



2016 WAAFL INTEGRATED FOOTBALL OPERATIONS MANUAL



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Forward...

WAAFL Integrated Football Program is designed to introduce both male and females sixteen years and over with Intellectual Disabilities to Australian Rules Football.

Importantly Integrated Football provides all participants with opportunities to become part of their local Amateur Football Club ,making new friends, building relationships and developing social skills in a friendly welcoming club environment.

Integrated Football by its design is inclusive and actively supported by Inclusion WA, Disability Services Commission and Dept Of Sport & Recreation.

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Terms of operation to be read in conjunction with WAAFL By-Laws and Laws of Australian Football.

Where WAAFL Integrated Football terms of operation are silent WAAFL/AFL laws will prevail.

1.PLAYING FIELD

Games to played on regulation size Amateur grounds excepting where clubs agree through lesser player numbers or otherwise determined reduction of ground size is more suitable.In these instances the use of portable goal posts placed on the 50m lines are adopted.

2.PLAYERS

Integrated Football is designed to primarily encourage player participation where results of matches played is secondary.

Integrated Football encourages male and female participation where participants have an intellectual disability, autism or mental health issues.

Minimum age is 16 years however exceptions may apply where the appropriate parent or guardian provides their consent.Minimum player numbers to constitute a points awarded game is twelve, teams to play with same numbers , even up of team numbers is to apply to enable the game to take place.No team is to have more players on the field than the opposition.In instances following

evening up where there is an imbalance of numbers, a rotating bench is to apply.

Should one team begin with less than twelve players and be topped up by the opposition, the match result will be declared forfeit.

For managing risk maximum number of Players per team on the playing surface not to exceed eighteen.

All players are to be registered with governing body ,medical consents held ,match day team sheets and results to be completed and lodged on Sporting Pulse for record keeping and insurance purposes.

3.THE BALL

Any suitable full sized football not necessarily new.

For promotional purposes the use of smaller synthetic footballs is acceptable.

4.THE GAME

4 x 12 minute Quarters constitute a match.

Breaks of three minutes at $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ time with seven minute break at half time.

Maximum Two Coaching staff per team in designated orange vests allowed on the ground to deliver instructions and support players whilst competing.

Competing Team Coaches to converse prior to match to discuss strategies that collectively work towards a fair contest between the

teams maximising participation for all players e.g. players of equal ability to be opposed to each other.

Players to be directed to stay in positions and encouraged to pick up the ball. Every endeavour is to be made to assist the game to flow, providing maximum opportunities for all players to become involved.

Coaches are to monitor participation, in instances where individual players dominate play, these players are to be rotated for periods of play off the ball to encourage players of lesser abilities to increase their participation.

5. UMPIRES

Unless otherwise advised each club is to provide minimum one Field Umpire and One Goal Umpire for all games in which their club participates.

Field Umpires as a minimum require Level One or working towards Level One Accreditation to ensure player welfare is appropriately managed.

Level One Accreditation is available online via the AFL Community Club website www.aflcommunityclub.com.au

Umpires are to officiate according to the laws of Australian Football and any special laws applicable to the WAAFL Integrated Football Program.

Emphasis on all games is as follows:

- A) Encourage Participation
- B) Reward Players who make the ball their sole object
- C) Keep the game flowing through the awarding of free kicks

D) Avoid where possible scrimmages , stacks on the mill which can lead to injuries.

E) Encourage Players to pick the ball up.

6. START OF PLAY

A) Game commences with Ball Up where player from each team is nominated and must punch or knock the ball out, taking possession of the ball will constitute a free kick to the opposition.

B) Players cannot grab the ball at ballups, players must punch or knock the ball out

7.OUT OF BOUNDS

After crossing the boundary line and In the absence of a Boundary Umpire , the Field Umpire will restart play by bringing the ball inside the boundary line five metres and throwing the ball up.

8.SPECIAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO INTEGRATED FOOTBALL

A) Players can not take possession of the ball at ballups, ball must be knocked,punched or tapped to restart play-free kick to opponent.

B) Players may bounce the ball twice then must dispose by kick or handball when tackled legally

C) Players who kick the ball off the ground where there is potential for injury to an opponent are to be penalised-Coaches and Umpires to encourage all players to pick the ball up

D) Discretion in awarding free kicks and /or marks to be applied in general play to players who make the ball their sole focus, this applies to marking contests

E) Players of lesser abilities may be awarded “effort “ free kicks / marks to build confidence and increase participation.

9. TACKLING

Tackling is to be closely managed and must comply with Laws of Australian Football all tackles where there is the potential for injury are to be penalised, if deemed too severe offender to be issued yellow card.

10. PLAYER DISCIPLINE-ORDER OFF RULE

The onus for appropriate onfield behavior is the responsibility of the Club/Onfield Coach, not the Umpire/s.

When an increase level of player frustration occurs, Coaching Staff **MUST** take action to avoid escalation.

This can be take the form of a conversation to calm the player or the removal of the player from the field under coach instruction

A) Players may be ordered off through the raising of Yellow or Red cards and must be noted on match summary to WAAFL as per usual procedures

B) Yellow card for abuse of players , umpires, officials or unsportsmanlike behavior-Player to cool off for **five** minutes, may be replaced immediately –to be noted on match report.

C) Red Card for reportable offences, sent from the field for the remainder of the match and report lodged for determination by the controlling body. Player may be replaced immediately.

It is imperative matches are played in good spirit and sportsmanship encouraging participation , building rapport and confidence amongst all players and teams.

2016 WAAFL INTEGRATED CLUB CONTACTS

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