

# WAFC POL.15A Match Operations Policy: Ground Preparation



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Ground Preparation
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15A
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	19 March 2021

## POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the procedures involved in preparing the ground for Junior & Youth Football matches controlled by the WAFC. Each team shall be responsible for following this policy at its home games. Where a game is allocated to a neutral venue, the WAFC shall nominate a home team which shall be responsible for all provisions as if the game were being played on the home ground of that team. The WAFC will have final discretion for use of all competitions.

## RULES

1. GROUND MARKING													
1a	The ground shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football, which shall include a spectator line at least two metres outside the boundary line and six metres behind the goals.												
2. COACHES BOX													
2a	A clearly identified Coaches and players box shall be marked no less than five metres from either side of the interchange area in Year 5 competitions and above.  The placement and dimensions of the Coaches box shall be set up as per <b>Figure 1</b> in below <b>Ground Preparation Diagrams</b> section.												
2b	The Coaches box must be marked in paint. Where this is not possible, cones may be used with the permission from the WAFC.												
2c	The Coaches box cannot be marked in front of the spectator line.												
3. MATCH DAY CHECKLIST													
3a	A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate Match Day Checklist completed.												
3b	If a Youth match is played following a Junior or Auskick match and/or the weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that game commencing and be documented.												
4. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS													
4a	Matches are not permitted to commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Laws of Australian Football.												
4b	There must be access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.												
4c	There must be a stretcher present at the ground.												
4d	There must be access to ice for medical treatment.												
5. LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS													
5a	In accordance with Australian Standards, any night fixture shall have a minimum of 50 lux for Year 3 – 6 competitions and a minimum of 100 lux for Year 7 competitions and above. <table border="1" data-bbox="427 1789 1307 1955"> <thead> <tr> <th>COMPETITION</th> <th>TRAINING REQ.</th> <th>MATCH REG.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Junior (Year 3 – 6)</td> <td>50 lux</td> <td>50 lux</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth (Year 7 – 10)</td> <td>50 lux</td> <td>100 lux</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18s</td> <td>50 lux</td> <td>100 lux</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>For more information on lighting requirements please refer to the AFL Community Preferred Facility Guidelines.</p>	COMPETITION	TRAINING REQ.	MATCH REG.	Junior (Year 3 – 6)	50 lux	50 lux	Youth (Year 7 – 10)	50 lux	100 lux	18s	50 lux	100 lux
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## 6. GROUND SIZE SUMMARY

	COMPETITION	GENDER	LENGTH RANGE	WIDTH RANGE
A	Year 3 - Year 4	Both	80m – 100m	50m – 75m
B	Year 5 - Year 6 Year 5 - Year 8	Male Female	90m – 110m	70m – 85m
C	Year 7 - Year 8 Year 9 - Year 12	Male Female	110m – 140m	70m – 110m
D	Year 9 (15-a-side)	Male	120m – 150m	90m – 120m
E	Year 10 - 12 (15 or 18-a-side)	Male	135m – 185m	110m – 155m

**6a** The WAFC recommends that where possible, clubs use the lower range of the above ground sizes to improve player development.

Field sizes are reduced in younger age groups, female competitions, and 15-a-side competitions to suit players' skill level and ability and to cater for the reduced number of players.

Reduced field sizes allow for 'cross-field' matches in Year 7 – 8 and allow for more matches to be played in the same timeslot, reducing the impact on volunteers and increasing ground availability.

The above ranges have been purposefully overlapped to allow for less ground configurations on match day.

Ground configuration examples have been outlined in **Figure 2** of the **Ground Preparation Diagrams** section.

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## GROUND PREPARATION DIAGRAMS

Fig. 1

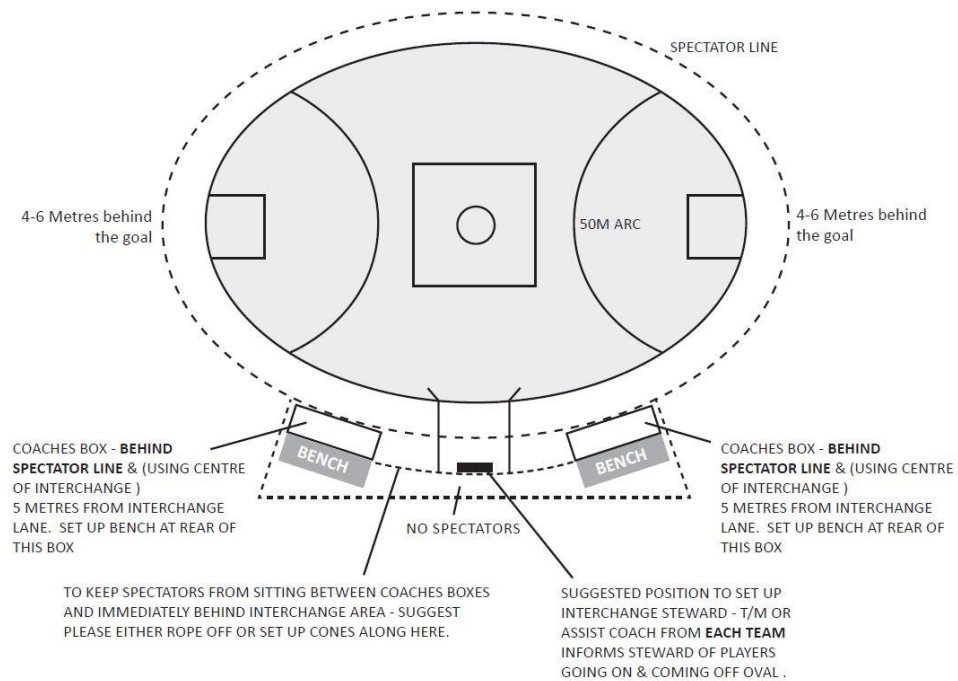
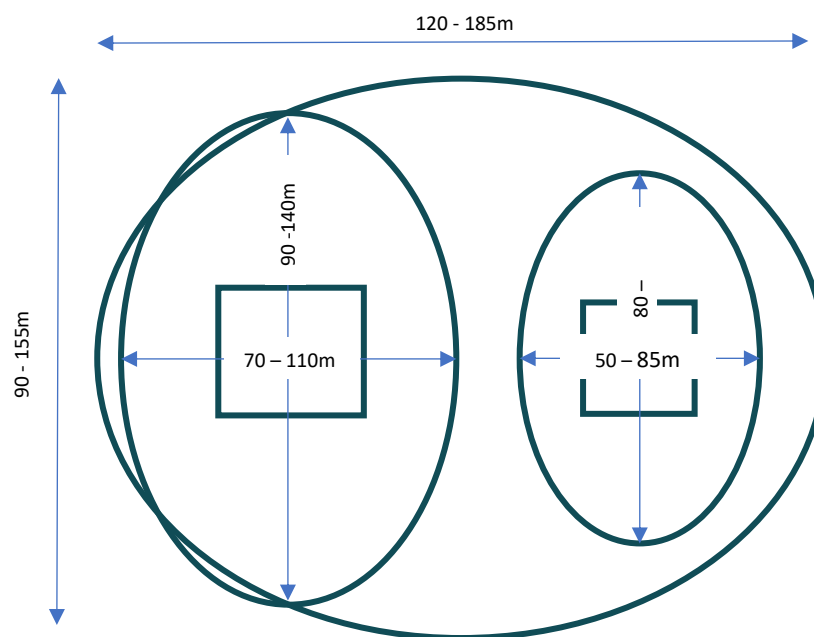


Fig. 2



### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

[Laws of Australian Football \(2021\)](#)

[AFL Community Preferred Facility Guidelines \(2019\)](#)