



Metro North Region

Circular 12/2018

## District Dreaming

Audience: Junior Football Club Committees, DFDC/JCC Members  
Date: 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
Distributed by/to: Email to Junior Presidents, Secretaries and DFDC/JCC Members  
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### **Summary:**

- *District Dreaming, Sunday 22nd July – A celebration of Indigenous culture*
- *Where: Barry Britton Oval (Balga JFC)*
- *Umpires will be wearing an Indigenous strip and games will be played with Indigenous design footballs*
- *Welcome to the country will be performed with aboriginal dancers.*
- *Kids activation zone*

### **Action:**

- *Promote to teams, members, schools, local community areas, Facebook & on district Pages*
- *All junior football clubs to integrate Aboriginal Acknowledgement to Country into football day events.*

District Dreaming is a celebration of Indigenous Culture, and an acknowledgement of the contributions from both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians to our great game of Australian Rules football. It is also an opportunity to continue reinforcement of positive game environments, provide a history of aboriginal culture, and an opportunity to integrate the community through football.

The carnival is in its eleventh year and was the initiative of the Northern Cobra's Junior Football Club to acknowledge the indigenous stars that play Australian Rules football and was developed after Jarrod Oakley Nicholls was drafted to Richmond and then subsequently debuted at the annual "Dreamtime at the 'G'" game in 2006, where he scored the winning behind.

District Dreaming (formally District Dreamtime) will host 3 matches with 6 teams from within the Subiaco District and also will be having Balga JFC Auskick. The day also provides an opportunity to continue to reinforce positive game environments, provide the history of aboriginal culture through a welcome to the country address and cultural dancers and an opportunity to integrate the community through football.





Archaeological evidence from Perth and Albany suggests that the Nyoongar people have lived in the area for at least 45,000 years. There are even some caves at Devil's Lair amongst the hills of Margaret River dating back 47,000 years.

When European colonisers first arrived in Australia they encountered an unfamiliar land occupied by people they didn't understand. Because they didn't understand the peoples' society and their land 'ownership' system, Australia was deemed to be 'terra nullius' and the land was claimed by the British.

Terra nullius is a Latin term meaning 'land belonging to no one', But Indigenous people fought, and are still fighting, for their land and their lives. The history of these battles is not often told but they involved hundreds of incidents and thousands of people. These stories form a part of the untold history of Australia.

Traditional Indigenous cultures mostly experience "Dreaming" as one entity – past, present and future combined.

Today we honour the traditional owners of the land and celebrate by playing our national game of Australian Football.

Australian Football provides an opportunity for the Australian population, both young and old, to enjoy physical activity and the spectacle that it ensures.

It provides opportunities for all Australians, without discrimination to integrate harmoniously within society.

#### **Event information:**

- *District Dreaming, Sunday 22nd July – A celebration of Indigenous culture*
- *Where: Barry Britton Oval (Balga JFC)*
- *Time:*
  - *8.30AM – Auskick Games*
  - *9.30AM – Welcome to Country & Dance Performance*
  - *10.00AM – Year 4/5 Games*
  - *11.30AM – Year*
- *Umpires will be wearing an Indigenous strip and games will be played with Indigenous design footballs*
- *Welcome to the country will be performed with aboriginal dancers.*
- *Kids activation zone to run 8.30am – 1pm*

#### **Acknowledgment to Country Procedure:**

Statement to be read by community members (not endorsed to deliver Welcome to Country). It is encouraged to read the statement publicly prior to your football match/s and or event.

*"I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the [WADJAK Aboriginal group/Nyoongar] people on which this event is taking place and pay my respects to the elders both past and present."*