

# CIRCULAR



PERTH FOOTBALL  
L E A G U E

**Subject:** Football Operations Update

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**Audience:** Club Committees

<b>Summary:</b> Information update around operational game day matters, NOI process and camera footage	<b>Action:</b> Share this information with all coaches, team managers and other support staff at your club.
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## 1. Team Sheets – Full Details

Clubs are instructed to include full names of support personnel on game day when submitting team sheets. Fines have been waived for the first 2 rounds for clubs that have not correctly submitted team sheets, but from this weekend onwards, fines will be enforced.

If a club does not have a Runner for the game, they must input “No Runner” to avoid a fine.

## 2. Women’s Football – Checking Nails

Umpires of Women’s games have been requested to check the fingernail length of all players prior to the game commencing. This is due to feedback received from a number of clubs and umpires across the PFL. We ask that all Team Managers check players and also prepare to have teams in the middle of the ground 2-3 minutes earlier than normal to support the umpires in this process and ensure our games still start on time.

## 3. Notice of Investigation (NOI)

Recent conversations with clubs who were involved in Game Day related NOIs submitted in the first 2 rounds have raised some questions about the process and timings. If any Club President would like to discuss, please don’t hesitate to contact our Operations Team but the below points and steps should support clubs who are considering lodging an NOI.

- NOI’s exist to support clubs who wish to have significant incidents reviewed that weren’t captured by the umpires on game day.
- The form to lodge an NOI is located via the PFL Homepage under the Integrity drop down menu.
- All clubs are encouraged to review the WA Community Football Offence Matrix (included below) before any NOI is submitted or a charged player is deciding between accepting an Early Guilty Plea or taking the matter to Tribunal.
- If a club does not have all required information available, an NOI should still be lodged along with \$500 bond before the deadline of 9am on Monday following the game with

notes “More information to follow”. This will allow the Operations team to prepare accordingly. A submission without bond payment will not be assessed.

- If a club chooses to withdraw the NOI before the investigation process takes place, the bond will be refunded in full.
- An NOI will be reviewed and if a charge is upheld, the bond will be refunded in full.
- Once received, the Operations team will liaise with both clubs to ensure an appropriate process is followed to review the incident fairly and in a consistent manner.
- If a Reportable Incident has occurred, the Match Review Panel will review the incident and manage accordingly, in line with the by-laws.
- In many cases, an NOI investigation cannot be completed prior to the WA Football Community Tribunal cutoff times and if referred to tribunal, may not be heard until the following week. In these instances, the Operations Team will communicate with the affected Presidents to allow their playing groups to prepare appropriately for the next weekend. Depending on the specifics of the NOI, the Operations Team may suggest or in severe circumstances, enforce a player to stand down until the outcome is resolved.
- In line with national policy, vilification NOIs are exempt from the Monday 9am deadline and can be submitted up to 28 days after the incident.

#### 4. HUDL Camera Set-up Tips

An attachment has been included with this Circular around some basic HUDL Camera set-up tips. Home clubs are required to have footage uploaded and linked to the appropriate fixture by Sunday 5pm. This timeline is critical to allow all clubs the opportunity to review game day footage prior to the NOI deadline of Monday 9am.

#### 5. Community Football Offence Matrix

Please see below the community football offence matrix used by the PFL Match Review Panel and WA Community Football Tribunal

##### Grading Matrix – Auditory Offences

An Auditory Offence is a Reportable Offence specified below;

Using Abusive, Insulting, Threatening or Obscene Language

Using Abusive, Insulting or Obscene Language towards or in relation to an Umpire

Conduct	Directed At	Volume	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
Threatening	Umpire	Any	6+ Matches (or Tribunal)	Not Applicable
	Another Person	Loud	5+ Matches (or Tribunal)	Not Applicable
		Low	4 Matches	3 Matches
Abusive / Obscene	Umpire	Loud	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Low	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Another Person	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Low	2 Matches	1 Match
Insulting	Umpire	Loud	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Low	2 Matches	1 Match
	Another Person	Loud	2 Matches	1 Match

		Low	1 Match	Yellow Card
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#### Definitions

Threatening	Any verbal communication or gesture that intimidates, harasses, causes fear, or implies harm or aggression towards another individual. This includes direct or implied threats of physical violence, verbal abuse, emotional harm, or any form of aggressive behaviour that creates a hostile or unsafe environment.
Obscene / Abusive	Any verbal communication or gesture that is offensive, vulgar, or demeaning. This includes the use of profanity, personal insults, slurs, or any form of verbal abuse intended to humiliate, insult or belittle another individual, disrupting a positive game day environment
Insulting	Any verbal communication or gesture that is disrespectful, derogatory or intended to provoke or demean another person. This includes mocking, belittling, or ridiculing others based on their abilities, appearance, skill level or other personal characteristics, undermining the principles of fair play and mutual respect.
Loud	Could be heard more than 50 metres
Low	Could be heard less than 50 metres

**Classifiable Offences** - A Classifiable Offence is a Reportable Offence specified in the National Community Football Policy Handbook.

Conduct	Impact	Contact	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
Intentional	Severe	High / Groin / Chest	5+ Matches (Tribunal)	Not Applicable
		Body	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	Not Applicable
	High	High / Groin / Chest	4 Matches	3 Matches
		Body	3 Matches	2 Matches
	Medium	High / Groin / Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Low	High / Groin / Chest	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand

Careless	Severe	High / Groin / Chest	4+ Matches (Tribunal)	Not Applicable
		Body	3 Matches (Tribunal)	Not Applicable
	High	High / Groin / Chest	3 Matches	2 Matches
		Body	2 Matches	1 Match
	Medium	High / Groin / Chest	2 Matches	1 Match
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand
	Low	High / Groin / Chest	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand
		Body	1 Match	Fine and/or Reprimand

Note: Chest applies to female footballers only

## Definitions

### Intentional Conduct

- (A) A Person intentionally commits a Classifiable Offence if the Person engages in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence with the intention of committing that Reportable Offence.
- (B) An intention is a state of mind and may be formed on the spur of the moment.
- (C) Whether or not a Person intentionally commits a Reportable Offence depends upon the state of mind of the Person when the Person Return to Table of Contents 102 engages in the conduct with which they are charged. What the Person did is often the best evidence of their intention. In some cases, the evidence that the conduct itself provides may be so strong as to compel an inference of what the Person's intent was, no matter what they may say about it afterwards. If the immediate consequence of conduct is obvious and inevitable, the deliberate engaging of the conduct carries with it evidence of an intention to produce the consequence.
- (D) As an example, a strike will be regarded as Intentional where a Person delivers a blow to another Person with the intention of striking them.
- (E) The state of a Person's mind is an objective fact and has to be proved in the same way as other objective facts. The whole of the relevant evidence has to be considered. It is necessary to weigh the evidence of the Person as to what their intentions were along with whatever inference as to their intentions can be drawn from their conduct and/or other relevant facts. The Person may or may not be believed. Notwithstanding what the Person says, it may be able to be concluded from all the material that the Person intentionally engaged in the conduct constituting the Reportable Offence.

### Careless Conduct

- (A) A Person's conduct will be regarded as Careless where it constitutes a breach of the duty of care owed by the Person. Each Person owes a duty of care to other Persons not to engage in conduct which will constitute a Reportable Offence being committed against those Persons.
- (B) To constitute a breach of that duty of care, the conduct must be such that a reasonable Player would not regard it as prudent in all the circumstances.
- (C) Further, a Person will be careless if they breach their duty to take reasonable care to avoid conduct which can be reasonably foreseen to result in a Reportable Offence.

### Impact Guidelines

Low	Player: Minimal or no impact on the Match - the Player continued to play the majority of the Match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues. Person (other than Player): Person continued in their relevant capacity in relation to the Match for the majority of the Match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.
Medium	Player: Clearly some impact on the Player, and/or the Player left the field for a lengthy period of time, and/or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required, and/or may miss one Match. Person (other than Player): Clearly some impact on the Person, and/or the Person was prevented from continuing in their official capacity in relation to the Match for a lengthy period of time, and/or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required.
High	Player: Major impact on the Player, and/or the Player was unable to participate in the remainder of the Match, and/or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and/or may miss some Matches. Person (other than Player): Major impact on the Person, and/or the Person was unable to continue in their official capacity in relation to the Match for the remainder of the Match, and/or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and/or may miss some Matches.

Severe	Person (including Player): Major impact and serious injury to the Person, and/or likely to miss a significant number of Matches.
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\* Impact gradings may be raised under potential to cause injury provisions.