



# 2011

**District Football Development Council  
Junior Competition Committee**

**Global Competition 2011 BYLAWS**

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## INTRODUCTION

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

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

### 1 SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN WA

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

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

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

## 2 INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS

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

Club	Means any junior football club which affiliates with the DFDC/RFDC through membership.
Juniors	Means persons who play football within the boundaries of the DFDC up to the age determined from time to time by the WAFC Football Affairs COMMITTEE.
DFDC Executive	Means the Chairperson, Competition Director, WAFL Club Representative and One other person. RFDC in Country Football.
Junior Competition Committee (JCC ) Executive	Means Competition Director, Assistant Competition Director, Registrar and WAFC Development Officer / Manager
JCC	Means Junior Competition Committee (Metro) and WACFL endorsed Controlling Body (Regional)
Fixture Committee	Panel convened at the discretion of the JCC Executive to undertake fixturing duties.
Member	Means a club or person elected to membership of the DFDC /RFDC in accordance with Rule 5 herein.
AFL Auskick Program	Ages 5 – 8’s (Pre-primary, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3)
AFL Juniors Programs	Ages 9 (Year 4) – 12 years (Year 7)
AFL Youth Programs	Ages 13 (Year 8) – 17 years (Year 12)
DFDC	District Football Development Council
WAFC	Western Australian Football Commission
RFDC	Regional Football Development Council
“WAFCFAC”	Means the WA Football Commission Football Affairs Committee including designated WAFC Consultant, Manager - Community Development

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

### 3 MATCHES

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

### 4 COLOURS

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

- 4.1 Such design shall be approved by the **JCC Executive** unless in the opinion of the **JCC Executive** clashes with that of another member Club in which case the **JCC Executive** shall request that the club determine another design within agreed design criteria.
- 4.2 All teams representing each member Club shall wear the playing uniform approved for that Club by the **JCC Executive**.

### 5 DISTRICTS

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

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

## 6 TEAM NOMINATIONS

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

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

## 7 FIXTURES

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

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

## 8 WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATED TEAMS

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

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

## 9 DURATION OF MATCHES

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

**Year 4 (Prev 9's)** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

**Year 5 (Prev 10's)** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

**Year 6 (Prev 11's)** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

**12s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

**13s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 15 minutes duration.

**14s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration

**15s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

**16s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

**17s** - 4 quarters, each of not more than 20 minutes duration.

- 9.1 No time on may be added to any game, except:
  - 9.1.1 If the field umpire suspends play (by blowing their whistle and indicating to the Time Keeper with both hands above his head in the shape of a "T") due to a player sustaining an injury that requires the use of a stretcher or that the Umpire considers serious (Refer to bylaw 33).
  - 9.1.2 If the field umpire suspends play in the event of any Order Off offence committed by a player or official.
  - 9.1.3 If a Captain approaches the field umpire to request a head count.
  - 9.1.4 If in the opinion of the field umpire, exceptional circumstances are warranted.

## 10 INTERVALS

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

- 10.1 First quarter interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
- 10.2 Half time interval shall be not more than ten (10) minutes.
- 10.3 Three quarter time interval shall be not more than five (5) minutes.
- 10.4 Upon a second warning from the umpire and a team has not made an acceptable effort to take the field, the umpire shall award a free kick to the opposing team. Should both teams be offending the umpire will pay a free kick to the 1<sup>st</sup> returning team.

## 11 AGE GROUPS

**Year 4 (Previously 9's)** Birth dates 01/07/2001 to 30/06/2002 – no minimum, unlimited reserves

**Year 5 (Previously 10's)** Birth dates 1/07/2000 to 30/06/2001 – no minimum, unlimited reserves

**Year 6 (Previously 11's)** Birth dates 1/07/1999 to 30/06/2000 – no minimum, unlimited reserves

**12** as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – no minimum, unlimited reserves

**13** as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – 18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

**14** as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – 18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

**15** as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – 18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

**16** as at 30<sup>th</sup> September – 18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

**17** as at 31st December – 18 per team, minimum 12, maximum 7 reserves

11.1 All players in the respective age groups who turn 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 years of age, respectively, between the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October and the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December in the current season have the option to play ONE age group down and will remain in the lower age group. \* Please refer to 11.2 for additional 16's/ 17's guidelines.

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

### 11.2 17's Age Group

11.2.1 In a district with a joint 16's and 17's competition the above rule will apply.

11.2.2 Any district with a standalone 17's competition, a player who turns 18 years of age between the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October and the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December in the current season have the option to play ONE age group down and will remain in the lower age group provided the following criteria is supplied and approved by the **JCC Executive**

11.2.3 A proven history of playing down for a minimum of three years between 13's to 16's (non medical).

11.2.4 Has not played in a 17's competition in the previous season.

11.2.5 All players details to be forwarded to the WAFC Manager WAFC Community Development by the JCC Executive.

11.3 Where players are playing down these players are deemed eligible for Fairest and Best voting.

11.4 While it is recommended that a player is registered with their own age group, a player may play up a maximum of ONE age group.

11.5 Any player registered to play in an older age group than their qualifying age group may not play down when their team has a bye without permission from the **JCC Executive**.

11.6 Also refer Bylaw 30 for Disability play down criteria

## 12 PHYSICAL SIZE & DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

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

12.1 Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by the sports physician(s) or doctor(s) that is specified by the District and addresses; Is less than sex maturity rating four (4), and falls below the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) percentile for height or weight.

- 12.2 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.
- 12.3 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has received permission to play.
- 12.4 Also refer Bylaw 30 for Disability play down criteria

## 13 INSURANCE

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

- 13.1 Public Liability to \$20,000,000
- 13.2 Professional Indemnity to \$2,000,000
  - 13.2.1 Death and Disablement cover to \$100,000 for Adults and \$10,000 for children.
  - 13.2.2 Sports Injury cover including 50% cover for non-Medicare medical benefits and an excess is payable.
  - 13.2.3 The minimums are included in the Bronze level cover provided under the AFL National Risk Protection Program for 2009. Silver & Gold cover is also available; this cover is at individual clubs discretion and upgrades are available at Club costs. The WAFC, on behalf of the Clubs, will include all Clubs in the annually negotiated national scheme and will advise them of the current terms and conditions as they apply.
  - 13.2.4 It is recommended that where possible each club explores additional insurance protection.

## 14 CLUB REGISTRARS

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

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

## 15 REGISTRATION

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

- 15.1 Name of club with which the player wishes to register.
- 15.2 Full name, address, telephone number and date of birth of the player to be registered.
- 15.3 Birth registration number
- 15.4 State or country of birth or other authentication of birth date, which shall be witnessed and confirmed by the Club Secretary or another authorised official.
- 15.5 Signature of the Club official taking such registration.
- 15.6 An indication from the player that he would be willing/not willing to be trained as an umpire of lower age groups.
- 15.7 Where players have indicated a willingness to be trained as an Umpire, a copy of their registration form shall be forwarded by the registrar to the Umpires Coach.
- 15.8 A liability disclaimer signed by a parent or guardian.
- 15.9 The completed form must be signed by a parent or guardian verifying registration details are true and correct.
- 15.10 Details of Schools attended.
- 15.11 A player's registration with a Club shall remain valid until he/she registers and receives a clearance to play football with another Club.
- 15.12 The club Registrar must enter all new player details onto a WAFC approved registration system. On receipt of a player's registration details the **JCC Registrar** must confirm details within 7 days. The **JCC Registrar** shall be notified forthwith at any changes of name, address of any players.
- 15.13 **FEMALES** - may participate in all levels of football. Females moving from AFL Junior to AFL Youth (12's to 13's) must be fully informed (in writing) of the changes regarding the physical nature of open rules before participating at this level. The responsible Club shall undertake notification. Females can play in all competitions up to and including 14's.

## 16 TRANSFERS

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

- 16.1 All applications for clearances to another Club must be lodged by the thirtieth day of June in each year.
- 16.2 A clearance lodged after June 30 may only be approved under special circumstances deemed appropriate by the Competition Director in consultation with WAFC (Manager Community Development).
- 16.3 All applications for clearances must be made on the registration system approved by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. A clearance application form must be signed by the player wishing to transfer and endorsed by his parent or guardian. The form will be retained by the club and provided on request.
- 16.4 Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Club and / or one District / Region.
- 16.5 A player transferred or cleared to a member Club shall be registered by such Club in the manner provided in By-Law 15.
- 16.6 The Club from which the clearance is requested, must:
  - 16.6.1 Note the receivable date of the clearance.
  - 16.6.2 If the clearance is granted, endorse the clearance form.
  - 16.6.3 Attach the player's history details to the approved clearance form.
  - 16.6.4 If the clearance is not granted, indicate the reason for refusing the clearance.
- 16.7 All clearances are to be lodged upon being signed by a player wishing to transfer between clubs. In the event that a Club does not deal with and return a clearance application within six (6) days of the received date noted on the form, the club seeking the clearance shall seek and obtain a clearance from the **JCC Registrar**. Cross district clearances should take no longer than 6 days.
- 16.8 A clearance to another Club may **only be refused** for the following reasons:
  - 16.8.1 The player has not paid registration fees or other monies owing to the Club, or
  - 16.8.2 The Player is under suspension by the Club for a breach of the Club rules, or
  - 16.8.3 Other reasons considered **valid** by the Club.
- 16.9 A player, for whom a clearance is refused, may satisfy the reason for refusal and seek another clearance, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 16.10 In the event of a dispute between clubs or players and clubs, The **JCC Executive** may adjudicate on any clearance application for a player as required.
- 16.11 A player who is under suspension by the Protests and Disputes board may be transferred to another Club ***PROVIDED HOWEVER*** that notification of such suspension is given to the transferee Club and the player continues to serve the full period of suspension.
- 16.12 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.
- 16.13 Any clearance disputed between two JCC's will be referred to WAFC- Manager Community Development for mediation.

## 17 MATCH DOCUMENTS

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

- 17.1 A team list using the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE approved registration program team sheet containing the following information:
  - a) The Club name and the age group of the team.
  - b) Date and venue for the match.
  - c) Surname and first name and jumper number of each player representing that Club in the match.
  - d) The name and accreditation of the Coach.
  - e) The name and accreditation of any Assistant Coaches.
  - f) The name of the appointed Team Runner(s).
  - g) The names of the team Water Person(s).
  - h) The signature of the Team Manager or another authorised team official.
  - i) The name of the appointed Interchange Steward.
  - j) Date of Birth.
  - k) Photo ID if applicable.
  - l) Match score.
  - m) Name of Trainer/Medical Attendant.
- 17.2 One fairest and best voting slip for age groups 13 years and older and one suitably marked envelope showing the names and age group of both competing teams and the date and venue for the match per approved **JCC** method.
- 17.3 Score cards: 2 for goal umpires and 1 for interchange steward / independent scorer in 13's Competitions upwards.
- 17.4 Goal umpires and interchange steward / independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter and otherwise carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL laws of the game.
- 17.5 Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the interchange steward and/or independent scorer, with the scorecard of the interchange steward and / or independent scorer being deemed as the official score.
- 17.6 The Team Manager or other appointed official or umpire shall after the conclusion of the match return all completed match documents duly endorsed "all clear" (except where a report has occurred) and signed by the field umpires verifying their correctness. These match documents must be returned to the **JCC Registrar** using the **JCC** designated delivery process.
- 17.7 Players may only take the field if they are listed on the match sheet and in attendance at the game.
- 17.8 Late arriving players **cannot** take to the field until presented to the umpires at the next break between quarters. Late arriving players **SHALL NOT** enter the playing field **after half time**.

## 18 CLUB OFFICIALS

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

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

## 19 TEAM OFFICIALS

Each competing team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game.

- 19.1 The home team will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire, and be deemed to be the official time keeper
- 19.2 All coaching staff and team officials are **not** permitted to intimidate, dispute decisions or interfere with the Umpire or his role on the day of the match.
  - 19.2.1 **All Coaching staff must remain within the coaches' box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches box. Coaching staff may only exit the coaching box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the game.**
- 19.3 Each competing youth age team shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and maturity to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game.
- 19.4 Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be an adult who will wear the approved white attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. The goal umpire will also be supplied with a scorecard in youth matches.
  - 19.4.1 The goal umpires in the Youth competition will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with interchange Stewards at all major breaks.
  - 19.4.2 At the conclusion of the game they will date and sign the scorecards and hand same to the field umpire.
  - 19.4.3 The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to by-law 20.1).
- 19.5 It shall be the responsibility of the Home team to provide an interchange steward (youth only). In the event an Interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of send off details and make notes of any issue that would usually be the responsibility of an Interchange Steward.
- 19.6 Any team runner shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved JCC uniform.
  - 19.6.1 Year 4 (Prev 9's) teams are NOT permitted to have a runner. The coach is permitted to be on the ground during the game. The coach is **NOT** permitted to carry water. The Coach is **not** permitted to carry a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant.
  - 19.6.2 Each team in Year 5 (Prev 10's), Year 6's and 12's, is permitted to appoint one team runner.
  - 19.6.3 Youth teams may appoint two runners with only **one** permitted on the field of play at any time.
  - 19.6.4 Runners for teams in the Junior/Youth competition **ARE NOT** permitted to carry water.
  - 19.6.5 Team runners **are not** permitted to remain on the playing arena. Team runners are to deliver message/s from the coach to a player (s) and return immediately to the coach's bench via the interchange. **Team runners are not permitted to "coach" whilst on the ground.**
  - 19.6.6 Team runners must enter and exit the playing arena through the interchange area at all times.
  - 19.6.7 Team runners shall be an adult.
  - 19.6.8 Team runners' names are to be entered onto team sheet.

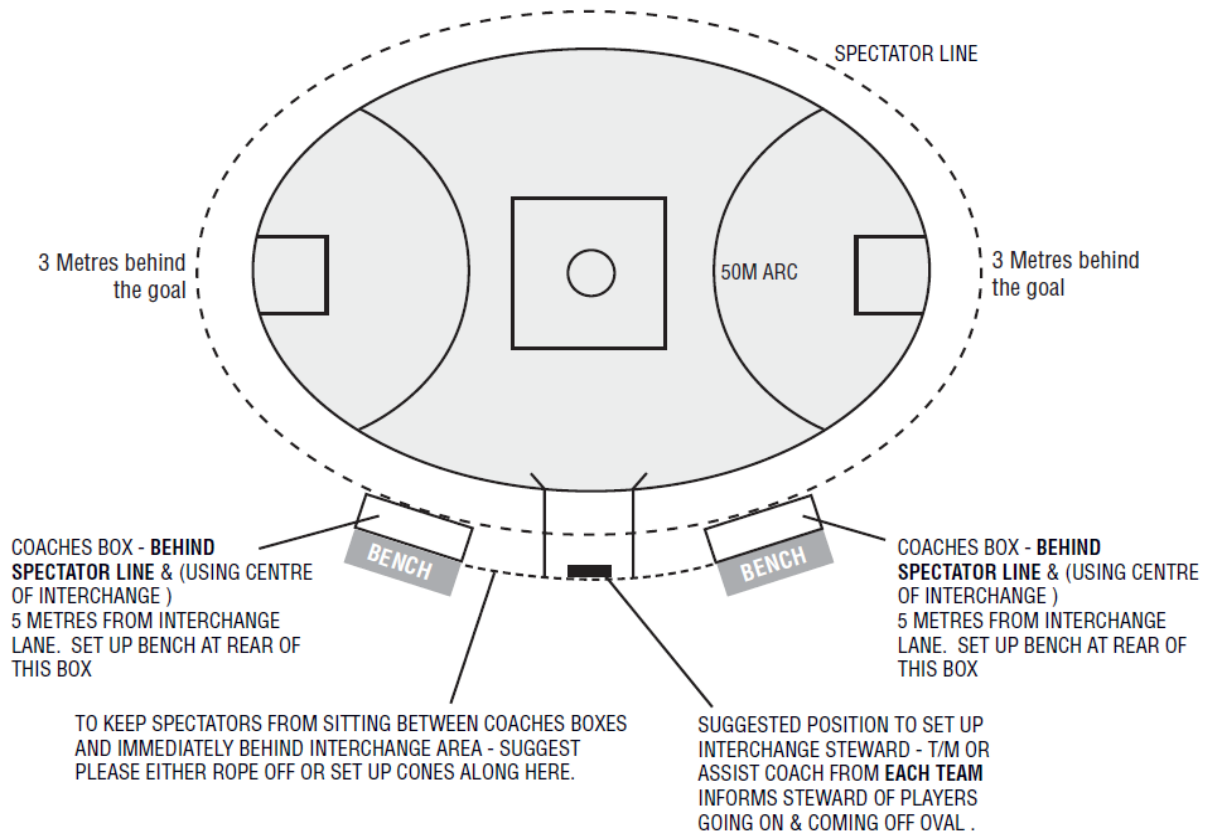
- 19.7 Each team in the Youth competition are permitted to have two (2) water carriers. These persons shall be clearly identified by wearing approved **JCC** uniform. Additional water carriers can be applied for at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 19.7.1 Water carriers **ARE NOT** to become involved in any capacity in on field coaching. Water carriers are permitted for all age groups. One only per team in Year 4 (Prev 9's) – 12's and a maximum of two per team for 13 – 17's.
- 19.7.2 Water carriers should be an adult.
- 19.7.3 Water carriers' name(s) is to be entered on to both team sheets.
- 19.8 Each team, where possible, shall provide a team medical officer / sports trainer.
- 19.8.1 The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved **JCC** uniform.
- 19.8.2 The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher.
- 19.8.3 Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer / sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer / sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams.
- 19.8.4 It is recommended that all medical / trainers be a minimum Basic First Aid Certificate.
- 19.9 A player or team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the rules or By-laws of the **DFDC/JCC** may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition.
- 19.10 All team participants, team officials, parents, spectators and club officials are expected to adhere to the following, (As per 40.3), WA Football supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of umpiring or officials abuse. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and sanctions directed at the person responsible, the team and possibly the club.
- 19.10.1 Penalty for breach - Any Club, player or team official considered by the **JCC Executive** to be in breach of this bylaw, may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the **JCC Executive** according to its agreed penalties.

## 20 GROUND PREPARATION

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

- 20.1 The oval shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game, which shall include a spectator line at least 2 metres outside the boundary line and 3 metres behind the goals. **Please note** the Coaches Box cannot be marked in front of the spectator's line.
- 20.2 For AFL Juniors matches the field dimensions shall not exceed 110m in length and 80m in width.
- 20.3 For the 13's age group the recommended field dimensions are 140m in length and 120m in width but shall not exceed 150m in length and 130m in width.
- 20.4 For all other Youth age matches the dimensions can range between 135m to 185m in length and 110m to 155m in width.
- 20.5 Penalty for any failure to prepare ovals to the required size could include Premiership points (refer Bylaw 20.13).
- 20.6 A clearly identified coaches and players box shall be marked no less than five (5) metres from either side of the interchange area in 10's and above. This must be marked in paint. Where this is not possible cones may be used with permission from the **JCC Executive**.
  - 20.6.1 The dimensions of the box shall be as per Coaches box dimensions and placement in by law 21
- 20.7 Game does not commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Laws of Australian Football – Law 3.5.2.
- 20.8 Have access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.
- 20.9 Provide a stretcher.
- 20.10 Provide ice for medical treatment/s.
- 20.11 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.
- 20.12 A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate JLT ground report form completed. If in the event that a AFL Youth game is played following an AFL Junior or Auskick game and or weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that game commencing and be documented.
- 20.13 Penalty for breach - Any Club, player or team official considered by the **JCC Executive** to be in breach of any of By-laws 20, may be fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by the **JCC Executive** according to its agreed penalties.

## 21 Coaching Box diagram - dimension and placement



## 22 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

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

22.1 The following players shall be classified as ineligible:

22.1.1. A player not properly registered with a member Club and the **JCC**.

22.1.2A player who is over the age limit for any particular game UNLESS that player has a disability or *meets the physical size and development criteria* AND is granted permission by the **JCC Executive** to play down in that particular grade pursuant to By-law 12 and 30.

22.1.3 A player who is under suspension.

21.1.1A player who in the opinion of an appropriate medical authority has suffered concussion, should not play the following week i.e. stand out 1 week, provided the Club has been informed and whom such authority to play has not subsequently cleared.

21.1.2A player who has not received a lawful clearance or permit from another affiliated club or another DFDC with which he/she was previously registered.

21.1.3 Only players that actually participate in the match can be listed on the team sheet.

22.2 In an endeavour to ensure that a player who is suspended for a significant period of time does not play in any other DFDC/JCC or affiliated competition (all of WA), players who are suspended, accepting of a prescribed penalty, or found guilty in affiliated competitions shall be reported by the Tribunal Secretary or Competition Director to the WAFC (Manager Community Development) for circulation to all other affiliated bodies.

22.3 If a team, which included a player who was ineligible to play, the team shall forfeit the match and the match shall be awarded to the opposing team as per By Law 24 and 22.4.

22.3.2 Should the opposing team also play an ineligible player in the same match no score or points shall be awarded to either team. Additional penalties including fines may be administered at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**

22.4 Penalty for breach – Refer By-Law 24 Forfeits.

## 23 QUALIFYING ROUNDS

- 23.1 In 13's upward each qualifying round match, four premierships points shall be awarded to the winning team and two points shall be awarded to each team in a drawn match.
- 23.1.1 Exemptions to by-law 23.1 will be granted to Districts adopting a pilot or permanent enviropoint (bonus point game).
- 23.2 If a winning teams margin exceeds 10 goals the team will only be credited with a maximum of 60 points (10 goals) winning margin.
- 23.3 Where equality in total premierships points occurs at the conclusion of the qualifying round, the position of a team shall be decided on percentage calculated by a formula in which the total number of points scored by the team shall be multiplied by 100 and divided by the total number of points scored against the team.
- 23.4 In the event that uneven matches are played, a match ratio shall apply to the premierships table. Please refer to Sporting Pulse.
- 23.5 In terms of equal opportunity (Player Rotation) Players ***must play*** at least 50% of the match (Qualifying) and (Finals).

## 24 FORFEITS

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

- 24.1 Where a team fails to appear or where a team forfeits a match, full premierships (4) points shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
- 24.2 The team receiving the forfeit should be credited with 60 points.
- 24.3 The team that forfeited the match shall be credited 0 points.
- 24.4 In the case of a forfeited match, team lists showing the names of all players of both teams in attendance shall be submitted to the field umpire.
- 24.5 In the event of any forfeit both Clubs involved shall advise the **JCC Executive** in writing within forty eight (48) hours of the date of the match and include the reasons for the forfeit.
- 24.6 The **JCC Executive** shall be empowered to fine either or both Clubs if in its opinion the reasons given for the forfeit are not acceptable.
- 24.7 Any Club that forfeits any match and any club that fails to adhere to By-law 24.4 shall be fined or otherwise penalised, at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 24.8 All players listed on both team sheets shall be credited as having played that game for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records.

## 25 GAME DAY PLAYER EVEN UP

Player even up must be applied for the entire game including finals. Please refer to Bylaw 25.3.1 re: Red / Yellow cards. This section makes provisions for increased player welfare.

- 25.1 Modified Rules Football - A match of modified football (Year 4 (Prev 9)–Under 12's):
  - 25.1.1 has no minimum number of players; and
  - 25.1.2 the even up rule will apply when one or two teams have less than 15 players; and
  - 25.1.3 all additional players will be offered to the lesser numbered team; and
  - 25.1.4 each team shall have even numbers of players until teams comprise of 15 players.
  - 25.1.5 Junior Bylaw procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
  
- 25.2 Youth Rules Football
  - A match of Youth football (Under 13's – Under 17's):
  - 25.2.1 has minimum and maximum player numbers; and
  - 25.2.2 the even up rule will apply when one or two teams have less than 18 players; and
  - 25.2.3 an even number of players from both teams are to start the match on the field; and
  - 25.2.4 If a side can only field between 12 and 17 players the coach with the greater number of players must offer all additional players to the lesser numbered team to field up to the maximum of 18 players per team; and
  - 25.2.5 Players must be rotated so that no single player plays more than 1 quarter per match for the opposition team.
  - 25.2.6 Junior By Law procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
  - 25.2.7 Any team that refuses the even up provisions will be deemed as losing the game and forfeiting any points and percentages earned during that game.
  - 25.2.8 A Club, in which any one of their coach refuses the even up provisions will be required to explain as to why a team/ or club will not be penalized.

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

- 25.3 Penalties - Even Up penalties are as follows:
  - 25.3.1 Junior Bylaw procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red cards
  - 25.3.2 Any team that refuses the even up provisions will be deemed as losing the game and forfeiting any points and percentages earned during that game.
  - 25.3.3 A Club, in which any one of their coach refuses the even up provisions will be required to explain as to why a team/ or club will not be penalized.
  - 25.3.4 Any coach who disregards this rule will be issued with deregistration citations as stated in this manual
  - 25.3.5 Any Club, player or team official, considered by the JCC Executive to be in breach of any part of By-Law 25, may be fined, deregistered, suspended or otherwise penalized as decided by the JCC Executive according to its agreed penalties.

## 26 REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM ARENA

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

## 27 SOCIAL MATCHES / INTER / INTRA CLUB & SCRATCH MATCHES

The **JCC Executive** may approve the arrangement of social matches or excursions for teams of registered players PROVIDED always that: Each member Club shall, if possible have an equal or near equal number of representatives in such match or excursion.

- 27.1 Players and team officials shall be sent on such terms as may be decided by the **JCC Executive**.
- 27.2 If not set by the **JCC Executive** the rules for such matches may be agreed upon by the competing teams.
- 27.3 All details of such matches, including intended time, date, location and age group, are to be forwarded to the Competition Director for approval prior to the match. Approval will only be given for such matches if the ages of all players are the same.

## 28 ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

- 28.1 To be eligible to take part in any final round match (Finals) the player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season.
- 28.2 For a player to be eligible to take part in any final round match in a higher age group the player must have:
  - 28.2.1 Played a minimum of four games in that higher age group between 30 June and the completion of the final qualifying round for the higher age group of that season. All four games must be played between the mentioned dates.
- 28.3 A player is deemed to be a permanent player of a higher age group and ineligible to take part in any lower age final round match if:
  - 28.3.1 The player has played a minimum of 5 games for that season for a higher age group; or
  - 28.3.2 The player has played a minimum of 4 games between 30 June and the completion of the final qualifying round for the higher age group of that season. All four games must be played between the mentioned dates.
- 28.4 WAFL Colts Players who have played at least half of the total matches in the qualifying rounds of that season for a team with a junior club may participate in one (1) only junior club team for finals competition.
  - 28.4.1 WAFL Colts players whom play for their WAFL club must have written permission from the designated WAFL Club Representative of that club to be released to play with their junior team. Permits are to be placed in game day envelope with Team Sheets.
- 28.5 If a club allows an unregistered or ineligible player to play in any team in a final round game the team will be disqualified and the game awarded to the opposing team. In the event both teams play an unregistered or ineligible player the JCC Executive may penalise both teams and award the fixture to the next placed participants.
- 28.6 Any club that breaches any subsections under by-law 28 may be fined or penalised at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 28.7 Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of that season through participation in any WAFL State program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season.

## 29 FINAL ROUND MATCHES

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

- 29.1 Where there are six (6) teams or less in the competition, a final four (4) will be played.
  - 29.1.1 First Semi Final - team finishing in third position (the “home” team) shall play the team finishing in fourth position (the “visiting” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Preliminary final.
  - 29.1.2 Second Semi Final - team finishing in first position (the “home” team) shall play the team finishing in second position (“visiting” team) with the loser advancing to the Preliminary Final and the winner to the Grand Final.
  - 29.1.3 Preliminary Final - winner of First Semi Final (“visiting” team) shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
  - 29.1.4 Grand Final - winner of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final (“visiting” team) with the winner becoming the Premiership team for that grade until the next Grand Final in the following season.
- 29.2 Where there are seven (7) teams or more in the competition, a final five (5) may be played at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
  - 29.2.1 Elimination Final - team finishing in fourth position (“home” team) shall play the team finishing in fifth position (“visiting” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the First Semi Final.
  - 29.2.2 Qualifying Final - team finishing in second position (“home” team) shall play the team finishing in third position (“visiting” team) with the loser advancing to the First Semi Final and the winner advancing to the Second Semi Final.
  - 29.2.3 First Semi Final - team winning the Elimination Final (“visiting” team) shall play the team losing the Qualifying Final (“home” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Preliminary Final.
  - 29.2.4 Second Semi Final - team winning the Qualifying Final (“visiting” team) shall play the team finishing in first position (“home” team) with the loser advancing to the Preliminary Final and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
  - 29.2.5 Preliminary Final - winner of First Semi Final (“visiting” team) shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
  - 29.2.6 Grand Final - winner of the Second Semi Final (“home” team) shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final (“visiting” team) with the winner becoming the Premiership team for that grade until the next Grand Final in the following season.
- 29.3 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.
- 29.4 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.
- 29.5 At the end of the game there will be a **2min** break between fulltime and the commencement of the extra time. (Coaches allowed on field at this time)

- 29.6 After the completion of the first 5min of extra time it is a straight change over no coaching staff on the field
- 29.7 The **JCC Executive** shall endeavour to appoint Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires and Goal Umpires for all final round matches.
- 29.8 Plate Finals may at the discretion of the **JCC Executive** be played amongst the remaining teams (provided that there are four or more teams) finishing after those teams that qualify for the final round.

## 30 DISABILITY

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

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

## 31 PROTECTIVE GEAR

- 31.1 A player who desires to wear protective headgear during a match must wear a Sports Physician or Doctor approved headgear.
- 31.2 Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
- 31.2.1 Where a player is aware that he has an actual or potential disability or medical condition which could result in injury respect of which he is required or a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying that the player will, in the view of the medical practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from the **JCC Registrar**.
- 31.3 Player's not suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition:
- 31.3.1 Forms are available from the **JCC Registrar**, which requires a parent or guardian to state that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical condition, which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the said protective headgear.
- 31.4 The **JCC Executive** form approving the wearing of the headgear must be shown to the umpire before each match and approved in writing by the **JCC Executive**. The umpire is authorised to forbid the player from participating in the game if the form of approval is not shown
- 31.5 The **JCC Executive** strongly advocates the wearing of protective mouth guards by all players in all matches.
- 31.6 The **JCC Executive** does not recommend the wearing of playing gloves; these should only be worn on the recommendation of a sports physician or Doctor, supported by a valid medical certificate and approved in writing by the **JCC Executive**.
- 31.7 Players are not permitted to wear a Plaster Cast during the course of a game.
- 31.8 Players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.
- 31.9 Players, Runners, Water Carriers and Trainers / Medical are not to wear jewellery including wrist bracelets.
- 31.10 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.

## 32 FOOTBALLS

Each competing team shall supply a **leather** football of a size approved for that age group, and be in premium condition and ready for match play. The ball shall also be a WAFC agreed sponsored brand. In Grand Finals, All footballs shall be new.

- 32.1 The home teams shall provide the match ball.
  - 32.1.1 The away team are to provide a suitable spare football.
- 32.2 Football of the following sizes are approved for the use in the respective age groups:
  - 32.2.1 Size 2 ('Mini League'/'Mini Team') for Year 4 (Prev 9's) and Year 5 (Prev 10's)
  - 32.2.2 Size 3 ('Little League'/'Junior Team') for Year 6's and 12s.
  - 32.2.3 Size 4 ('School League'/'School Team') for 13s, 14s and 15s.
  - 32.2.4 Size 5 ('League'/'Senior Team') for 16s and 17s.

## 33 USE OF STRETCHER/ INJURED PLAYERS

In all games including finals:

- 33.1 Any player who in the opinion of the injured player's team officials requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended by a suitably trained and certified medical officer in the practice of use of a stretcher prior to removal of that player.
  - 33.1.1 UNLESS the player is capable and conscious enough to place themselves on the stretcher without assistance.
- 33.2 The timekeeper shall stop the clock at the time a stretcher crosses the boundary line and the field umpire has called time, and shall restart the clock at the time the field umpire recommences play and calls time on and the timekeeper shall also record the time out and the time of the quarter at which point the clock was stopped.
  - 33.2.1 In the event that the time taken to attend to the injured player exceeds 10 minutes from the time out the following will apply.
    - a) If the quarter ends during the delay: - time will be called for the quarter and play will recommence for the next quarter.
    - b) If the final quarter is in progress and the stretcher is called for, the remaining time will be played out.
  - 33.2.2 If the stretcher has been called for by an authorised person, then the player will be removed from the playing field via the most direct route for play to recommence and the injured player may be replaced through the interchange.
  - 33.2.3 Only authorised persons are permitted to enter the field of play and no team meetings or coaching is permitted during this time. Players must remain in their positions ready for commencement of play.
  - 33.2.4 Should a coach enter the field of play during a stretcher call and in the opinion of the umpire was doing so in order to provide instruction. A free kick will be awarded to the opposing side in front of goal at the end of the 10 metre square. (This rule will not apply if the 10 minutes or quarter break becomes enforced).
  - 33.2.5 Should both teams' coaches enter the field of play for the purpose of giving instruction, play will resume as would be the case under the rules of the game and both teams will

have a severe fine imposed at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.

- 33.3 Umpires will report all stretcher call outs and the outcomes on the match documentation.
- 33.4 If a player is removed from the field on a stretcher then that player will not take any further part in the game whatsoever.
- 33.5 If, in the opinion of a field umpire or team medical officer, a player cannot be moved from the field of play due to the severity of an injury, then play may be abandoned for the game at the discretion of a meeting between the 2 Team Managers and the Field Umpire and or any league appointed official and or any league appointed official and or a **JCC Executive** if present.
  - 33.5.1 The **JCC Executive** shall be advised of any such abandonment for the purpose of either rescheduling the fixture or determining a result according to the progress score and point of the game at which the game was abandoned.
  - 33.5.2 For all final round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by the **JCC Executive** or their appointed officials.
  - 33.5.3 Injured players must depart through the interchange or they are not permitted to return to the field. (Refer Bylaw 33.2)
- 33.6 Any player whose weight is supported by any person/s propping them up, examples includes being Fireman Chaired Off to be treated, for any part of the journey off the field are deemed as Stretched. (EG Player is not capable of bearing their own weight)

## 34 BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS

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

- (a) is bleeding; or
- (b) Has blood on any part of his/her person or uniform.

34.1 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:

- 34.1.1 On observing that a player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the player is covered in blood, the field umpire shall direct such player to leave the field immediately a break in play arises (i.e. score, free kick, mark, field bounce, boundary throw in).
- 34.1.2 When a boundary, goal or emergency umpire observes the need for this rule to be implemented, at the first possible break in play they will alert the field umpire.
- 34.1.3 Only the field umpires can direct a player to leave the playing field, thereby ensuring the team is not disadvantaged by playing one team member short for any period of time.
- 34.1.4 Any player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field, however his replacement must enter through the interchange area.
- 34.1.5 Field Umpire in control of play shall give the replacement player reasonable time to take up his/her position prior to play recommencing.
- 34.1.6 When the injured player wishes to resume playing, he must enter through the interchange area (i.e. his / her playing number may have changed).
- 34.1.7 A player, who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire given in accordance with this policy, shall be reported by the umpire for misconduct in that he / she refused to leave the field.

34.2 A player shall immediately upon a direction by a field umpire, leave the playing arena, where such umpire is of the opinion that the player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his / her person or uniform. Upon being directed to leave the playing arena, a player shall not return to take any further part in any match until and unless:

- a) the cause of any such bleeding has been abated;
- b) the injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood is visible;
- c) any bloodstained article of uniform has been removed and replaced;
- d) Any blood on any part of a player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

## 35 AWARDS

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

- 35.1 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**.
- 35.2 The voting slip shall show:
  - 35.2.1 Age group date and venue of match.
  - 35.2.2 Surname, initial, club and jumper number of the three (3) selected players.
- 35.3 The Field Umpire shall sign across the seal of the envelope after inserting the voting slip
- 35.4 The **JCC Executive** shall appoint a person to whom the envelopes containing the fairest and best votes are to be entrusted and shall decide the manner in which those envelopes are to be stored.
- 35.5 The **JCC Registrar** shall decide on the place and date where all envelopes containing fairest and best voting slips are to be opened and all votes counted in a manner prescribed and by persons appointed by the **JCC Executive**.
  - 35.5.1 The player who polls the highest number of votes in each competition shall be adjudged the 'Fairest and Best' player of that competition.
  - 35.5.2 The player who polls the next highest number of votes shall be adjudged the 'Runner Up Fairest and Best'.
  - 35.5.3 In the event of an equality of votes then two or more trophies shall be presented.
- 35.6 Where discrepancies in names or other details occur on the voting slip it shall be checked against the team sheet for the relevant match to clarify the information.
- 35.7 The **JCC Executive** may at its discretion allow a Donor or Donors to donate or establish a trophy or award in the form approved by the **JCC Executive** and bearing the name of the Donor or Donors.
- 35.8 The following awards and trophies shall be presented by the **JCC** each year:
  - 35.8.1 **JCC** 'Fairest and Best' and "Runner Up Fairest and Best" awards to the player or players who poll the highest number of umpires votes in each age group in open rules competition.
  - 35.8.2 **JCC** award to the player selected by the Field Umpire or a specially appointed panel, as the case may be, as the Fairest and Best player in the Grand Final of each competition.
  - 35.8.3 Pennants and/or medallions for the team, which wins the Grand Final in each age group in open rules competition.
  - 35.8.4 Any other awards or trophies as the **JCC Executive** shall think fit.
- 35.9 No Junior or Youth Player is to receive cash / cheque / monies as payment or incentive or reward for playing football in under age competition.
  - 35.9.1 Vouchers from a sponsor or the club canteen are the preferred incentive method.

## **36 CROSS DISTRICT PROTOCOLS**

### **36.1 The Agreement**

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

### **36.2 Bylaws**

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

### **36.3 Considerations**

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

### **36.4 Meetings**

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

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

### **36.5 Management**

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

### **36.6 Fairest & Best**

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

### **36.7 Presentation nights**

- 36.7.1 Invitation will be allocated to members of the executive from the other JCC District to the presentation night.

### **36.8 Tribunal**

- 36.8.1 One Secretary will be appointed, jointly funded if both districts play every age in cross district.
- 36.8.2 Standard guidelines apply
- 36.8.3 Two Chairman one from each district will be appointed.
- 36.8.4 Each district to provide panel members for the Tribunal Secretary to draw from.
- 36.8.5 An impartial Chairman will be appointed when any conflict of interest is declared by a sitting Chairman.

### **36.9 Finances**

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

### **36.10 Fixtures**

- 36.10.1 Who, When, How must be agreed. (View point 11)
- 36.10.2 Consideration for individual Club canteens needs to be prioritized.
- 36.10.3 Flexibility must be given to allow start time & day variation.
- 36.10.4 Consideration of individual district requirements such as PSA and combined trips.
- 36.10.5 Set timeline for fixtures must be agreed upon
- 36.10.6 Special Fixturing consideration must be allowed for AFL/WAFL curtain raisers, Fremantle Youth League and other partner ventures.
- 36.10.7 Balance for districts (umpire numbers)
- 36.10.8 Appoint a finals coordinator, and allocate responsibilities.

### **36.11 Registrars**

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

### **36.12 Umpires**

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

### **36.13 Game day**

- 36.13.1 Goal umpires, Boundary umpires, Runners, Medical person and Water carriers to wear (vest or what is decided article of distinction) that are similar in both districts.
- 36.13.2 Stretchers to be placed in a similar or agreed position at all grounds, known to all participating clubs.
- 36.13.3 Third score card to be held by timekeepers (home)

### **36.14 Exemptions to bylaws**

36.14.1 Must be agreed by both DFDC/ JCC

### **36.15 Disputes**

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

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

### **36.16 Length of agreement**

36.16.1 The Cross District agreement for the term of one season, with a full review at the season's end.

### **36.17 Sign Off**

36.17.1 DFDC Chairman, Competition Directors and WAFC must sign a MOU.

## **37 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.

## **38 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.

- 38.1 **The JCC Competition Director** or designated JCC member will consult with the WAFC Manager, Community Development, in the first instance of doubt.
- 38.2 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.
- 38.3 Any variation (exemptions) to these By Laws must be submitted to the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE via the WAFC Manager, Community Development for ratification prior to implementation.
- 38.4 The **JCC Executive** will circulate any authorised exemptions to these bylaws prior to the commencement of the football season.

## **39 PUBLIC STATEMENT**

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

## 40 UMPIRES

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

- 40.1 The WAFC GM Umpiring, in consultation with WAFC Manager Community Development shall fix the maximum fee for umpires annually. This must be done by September 30<sup>th</sup> each year.
- 40.2 Any Club or team official, registered player or spectator who makes any comment about an umpire or the performance of an umpire in any way other than in writing to the Umpires Coach shall be subject to a fine or other penalty to be imposed at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 40.3 WA Football supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of umpiring or officials abuse. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and sanctions directed at the person responsible, the team and possibly the club.
- 40.4 Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of fairest and best votes.
- 40.5 An umpire appointed under By-Law 40.4 shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments.
- 40.6 All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.
- 40.7 The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts and the outcomes, on the match documentation.
- 40.8 The collection of match documents is at the discretion of the **JCC Executive**.
- 40.9 Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match. The **JCC Executive** and **DFDC Chairman** are also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.
- 40.10 Umpires match payments are to be paid in cash with 50% paid by each team. In the event of a forfeit, Umpires will still be required to be remunerated. (50% paid by each team)
- 40.11 The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.
- 40.12 Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.

## 41 STANDARD ORDER OFF RULE

### 41.1 The Yellow Cards



FRONT OF THE  
YELLOW CARD

BACK OF THE  
YELLOW CARD

## 41.2 The Red Cards



FRONT OF THE  
RED CARD

BACK OF THE RED  
CARD

## 42 UNAUTHORISED ENCROACHMENT

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

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

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

## 43 REPORTS

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

- (a) Field Umpire
- (b) Umpires' Coach whilst in an observing capacity
- (c) Boundary umpires if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (d) Goal umpires if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (e) Stewards if officially appointed by the **JCC**
- (f) Any member of the **JCC Executive**
- (g) DFDC Chairman
- (h) Emergency Umpires (Officially appointed)
- (i) WAFC Manager – Community Development
- (j) WAFC Consultant - Coaching
- (k) Designated WAFC consultants registered with WAFC - Manager Community Development.

43.2 Goal and boundary Umpires (as appointed by the **JCC** ) and members of the **JCC** and **DFDC Chairman**, shall advise the field umpire of their intention to report any offence or incident prior to the commencement of the next quarter of the game.

43.3 Officially appointed Goal, boundary umpire, **JCC** or steward must record in both team sheets the details of the report / offence, their authority, their name and signature.

43.4 Any player or official, who is to be reported, must be advised of such report prior to the commencement of the next quarter of the game, unless the offence occurs in the final quarter in which case advice to the Team Manager when passing on the official report sheet shall suffice.

43.5 Reports can also be instigated as a result of any special investigation tribunal or committee as per by-law 45.

## **44 REPORTED PLAYERS, OFFICIALS, Club Members & Spectators**

- 44.1 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator against whom any charge has been proved at a hearing of the P&D Board or received a prescribed penalty during the current season is ineligible for any Fairest and Best award. Any player who has been sent from the ground three (3) times during the season is automatically suspended for one week and as a result shall be disqualified from participation in the voting for any Fairest and Best award.
- 44.2 Any player, official or club member suspended by either a tribunal or prescribed penalty will not be permitted to play, coach or participate in any capacity, in any affiliated district competition including schools, senior metropolitan community football or regional football, for the duration of the penalty. The reverse also applies.
- 44.3 Any Player, Official or Club member reported or in receipt of a prescribed penalty notice, is not to play or act in any official capacity until such time as the charge has been dealt with. Should a player or official receive the same from an affiliated competition then the same applies.
- 44.4 Any Player, Official or Club Member 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.
- 44.5 A Player or Official found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Tribunal or JCC, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match Days while the penalty remains unserved.

## 45 PROTESTS & DISPUTES, TRIBUNAL, INVESTIGATIONS PANELS & SPECIAL PANELS

The JCC may instigate any investigation

- 45.1 A Protests & Disputes Tribunal will be convened by the JCC Executive. From time to time the JCC executive may also convene an Special Tribunal, Investigation panel or Special panel and may instruct these panels or tribunals to conduct special investigative business on behalf of the JCC Executive.
- 45.2 Please refer to Bylaw 49 for Policy & Guidelines. The JCC Exec can modify the range of recommended penalties in special circumstances in consultation with the WAFC Manager Community Development and can instruct any P&D, Tribunal, Investigation Panel or Special Panel to apply these modified penalties.
- 45.3 Clubs may appeal to the JCC Executive (Refer Bylaw 48.4) against the severity of tribunal penalties in writing, accompanied by new evidence and a \$250.00 non-refundable fee within forty eight (48) hours of receiving notification of the original penalty. The JCC may refer these appeals to the WAFC Manager Community Development.
- 45.4 Tribunal Secretary shall inform all participants of the final outcome of any protests or appeals
- 45.5 The WAFC Manager Community Development will provide interpretive directions to the JCC/DFDC as required by the JCC/DFDC
- 45.6 The JCC executive/ DFDC can refer specific cases to be independently managed by the WAFC Manager Community Development.
- 45.7 Evidence collected from Social Networking sites, web sites, electronic media and other related communication platforms can be presented as evidence in tribunals, investigations and hearings.

## 46 STEWARDS

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

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

## 47 PENALTIES

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

- (a) Breaches of Bylaws, Codes, Policy, laws or related WAFC/DFDC/JCC management documents.
- (b) The playing of an ineligible player in any match.
- (c) Failure to supply a team list for each match with legible and positive identification of players taking part in that match.
- (d) Failure to pay all prescribed team fees within thirty (30) days of due date.
- (e) Failure to supply match records or any other documents as may be required by the **JCC Executive**.
- (f) Any breach of any code of conduct as compiled by the WAFC FOOTBALL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.
- (g) Any fine imposed on a member Club under these By-laws shall be paid within thirty (30) days of demand and any club which fails to comply with this By-law shall be ineligible to vote at the AGM of the DFDC and to take any further part in any competition until fines have been paid in full.
- (h) For a club to participate in any finals, a club **MUST** be financial with JCC, DFDC and WAFC.

## 48 COMPLAINTS & APPEALS

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

## **49 WA Football Tribunal Protocol and Guidelines**

### **Standard Tribunal Guidelines and Penalties for Community Football** **(Incorporating the Community Football Council, WA Country Football League and District Development Council Junior Competitions)**

#### **GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING A TRIBUNAL**

##### **1. BACKGROUND**

As described on page 10 of the Laws of Australian Football, the Purpose of the Laws explain how the game is played and seeks to attain the objectives of ensuring the game is played in a fair manner and spirit of true sportsmanship; and to prevent injuries to players where it can be reasonably achieved, considering the body contact nature of the sport.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WAFC Manager Community Development will oversee these Tribunal Protocols.

###### **2.1 INTERPRETATION**

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

- 2.1.1 Words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- 2.1.2 Words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;
- 2.1.3 "Including" and similar words are not words of limitation;
- 2.1.4 Words terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these guidelines shall be given their ordinary meaning.
- 2.1.5 Any report, charge or notice of report shall be deemed to and be read as alleging that the conduct was either intentional, reckless or negligent.

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

## 2.2 EXPECTATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 3. DEFINITIONS:

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

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

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

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

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

**Intentional conduct:** means a deliberate action

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **4. TRIBUNAL GUIDELINES**

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

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

#### **5 PROCEDURES FOR ADVOCATES**

5.1 ELIGIBILITY: An Advocate may be any person representing a witness but shall not be a Legal Practitioner

5.2 DUTIES:

- (a) Arrange for reported player and any witnesses to be present at the Tribunal hearing at the allocated time.
- (b) Prior to the hearing, assist the player or witness to fully prepare his account of the incident.
- (c) Make submissions on the penalty if the report is upheld.

5.3 ADVOCATES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO:

- (a) Directly ask questions of his clubs' player or witnesses.
- (b) Directly Cross-examine umpires or witnesses.
- (c) Make submissions as to guilt or otherwise.

5.4 CROSS EXAMINATION:

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

#### **6 TRIBUNAL MEMBERS AND TRIBUNAL ROOM SETUP**

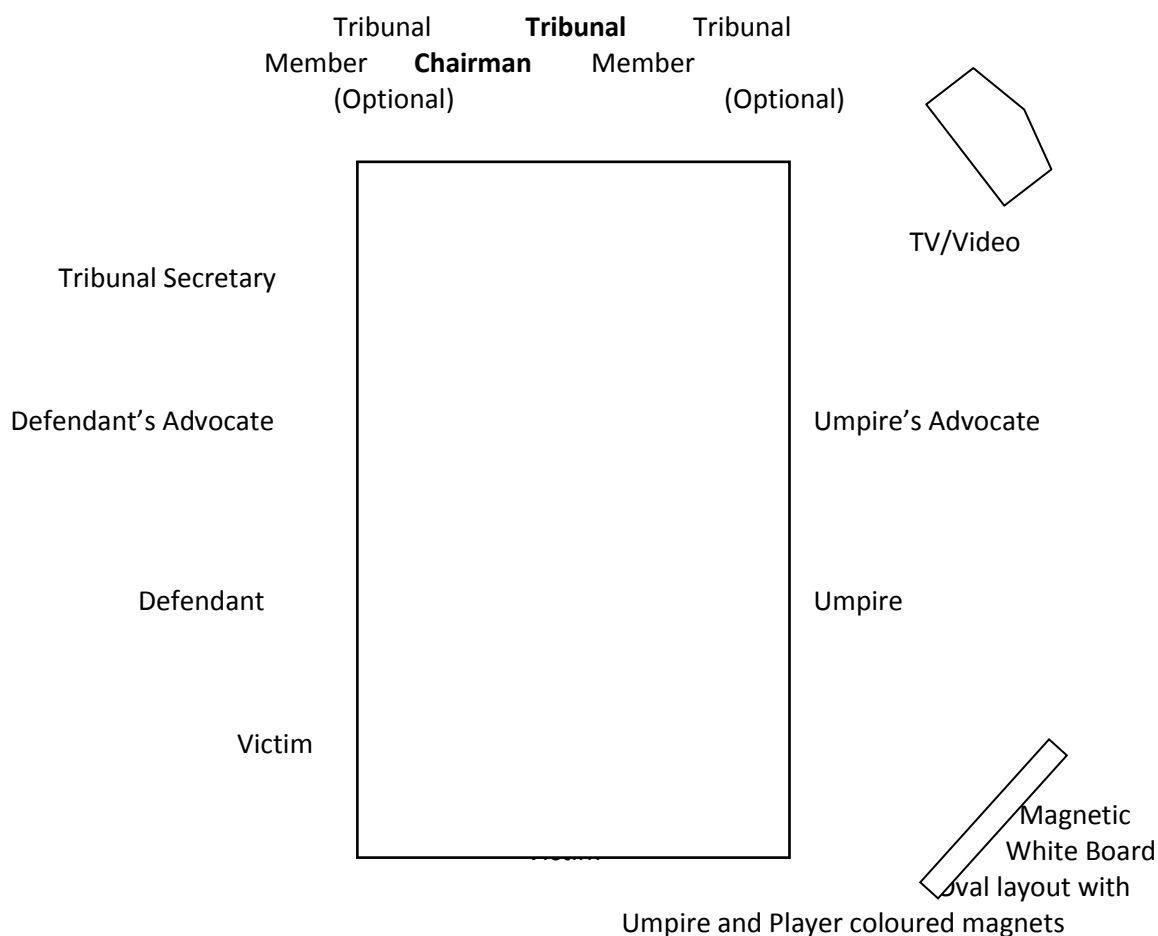
The **Tribunal** shall comprise of a Chairman and Secretary and can include any number of Tribunal Members as determined by the Controlling Body.

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

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

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

## 6.1 TYPICAL SETUP FOR THE TRIBUNAL ROOM



## 7 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE TRIBUNAL:

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

- (a) It shall insure that offending Players or Officials are heard in a fair and consistent manner in accordance with the procedures set by the Controlling Body.
- (b) It shall use the *Standard Range of Penalties* to determine an Offender's penalty and shall take into consideration any injury sustained by a victim and/or any previous convictions of the offender prior to the last 2 years of the Tribunal sitting, by increasing the *Standard Penalty*. The use of a Suspended Sentence may be used as an additional penalty to the *Standard Penalty*.
- (c) It may find a report proven if it is **reasonably satisfied** that conduct was intentional, reckless or negligent. *Law 19.2.1(b)*.
- (d) It may adjourn any hearing from time to time. If a Defendant is granted an adjournment, unless exempted by the Tribunal, he shall be ineligible to participate or represent a Club or Team in any capacity during the period of adjournment.
- (e) It may deal with any witness who fails without reasonable excuse to attend the Tribunal hearing and at its absolute discretion; impose any penalty, sanction or fine.

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

## 8 CONDUCTING A TRIBUNAL

### 8.1 WHEN AN OFFENDER PLEADS NOT GUILTY:

- (a) Chairman invites the reported Player or Official, his Advocate and the person making the charge (usually the Umpire) with his Advocate into the hearing. The only other person in the room should be the Tribunal Secretary unless persons have been permitted by the Chairman to observe procedures.
- (b) Chairman reads the charge and asks the Defendant's plea. *Guilty or Not Guilty*
- (c) Chairman asks for Umpire to outline the charge. *The Umpire may be questioned by the Chairman. The Defendant's Advocate may ask questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will redirect the questions to the Umpire.*
- (d) Chairman asks for the Victim's evidence. *The Defendant's Advocate may ask questions to the Chairman and if necessary the Chairman will redirect the questions to the Victim.* Chairman asks for Defendant's evidence
- (e) Chairman asks if the Defendant's Advocate has any witnesses to offer other evidence. Questions may be asked by those in attendance through the Chairman.

- (f) Chairman may view Video evidence of the incident provided the game was independently recorded and authorised by the Controlling Body. *Video evidence should include vision leading up to and after the reportable incident. Slow motion and frame by frame facilities for viewing the incident is recommended.* Umpires and Witnesses may be asked to provide further evidence relating to the charge
- (g) Chairman thanks the Reporting Umpire/ Authorised Person and the Victim for their evidence and dismisses them from the Tribunal
- (h) Chairman asks the Defendant's Advocate to summarise his case.
- (i) Chairman may ask all persons to leave the room. Chairman deliberates to determine whether the charge is sustained or dismissed. The Defendant returns with his Advocate (if they have left the room).
- (j) Chairman announces the verdict
- (k) Chairman asks the Defendant's history from his Advocate.
- (l) Chairman confirms the Defendant's history from the Tribunal Secretary
- (m) Chairman may ask all parties to leave the Tribunal Room
- (n) Chairman recalls Defendant with his Advocate and announces the penalty in accordance with the *Standard Range of Penalties*.
- (o) Where an Offender has been given a suspension, the Chairman shall record the Tribunal's decision on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form. A specific date shall be recorded by the Chairman to reflect the period of suspension up to and including that specific date. The form shall be signed by the Chairman and the Offender (or his representative).
- (p) In the event of any witness who acts in an untruthful, misleading, uncooperative or contemptible manner on the day of the Tribunal hearing shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and be dealt with at the conclusion of the hearing.

The Chairman shall record the Tribunal's decision on the *Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings* form. A specific date shall be recorded by the Chairman to reflect the period of suspension up to and including that specific date. The standard form shall be signed by the Chairman and the Offender (or his representative).

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

## 8.2 WHEN AN OFFENDER PLEADS GUILTY:

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

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

## 9 PRESCRIBED PENALTIES:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In determining an Offender's penalty, the Tribunal shall use the *Standard Range of Penalties* and may increase the penalty after taking into consideration any injury sustained by a victim and/or any previous convictions of the offender prior to the last 2 years of the Tribunal sitting. The use of Suspended Sentences may be used as an additional penalty to the *Standard Range of Penalties*.

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

## 9.2 THE STANDARD RANGE OF PENALTIES

(RELATING TO SPECIFIC REPORTABLE OFFENCES UNDER LAW 19.2.2)

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

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

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

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

*Negligent 8-20 weeks, reckless 20 weeks- 2 years, intentional 2 -4 years*

**Striking an Umpire;**

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

*Negligent 2-4 years, reckless 4-10 years, intentional 10 years – Life*

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

*Negligent 4-8 years, reckless 8-20 years, intentional 20 years – Life*

**(b) Attempting to make contact with an Umpire;**

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

*Negligent 2-5 weeks, reckless 5-10 weeks, intentional 10 weeks-1 year.*

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

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

**Attempting to strike an Umpire;**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 1 year to 10 years

*Negligent 1-2 years, reckless 2-5 years, intentional 5-10 years*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 2 years to Life

*Negligent 2-4 years, reckless 4-10 years, intentional 10 years -Life*

- (c) **Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 4-8 weeks, insulting/threatening 8-20 weeks*
- (d) **Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: abusive/obscene 4-8 weeks, insulting/threatening 8-20 weeks*
- (e) **Disputing a decision of an Umpire; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
- (f) **Use of an Obscene gesture; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: 1-2 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 2-4 weeks.*
- (g) **Intentionally, recklessly or negligently:-**
- (i) **Kicking another person;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-20 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (ii) **Striking another person;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-20 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (iii) **Tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-20 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 4-8 weeks, intentional 8-20 weeks*

- (iv) **Engaging in Time Wasting; (*Prescribed Penalty offer–1 week*)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire–Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
- (v) **Charging another person; (refer to law 15.4.4)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-20 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (vi) **Throwing or pushing another player after that player has taken a Mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play; (*Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week*)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
- (vii) **Engaging in rough play against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable;**  
Examples such as but not limited to: Using hands to claw, gouge or scratch an opponent in the region of the head, including the face, mouth, eyes, nose, and ears; Spear Tackles, Head Butting, Biting, Elbowing, Kneeing, Choking, Head Locking, Swinging an arm to the head region (“Coat Hanger”), Making unreasonable contact to an opponent who is marking or attempting to mark the football.  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-10 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 3-6 weeks, intentional 6-10 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-20 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 6-12 weeks, intentional 12-20 weeks*
- (viii) **Engaging in a melee, except where a player's sole intention is to remove a teammate from the incident; (*Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week*)**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: 1 week*
- (ix) **Spitting at or on another person;**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Offence: Range: 2-4 weeks*  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-3 weeks, intentional 3-4 weeks*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Offence: Range: 4-8 weeks*  
*Negligent 4 weeks, reckless 4-6 weeks, intentional 6-8 weeks*

- (h) **Attempting to kick another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 1-5 weeks  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
- (i) **Attempting to strike another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 1-5 weeks  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
- (j) **Attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Range: 1-5 weeks  
*Negligent 1 week, reckless 1-2 weeks, intentional 2-5 weeks*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** Range: 2-10 weeks  
*Negligent 2 weeks, reckless 2-4 weeks, intentional 4-10 weeks*
- (k) **Intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another player is preparing to Kick or is Kicking for Goal or after the Player has Kicked Goal and the ball is in transit; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** 1 week  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 2 weeks
- (l) **Wrestling another person; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 1 week
- (m) **Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 1-2 weeks, insulting/threatening 2-5 weeks  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** abusive/obscene 2-4 weeks, insulting/threatening 4-10 weeks
- (n) **Failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire; (Prescribed Penalty offer – 2 weeks)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** 2 weeks  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 4 weeks

- (o) **Wearing boots, jewellery or equipment prohibited under Law 9; (*Prescribed Penalty offer – 1 week*)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** Yellow Card by Umpire – Cool Off for 15 minutes

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 1 week

- (p) **Any act of misconduct. (*Prescribed Penalty offer – 2 weeks*)**

Examples such as but not limited to: Indecent Exposure, Biting, Instigating a Melee, Failing to follow the Direction of a Field Umpire or any Behaviour Detrimental to Football.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** 2-4 weeks

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 4-8 weeks

**OR Law 20.2(f) below – misconduct of a serious nature**

(RELATING TO THE SPECIFIC REPORTABLE OFFENCE UNDER THE ORDER OFF LAW 20.2)

- 20.2(f) An act of misconduct if the Umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature;**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence:** 3-6 weeks

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:** 6-12 weeks

Examples such as but not limited to **serious** acts of misconduct: Indecent Exposure, Biting, Instigating a Melee, Failing to follow the Direction of a Field Umpire or any Behaviour Detrimental to Football.