's increase this number and get all your friends involved! The pathway for a player, coach, umpire and administrator continues to evolve due to the dedication of volunteers, visionary clubs and development staff.

NAB AFL Auskick: Pre-Primary - Year 2

- NAB AFL Auskick introduces primary school aged boys and girls and their families to football
- In a weekly coaching program, children learn the skills of the game through modified activities and rules in a fun and safe environment
- There are a number of All Girls Auskick Centres available

Community Junior Girls: Year 3 - Year 6

- Girls have the choice to play with the boys play in a structured mixed gender football competition or girls only competitions.
- Junior football rules are modified to meet the skill level and safety needs

Community Youth Girls: Year 7- Year 9 & Year 10-Year 11

- Girls can play in mixed gender teams up to the age of 14
- There are girls only teams that are aligned to community junior football clubs for those that want a girls only experience or to continue their football after the age of 14

WAAFL Community Women's Competitions: Year 12+

The WA Amateur Football League (WAAFL) plans to conduct two Women's competitions with a senior community grade catering for those players wishing to participate in a competitive competition while a development grade will cater for those looking for a more social approach at an entry level.

Senior Community Women's Competition

To cater for the influx of women new to the game wishing to participate in a competitive competition. To support WAAFL players not selected to play.

- Same playing rules as senior men's competition
- Minimum age 17 years
- Even up rule will be permitted
- Scoring, ladders, finals, premiership • Best and Fairest awarded, Leading goal kickers awarded

Senior Community Women's Development Competition

To cater for women who would prefer a more social approach, appealing to entry level participants that are learning the game in a safe environment.

- Modified Wrap Tackle
- Last Possession Rule for Out of Bounds
- Minimum age 17 years
- Scoring, ladders. No finals - highest ranked team awarded season grade trophy

These Competitions will also create a pathway towards the WAAFL Competition. For those players interested that may have found the WAAFL Competition too competitive this will become the entry level competition for Senior Women's Players. This is a great way to make new friends, have fun and try something different.

Mundella WA Women's Football League (WAWFL) Competitions:

In WA there is a Women's Competition known as the Mundella WA Women's Football League <http://www.wawfl.com.au>

Mundella WAWFL Rogers Cup Year 10- Year 12

- These teams are aligned to the 9 Mundella WA Women's Football League Clubs
- A squad is selected at the beginning of the year and any players not selected to play are permitted to play community youth girls.
- Players must play for the club within their District
- Games are played Sunday Mornings before WAWFL Seniors
- Players that have represented State U15's can be permitted to play in the Rogers Cup

Mundella WAWFL Seniors

- Mundella WA Women's Football League Players must be 17 as of the 1st Jan 2018.
- There are 9 WAWFL Clubs available across Metro WA with various levels of alignment to the WAFL Clubs with two Divisions; League and Reserves.
- Players that have represented State U18's can be permitted to play in the Senior Competition
- For those players aspiring to play football at the elite level through the talent pathway we encourage them to be playing football on a regular basis within the WAWFL.

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

- Your local District Development Officer, or Regional Manager;
- WAFC Female Football Department: (08) 9381 5599

Follow Female Football in WA - www.wafootball.com.au

Facebook - @FemaleFootyWA

Twitter - @FemaleFootyWA #Followourdream

Instagram - @FemaleFootyWA #Followourdream

Youtube - FollowOurDreamTV

WA STATE ACADEMY

The overall Philosophy of the WAFC's development program is to assist all players to 'get better' as we share in the ongoing development of the player and individual with their Club of Origin, Family and School. Together we intend to help each player 'find their level' and provide them with skills and mentoring that will help them enjoy a lifelong involvement in Football. Assisting players find the balance between home, football and school or work is key to successful participation in the Academy and building young people is a valuable by product of our working together.

The Academy in 3 phases, Development, Leadership and Excellence ultimately houses the pre-elite female players to play representative football. The WA State Academy houses the AFLW18s, AFLW16s and the State 15s School Girls Programs as well as the Jan Cooper Cup. All Academy Programs focus on individual player development. Coach development and coach pathways are also a part of all programs.

State 15 Schoolgirls

State School Girls Coach Oliver Beath and his team lead education, development and representation opportunities for school based players aged 13-15. The program draws on a wide variety of emerging athletes from a diverse background of sports including football. For some it's the first connection in playing the great game and can lead to opportunities for those committed to improvement along the pathway. Training from February to July selected players travel to the National Schoolgirls Championships in the first week of term 3.

WA AFLW 16s

Players participating in the WA State Academy, the Jan Cooper Cup and the WAWFL's Rogers Cup are selected into the WA AFLW 16s squad to work towards selection. 2018 sees the establishment of this squad who will play domestically in a series of matches and training environments to prepare them for AFLW 18s and for League footy in the WAWFL. This program goes national in 2019 in a mirror of the pathway for males.

WA AFLW 18s

Players participating in the WA State Academy, the Jan Cooper Cup and the WAWFL's Rogers Cup and League programs are selected into the WA AFLW 18s squad to work towards selection. Players train in a pre-elite environment in preparation for Round one of the NAB AFLW 18s National Championships in Perth on June 4 and 6 2018 and Round 2 from July 6-12 on the Gold Coast. Ultimately these players are vying for selection at the 2018 AFLW draft and into League footy in WA.

Jan Cooper Cup

WA State Academy based Tournament showcases Western Australia’s best developing female football talent with four teams competing for the inaugural Jan Cooper Cup in its first year 2018.

The tournament is named in honour of WA female football pioneer Jan Cooper and will include a cross section of the best players in WA outside the AFL Women’s competition aged 15 to open age in preparation for the AFLW 16s and 18s and their Club footy.

AFLWA

The AFL has introduced a national women’s league comprising of 8 teams, with the strategy to expand in the coming years. This is an outstanding step in order to complete the talent pathway. Please visit <http://www.afl.com.au/womens>

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

- Your local District Development Officer, or Regional Manager;
- WAFC Female Football Department: (08) 9381 5599

Follow Female Football in WA - www.wafootball.com.au & www.wawfl.com.au

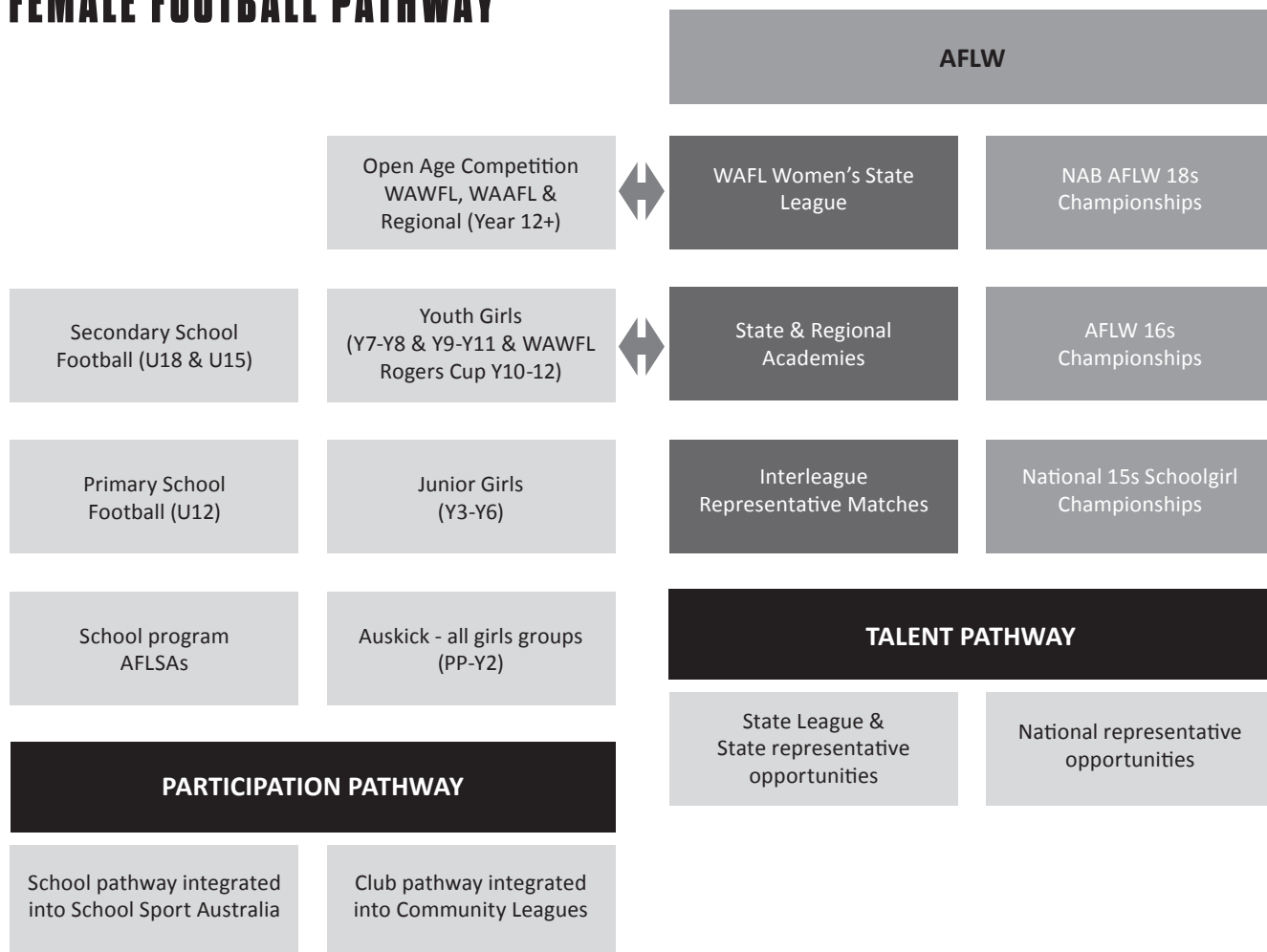
Facebook – www.facebook.com/FemaleFootballWA

Twitter – @FemaleFootyWA #Followourdream

Instagram – @FemaleFootyWA #Followourdream

Youtube – FollowOurDreamTV

FEMALE FOOTBALL PATHWAY



UMPIRING

To join a junior umpiring group, please log on to – www.getinthegame.com.au

For any further information, please contact your local District or the WAFC Umpire Department on (08) 9381 5599

Philosophy

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

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

Trainee Umpire Vest Program

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

Accreditation

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

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

Junior District Umpire Coaching

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

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

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

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

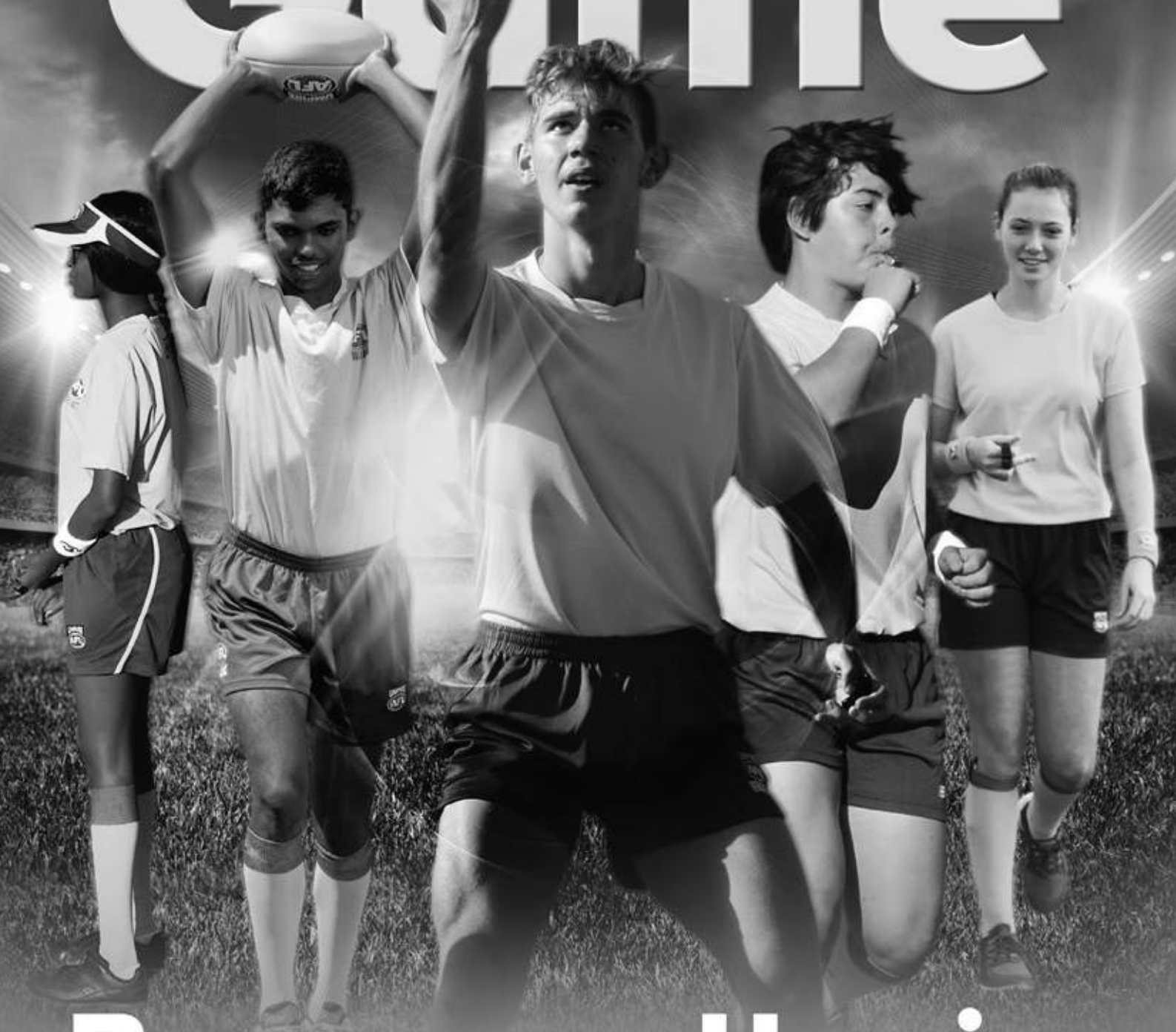
Growing the Quality of Our Great Game

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

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

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

Get in the Game



Become an Umpire

getinthegame.com.au



JOIN THE
CONVERSATION

GOTTA LOVE
#WAFOOTY

   WAFOOTBALL.COM.AU

Talent Pathway

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

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

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

2018 UMPIRE FEES

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

Age Groups	Umpire Status	Three Ump (2017)	Two Ump (2017)	One Ump (2017)
Year 12	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	\$ 80	\$ 100	\$ 140
	Accredited (Level 1)	\$ 70	\$ 85	\$ 125
	Non-Accredited	\$ 60	\$ 75	\$ 110
Year 11	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	\$ 75	\$ 90	\$ 120
	Accredited (Level 1)	\$ 65	\$ 80	\$ 105
	Non-Accredited	\$ 55	\$ 70	\$ 90
Year 10	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 75	\$ 110
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 65	\$ 95
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 55	\$ 80
Year 9	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 70	\$ 105
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 60	\$ 90
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 50	\$ 75
Year 8	Level 2 or L1 +50 games	N/A	\$ 65	\$ 95
	Accredited (Level 1)	N/A	\$ 55	\$ 80
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 45	\$ 65
Year 7	Accredited	N/A	\$ 55	\$ 80
	Non-Accredited	N/A	\$ 45	\$ 65
Year 6	Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 40
	Non-Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 35
Year 3, 4 & 5	Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 35
	Non-Accredited	N/A	N/A	\$ 30

Definition of Level 1 +50 games

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

Umpire Uniforms

Uniforms for Umpires are available through Burley Sekem; however Umpires should speak with their own District or Regional Umpire Managers to determine the most appropriate way to order for their own specific District / Region. If you have any additional questions please contact the WAFC Umpire Department on (08) 9381 5599

YOUTH FOOTBALL REVIEW

The Youth Football Working Group (YFWG) was formed to develop strategies aimed at engaging and retaining 13 to 17-year-old football participants and researching reasons for youth sport drop-out, which is an increasing national issue.

The YFWG included representatives from the WAFC, WAFL clubs, WA Amateur Football League, WA Country Football League, District Football Development Council and independent consultant Craig Turley, a former West Coast Eagles player who specializes in community and social impact research.

The YFWG researched global best practice in engaging and retaining youth aged participants and surveyed more than 600 players, coaches, parents, and club committee members on a range of topics including influences to play, reasons for drop-out, engagement in school football, influence of other sports and the impact of coaching.

Based on research, consultation and survey feedback, recommendations were developed for inclusion in a WAFC Youth Football participation plan for 2017-2020, which is aimed at achieving growth in youth community club football, improving player retention and increasing the interaction of school football with community competitions for 13 to 17-year-olds in WA.

Key Focus Areas:

Environment

Create an environment where players continue to have fun, enjoy the game, learn new skills and are challenged.

Leadership

Develop and support quality coaches. The impact of the coach on player retention is critical.

Format

Consider new timeslots and alternative game formats such as Friday night games and 15-a-side football to address competing time demands with school, study and/or work.

Partnerships

Build stronger partnerships between junior clubs, schools and senior clubs to improve conversion rates through the age groups.

The YFWG has presented twelve recommendations, which have been accepted by the WAFC. These recommendations are:

1. Undertake a legitimate trial of night football for Youth participants over a four-week block during the regular season, with a coordinated evaluation approach implemented to collect participant satisfaction data.
2. Develop a plan for the inclusion of an additional phase to the junior football pathway via the implementation of a 15 a side competition for Years 7 to 9.
3. Develop a suitable competition format to deliver Year 12 football in order to drive transition from Youth to Senior.
4. WAFC High Performance (in conjunction with Community Football) establishes a more concise regional talent pathway that will provide consistency, direction and quality training to players in regional areas.
5. To establish a reference group (that includes representatives from WAFC High Performance) to develop and implement a Long-Term Athlete Development approach to development of youth players that will propose and endorse a specific sport development model that will guide the direction and decision making for this segment of the game.
6. Develop a Youth Football Calendar to better align School, Community, WAFL and State Academy programs that further supports the welfare of the player and the existing stakeholder relationships.
7. Identify an alternative format of football that engages youth who don't currently play football or who wish to play a different format to the traditional game.
8. Develop a revised staffing structure that would better support the delivery of a more targeted and considered approach to coach education / development across the state.
9. Develop a process to enhance team selection including manipulation of players and merging teams.
10. Develop a reward and recognition program, coupled with accountability guidelines, for youth player retention.
11. Establish a sustainable Youth Advisory Council.
12. Develop a comprehensive process that collects and distributes data, research and insights to assist all stakeholders.

For further information on these recommendations please contact your local Development staff member or the WAFC.



TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY

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

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



YEAR GROUP SUMMARY

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

As a recommended guide the following applies:

Year Group	Birth Date Range
Auskick Pre- Primary	01/07/2012 – 30/06/2013
Auskick Year 1	01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012
Auskick Year 2	01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011
Year 3	01/07/2009 – 30/06/2010
Year 4	01/07/2008 – 30/06/2009
Year 5	01/07/2007 – 30/06/2008
Year 6	01/07/2006 – 30/06/2007
Year 7	01/07/2005 – 30/06/2006
Year 8	01/07/2004 – 30/06/2005
Year 9	01/07/2003 – 30/06/2004
Year 10	01/07/2002 – 30/06/2003
Year 11	01/07/2001 – 30/06/2002
Year 12	01/07/2000 – 30/06/2001

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

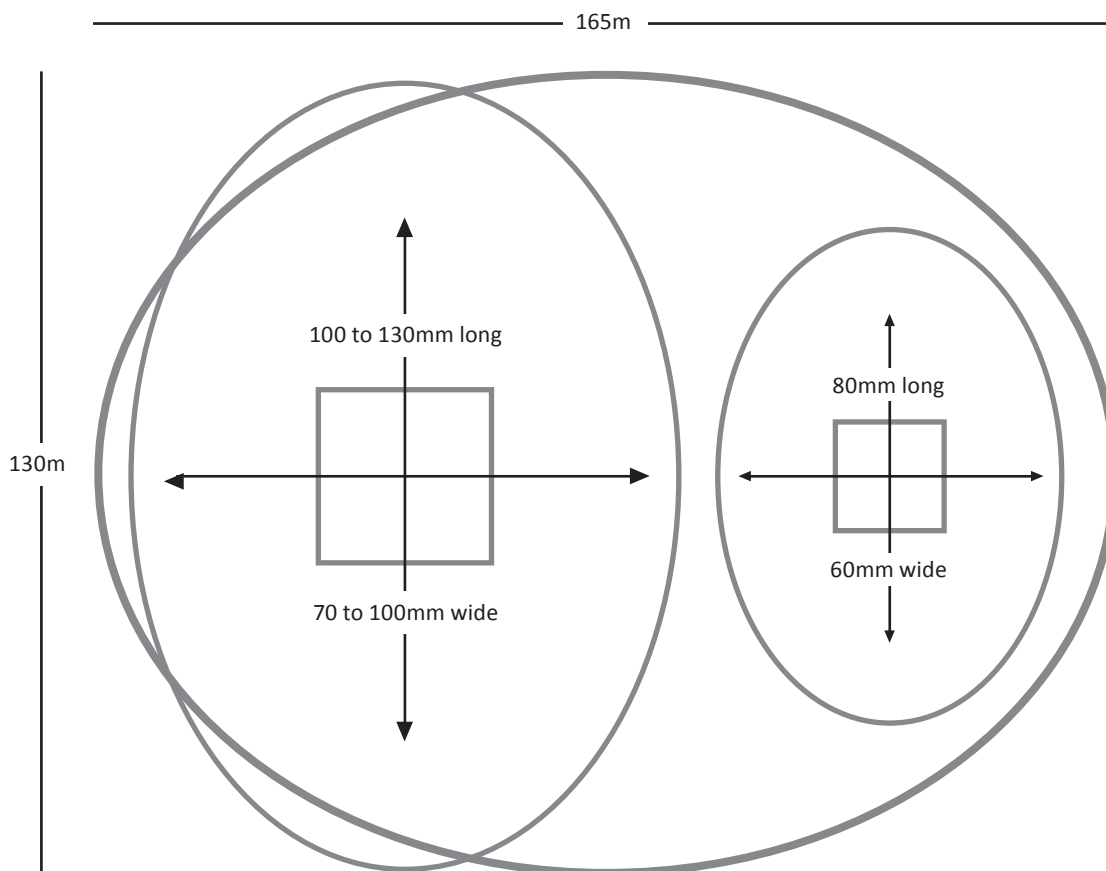
GROUND SIZE SUMMARY

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

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

Age Group	Oval Width	Oval Length
JUNIOR & YOUTH GIRLS COMPETITIONS		
Year 3/4 (Junior Girls)	60m	80m
Year 5/6 to Year 7/8 (Junior Girls)	70m to 90m	100m to 120m
Year 9/10/11 (Youth Girls)	100m to 130m	130m to 155m
OPEN COMPETITIONS		
Year 3	60m	80m
Year 4 to 5	80m	100m to 110m
Year 6	80m to 100m	110m to 130m
Year 7	90m to 110m	120m to 140m
Year 8 to 9 – 15 per side	100m to 130m	120m to 155m
Year 8 to 12 – 18 per side	110m to 155m	135m to 185m

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





JUNIOR FOOTBALL

PRE-PRIMARY – YEAR 2 NAB AFL AUSKICK PROGRAM (5 – 7 Years)

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

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

AIMS

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

GUIDELINES

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

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

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

A typical session is as follows;

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

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

TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The NAB AFL Auskick program PP – Year 2: one additional mid-week training session to normal NAB AFL Auskick session (no more than one optional hour in duration).

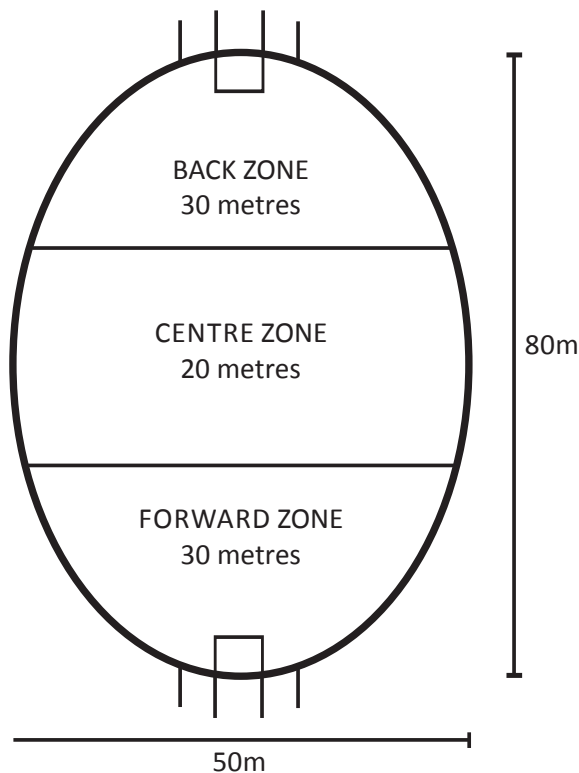
NAB AFL AUSKICK - THE MODIFIED GAME: PRE-PRIMARY to YEAR 2

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

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

FIELD:

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



FOOTBALLS:

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

FIELD MARKERS:

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

PLAYING POSITIONS:

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

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

UMPIRES:

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

Pre-Primary – Year 2 NAB AFL Auskick – Rules Flowchart

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

NAB AFL Auskick Program for PP - Year 2	
1. Playing Field	Half senior size. Approx. 80m x 50m Divide into three zones –30/20/30m
2. The Team	6 or 9-a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.
3. Playing Time	Up to 4 x 10 minute maximum quarters
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.
5. After a goal	As in 4. Different players contest the ruck each time. Goals can only be kicked by players in forward zone.
6. Scrimmage	No diving on ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary D. Full possession rule.
8. Tackling	Players cannot hold with hands, knock out of hands, push in side, steal the ball. Players given every opportunity to deliver ball i.e. No harassing.
9. Bumping	No deliberate bumping. No deliberate contact is permitted.
10. Barging	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is NOT allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.
11. Stealing/ Smothering/ Harassing/ Possession rule	Not allowed. The ball is possessed by the act of catching it, grabbing it or placing two hands on it when it is on the ground. Once the ball is possessed, all other players must back off to allow the player with the ball to kick or handball uncontested.
12. Shepherding	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.
13. Mark	Any reasonable attempt to catch ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled. No standing on the mark. No playing on allowed.
14. Bouncing the Ball	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire discretion
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, umpire to instruct players to stay in zone.
18. Coaches	Coach is allowed on the ground to teach.
19. Spirit of the Game	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.
20. The Game	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.



NAB AFL JUNIOR RULES: YEAR 3 – YEAR 6 (8 - 11 Years)

AIM

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

Year 3 and Year 5

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

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

Year 6

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

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

FOOTBALLS:

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

- Auskick PP - Year 3: Size 1
- Year 4 & Year 5: Mini League/Mini Team – Size 2
- Year 6 & Year 7: Little League/Junior Team – Size 3

TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

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

FIELD MARKERS:

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

PLAYING POSITIONS:

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



UMPIRES:

- One field umpire, no boundary umpires required for Year 3 – Year 7. Goal umpires supplied by participating teams.
- Coaches should be prepared to umpire if required.
- All umpires should give encouragement and positive feedback to all players.
- Coaches **MUST** at all times support the umpire.

AWARDING OF POINTS – FINALS:

Year 3 – Year 6

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

The following rules are to be implemented:

Up to and including Year 6's:

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

FEMALE PARTICIPATION:

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

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

Junior Girls Flow Chart - Year 3-6

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

	Year 3 - 4	Year 5 - 6	Notes / Explanation
1. Playing Field	90-110m x50m Soft Zones reset after all stoppages	100-120m x 60-80m Soft Zones reset after all stoppages	
2. The Team	12 a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.	12 a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.	Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) Numbers on field should always be even.
3. Playing Time	4 x 10-12 minute quarters	4 x 10-12 minute quarters	Please refer to your Junior Competition Committee.
4. The Football	Yellow/Pink synthetic size 2	Yellow/Pink synthetic OR leather size 2	Please refer to your Junior Competition Committee. Year 7 – 8 synthetic footballs are recommended in wet weather
5. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests. D. Max. 3 players from each team closer than 20m to ball up.	Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc) “Full possession rule” – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.
6. After a goal	Different players contest the ruck each time.	Different players contest the ruck each time.	Umpire may choose alternative players of similar size where necessary.
7. Scrimmage	No diving on the ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.	No diving on the ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.	Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
8. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.	Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
9. Tackling	Modified Wrap Tackle rule. Wrap arms around player and hold feet. Do not drop to the ground. Strictly no slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player to the ground. Grabbing the arms is not permitted. Players once tackled have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball.	Modified Wrap Tackle rule. Wrap arms around player and hold feet. Do not drop to the ground. Strictly no slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player to the ground. Grabbing the arms is not permitted. Players once tackled have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball.	In a “wrap tackle” the tackler must wrap both arms around the opponent’s body ensuring that it is not above the shoulder. The tackling player cannot grab an arm of the opponent. The “intent” of the tackler must not be to bring his/her opponent to the ground and if the umpire believes this was the case, a free kick will be awarded. If the player being tackled deliberately falls over in the tackle, they will be deemed holding the ball. Coaches should instruct players to keep their feet where possible. “Slinging” a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession.
10. Bumping	Strictly no bumping allowed.	Strictly no bumping allowed.	The only contact permitted via the “Wrap tackle”.

	Year 3 - 4	Year 5 - 6	Notes / Explanation
11. Barging	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is NOT allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is NOT allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.	The only contact permitted via the "Wrap tackle".
12. Stealing/ Smothering/ Harassing/ Possession rule	Not allowed. Modified wrap tackle only.	Player may attempt to snatch or steal the ball but if unsuccessful and contact is made a free kick will be awarded to opponent. This is to prevent the ball falling to the ground and a pack forming. No smothering is permitted. (refer notes)	A "smother" is whereby a player's intent is to deliberately try to smother the ball off the boot whilst in the kicking action. It should not be deemed a smother if the ball is kicked into the man on the mark or an opposing player in general play.
13. Shepherding	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.	The only contact permitted is incidental contact or via the "wrap tackle".
14. Mark	Any reasonable attempt to catch the ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled. Opposition player encouraged to stand on the mark. Playing on is allowed.	Any reasonable attempt to catch the ball out in front directly from a kick irrespective of the distance travelled. Opposition player encouraged to stand on the mark. Playing on is allowed.	The Year 5-6 progression is to encourage players to attempt to mark the ball with arms extended out in front.
15. Bouncing the Ball	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.	The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.
16. Kicking off the Ground	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.	Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.
17. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire's discretion	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system.	Prescribed penalty process does not apply in these age groups.
18. Staying in Position	Soft Zones reset after all stoppages	Soft Zones reset after all stoppages	Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.
19. Coaches	Coach is allowed on the ground to teach.	Coaches are not permitted on the ground	Runners are not permitted on the ground during Year 3 - 4 competition. Coaches should not carry coaching boards or clip boards on the ground during play for safety reasons. One Runner only is permitted on the ground in Year 5 - 6 competition; however they should immediately exit the ground after delivering a message.
20. Spirit of the Game	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.	The rules from NAB AFL Auskick through to Year 7's football have been modified over time to assist junior players with skill development and understanding of the game. Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended. Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football
21. The Game	No premierships points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published.	No premierships points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published.	Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.
22. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.	
23. Clearances	Automatic clearance.	Automatic clearance.	
24. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.	In the case of any disciplinary action handed down by a club, that club must forward to the JCC in writing the outcome of that hearing.

Year 3 Flow Chart

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

	Year 3's (Super 8's)
1. Playing Field	Half senior size. Approx. 90m x 50m Grid with centre circle. Divide into three zones –30/30/30m
2. The Team	9 or 12 a-side preferred – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Rotate players every quarter.
3. Playing Time	Up to 4 x 10 minute maximum quarters
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.
5. After a goal	As in 4. Different players contest the ruck each time. Goals can only be kicked by players in forward zone.
6. Scrimmage	No diving on the ball. Umpire stops play. Free kick awarded to nearest opponent.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.
8. Tackling	Modified Wrap Tackle rule. Wrap arms around player and hold feet. Do not drop to the ground. Strictly no slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player to the ground. Grabbing the arms is not permitted. Players once tackled have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball.
9. Bumping	Strictly no bumping allowed.
10. Barging	Barging, fending off or chopping with hands passed opponents is NOT allowed. A free kick shall be awarded.
11. Stealing/ Smothering/ Harassing/ Possession rule	Not allowed. Modified wrap tackle only.
12. Shepherding	Player not permitted to push, shoulder or block opponent not in possession of the ball.
13. Mark	Any reasonable attempt to catch the ball directly from kick irrespective of distance travelled. Opposition player encouraged to stand on the mark. Playing on is allowed.
14. Bouncing the Ball	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only once then dispose of the ball.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire's discretion
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, umpire to instruct players to stay in zone.
18. Coaches	Coach is allowed on the ground to teach.
19. Spirit of the Game	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.
20. The Game	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players published.
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement scheme.
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is the responsibility of the club.

Years 4 & 5

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

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

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

Other important information

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

Years 6

Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

	Rules	Notes / Explanation
Standard		
1. Playing Field	110m – 120m (length) x 80m (width) Maximum	
2. The Team	9, 12 or 15-a-side – no rucks and rovers. Unlimited reserves. Equal game time rules apply (refer junior club manual)	Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) Numbers on field should always be even.
3. Playing Time	4 quarters, each of no more than 15 minutes	
General Modified Rules for Year 6s		
4. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approx. equal size. C. Full possession rule applies. (refer to notes) D. Max. 3 players from each team closer than 20m to ball up.	Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc) “Full possession rule” – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.
5. After a goal	Centre ball up as in 4. Different centre players should contest the centre ball up each time.	Umpire may choose alternative players of similar size where necessary.
6. Scrimmage	Umpire stops play. Send players back to positions and ball up used. Full possession rule applies. (refer notes in 4).	Coaches should assist umpires by instructing players to move back to position. This will assist in avoiding further congestion.
7. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If there is doubt as to which team kicked the ball - ball up 10m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 10m in. D. Full possession rule. (refer notes in 4.)	Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
8. Tackling	Wrap around tackle is permitted. A. Whereby a player applies a legal tackle, the player with the ball must dispose of it correctly within three seconds or a free kick for “holding the ball” will be awarded. B. If player with the ball had prior opportunity to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, they will be deemed “holding the ball” also. C. If a player bounces the ball whilst being tackled, they will be deemed “holding the ball.”	Players may also bring their opponent to the ground in the tackle provided it is not via “slinging”. “Slinging” a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession. A sling free kick will not be paid if the umpire deems that the tackler did not deliberately or aggressively try to throw the player to the ground.
9. Bumping / Barging	Bumping and barging is permitted as per AFL Junior Rules policy. A player may make contact with another player by using his hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open hands provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player. A player may also fend off an opponent using an open hand to the chest or side of the body provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the player.	
10. High Contact	No contact above the shoulder is permitted.	Umpires are instructed to award free kicks for any high contact . A free kick will be awarded regardless of whether the high contact is intentional or unintentional.
11. Stealing/ Smothering	Stealing or smothering the football whilst the opponent is in the process of kicking or has possession in general play is permitted.	

	Rules	Notes / Explanation
12. Shepherding	Shepherding is permitted. A player is not permitted to shepherd more than 5 metres from the ball.	
13. Mark	A “mark” is paid when the player catches the ball directly from kick which has travelled a minimum distance of 10 metres.	The marking player must control the ball directly from the kick. (i.e. the ball must not touch another player in flight)
14. Bouncing the Ball (or touching the ball down)	A player is permitted to bounce the ball twice prior to disposing of the ball.	The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.
15. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground.	Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.
16. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system. Prescribed penalty process does not apply in these age groups.	
17. Staying in Position	To stop congestion, umpires & coaches should instruct players to stay in position.	Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.
18. Coaches	Coaches are not permitted on ground. One Runner only is permitted on the ground in Year 6 competitions, however they should immediately exit the ground after delivering a message.	
19. Other Rules and Laws	As per AFL Laws of Football	

Other important information

20. The Game	No premiership points, no finals, no ladders, no match results, names of players not to be published. No Fairest & Best Voting to occur. Skill clinics, carnival days can be held.	Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.
21. Awards	Participation, effort and skill achievement programs.	
22. Clearances	Automatic clearance.	
23. Tribunals	No tribunal, discipline is responsibility of club. In the case of any disciplinary action handed down by a club, that club must forward to the JCC in writing the outcome of that hearing.	
24. Spirit of the game	Umpire to instruct players and coaches to shake hands before and after the game.	The rules from NAB AFL Auskick through to Year 6 football have been modified over time to assist junior players with skill development and understanding of the game. Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended and not attempt to find ways around the rules or loopholes. Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football.

AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL

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

AFL YOUTH AGE POLICY

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

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

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

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

FACTORS EFFECTING YOUTH DROP OUT

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

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

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

GRADING

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

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

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

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



AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL (YEARS 7 – 9)

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

Key Principles

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

Purpose

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

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

Spirit of the Game

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

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

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

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

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

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

Laws of Australian Football

The Laws of Australian Football apply to the Year 7 - 9 year groups with the following modifications.

Footballs

As many footballs as possible are required for training sessions. This may be maximised by players bringing their own football, support from a senior club, or fundraising. It is recommended that teams have a minimum one ball per four players at training sessions.

Female Year 7 & 8: Size 3

Female Year 9 – 11: Size 4

Male Year 8 – 10: Size 4

Male Year 11 & 12: Size 5

Tackling

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

Order-off rule

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

Field

Refer to **Ground Size Summary**.

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

Playing Positions

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

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

Year 7 Restrictions:

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

YOUTH FOOTBALL 15-A-SIDE COMPETITIONS:

On the back of the 2017 Youth Football Review Recommendations, a 15-a-side format of football will be implemented in Year 7 - 9 football across WA for the 2018 season. This format aims to keep teams together for longer, create more opportunities for players to get the ball, increase skill development and enable more divisions of evenly matched teams.

The 'Super 15's' concept was successfully trialled in the Central Conference in 2017 with positive feedback and the following rule parameters will be implemented as recommended by clubs involved:

- **Last Possession Rule:** As there are less players in each team, it is more difficult to attract volunteers. The last possession rule will mean clubs won't have to source boundary umpires whilst also leading to a freer flowing games.
- **Field Size:** Please refer to the Ground Size Summary section on Page 55.
- **Player Structure:** The player structure will be the same as modified football where there are 5 lines of 3 players.

In 2018, the WAFC will implement the following structure in Junior Football across Perth:

- Year 7: All teams play in a 15-a-side competition
- Year 8 & 9: A 15-a-side division will be made available to clubs

Previous participation data shows that jumping from 15-a-side to 18-a-side has negative impacts on participation, with teams amalgamating earlier and players dropping out of the system as a result. There is also significant data to show that less players on smaller fields results in greater player development.

AFL YOUTH FOOTBALL (YEAR 10 – YEAR 12)

18-a-side: community club and school competitions

Key Principles

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

Purpose

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

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

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

Spirit of the Game

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

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

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

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

Laws of Australian Football

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

Order-off rule

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

Field

Refer to **Ground Size Summary**.

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

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

FEMALE YOUTH PARTICIPATION:

Junior Clubs are encouraged to have a Youth Girls team/s as a part of their normal team structure.

Youth Girls - Year 7 - 11

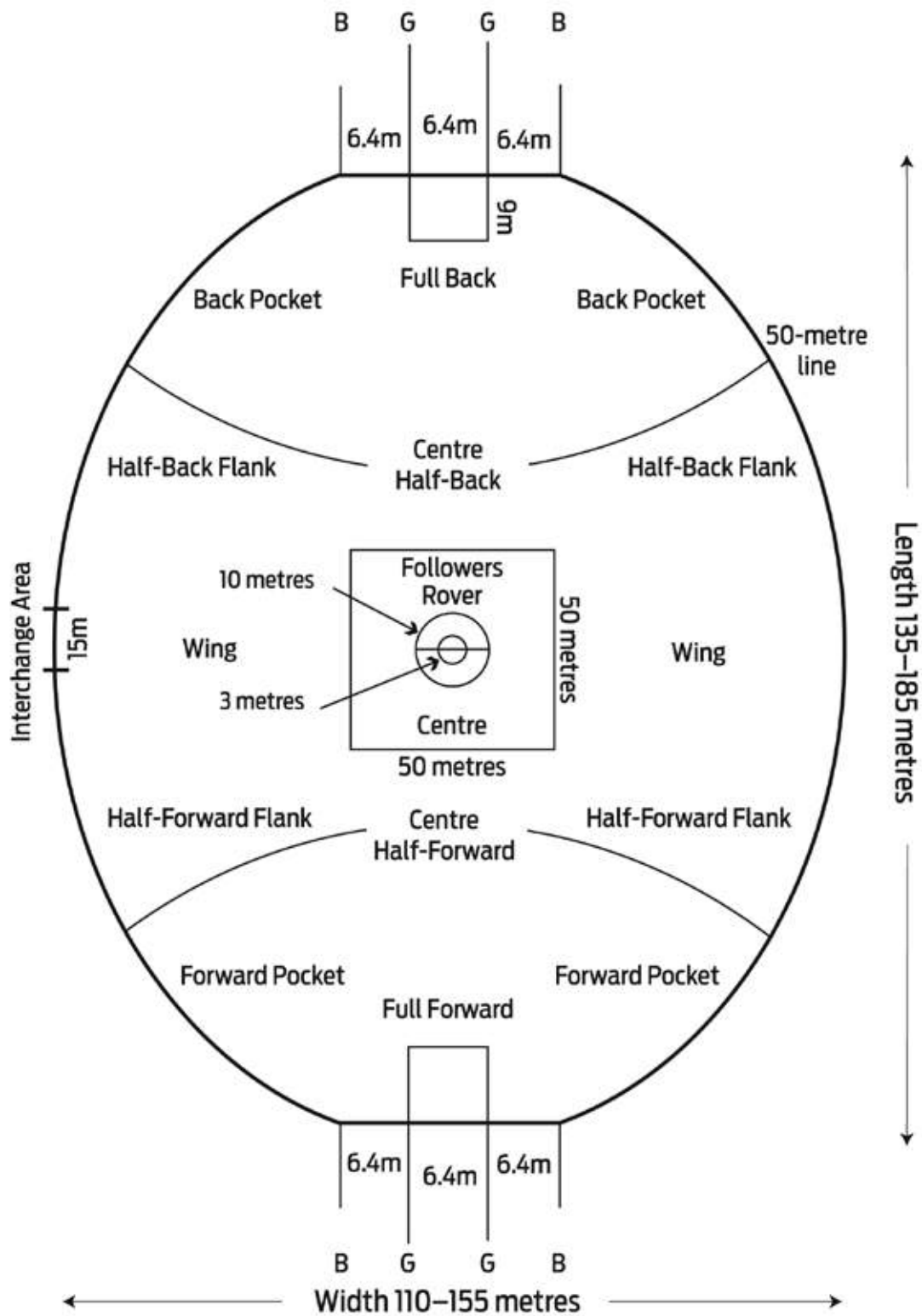
Rules Flow Charts can also be found at the website www.wafootball.com.au

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

	Year 7 - 8	Year 9 - 11	Notes / Explanation
1. Playing Field	110-120m x 70-100m	110-130m x 80m-110m	
2. The Team	12 a-side preferred	15 a-side preferred	Should one team be low on numbers, coaches should work together to ensure teams are even on field. (i.e. assist team with low numbers by lending a player or players) Numbers on field should always be even.
3. Playing Time	4 x 12-15 minute quarters	4 x 12-15 minute quarters	Please refer to your Junior Competition Committee.
4. The Football	Yellow/Pink synthetic OR leather size 3	Yellow/Pink leather size 4	Please refer to your Junior Competition Committee. Year 7 – 8 synthetic footballs are recommended in wet weather.
5. Start of Play	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.	A. Ball up between 2 centre players B. Players should be approximately equal size. C. Players cannot take full possession out of ruck contests.	Prior to start of play, umpire to undertake pre-game safety check. (i.e. check boots, fingernails, jewellery, goal post pads etc) “Full possession rule” – players contesting a ball up or centre bounce may not take possession of the ball during the ruck contest. They may only take possession after the ball has touched a player who is not involved in the ruck contest.
6. After a goal	Umpire to ball up in the centre of the ground	Umpire to ball up in the centre of the ground	
7. Scrimmage	As per AFL Laws of the Game	As per AFL Laws of the Game	
8. Out of Bounds	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.	A. From a kick. Kick awarded to nearest opponent. B. If doubt as to which team kicked the ball. Ball up 5m in. C. Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from boundary. D. Full possession rule.	Umpire to ball up 10m inside the boundary to reduce the incidents of additional ball ups. (i.e. less chance of ball going out of bounds, less congestion)
9. Tackling	Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of the Game.	Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of the Game.	“Slinging” a player is strictly not permitted. A sling occurs when the actions of the tackler cause the player to be thrown to the ground after or during possession.
10. Bumping	Strictly no bumping allowed.	As per AFL Laws of the Game	
11. Barging	Strictly no barging allowed.	As per AFL Laws of the Game	
12. Stealing/ Smothering/ Harassing/ Possession rule	As per AFL Laws of the Game	As per AFL Laws of the Game	
13. Shepherding	As per AFL Laws of the Game	As per AFL Laws of the Game	
14. Mark	A mark is paid when the player catches the ball directly from a kick which has travelled a minimum distance of 10 metres.	A mark is paid when the player catches the ball directly from a kick which has travelled a minimum distance of 15 metres.	The Year 5-6 progression is to encourage players to attempt to mark the ball with arms extended out in front.

	Year 7 - 8	Year 9 - 11	Notes / Explanation
15. Bouncing the Ball	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only twice then dispose of the ball.	Player is permitted to bounce the ball only twice then dispose of the ball.	The player in possession must dispose of the football or take a bounce prior to travelling 15 metres.
16. Kicking off the Ground	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.	Not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground.	Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire should call play on.
17. Order-off Rule	To be applied. Penalty time is umpire's discretion	To be applied. Penalty as per yellow and red card system.	
18. Staying in Position	No use of zones	No use of zones	Standard position play should be taught to improve the flow of the game.
19. Coaches	Coaches are not permitted on the ground	Coaches are not permitted on the ground	Coaches should endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended. Refer to By-Law 1 – The Spirit of Junior Football
20. Spirit of the Game	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.	Players and coaches to shake hands. Umpire to instruct players.	Coaches should endeavour to give each player even game time throughout the season. This will improve player retention and enjoyment.
21. The Game	Scoring, ladders and finals are permitted.	Scoring, ladders and finals are permitted.	
22. Awards	No best players or goal kickers are recorded.	Best players and goal kickers may be recorded.	
23. Clearances	As per National Transfer Policy	As per National Transfer Policy	
24. Tribunals	As per 2018 Junior Bylaws	As per 2018 Junior Bylaws	







DISTRICT FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL JUNIOR COMPETITION COMMITTEE

GLOBAL COMPETITION 2018 BYLAWS

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

All matches played under the jurisdiction of the **District Football Development Council (DFDC) and Country based Junior competitions** shall be played according to the Laws of Australian Football and the rules of the modified form of Australian Football as amended by the Australian Football League from time to time and as adopted by the West Australian Football Commission (hereinafter known as the 'WAFC').

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

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL

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

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

- 1.1. **Not focus on winning at all costs** and understand that the role of Junior Football is to foster the development of junior players, volunteers, umpires, coaches and officials. Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant but must remain secondary to the primary focus of junior player development.
- 1.2. Maximise the enjoyment and development of junior footballers.
- 1.3. Provide our children with a game environment that is safe, fun and fair.
- 1.4. Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.
- 1.5. Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, Laws, Codes, Policies and Spirit of the game.
- 1.6. Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our games environments (coaching, playing, volunteering, spectating and umpiring).
- 1.7. Adhere to any directive issued by the games controlling bodies in the best interests of achieving the above.
- 1.8. Coaches should adopt an athlete centred coaching philosophy.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- Club Fines
- Player/Official suspension
- Loss of Match

2. SUPPORTING UMPIRES OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Umpires play a key role in the successful delivery of Junior Football. Coaches, officials, players and parents play a vital role in developing the highest quality umpires.

- 2.1. All team players, officials, parents and spectators are expected to adhere to the following; WA Football has a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of umpiring or official abuse, verbal dissent, intimidation or disputing of decisions.
- 2.2. Players, officials, parents and spectators are not permitted to comment about an umpire or the performance of an umpire in any way other than in writing to the Umpires Coach.
- 2.3. Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an umpire during the breaks in a match. The Captain or Team Manager cannot question decisions, interpretations or question the free kick count.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- Club Fines
- Player/Official suspension
- Loss of Match



3. INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS

Club	Any junior football club which affiliates with the DFDC/RFDC through membership.
WAFC	West Australian Football Commission, or an authorised representative of the West Australian Football Commission
Juniors	Persons who play football within the boundaries of the DFDC up to the age determined from time to time by the WAFC.
DFDC	District Football Development Council
DFDC Executive	A sub-group established by the DFDC which may include Chairperson, Competition Director, WAFL Club Representative and any other persons.
Development Squad Player	Any player who played in a WAFL Development Squad match in the past 12 months.
RFDC	Regional Football Development Council
RFDC Executive	A sub-group established by the RFDC which may include Chairperson, Competition Director, WAFL Club Representative and any other persons.
JCC	A Junior Competition Committee made up of Competition Director, Assistant Competition Director, Registrar and WAFC Development Officer / Manager and Junior Club Representatives.
JCC Executive	A group appointed by a JCC (or multiple JCCs in a Conference model) to make decisions in relation to the competition. This may include Competition Director/s, Assistant Competition Director, Registrar and WAFC Staff Member.
Junior Match Committee	A group established by the JCC Executive to classify Reportable Offences.
Member	A club or person elected to membership of the DFDC /RFDC.
Arena	The playing surface and all the area between the playing surface and the perimeter fence, including any break in the perimeter fence
Playing Surface	The field of play inside the boundary line, goal line and behind line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence.
Perimeter Fence	The physical barrier surrounding the playing surface. Where an arena does not have a perimeter fence, then the perimeter fence shall be interpreted as being located 10m outside and parallel to the playing surface.
Forms	Refers to either paper based or electronic based forms.
Registration System	The WAFC adopts the Sports TG Footyweb registration and competition management system.
Open Competition	Any competition that is open to: Males: Auskick to Year 12 Females: Auskick to Year 9 As opposed to female only competitions.
Match Day Checklist	A venue checklist as provided by the insurer to complete prior to matches, currently the JLT Match Day Checklist.
Community Football Tribunal	An independent tribunal acting on behalf of Community Football in WA.
Community Football Appeal Board	An appeal tribunal convened by a Junior Competition.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION GOVERNANCE

4. DISTRICTS

- 4.1 The JCC shall arrange inter-club football competitions in specific age groups for players registered with junior Clubs of the DFDC or other relevant body.
- 4.2 The DFDC/RFDC may divide the area within its jurisdiction into sub-districts. It is recommended that all players residing within an allocated area play for the aligned club. The DFDC/RFDC may alter, vary or add to the boundaries of its sub-districts as it sees fit.
- 4.3 All cross-district competitions will be played within the Cross-District Protocols as outlined in **Appendix 1**.

5. SCRATCH MATCHES

- 5.1 The **JCC Executive** may approve the arrangement of scratch matches or excursions for teams of registered players provided that each club shall have an equal or near equal number of players in such match or excursion.
- 5.2 The terms of any scratch match will be decided by the **JCC Executive**.
- 5.3 If not set by the **JCC Executive**, the rules for such matches may be agreed upon by the competing teams.
- 5.4 All details of such matches, including intended time, date, location and age group, are to be forwarded to the relevant Competition Director for approval prior to the match.

6. POLICIES

All clubs, players and officials are bound by the following Junior Football Policies as outlined in **Appendix 2**:

- AFL Member Protection Policy
- Alcohol Policy
- Ball Size Policy
- Cold Policy
- Concussion Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy
- Fluid Balance Policy
- Ground Lighting Policy
- Heat Policy
- Inclement Weather Policy
- Infectious Diseases Policy
- Insurance Policy
- Lighting Policy
- Photos & Video Policy
- Player Rotation Policy
- Pregnancy Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Protective Equipment Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Smoke Free Environment Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Spectacles Policy
- Sponsorship Policy
- Sun Protection Policy
- Umpires Handshake Policy
- Vilification Policy
- Working with Children Policy

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Player/Official suspension**
- **Loss of Match**

7. CODE OF CONDUCT

All players, club and team officials, umpires, parents and spectators are bound by the Junior Football Codes of Conduct as outlined in **Appendix 3**.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Player/Official suspension**
- **Loss of Match**

8. REPORTS

All DFDC Chairs, Competition Directors, JCC Executive, JCC appointed stewards and approved WAFC staff have the powers to report any player, official, club member or spectator for any breach of the laws of the game, codes of conduct, member protection policy or competition by-laws.

9. PENALTY RANGE

The **JCC Executive** has the discretion to apply penalties within the range of the penalties table for any breach of competition by-laws. Club fines are at the discretion of the JCC Executive.

BY LAW SECTION	PENALTY RANGE
Policies	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Code of Conduct	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Spirit of Junior Football	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Supporting Umpires of Junior Football	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Club Officials	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Team Nominations	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Forfeits	Club Fines Loss of Match
Match Day Process	Club Fines Loss of Match
Team Officials	Club Fine Loss of match Ineligibility for other teams in that junior club to receive premiership points Referral to WAFC for coach citation process (Coaches only) Free Kick or Yellow/Red Card
Duration of Matches	Club Fines Loss of Match
Ground Preparation	Club Fines
Player Eligibility	Club Fines Loss of Match
Game-Day Player Even Up	Club Fines Loss of Match
Removal of Players from the arena	Club Fines Loss of Match
Ground Encroachment	Club Fines Player/Official suspension Loss of Match
Equipment	Club Fines Loss of Match
Bleeding and Blood Born Infections	Club Fines Loss of Match

10. APPEALS

Clubs are entitled to appeal bylaw breach penalties on the grounds that the penalty provided was not fair and reasonable given the circumstances. The relevant DFDC or RFDC will convene an independent appeal panel. The following process shall be applied:

- A club shall submit a written communication addressed to the relevant DFDC or RFDC requesting to appeal a penalty within 48 hours of receiving notification of the penalty, accompanied by a \$250 bond. Within the written request to appeal the club will outline why the grounds for the penalty were not fair and reasonable.
- The DFDC or RFDC will convene an appeal panel to determine whether the penalty was fair and reasonable based on the evidence provided and any new additional evidence provided by the club.
- If circumstances prevail whereby a hearing must be heard prior to the clubs next match, the DFDC or RFDC will make a reasonable attempt for this to occur.
- DFDC or RFDC members may sit on the appeals panel however they must be independent to the case.
- The Appeal Panel may use its full discretion to gather and take into account any relevant evidence in making its determination.
- A club attending an appeal hearing may be represented by an advocate. An advocate may not be represented by a legal practitioner.
- The appeal panel shall not dismiss any case on grounds of technicality.
- The decision of the appeal panel must be communicated back to the club within a reasonable period of time after the decision has been made.
- E-points cannot be appealed.

11. DISPUTES

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

12. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS

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

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

13. PUBLIC STATEMENT

Public statements can only be made by the **DFDC Chair**, designated **DFDC spokesperson** or **WAFC**.



SECTION 3: SEASON ADMINISTRATION

14. YEAR GROUPS

BY LAW SECTION	OPEN COMPETITION	FEMALE COMPETITION
Auskick Pre-Primary 01/07/2012 – 30/06/2013	Auskick rules flowchart	Auskick rules flowchart
Auskick Year 1 01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012	Auskick rules flowchart	Auskick rules flowchart
Auskick Year 2 01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011	Auskick rules flowchart	Auskick rules flowchart
Year 3 01/07/2009 – 30/06/2010	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves	no minimum, 12 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 4 01/07/2008 – 30/06/2009	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves	
Year 5 01/07/2007 – 30/06/2008	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves	no minimum, 12 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 6 01/07/2006 – 30/06/2007	no minimum, 15 max on field, unlimited reserves	
Year 7 01/07/2005 – 30/06/2006	15 per team, minimum 10, maximum 5 reserves	no minimum, 12 max on field, unlimited reserves
Year 8 01/07/2004 – 30/06/2005	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves OR 15 per team, minimum 10, maximum 5 reserves (15 per side competition)	
Year 9 01/07/2003 – 30/06/2004	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves OR 15 per team, minimum 10, maximum 5 reserves (15 per side competition)	15 per team, minimum 10, maximum 5 reserves
Year 10 01/07/2002 – 30/06/2003	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves	
Year 11 01/07/2001 – 30/06/2002	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves	
Year 12 01/07/2000 – 30/06/2001	18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves	

- 14.1 Any player who is repeating Year 12 at school is not eligible to play in the Year 12 competition and should be encouraged to join a senior community competition.
- 14.2 On application to the **JCC Executive** a player may be eligible to play up a MAXIMUM of one (1) year group only.
- 14.3 A player who does not meet the Physical Development criteria or the Disability criteria for a play down must apply to the WAFC in writing for approval.
- 14.4 With reference to combined year groups, the JCC or controlling body will make the final determination regarding play up applications. It is generally considered that only top aged players are eligible to play up a year group.
E.g. in a combined Year 8 – 9 team, only the Year 9 aged players may play up a year group
- 14.5 The granting of any such request shall apply only to the current season and can be subject to review by the **JCC Executive** during the course of the current season.

Physical Development Criteria

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

- 14.6 Approval will only be granted if the player submits written authority by a sports physician(s) or doctor(s) along with their application to play down an age group. The written authority should specify that the participant falls below the fifth (5th) percentile for height or weight.
- 14.7 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which they have received permission to play.
- 14.8 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.

Disability – Physical and Intellectual

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

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

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

15. CLUB OFFICIALS

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

- 15.1 President, Committees, Delegates to the JCC and other required officials whom will be elected as per each club's constitution.
- 15.2 Each Club shall elect or appoint a Registrar who shall be responsible for the registration of players for that Club and shall keep a record of the achievements of those players as may be required.
- 15.3 All Club officials must abide by the code of conduct and policies as defined by the WAFC/DFDC/JCC.
- 15.4 All District and Club volunteers may be subject to a Working with Children Check as per legislative requirements.
- 15.5 Clubs are to have in place a policy on 'Duty of Care' relevant to Club and Team officials. When adults have responsibility of care for children, Clubs must ensure the safety, health and protection of children. Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of its Club and Team officials in line with WA Football Policies.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Player/Official suspension**
- **Loss of Match**

16. REGISTRATION

No player shall be eligible to take part in any match under the control of the **JCC** until an online registration form is completed and approved through the WAFC approved Registration System.

- 16.1 Players must not alter their name or date of birth in order to register via the Registration System.
- 16.2 Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Club and/or District/Region which is playing in a single Junior Competition.
- 16.3 A Club Official must witness the birth registration number, State or country of birth or other authentication of birth date at the time of registration.

Females may participate in Open football until Year 9. Females moving from Year 6 to Year 7 must be informed in writing by the responsible club of the changes regarding the physical nature of open rules before participating at this level.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Refer to Ineligible Players**

17. TEAM NOMINATIONS

The **JCC Executive** will establish a date each year where clubs will submit team nominations for age groups in which they wish to field teams for the upcoming season.

- 17.1 The **JCC Executive** shall consider all nominations and where possible shall include teams in competitions as nominated.
- 17.2 In any instance where the **JCC Executive** is unable to allocate a team as nominated, it may make an alternative nomination.
- 17.3 The DFDC/RFDC Treasurer shall advise each Club of the nomination fees payable for its nominations and the date by which these fees are to be paid.
- 17.4 Each team nomination should include the name and other relevant details of the following people:
 - a) An accredited coach capable of teaching players the laws and skills of Australian Football.
 - b) A manager capable of assisting the coach by carrying out clerical and other duties relating to the efficient functioning of the team.
- 17.5 If a club enters more than one (1) team in a single division in any age group or has multiple teams in an age group, then the following is to apply:
 - a) Each team nominated by the respective club must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within its nominated division.
 - b) If a club has two teams in one division, it must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within that division.
 - c) If the teams are viewed to be uncompetitive by the **JCC Executive** within a reasonable period, the **JCC Executive** has the power to direct the club to re-allocate players.
 - d) If the club is directed to re-nominate the teams, the club will resubmit the teams and will be subject to further review by the **JCC Executive**.
 - e) Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and age group after Round One (1) of that season. If this occurs, they will be judged as an ineligible player. Team lists are to remain constant unless the team is instructed by JCC Executive to re-allocate players.
 - f) Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.

- 17.6 A Club which withdraws a team or teams from any competition without a reason acceptable to the **JCC Executive**, may be liable to a penalty as per below.
- a) If a team is withdrawn from a competition after the commencement of a season, the **JCC Executive** shall determine how the fixtures will be re-organised and for which games premiership points will be awarded.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Player/Official suspension**
- **Loss of Match**

18. COLOURS AND TEAM UNIFORM

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

- 18.1 Such design shall be approved by the **JCC Executive**. If the **JCC Executive** deems that there is a clash, they shall request that the club determine another design within agreed design criteria.
- 18.2 The colour/length/style of compression undergarments (such as 'Skins' or 'Under Armour') shall be determined and approved by the JCC in line with the playing uniform. Full length arm and leg compression garments are not permitted, unless medical approval is provided by a doctor or for religious reasons.
- 18.3 All teams representing a Club shall wear the playing uniform approved for that Club by the **JCC Executive**.
- 18.4 In the event that the **JCC Executive** determines that there is a jumper clash between two teams, the Away team must wear an alternative strip.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**

19. FIXTURES

Regular Season

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

- 19.1 Where possible the fixtures shall include:
- a) An equal number of matches played between all teams in each competition.
- b) An equal number of home and away matches for each team.
- c) Alternate matches at home and away for each team.
- d) Where any team has a bye then each other team in that competition shall have the same number of byes.
- e) A clear indication of grounds and match times.
- f) Neutral grounds for Grand Finals.
- 19.2 Any proposed amendment or alteration to the fixtures or any details thereof shall be submitted in writing to the **JCC Executive**.
- a) Should the **JCC Executive** be unable to meet before a decision on the proposal is required the Competition Director shall be empowered to make a decision, which shall be final and binding.
- b) Should the fixture change involve an oval or facility located in another District the JCC Executive must seek written approval from the external JCC Executive. Both JCC Executives must be in full support before the fixture change is approved.
- c) The **JCC Executive** may re-grade sides at their discretion to ensure a balanced competition.
- d) Any re-fixturing that occurs after the commencement of the season will be at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- e) All points and percentage of the whole competition being promoted or relegated will be reset to zero. The **JCC Executive** may waiver the resetting of points and percentage based on an assessment of the circumstances at the time.

Finals

- 19.3 The JCC will establish an appropriate finals structure based on the number of teams within the competition.
- 19.4 The **JCC Executive** shall endeavour to appoint Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires and Goal Umpires for all final round matches.

20. TRANSFERS & PERMITS

Players may transfer from one Club/Association to another Club/Association.

Transfer Process

- 20.1 A transfer must be initiated by the destination Club by logging into the Registration System and submitting a Transfer request.
- 20.2 Each transfer application must be completed and lodged by the transferring player and must be endorsed by the player's parent or legal guardian.
- 20.3 The former Club has six (6) business days, commencing from when the application to transfer is lodged through the Registration System, to object the transfer application. If the former Club does not object within six (6) business days (or if the former Club approves the Transfer within six (6) business days) the transfer application will be automatically approved and finalised. Once a player's transfer application has been finalised, the playing history of the player will be automatically sent to the Football Body to which the destination Club is affiliated, via the Registration System. The Football Body to which the destination Club is affiliated will promptly notify the player and the destination Club by email upon approval of the transfer.
- 20.4 The former Club can approve the transfer any time within six (6) business days from lodgement of the application via Registration System. Should the former Club fail to respond, the Transfer will occur automatically following the expiry of the six (6) business days.

Refusals

- 20.5 A former Club may refuse a transfer within six (6) business days from lodgement of the application via the Registration System.
- 20.6 A refusal can only occur where a Club can substantiate that the player:
- a) is indebted to the Club; or
- b) is in possession of Club property (e.g. jumper) that needs to be returned; or
- d) wishes to withdraw their transfer application; or
- e) any combination of the circumstances in 20.6 a) – d).

- 20.7 A player, for whom a clearance is refused, may satisfy the reason for refusal and seek another clearance which shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 20.8 The **JCC Executive** may refuse clearances in circumstances they deem are not in the best interests of the competition. This includes but is not limited to, player poaching, building of super- teams, or other unfair and inappropriate recruiting or player discouragement methods that disadvantage other teams and clubs within the competition.

Transfer Application Period

- 20.9 A transfer may be lodged between 1 November to 30 November and re-open on 1 February to 30 June in each calendar year (Transfer Period).
- 20.10 No Transfer shall be lodged after 9.59pm (AWST) on 30 June in each year.
- 20.11 A transfer request may be lodged outside of the Transfer Period by the WAFC on behalf of a Club under special circumstances deemed appropriate by the Competition Director in consultation with WAFC.

Suspended Players

- 20.12 A player under suspension may transfer from one club to another, but cannot subsequently transfer from the destination Club until 28 days after the suspension has been completed.
- 20.13 Once a player transfer application has been finalised, the full tribunal record including any current suspensions will automatically be sent to the Football Body to which the destination club is affiliated, via the Registration System.

Appeals of Transfer Refusals

- 20.14 Where the player disputes the reason for a transfer refusal, the player or the destination Club should resolve the dispute with the former Club. Where a dispute between the parties cannot be resolved, the player or the destination Club may appeal against the refusal of transfer by notice in writing lodged with the **JCC Executive**.
- 20.15 Any clearance disputed between two JCC's will be referred to WAFC for mediation.

Permits

- 20.16 Type 1. Match Day Permits are for representative football only and are not to be used in Junior Football.
- 20.17 Type 3. Temporary Transfer Permits are for use with the Northern Territory Football League only.
- 20.18 Players may apply for a Type 2. Local Interchange permit enabling them to play for a Club (other than the one to which the player is registered).
- 20.19 Type 2. Local Interchange permits must be initiated by the destination club via the registration system and follow the same process as outlined in the Transfer Process (By-law 20.1 – 20.4).
- 20.20 Players are only permitted to have one (1) Type 2. Local Interchange Permit in place at a time.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- Refer to Ineligible Players

SECTION 4: MATCH OPERATIONS

21. MATCH OPERATIONS

Premiership Points

- 21.1 Four (4) premiership points shall be awarded to the winning team and two (2) points shall be awarded to each team in a drawn match in Year 7 – Year 12 competitions.
- 21.2 If a winning teams margin exceeds 60 points (10 goals) the team will only be credited with a maximum of 60 points (10 goals) winning margin.
- 21.3 Where equality in total premiership points occurs at the conclusion of the qualifying round, the position of a team shall be decided on percentage calculated by a formula in which the total number of points scored by the team shall be multiplied by 100 and divided by the total number of points scored against the team.
- 21.4 In the event that uneven matches are played, a match ratio shall apply to the premiership table. Match Ratio is calculated by the number of wins divided by the number of games played multiplied by 100.

E-Points

The purpose of the E-Point system is to weight game day behaviour with the same importance as winning a match and reward teams for displaying positive game day behaviour. The system deters players, coaches and parents from engaging in negative game day behaviour prior to it taking place.

The E-Point model is applied to all competitions from Year 7 and above (and at the discretion of the JCC Executive as to whether it is applied below Year 7). The decision to deduct E-Points is made by the District JCC Executive (Year 7) and Conference JCC Executive (Year 8 and above). Four (4) E Points will be awarded to each team if there has been no breach of codes of conduct, no red cards, no yellow cards, no coaching box warnings, no poor crowd behaviour, no retrospective breach established after a game.

- 21.5 A maximum of Four (4) E Points will be awarded per team per game played. The team's behaviour (including that of players, team officials, support staff or spectators) will determine if these E Points will be awarded.
- 21.6 One (1) E Point will not be awarded for every YELLOW card received by each participating team on game day. No Yellow Card infringement appeals will be entered into.
- 21.7 If any Player, Team Official, Support Staff or Spectator is issued with a RED card and is suspended for 1 match or more, then Two (2) E Points will automatically not be awarded to the offending team.
- 21.8 If any Player, Team Official, Support Staff or Spectator is suspended for 1 match or more or is issued with a prescribed penalty where a base sanction is 1 match or more, then Two (2) E Points will automatically not be awarded to the offending team.
- 21.9 For any bylaw breach/policy/code of conduct breach relating to inappropriate game day behaviour the offending team could not be awarded up to Four (4) E Points per game as determined by the JCC Executive.

- 21.10 If any breach occurs during a break of play or after the final siren, the number of E-points not awarded will be doubled as the umpire does not have the ability to award a free kick.
- 21.11 The awarding of E Points is final and cannot be appealed.

Forfeits

In a competition playing for premierships points, a match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either team consists of less than 12 players (18-per-side competitions) or 10 players (15-per-side competitions) at the start of the match.

- 21.12 Where a team fails to appear or where a team forfeits a match, full premierships (4) points and E-Points shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
- 21.13 The team receiving the forfeit should be credited with 60 points.
- 21.14 The team that forfeited the match shall be credited zero (0) premierships points and zero (0) E-points.
- 21.15 In the event of any forfeit both Clubs involved shall advise the **JCC Executive** in writing of the date of the match and include the reasons for the forfeit.
- 21.16 Players for the team receiving the forfeit shall be credited as having played that game for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records. Players for the team that forfeited the match will not be credited as having played the match.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

22. MATCHDAY PROCESS

Team Sheets

The following match day processes shall be followed by each competing team and match officials.

- 22.1 Each competing team shall ensure all players, coaches and team officials representing the team for any given match are included on the team sheet in the WAFC approved Registration System.
- a) Each competing team shall provide JCC approved team sheets as directed by the JCC Executive for each match.
 - b) All players' jumper numbers shall be displayed on the team sheet
 - c) Players may only enter the field of play if they are listed on the match sheet and in attendance at the game.
 - d) A player can only be listed on the team sheet if they enter the field of play
- e) Late arriving players cannot take to the field until presented to the umpires at the next break between quarters. Late arriving players shall not enter the playing field after half time.
- 22.2 Umpires are required to record Fairest & Best Votes using the approved method set by the **JCC Executive** for Year 8 competitions and above.

Boundary Umpires:

- 22.3 Each team competing in an 18 per side competition from Year 8 and above shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game.
- 22.4 Boundary umpires are not required for any 12 per side or 15 per side matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply.
Last Possession Rule: A free kick is awarded to the opposition if a player kicks or handballs the ball and the ball crosses the boundary without being touched by any other player. If the ball comes off hands in the contest or is fumbled across the line, then the umpire will throw the ball up, 10 metres in from the boundary line.

Goal Umpires:

- 22.5 Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
- a) The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard in Year 7 competitions and upwards. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with the independent scorer at all major breaks.
 - b) At the conclusion of the game they will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire.
 - c) The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to Ground Preparation By-Law)

Interchange Stewards:

- 22.6 For Year 7 Competitions and upwards, both the Home team and the Away team are responsible for providing an interchange steward. Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the interchange steward.

Independent Scorer:

- 22.7 The Home Team shall provide an independent scorer in Year 7 Competitions and upwards. The independent scorer is permitted to be the same person as the interchange steward. The Independent Scorer shall carry out their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game
- 22.8 The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds on a scorecard and confer at the conclusion of each quarter.
- 22.9 Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.

Timekeeper

- 22.10 The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire, and be deemed to be the official time keeper.

General

22.11 Club officials, team officials and coaches are not to negotiate on changes to Law of the Game or changes to Bylaws for particular games.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- Club Fines
- Loss of Match

23. TEAM OFFICIALS

Team Officials include coaches, managers, runners, water carriers, game day volunteers, club appointed umpires, or any person deemed by the JCC to be an official that relate to the game day not covered above. All team officials must adhere to the codes of conduct, player equal opportunity policy and all other applicable policies.

Coaches

All coaches must be appropriately accredited

- 23.1 Each team is permitted to have a maximum of three (3) coaches inside the Coaches Box (1 head coach & 2 assistant coaches).
- 23.2 For Year 5 and above, all coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match.
- 23.3 For Year 3 and Year 4 matches, the coach is permitted to be on the ground during any game. The coach is not permitted to carry water. The coach is not permitted to carry a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant.
- 23.4 A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines.
- 23.5 All head coaches must be accredited as an age appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match.
- 23.6 If a coach does not hold an age appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach.
- 23.7 It is strongly recommended that all assistant coaches be accredited as an age appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match.
- 23.8 Where a Foundation or higher-level coach is not available, then the club must ensure that a Foundation or higher-level coach from their club is in attendance in the Coaches Box. Clubs must notify and inform the **JCC Executive** of any coach who stands in for an absent Foundation or higher-level coach.
- 23.9 Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches.
- 23.10 Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals.

Team Manager

- 23.11 Each team is required to have a team manager.
- 23.12 The team manager will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials.

Runners

- 23.13 Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved **JCC** uniform.
- Year 3 -Year 4 teams are not permitted to have a runner.
 - Each team in Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 competitions are permitted to appoint one (1) team runner only.
 - Year 8 to Year 12 teams may appoint two (2) runners with only one (1) permitted on the field of play at any time.
 - Runners are not permitted to carry water.
 - Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing arena. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area.
 - Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground.
 - Team runners must enter and exit the playing arena through the interchange area at all times.
 - Team runners should be an adult.

Water Carriers

- 23.14 Water Carriers are permitted for all age groups.
- No more than two (2) Water Carriers are permitted per team, per match in Year 7 - Year 12 competitions
 - No more than one (1) Water Carrier is permitted per team, per match in Year 3 -Year 6 competitions
 - Additional water carriers can be applied for at the discretion of the JCC Executive.
 - Water carriers shall be clearly identified by wearing approved JCC uniform.
 - Water carriers are not to become involved in any capacity in on field coaching. They are to deliver water promptly and exit the field immediately.
 - Water carriers should be an adult.

Medical Officer/Sports Trainer

- 23.15 Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid).
- The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved **JCC** uniform.
 - The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher.
 - Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams.

General

- 23.16 A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the rules or By-laws of the **DFDC/JCC** may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition.

23.17 Team Officials are not permitted to make contact with opposition players under any circumstances

Penalties for breaching the above Bylaw may include:

- Club Fine
- Loss of premiership points
- Ineligibility for other teams in that junior club to receive premiership points
- Referral to Coaching Manager for coach citation process (Coaches only)
- Free Kick or Yellow/Red Card

24. UMPIRES

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

24.1 The WAFC shall fix the maximum fee for umpires annually prior to the commencement of the season.

24.2 Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes.

a) An umpire appointed under this By-Law shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments.

24.3 All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC.

24.4 The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts and the outcomes on the match documentation.

24.5 The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.

24.6 Umpires match payments are to be paid in cash or EFT with 50% paid by each team. In the event of a forfeit, Umpires will still be required to be remunerated. (50% paid by each team)

24.7 The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.

24.8 Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.

Swearing

24.9 As per the AFL Laws of the Game, if a player swears during a game (and is overheard by an umpire) then a free kick and/or 50 metre penalty and/or a red/yellow card will be paid against the player as a means of positively addressing the game day environment with Junior Football. Under the AFL Laws of the Game there is provision for this to occur under:

15.10 FREE KICKS – GENERALLY

15.10.1 – A free kick shall be awarded against a Player or a Team where the field Umpire is of the opinion that:

(d) a Player who uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language and/or gesture.

Order off Rule

Yellow Card Offence

24.10 An offender ordered off for a yellow card offence can be replaced immediately. The offending player is permitted to return to the field after sitting off for 15 minutes of playing time.

24.11 In the event that a Player or Official:

- a) Is issued with two Yellow Card offences on the day of the match, then the offender shall take no further part in the game and cannot be replaced for 15 minutes and receives an automatic 1-week suspension
- b) When ordered off for a Yellow Card offence, fails to leave the field immediately when directed by the field umpire, then the offender shall be reported for misconduct and consequently be deemed to have committed a Red Card offence.
- c) Is issued with three Yellow Card offences over the duration of a season, then the third and every yellow card received thereafter shall be upgraded to a Red Card at the conclusion of the match.

Red Card Offence

24.12 An offender ordered off for a red card offence cannot be replaced for 15 minutes playing time. The offending player may not return to the field for the remainder of the match.

24.13 The offending player, will be penalised in line with the Junior Football Tribunal Guidelines.

24.14 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator who fails to leave the Arena immediately when directed by the umpire shall be reported for misconduct, the match shall be terminated and the offending person's team will forfeit the match.

24.15 Any official who receives a red card (which is upheld) will also have the details of the incident entered on the WAFC Red Flag system.

25. DURATION OF MATCHES

General

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

Year 3 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 4 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 5 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 6 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 7 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 8 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

Year 9 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration

Year 10 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

Year 11 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

Year 12 - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

- 25.1 No time on may be added to any game, except:
- If the field umpire suspends play (by blowing their whistle and indicating to the Time Keeper with both hands above their head in the shape of a "T") due to a player sustaining an injury that requires the use of a stretcher or that the Umpire considers serious.
 - If the field umpire suspends play in the event of any Order Off offence committed by a player or official.
 - If a Captain approaches the field umpire to request a head count.
 - If in the opinion of the field umpire, exceptional circumstances are warranted.
- 25.2 The maximum times allowed for intervals between quarters, in all age groups are:
- First quarter interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
 - Half time interval shall be not more than ten (10) minutes.
 - Three quarter time interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
 - Upon a second warning from the umpire and a team has not made an acceptable effort to take the field, the umpire shall award a free kick to the opposing team. Should both teams be offending the umpire will pay a free kick to the 1st returning team.
 - In addition, if any team is deemed by the Umpire to be in breach this Bylaw, the coach(s) of the offending team(s) shall be reported for engaging in time wasting.

Finals

- 25.3 Should the final scores of both teams in any final round match, including the Grand Final, be equal at the end of the time allocated for the match, such match shall be extended by two (2) additional periods of five (5) minutes with no time on, in which the teams shall change ends and kick to either end of the ground alternatively.
- 25.4 Should the scores still be tied at the end of these addition periods the team captains will decide which team will kick to which end of the ground by the toss of a coin and play will then resume until one team scores and that team shall be declared the winner.
- 25.5 At the end of the game there will be a two (2) minute break between fulltime and the commencement of the extra time. (Coaches are allowed on the field at this time).
- 25.6 After the completion of the first five (5) minutes of extra time, teams are required to change ends with no break. Coaches and officials are not permitted to be on the field during this time.

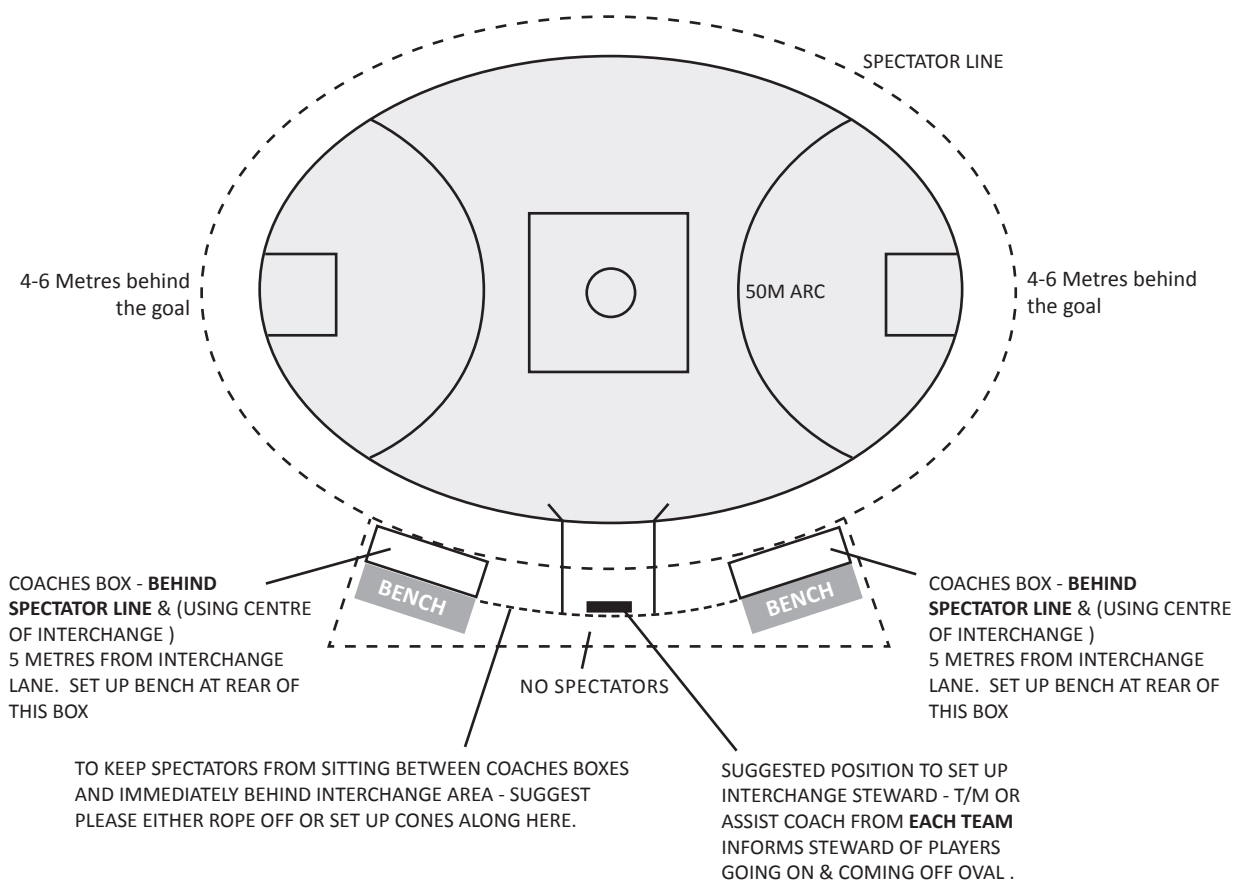
Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- Club Fines
- Loss of Match

26. GROUND PREPARATION

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

- 26.1 The ground shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game, which shall include a spectator line at least two (2) metres outside the boundary line and six (6) metres behind the goals. **Please note** the Coaches Box cannot be marked in front of the spectator's line.
- 26.2 A clearly identified coaches and players box shall be marked no less than five (5) metres from either side of the interchange area in Year 5 competitions and above. This must be marked in paint. Where this is not possible cones may be used with permission from the **JCC Executive**.
- The dimensions of the box shall be as per Coaches box dimensions and placement in the coaching box diagram below;



- 26.3 Matches are not to commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Laws of Australian Football.
- 26.4 Access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.
- 26.5 Provide a stretcher.
- 26.6 Provide ice for medical treatment/s.
- 26.7 Where a game is allocated to a neutral venue, the **JCC Executive** shall nominate a home team, which shall be responsible for all provisions as if the game was being played on the home ground of that team.
- 26.8 A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate Match Day Checklist completed. If in the event that AFL Youth match is played following an AFL Junior or Auskick match and or weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that game commencing and be documented.
- 26.9 In accordance with Australian Standards, any junior night fixture lighting shall have a minimum of 100 lux.
- 26.10 The JCC will have the final discretion for use of ovals in their competitions.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**

27. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

General

- 27.1 If a player plays five (5) or more games in an older age group within a junior competition, they shall be deemed to be a part of that older age group for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger age group.
- 27.2 Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFL State Program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season.

Finals

- 27.3 To be eligible to take part in any finals match all players (other than WAFL Colts/WAWFL players) must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season.
- 27.4 WAFL Colts/WAWFL players must have played a minimum of seven (7) matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season in order to be eligible for finals.
- 27.5 A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the JCC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the JCC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is over six weeks in length.
- 27.6 WAFL Colts/WAWFL players who have played at least three quarters of the total matches of the qualifying rounds of the WAFL Colts/WAWFL season are ineligible to play with a junior club/team during junior finals.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

28. GAME-DAY PLAYER EVEN UP

Player even up must be applied for the entire game including finals.

- 28.1 Player Even-Up for Modified Rule (Year 3-6) and Youth Football (Year 7-12).
 - a) The even up rule will apply when one (1) or two (2) teams have less than the maximum number of players for the competition.
 - b) If a team cannot field the maximum number of players for that competition the team with the greater number of players must offer additional players to the lesser numbered team until team numbers comprise the maximum number of players, or are even, or differ by one only.
 - c) Each team shall have even numbers of players on the field during the match.
 - d) If a player is injured and the team has no player to replace the injured player, the opposing team must even up immediately. A team captain may not call for a Player Count until the injured player is replaced.
 - e) Players must be rotated so that no single player plays more than one (1) quarter per match for the opposition team.
- 28.2 Junior Bylaw procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
 - a) A player ordered off for a yellow card offence during an even-up situation cannot be replaced for 15 minutes of game time. Once the 15-minute penalty for the yellow Card has been served then an even number of players from both teams must be on the field.
 - b) A player ordered off for a red card offence during an even-up situation cannot be replaced

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Forfeit of Match**
- **Referral to Coaching Manager for coach citation process (Coaches only)**

29. REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM THE ARENA

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

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

30. GROUND ENCROACHMENT

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

- 30.1 Any Club whose officials, players and club spectators are found to be responsible for the unauthorised encroachment of any playing arena (and any official, player and club spectators so responsible) shall be liable for penalty.
- 30.2 The home club (or the team mentioned first in the fixture) is responsible for ground security on the match day.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Player/Official suspension**
- **Loss of Match**

31. EQUIPMENT

Footballs

Each competing team shall supply a leather football of a size approved for that age group, and be in premium condition and ready for match play. The colour of the football must be yellow and shall be a WAFC agreed sponsored brand. In Grand Finals, all footballs shall be new.

- 31.1 The home teams shall provide the match football.
- 31.2 The away team are to provide a suitable spare football.

Protective Head Gear

A player who desires to wear protective headgear during a match must wear Sports Physician or Doctor approved headgear.

- 31.3 Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
- a) A player who has a disability or medical condition which could potentially result in injury is required to have a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying that the player will (in the view of the medical practitioner) receive adequate protection from the protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from the JCC.
- 31.4 Player's not suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
- a) A parent or guardian is required to state in writing that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical condition which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing said protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from the JCC.
- 31.5 The necessary JCC headgear approval form, signed by the JCC Executive, must be presented to the umpire before each match. The umpire is authorised to forbid the player from participating in the game if the form of approval is not shown.

Other Protective Gear

- 31.6 The **JCC Executive** strongly advocates the wearing of protective mouth guards by all players in all matches.
- 31.7 The **JCC Executive** does not recommend the wearing of playing gloves; these should only be worn on the recommendation of a sports physician or Doctor and supported by a valid medical certificate and approved in writing by the **JCC Executive**.
- 31.8 Players are not permitted to wear a Plaster Cast during the course of a game.
- 31.9 Players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.
- 31.10 Players, Runners, Water Carriers and Sports Trainers/Medical are not to wear jewellery including wrist bracelets. Medical bracelets are permitted however they must be taped and marked 'MEDIC'.
- 31.11 It will be left up to the discretion of the Competition Director to allow or disallow the use of any other protective gear not addressed in these by laws.

Stretcher

In all games including finals:

- 31.12 Any player who in the opinion of the injured player's team officials requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended to by a suitably trained and certified medical officer in the practice of use of a stretcher prior to removal of that player.
- a) Unless the player is capable and conscious enough to place themselves on the stretcher without assistance.
- 31.13 The timekeeper shall stop the clock once the field umpire has called time after a stretcher has entered the field of play, and shall restart the clock at the time the field umpire recommences play and calls time. The timekeeper shall also record the time out and the time of the quarter at which point the clock was stopped.
- a) In the event that the time taken to attend to the injured player exceeds 10 minutes from the time out the following will apply.
- i) If the quarter ends during the delay: - time will be called for the quarter and play will recommence for the next quarter.
- ii) If the final quarter is in progress and the stretcher is called for, the remaining time will be played out.
- b) If the stretcher has been called for by an authorised person, then the player will be removed from the playing field via the most direct route for play to recommence and the injured player may be replaced through the interchange.
- c) Only authorised persons are permitted to enter the field of play and no team meetings or coaching is permitted during this time. Players must remain in their positions ready for recommencement of play.
- d) Should a coach enter the field of play during a stretcher call and in the opinion of the umpire was doing so in order to provide instruction. A free kick will be awarded to the opposing side in front of goal at the end of the 10-metre square. (This rule will not apply if the 10 minutes or quarter break becomes enforced).
- e) Should both teams' coaches enter the field of play for the purpose of giving instruction, play will resume as would be the case under the rules of the game and both teams will have a fine imposed at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 31.14 Umpires will report all stretcher call outs and the outcomes on the match documentation.
- 31.15 If a player is removed from the field on a stretcher then that player will not take any further part in the game whatsoever.

- 31.16 If, in the opinion of a field umpire or team medical officer, a player cannot be moved from the field of play due to the severity of an injury, then play may be abandoned for the game at the discretion of a meeting between the two Team Managers and the Field Umpire and/or any league appointed official (i.e. match day steward) and/or a **JCC Executive** if present.
- a) The **JCC Executive** shall be advised of any such abandonment for the purpose of either rescheduling the fixture or determining a result according to the progress score and point of the game at which the game was abandoned.
 - b) For all final round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by the **JCC Executive** or their appointed officials.
- 31.17 Any player who has their weight assisted in any way for any part of the journey off the field to be treated are deemed as Stretched.
- 31.18 Injured players must depart through the interchange or they are not permitted to return to the field.

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

32. BLEEDING AND BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS

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

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

Penalties for breaching this by-law may include:

- **Club Fines**
- **Loss of Match**

33. WEATHER

The Umpire in consultation with JCC Officials shall determine if a game should be delayed or abandoned due to inclement weather such as lightning as per AFL Laws of the Game and the AFL Match Policy. WEATHER POLICY APPENDIX

34. AWARDS

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

- 34.1 The Fairest and Best Player in the game shall receive three (3) votes, with the other Fairest and Best Players receiving two, one votes in order of performance. These votes shall be recorded by the Umpire in an approved method set out by the **JCC Executive**.
- 34.2 The voting slip shall show:
- a) Age group date and venue of match.
 - b) Surname, initial, club and jumper number of the three (3) selected players.
- 34.3 The **JCC Executive** shall appoint a person to whom the fairest and best votes are to be entrusted and stored.
- 34.4 The JCC shall decide on the place and date where all fairest and best votes are tallied by persons appointed by the **JCC Executive**.
- a) The player who polls the highest number of votes in each competition shall be adjudged the 'Fairest and Best' player of that competition.
 - b) The player who polls the next highest number of votes shall be adjudged the 'Runner Up Fairest and Best'.
 - c) In the event of an equality of votes then two (2) or more trophies shall be presented.
- 34.5 Where discrepancies in names or other details occur on the voting slip it shall be checked against the team sheet for the relevant match to clarify the information.
- 34.6 The **JCC Executive** may at its discretion allow a Donor or Donors to donate or establish a trophy or award in the form approved by the **JCC Executive** and bearing the name of the Donor or Donors.

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

SECTION 4: MATCH OPERATIONS

35. INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

The Tribunal Guidelines are adopted by DFDC and Country Junior Competitions to provide clubs, players and officials with clear guidelines for those who commit reportable offences.

The span of the Tribunal Guidelines is outlined below:

- Team Officials – Year 3 to Year 12
- Players – Year 7 to Year 12

36. PROCESS

Report

The Junior Match Committee will assess all reports and referrals of potential Reportable Offences. Reportable Offences are reported as follows:

- Notice of Report:** May be lodged by an officiating Umpire or an Umpire Coach.
- Referral:** May be lodged by a JCC Official or WAFC Staff Member.

36.1 If a report takes place on match day, the player or official must be advised prior to or at the conclusion of the match.

36.2 All reports must be lodged with the umpire's match day paperwork

All Notice of Reports & Referrals are to be received by **12pm Monday** after the match is played.

The Junior Match Committee will gather the required information relevant to making a decision on whether a charge is made.

Determination of type of offence and appropriate charge

Following the review of each report or referral, the Junior Match Committee will determine whether the charge is appropriate and alter the charge if required. There are two types of Reportable Offences:

- A low-level offence
- A classifiable offence
- A direct to tribunal offence (referred directly to the community football tribunal)

The Junior Match Committee will inform the player and their club president whether or not a reported or referred player has been charged and the corresponding base sanction for that charge by **5pm Monday** after the match is played.

Options available to the player or official charged with a reportable offence

A player or official charged with a Reportable Offence may:

- Submit an early guilty plea, in which case the relevant sanction for the Reportable Offence will apply subject to a reduction available as a result of the early guilty plea as per grading table.
- Contest a charge at the Community Football Tribunal using evidence to show they are not guilty of the classifiable offence or guilty of a lesser charge.

The player or official charged must submit their option by **12pm Tuesday** after the match is played.

Tribunal Hearing

The tribunal will hear a charge for which a Player or Official had pleaded not guilty or has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge. The tribunal may find the Player or Official guilty of the original charge, a lesser charge or not guilty of any charge. The tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction within the Standard Range of Penalties for the Reportable Offence if it finds the player guilty of a Reportable Offence.

Unless requested for attendance by the Tribunal Chairman, Umpires or Victims may provide evidence prior to the Tribunal hearings however must be available to be contacted by the Tribunal Chairman during the hearing period if required.

Players, Officials and Umpires are permitted to be accompanied by an advocate however this advocate may not be a legal practitioner. An advocate will only be permitted to provide evidence on the Player, Official or Umpires behalf.

The Community Football Tribunal will operate within the Community Football Tribunal Guidelines.

Appeal Hearing

A player or club official may decide to appeal the decision of the Tribunal within 48 hours of the hearing to the Community Football Appeal Board based on the verdict being unreasonable. All appeal lodgements must include new evidence that illustrates that the penalty was unreasonable accompanied by \$250 non-refundable fee.

The JCC Executive also reserves the right to appeal decisions of the Tribunal to the Community Football Appeal Board based on the verdict being unreasonable.

The Community Football Appeals Board will operate within the Community Football Tribunal Guidelines.

37. REPORTABLE OFFENCES

A reportable offence occurs where a Player or Official commits any of the offences set out in Law 19.2.2 of the Laws of Australian Football. Broadly speaking there are three categories of Reportable Offences - Low Level, Classifiable, and Direct to Tribunal Offences.

Any Offence defined in the AFL Laws of the Game but not specified in these Tribunal Guidelines will be categorised as Direct to Tribunal Offences.

Low Level Offences

List of Low Level Offences

The following are low-level offences which do not require classification however may be addressed by the Junior Match Committee through issuing of a Yellow or Red Card. In the case of a red card, the player will receive an automatic 1 match suspension.

If relevant and appropriate evidence is present, the **JCC Executive** has the powers to:

- Issue Yellow & Red Cards
- Upgrade a Yellow Card to a Red Card
- Downgrade a Red Card

Low Level Offences cannot be taken to the Community Football Tribunal:

- Attempt to strike, kick or trip
- Careless contact with an umpire
- Spitting at another player
- Melee
- Staging
- Making unreasonable or unnecessary contact with an injured Player
- Using abusive, insulting, or obscene language
- Time wasting
- Throwing or pushing a Player after that Player has taken a mark, disposed of the ball or after the ball is out of play
- Wrestling
- Obscene gesture
- Disputing decision
- Pinching
- Interfering with Player kicking for goal
- Not leaving playing surface
- Shaking goal post
- Prohibited boots, jewellery, equipment
- Any other act of low-level misconduct which is not a Classifiable Offence or Direct Tribunal Offence

Classifiable Offences

List of Classifiable Offences

The following offences are Reportable Offences that are graded by the Junior Match Committee to determine an appropriate base sanction:

- Striking
- Kicking
- Kneeing
- Stomping
- Charging
- Rough Conduct
- Forceful front on contact
- Headbutt or contact using head
- Eye-gouging/unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the eye region
- Unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the face
- Scratching
- Tripping

Grading of Classifiable Offences

CONDUCT	IMPACT	CONTACT	BASE SECTION	EARLY GUILTY PLEA
Intentional	Severe	All	Tribunal	N/A
	High	High/Groin	Tribunal	N/A
		Body	Tribunal	N/A
	Medium	High/Groin	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Low	High/Groin	2 Matches	1 Match
Body		1 Match	Yellow Card/Reprimand	
Careless	Severe	All	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	Yellow Card/Reprimand
	Low	High/Groin	1 Match	Yellow Card/Reprimand
		Body	Yellow card/Reprimand	Yellow Card/Reprimand

As indicated in the table above, the determination of a base sanction for a Classifiable Offence will be made based on an assessment of whether:

1. The conduct is Intentional or Careless
2. The impact is Severe, High, Medium or Low; and
3. The Contact with the other Player/Official is High/Groin or to the Body

All penalties (Base Sanction and Early Guilty Plea) will be doubled if the player or official has been found guilty of a reportable offence within the past 12 months.

Reduction in base sanction for early guilty plea

The base sanction for Classifiable Offences will be subsequently decreased where a player submits an early guilty plea.

Direct to Tribunal Offences

List of Direct to Tribunal Offences

The following offences are Reportable Offences that are sent directly to the Community Football Tribunal to determine an appropriate penalty within the Standard Range of Penalties:

- Intentional contact with an umpire
- Striking an umpire
- Spitting on or at an umpire
- Spitting on another person
- Attempting to strike an umpire
- Instigator of a Melee
- Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire
- Any classifiable offence which attracts a base sanction that the Junior Match Committee finds inappropriate
- Any other act of serious misconduct which the Junior Match Committee considers appropriate to send to the Community Football Tribunal.

The Community Football Tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction for a Direct to Tribunal offence within the Standard Range of Penalties.

38. STANDARD RANGE OF PENALTIES

OFFENCE	FIRST OFFENCE	SECOND OFFENCE
Striking	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Kicking	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Kneeing	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Stomping	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Charging	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Rough Conduct	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Forceful front on contact	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Headbutt or contact using head	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Eye-gouging/unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the eye region	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the face	1-5 weeks	2-10 weeks
Scratching	1-5 weeks	2-10 weeks
Tripping	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Intentional contact with an umpire	4 weeks – 2 years	Life Ban
Striking an umpire	2 years – 10 years	Life Ban
Spitting on or at an umpire	1 year – 5 years	Life Ban
Spitting on another person	2 – 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Attempting to strike an umpire	1 year – 5 years	Life Ban
Instigator of a Melee	2 – 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire	2 - 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks

39. SUSPENSIONS

- 39.1 Once a player has been suspended, the penalty shall apply to the player based on serving the sentence within the competition and playing for the team in which received the penalty when playing for. If the penalty is required to be served over multiple years, it shall be based on the team in which the player would naturally progress to at the discretion of the WAFC.
- 39.2 Any player against whom any charge has been suspended for 1 match or more is disqualified from participation in the Fairest & Best Award.
- 39.3 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator suspended by either a tribunal or prescribed penalty in a WAFC affiliated competition will not be permitted to play, coach or participate in any capacity, in any football competition or program including schools, senior metropolitan community football or regional football, for the duration of the penalty.
- 39.4 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator reported or in receipt of a prescribed penalty notice, is not to play or act in any official capacity in a WAFC affiliated competition until such time as the charge has been dealt with.
- 39.5 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator who chooses to contest a Red Card, Report or Prescribed Penalty is deemed suspended until such time as the charge or report is dealt with to the satisfaction of the JCC Executive.
- 39.6 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Community Football Tribunal or JCC, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match Days while the penalty remains unserved.

APPENDIX LIST

The following appendices to be included

- Cross District Protocols

Cross District Protocols

The Agreement

To enter into a Cross District agreement, an M.O.U (Memorandum of Understanding) between both districts is required.

The following points are required to be addressed:

- Each DFDC and JCC must be in agreement.
- The WAFC have endorsed the alignment.

Bylaws

All Games will be played under existing District Constitutions and Bylaws. Exemption requests will be conducted by the joint JCC Executive.

Considerations

The following things should be considered as part of the agreement:

- PSA and other educational relationships.
- Combined trips, History or tradition,
- JCC Meeting schedules
- Grand Final Ground Rotation,
- Special events,
- WAFL Club partnerships and communication.
- Effect and coordination of WA Football Development staff and resources.

Meetings

All District JCC clubs will meet every quarter.

The JCC Executive is to communicate monthly and share information (e.g. meeting minutes) from each JCC district meeting.

Management

A joint executive will be convened and consist of all Competition Directors, Assistant Competition Directors and any jointly agreed positions. A WAFC representative may also attend as required.

Fairest & Best

The Fairest & Best will be combined although each district will continue to award the highest eligible vote getter in their respective district Fairest & Best award.

Presentation nights

An invitation to any presentation night will be extended to members of the executive from the other JCC District(s).

Finances

- Club Fees will continue to be set by each individual district.
- Cross District Fines will be agreed by joint the JCC executive.

Fixtures

- All fixtures must be agreed upon by the two districts.
- Consideration for individual Club canteens needs to be prioritized.
- Flexibility must be given to allow start time & day variation.
- There must be consideration of individual district requirements such as PSA.
- Set timeline for fixtures must be agreed upon.
- Special Fixturing consideration must be allowed for AFL/WAFL curtain raisers and other partner ventures.
- Balance for districts (umpire numbers).
- Appoint a finals coordinator, and allocate responsibilities.

Registrars

Each district registrar will maintain their respective districts participant registration, clearances and permits in line with bylaw requirements. One registrar may be designated the role to look after fixturing for the competition. The other registrar(s) may be allocated the task to look after the entering of results and other game day data, i.e. Fairest and Best votes. Every effort must be made to synchronize any public information released e.g. results, ladders etc.

Umpires

Each district umpire coordinator is to look after their individual district and the games played in their district. Responsibility of umpire appointments for finals should be predetermined.

Game day

Goal umpires, Boundary umpires, Runners, Medical person and Water carriers are to be identified in a similar way in all districts (i.e. same vests).

Exemptions to bylaws

Must be agreed on by both DFDC/ JCC and subsequently the WAFC.

Disputes

Districts must attempt resolution prior to taking the issue to joint DFDC.

In the event a joint DFDC hearing cannot resolve an issue, then the matter can be referred to the WAFC.

Term

The term of Cross District agreement is for one season. A review should be conducted at the end of each agreement

Approval

The M.O.U is required to be signed by the DFDC Chairman, Competition Directors and a representative from the WAFC.

UMPIRING MASTER PLAN



CHARACTER
 COMMITMENT Confidence
COURAGE
 Consistency CONTROL
 COMMUNICATION
COMPOSURE
 COHESIVE Coachable
 CONCISE CLEAR
 CONDITIONING Calm

WE COMMIT TO:

- Strong Confident Whistle
- Positioning, Side On To Contest (20-25m)
- Work Rate = Run Hard = Give Sincere Effort, Training And Match Day
- Communicate Effectively = Use Law Book Wording
- Set Kick Control, Goal Line/General Play
- Observation, Hold Your Vision
- Indications, Strong And Clear (Blow, Show And Go)
- Teamwork, Supportive Umpiring
- Player Safety, Duty Of Care To All Players, Protect The Ball Player
- Time Off/Time On, Appropriate Use, When And How
- Pay Warranted Free Kicks
- Match Management, Manage The Game
- Appearance, Look Professional On And Off The Field
- Have Fun And Enjoy The Challenge



12 STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE OUR JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS

The number 1 reason that WA kids play sport is to have fun with their friends. Enjoyment within sport is critical to player retention. The enjoyment of a player is directly linked to **competitive** matches and how successfully they **develop** their skills. To achieve this we must **support our umpires and coaches** to deliver a **positive and safe environment**. At the end of the day, our kids want to play and enjoy their sport and these 12 strategies will help achieve this.



POSITIVE AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT

SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Coaches and Parents must focus on enjoyment and development rather than winning at all costs **[By-Law 1]**

E-POINT

4 'E-Points' are awarded per match to reward positive game day environments. Game Day Environment is weighted the same as Winning a match **[By Law 21]**

NO ABUSE

A zero tolerance approach is adopted towards umpire and official abuse **[By Law 2]**

MORE COMPETITIVE

COMPETITIVE TEAMS

All teams must be competitive within their nominated division and re-allocate players if required **[By Law 17]**

WINNING MARGIN

A maximum winning margin of 60 points to allow coaches to focus on player development rather than improving a team's percentage **[By Law 21]**

EVEN UP

If a team has too few players, the other must lend them players to ensure numbers are even and the game is competitive **[By Law 28]**

SUPPORT OUR UMPIRES AND COACHES

COACH/UMPIRE HANDSHAKE

Coaches are expected to shake the hand of the match day umpires both pre and post game to promote positive relationships **[Umpire Handshake Policy]**

EDUCATING COACHES TO SUPPORT PLAYERS

All coaches must obtain their Foundation coach accreditation and complete ongoing education **[By Law 23]**

PLAYER FOCUS

Coaches must adopt a 'player focused' mentality and not coach for themselves **[By Law 1]**

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

ALL POSITIONS

Every player must play in all 5 lines over a 3 match period **[Player Rotation Policy]**

EQUAL PLAYING TIME

All players must receive equal playing time with a minimum of 50% per player each game **[Player Rotation Policy]**

SEQUENTIAL LEARNING

Rules are modified from Year 3 – 6 in order to promote learning and skill development **[Rules Flowcharts]**



TRUE SPORT ⁺

The way we play together shapes the way we live together

