

## CLUB CIRCULAR - 10, 2017/18

**Subject:**        2018 Junior Umpire Group Update

**Date:**            2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

**From:**            Josh Bowler  
                        Acting Manager Participation & Engagement  
                        **West Australian Football Commission**

**Audience:**     **Junior Umpires & Umpire Coaches**

<p>Summary:</p> <p>Provide an update in relation to the umpiring of Junior Football Competitions in Perth</p>	<p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coaches – pass on relevant information to umpiring groups.</li><li>• Umpires – Review and seek further clarification on relevant matters</li></ul>
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The purpose of this communication is to highlight some key elements of competition related matters for umpires. It is acknowledged that a lot of these may be common knowledge and it's at the discretion of the umpiring group as to how they provide education of umpires around these.

### **Intentional vs Careless Intent**

As part of the match day reporting process for some incidents umpires will be required to determine whether the incident was Intentional or Careless. These definitions can assist in doing so:

***Intentional Conduct*** - A player intentionally commits a Classifiable Offence if the player engages in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence with the intention of committing that offence.

- An intention is a state of mind. Intention may be formed on the spur of the moment.
- Whether or not a player intentionally commits a Reportable Offence depends upon the state of mind of the player when the act is committed.
- For example, a strike will be regarded as Intentional where a player delivers a blow to an opponent with the intention of striking them, regardless of where contact was intended.

***Careless Conduct*** - A player's conduct will be regarded as 'Careless Conduct' where it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the player to all other players.

- Each player owes a duty of care to all other players, umpires and other persons (as applicable) not to engage in conduct which will constitute a Reportable Offence being committed against that other player, umpire or other person (as applicable).
  - To constitute a breach of duty of care, the conduct must be such that a reasonable player would not regard an act as reasonable in all circumstances.
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- A player will be deemed careless if they breach their duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts which can be reasonably foreseen to result in a Reportable Offence.

### **Cool Down Methods: 50 metre penalty versus Yellow Card**

In 2018, all junior competitions will adopt the Four Point E-Point system meaning teams will lose E-Points if they receive Yellow Cards. If the intention of the use of a Yellow Card is solely to warn a player to cool down then a 50 metre penalty should be paid in first instance. If the player doesn't change their behavior, then a yellow card is warranted. If the act warrants a yellow card in the first instance, then a yellow card should still be used.

A 50 metre penalty can only be implemented after a free kick or a mark.

### **Last Possession Rule**

The Last Possession Rule has been introduced to Year 7 to 9 15 per side competitions in 2018. The rules read as follows. When the ball goes out of play:

1. From a kick or handball, a kick is awarded to nearest opponent.
2. If there is doubt as to which team kicked or hand passed the ball out of play - ball up 10m in from boundary
3. If the ball comes off hands or body - ball up 10m in from the boundary.
4. If the ball is carried over the line – ball up 10 m in from the boundary.

### **Sling Tackle Impact Grading**

In some cases, sling tackles or dangerous tackles will be reported as Rough Conduct. If a sling tackle or dangerous tackle results in a player hitting their head and the umpire sees the act as a reportable offence, it should be classified as 'High' impact as opposed to Body/Groin.

### **Community Umpiring Stories**

The AFL are seeking some interesting stories or milestones from community football, so that they can be pitched to metropolitan daily newspapers to promote umpiring. If you have a story you would like to provide, please email David Crute at [dcrute@wafc.com.au](mailto:dcrute@wafc.com.au).

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