



AFL MASTERS

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)



ABN: 22 826 208 229

www.wamastersfooty.com.au

AFL MASTERS WESTERN AUSTRALIA CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

The Code of Conduct covers both on-field and off-field activities. It covers verbal as well as physical conduct and applies to all members, players, umpires, coaching staff, support staff and supporters.

The Code of Conduct is for the benefit of all members, players, spectators, their friends and families.

Code of Conduct Principles:

1. **The Constitution, By Laws and Rules of AFL Masters Western Australia shall be adhered to at all times.**
2. **The Philosophy of AFL Masters Western Australia shall be adhered to at all times.**
3. **Disputing Umpire's decisions will not be tolerated.**
4. **Violence, fighting or threatening behaviour at any game or club function will not be tolerated.**
5. **Swearing, abusive and threatening language at any game or club function will not be tolerated.**
6. **Racial or religious abuse, vilification or actions that may offend another will not be tolerated**
7. **Members, players and supporters shall respect and abide by directives of the Club administration.**

Procedures for Reporting of Breaches.

Any person (the complainant) who witnesses a breach of the AFL Masters Code of Conduct shall report such incident directly to any member of the Board of Management as soon as is practically possible after that breach occurs.

Reports of minor indiscretions or incidents may be reported verbally. Incidents of a serious nature can initially be communicated verbally but must be followed up in writing and should include a separate signed written report or statement from the following:

- The umpires officiating in the game in which the incident occurred
- The players involved (any player refusing to provide a written report explaining their actions may face automatic withdrawal of their registration for the remainder of the season)
- Any witnesses to the incident or breach of the AFL Masters Code of Conduct
- The President of the Club/Clubs involved.

All written reports are to be forwarded to the General Manager of AFL Masters Western Australia either by email, fax or post and are to reach the General Manager by the Tuesday following the date on which the breach occurs. **(Failure to properly report incidents in the manner described may well result in a financial penalty being imposed by the Board of Management on the club involved.)**

Investigation Procedures.

The General Manager, upon receiving notification of a breach of the Code of Conduct (in the form prescribed above) shall convene a meeting of the Board of Management at the earliest possible time in order to determine how to deal with the incident. In that regard the Board of Management can at their discretion:

- Deliberate on the written evidence placed before the Board of Management and if satisfied that the documentation adequately covers the incident being reported make a determination as to the appropriate course of action to be taken inclusive of any penalty that the Board might determine to be appropriate under the circumstances in accordance with the AFL Masters Western Australia Constitution and Bylaws; or



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AFL MASTERS CODE OF CONDUCT (Cont.)

- Conduct a hearing at which evidence must be presented in person to the Board of Management by all parties involved following which the Board will then determine the appropriate course of action to be taken inclusive of any penalty that the Board might determine to be appropriate under the circumstances in accordance with the AFL Masters Western Australia Constitution and Bylaws.

Should any witness not directly involved in the incident being reported express to the Board of Management the desire to remain anonymous to all but the Board of Management it is incumbent upon the Board of Management to keep that person/persons identity confidential.

The Board of Management shall;

- report the outcome of their investigations all parties involved. All determinations by the Board of Management are to be fully reported in the Minutes of the next Board Meeting.
- shall have the power to impose any or all of the prescribed penalties in accordance with the AFL Masters Western Australia Constitution and Bylaws.
- shall also have the authority and power to impose any or all of the prescribed penalties in accordance with the AFL Masters Western Australia Constitution and Bylaws on any complainant if the Committee deems the complainant's report to be frivolous, unjust, spiteful or intended to unfairly injure or discriminate against any person or persons.

Disciplinary Actions and Prescribed Penalties.

In all reported cases it will at all times remain the responsibility of the Club in which the offending person is a member to counsel and instruct the offending person in the Philosophy of AFL Masters and their expected conduct in that regard.

Where an incident is considered to be a minor offence:

The offending person or persons;

- may be cautioned and receive a warning not to re-offend and counselling from their respective club in the Philosophy of AFL Masters and their expected conduct in that regard.
- A second or subsequent breach of a minor nature will be treated as a **significant offence**.

Where the incident is considered to be a significant offence:

The offending person or persons or their respective Clubs;

- may face match suspension and /or are to be placed on a bond of good behavior for a period of 12 months (a monetary amount deemed suitable by the Board of Management)
- will be subject to a fine imposed in accordance with the AFL Masters Western Australia Constitution and Bylaws, but not both; and
- A second or subsequent breach of a significant nature will be treated as a **serious offence**.

Where the incident is considered to be a serious offence:

If that person/s or Club re offend within that (12) twelve month period they lose the bond and then face the Board of Management for further penance.

- The offending person or persons will have their registration cancelled indefinitely; or
- The offending person or persons will be suspended from playing indefinitely.

Bringing the game into Disrepute

Where the behavior of any Club, Player or Member is found by the Board of Management to have brought AFL Masters Western Australia into disrepute the above penalties will apply.