



FOOTBALL COMMISSION INC.

## CENTRAL CONFERENCE JUNIOR COMPETITION PROCEDURES

The Central Conference Management takes this opportunity to remind all participants of their requirements and responsibilities. In order to ensure a successful season, the following criteria is to be observed and strictly adhered to at all times. Teams failing to comply with these guidelines will be penalised.

### Attire Standards

The required attire is as follows:

- Club Officials must be identified with Club shirt;
- Water Persons must wear clearly marked fluoro vests and Lanyards at all times;
- Team Runners must wear clearly marked fluoro vests and Lanyards at all times; and
- Any First Aid person in attendance must wear vest with green cross symbol or clearly marked vest.
- Boundary umpires and goal umpires must be correctly attired and wear Lanyards at all times.

### Match Day Procedures

The match day procedures are as follows:

1. Host Club to supply scoreboard and scoreboard attendants;
2. Host Club to ensure the interchange area and coaches boxes are correctly marked and roped off in accordance with the JCC requirements;
3. Teams are to use the Interchange correctly as outlined in the By-laws and AFL Rules, this includes Players and Team Runners;
4. In the case of any team using two Team Runners only one Runner is permitted on the playing arena at any time;
5. Clubs will provide official timekeepers and Interchange Stewards.
6. Team sheets must be handed to the Umpire 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the game;
7. All players must be in correct club uniform. Team Managers and Coaches are reminded that players not in full Club uniform, which is correct Team Shorts, Socks and Club Jumper, will be fined.
8. Each Player on the team sheet must play at least half a game as required by By-law 23.5. Player rotation will be closely monitored by the JCC.

### During the Match

1. Team Officials are allowed in the Coaches designated area and must remain behind the safety line whilst the game is in progress. The number of Team Officials allowed in this area is to be no more than 8 persons, and may include the following:
  - Coach;
  - Assistant Coach;
  - Team Runner x 2;
  - Water Person x 2; (shall be an adult: By-law 19.7)
  - First Aid; and
  - Club Official.
2. Any Team not complying with the above Criteria and Procedures will be penalised,



and this may include the loss of all scores in the game.

Officials, Players and Spectators are reminded of their respective Codes of Conduct and the East Perth, Swan Districts and Perth JCC's will deal with any Official, Player and/or Spectator who are seen or heard to go against these codes. Unruly behaviour will not be tolerated in any way. Clubs and Teams will be held responsible for any Official, Player and or Spectator found to be breaching their respective Codes of Conduct.

Further, should an official be reported and found guilty of any offence during a game, the Central Conference Management reserve the right to remove all scores from the offending team, thus forfeiting the game.

## Team Officials - Roles and Responsibilities

### Team Coach

The coach is arguably the most important person of the day, other than the players themselves. The Coach has a very important role throughout the season, both at training and during a game.

All the players look to the coach for help in development, guidance and discipline. The coach's role is to develop the players to take the next step in age groups and ultimately to prepare them for life after junior football when they move on to amateur ranks or even WAFL colts.

A senior player in WAFL or AFL will always remember a junior coach who guides him in the right direction to take that important step after junior footy and that includes development and most importantly discipline. Without either of these they will not succeed and you as a coach will not have succeeded in your role. A lot of players look to their coach not only as a coach but also as a mentor, and in a lot of cases they find themselves acting as a guidance counsellor when a player is having a run of bad games.

It is important to remember as a coach that football is not just a game of footy, but a lesson in discipline that each player can take with them either in a career in footy or another path in life.

All coaches have some very important roles and responsibilities throughout a season and in particular during finals games. They also have rules to follow.

A few of the basics are listed below but they are not restricted to:

- a) The Coach is not permitted to intimidate dispute decisions or interfere with the umpire or his or her role on the day of the match.
- b) Ensure knowledge of laws of game is such that you encourage the players to play the game and accept the role of the umpire.
- c) Avoid over playing the talented players. The "just-average" players need and deserve equal time.
- d) When addressing players during the game or during the ½ time and ¾ time breaks, they are to be spoken to in a positive manner and not in an abusive or derogatory manner.



- e) Coaches are there to develop the kids playing football not to abuse others around them.
- f) Encourage positive and constructive support from the spectators.
- g) Never should they use abusive language or swear at any umpire, player or any person in attendance at the game.
- h) Never should they encourage players to play outside of the spirit and laws of the game and always encourage fairness.

Coaches must always abide by the Coaches Code of Conduct and the Administrators Code of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in a penalty on the club and you may be banned from officiating in any future games.

### **Team Manager**

The Team Manager's role on game day is one of much importance. Ensuring that everything is in order for the team and allocating jobs to volunteers (i.e. goal umpire and boundary umpire if required) ensuring the timekeeper is appointed and the list goes on. The Team Manager must also ensure that the Runner, Water Carriers, Goal Umpire and Boundary Umpire are well aware of their roles and responsibilities during a game.

The team manager is not permitted to intimidate, dispute decisions or interfere with the umpire or his or her role on the day of the match.

Team managers must always abide by the Administrators Code of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in a penalty on the club and you may be banned from officiating in any future games.

### **Interchange Steward**

The interchange steward is required for all games including finals. The role of the interchange steward is to officiate during a match.

The interchange steward shall:

- a) Be positioned during the match at or near the interchange area;
- b) Monitor and record the interchange of players made by both teams;
- c) Ensure that all players entering or exiting the playing surface do so via the interchange area unless a player is removed by a stretcher). A player who does not enter or leave the playing surface via the interchange will be given a Technical Infringement (15mins penalty) for the First instance and in the Second instance (will take no further part of game). Infringements will be given by the Interchange Steward; and
- d) Ensure that team runners enter and exit the playing surface via the interchange area (By-law 19.6.6). A team runner who does not enter or leave the playing surface via the interchange will be given a Technical Infringement (15mins penalty) in the First instance and in the Second instance (will take no further part of game). Infringements will be given by the Interchange Steward.



### **Team Runner**

The role of the team runner is very important and links in the chain for the coach, to ensure the players receive the right message during a game. However the team runner must observe and abide by the rules set down within the District bylaws and the AFL Laws of Australian Football. The basic rules to abide by are as follows but not restricted to:

- a) Youth teams may appoint two runners with only one permitted on the field of play at any time.
- b) Team runners should be an adult.
- c) Runners ARE NOT permitted to carry water.
- d) Team runners ARE NOT permitted to remain on the playing arena. They must deliver the message/s from the Coach to the player/s and return immediately to the Coach's bench via the interchange area. Do not linger on the playing surface.
- e) Team runners must not coach whilst on the ground.
- f) Team runners must enter and exit the playing arena through the interchange area at all times.
- g) They should never use abusive language or swear at any umpire, player or any person in attendance at the game.
- h) Team runners must be clearly identified by wearing the Fluoro shirt or vest.
- i) The team runner is not permitted to intimidate dispute decisions or interfere with the umpire or his or her role on the day of the match.
- j) The team runner must always wear their Lanyard.

Team runners must always abide by the Team Runners and Water Carriers Code of Conduct along with the Administrators Code of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in a penalty on the club and you may be banned from officiating in any future games.

### **Water Carriers**

Water carriers are very important to the players and they are also welcomed by the umpires. It is a very thirsty job when playing a game of footy or running the field umpiring a game. There are also some very important rules for a water carrier to follow when taking on this role. The basics are but not restricted to:

- a) Each youth team are permitted to have two (2) water carriers. These persons are to be clearly identified.
- b) Water carriers ARE NOT permitted to become involved in any capacity in on field coaching



- c) Water carriers may enter and exit the playing arena at any part of the ground
- d) DO NOT linger on the playing surface. Deliver the water to players and leave the playing arena immediately
- e) Water carriers should be and Adult or at least of the same age as the team playing or older. (By-law 19.7)
- f) No abusive language or swearing to any umpire, player or any person in attendance at the game
- g) Supports the decision of the umpires at all times and never question such decision
- h) Water carriers must be dressed appropriately and be clearly identified
- i) Water carriers must always wear their Lanyard

Water Carriers must always abide by the Team Runners and Water Carriers Code of Conduct along with the Administrators Code of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in a penalty on the club and you may be banned from officiating in any future games.

#### **Team Officials**

The game cannot start without a Goal Umpire and a Boundary Umpire. These umpires are very important in the success of a junior game of footy. These umpires along with your team's first aider come under the banner of a team official and therefore must abide by the rules and the respective codes of conduct.

- a) Each team shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly dressed and have sufficient knowledge and maturity to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position as required in the laws of the game.
- b) Each team shall supply a goal umpire who shall be correctly dressed in a white coat and have sufficient knowledge and maturity to correctly carry out all responsibilities of the position as required in the laws of the game.
- c) There must be NO abusive or derogatory language or swearing to any umpire, player or any person in attendance at the game.
- d) Team Officials are not permitted to intimidate dispute decisions or interfere with the umpire or his or her role on the day of the match.
- e) Goal Umpires and Boundary Umpires ARE NOT permitted to become involved in any capacity in on field coaching.
- f) Goal umpires and boundary umpires must always wear their Lanyard.

Team Officials must always abide by their respective Codes of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in a penalty on the club and you may be banned from officiating in any future games.



### **Coaches Bench**

Please endeavour to keep this area clear at all times. The only people allowed in the coaching area are the immediate team officials and the players on the bench, along with JCC/DDC officials who are in attendance at the game. All coaching areas should be roped off and marked Team officials only.

There are too many occasions where there have been a cast of thousands in and immediately around the coaching area. This can be intimidating to the players and team officials. This can be difficult at neutral venues but in those cases the team manager can ensure that only those involved in the team are around the coaching area.

### **Club Executives**

When a Club Executive is in attendance at any game involving their club (either home or away) then they are the person who oversees the actions of the club's team officials. The Club Executive sets the examples and if they see that a player, team official or spectator is over stepping the mark, they then have a duty to speak to the person concerned, remind them of the Code of Conduct and ensure they behave appropriately. At the end of the day, the actions of the Club Executive reflect on the reputation of the club in the eyes of players and spectators alike, along with any other official who may be in attendance.

### **Parents / Spectators**

Parents and spectators alike are a big part of our great game. They have the ability to create the atmosphere at a game especially when it's a close game. However it is disappointing when they lose the spirit of the game and start abusing umpires and officials. They also have the ability to create an ugly atmosphere, which can then get out of control.

All spectators are encouraged to yell support and encouragement to players on the ground, but if a team official hears a parent or spectator from their team yelling abuse towards players and or umpires, they then have a duty to approach that person and ask them to tone it down, and instead yell encouragement to the players on the ground.

It is a requirement during this year's finals series that the JCC Finals Letter for Parents be distributed to every parent whose child is participating. It is also a good idea for teams that make the finals to hold Team/Parent meetings and remind your parents of the Codes of Conduct and what your club and the East Perth, Swan Districts and Perth JCC's expects of them throughout the finals series. Please remind your parents and spectators that they too can be reported at a game and can be banned from attending future junior games.

The Central Conference Management Committee, along with the East Perth, Perth and Swan Districts Junior Competition Committees and District Football Development Councils, wish all Teams, Players, Officials and spectators involved the best for a successful season.