To be read in conjunction with the Laws of Australian Football and Rules of Affiliated Bodies. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the contents of the Handbook for 2015. All fair and reasonable means have been taken to ensure accuracy at the time of printing. For all Forms, Policies and Procedures please go to the AFL Vic Country website.
WorkSafe, proud sponsors of country footy for 14 years
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: (BLUE)
WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY INFORMATION 4

SECTION 2: (WHITE)
WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY RULES & REGULATIONS 33
(Includes National Transfer Regulations)

SECTION 3: (GREEN)
INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL & APPEALS BOARD PROCEDURES 97

SECTION 4: (YELLOW)
LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL 113

SECTION 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015 WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Calendar of Events</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Contacts</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JLT Sport (National Risk Protection)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Training &amp; Funding</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCFL Directors</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCFL (Inc) Affiliation Agreement</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country League Contacts</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Umpire Associations</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL Victoria / AFL Victoria Development / Regional Staff</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VFL General / Football Managers</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL Victoria Affiliated Leagues</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFL &amp; State Football Bodies</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball Victoria</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Sponsors</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Licensees</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Coaches Code of Conduct</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Players Code of Conduct</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents &amp; Spectators of Junior Football Code of Conduct</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Coaches Code of Conduct</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Players Code of Conduct</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2015 WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Calendar of Events

## February / March

Australia Post AFL Community Camps:
- Sunbury/Gisborne; Lakes Entrance / Sale; Leongatha / Wonthaggi; Shepparton; Bendigo / North Central; Werribee / Wyndham; Surf Coast / Mininera; Ballarat

### February
- 8  Alberton FNL – Trainers Course
- 15  Warrnambool Trainers Association – Trainers Course
- 22  AFL North East Trainers Course – Wodonga

### March
- 1  Trainers Course - North Gippsland FNL
- 9  Labour Day Holiday
- 15  Trainers Course - Yarra Valley MDFNL
- 22  Trainers Course – MPJFL (1) (Hastings)

## April

- 2  AFL Round 1
- 3  Good Friday
- 4  Easter Saturday
- 5  Easter Sunday
- 6  Easter Monday
- 8  Subway Junior Carnival – CHFL v M&CDFNL
- 10  Under 16 Country Championships – Bendigo
- 12  Trainers Course – AFL Barwon
- 19  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Bellarine
- 19  Trainers Course – Football Netball East Gippsland
- 25  Anzac Day

## May

- 3  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Golden Rivers
- 9 - 10  Pink Sports Day
- 10  Mother’s Day
- 13  Subway Junior Carnival – M&CDFNL v RDFNL
- 15 - 17  AFL Community Umpiring Round
- 16  Subway Junior Carnival – BFNL v RDFNL
- 17  Subway Junior Carnival – Goulburn Campaspe Junior Carnival
- 17  WorkSafe Game of the Month – South East FNL

## April (continued)

- 23  Subway Junior Carnival – Sunraysia Junior Carnival
- 24  Subway Junior Carnival – Western District Carnival
- 30 - 31  AFL Indigenous Round
- 31  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Goulburn Valley FL
- 31  Subway Junior Carnival – Bendigo JFL v Shepparton JFL

## June

- 6-8  Queen’s Birthday Weekend
- 13  Subway Junior Carnival – Goldfields Carnival (Ballarat FNL v Bendigo JFL)
- 14  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Mininera FL
- 14  Subway Junior Carnival – Bendigo Gala Day
- 21  Subway Junior Carnival – Colac &DFNL v Central Highlands FL

## July

- 5  Subway Junior Carnival – Bob Davis Carnival (Geelong JFL v Ballarat FNL)
- 11  Brian Molony Cup – AFL Victoria Country v VAFA (Bendigo)
- 19  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Mid Gippsland FNL
- 26  WorkSafe Game of the Month – North Central FL

## August

- 2  Subway Junior Carnival – Mallee FL v North Central FL
- 8 - 9  Multi-Cultural Round
- 9  WorkSafe Game of the Month – Yarra Valley MDFNL

## September

- 5 - 6  TAC Cup Finals commence
- 26 - 27  VFL & TAC Cup Grand Finals
- 28 - 1 Oct  V/Line Cup / Youth Girls Subway Shield – Latrobe Valley

## October

- 3  AFL Grand Final

## November

- 3  Melbourne Cup
- 7  AFCA Coach of the Year Dinner - MCG

## December

- 23  WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Office Closed for Christmas Break
- 25  Christmas Day
- 26  Boxing Day
FootyMart - the Official Central Ordering System of AFL Victoria Country

FootyMart provides all licensed products along with other ancillary football related items.

For any enquiries or orders please contact Pierre Demajo at AFL Victoria Country via the contact details below or click on the FootyMart logo on AFL Victoria Country website.

- Guernseys
- Shorts
- Socks
- Footballs
- Off-Field Apparel
- Ancillary Products (tackle bags, water bottles, ball pumps, etc.)
- Victor Sports Medical Supplies

To purchase products from the online store go to: www.aflvic.com.au/footymart

FootyMart
GPO Box 4337 Melbourne VIC 3001
Phone: (03) 8341 6061  Fax: (03) 9380 1146
Email: footymart@aflvic.com.au
Website: www.aflvic.com.au
AFL Victoria Country

IKON Park
GATE 3
Royal Parade, Carlton North, 3054
GPO BOX 4337
Melbourne
Victoria 3001

PHONE: (03) 8341 6000
FAX: (03) 9380 1076
EMAIL: vcfl@aflvic.com.au
WEB: www.aflvic.com.au

Country Football Manager
Brett Connell
03) 8341 6063 / brett.connell@aflvic.com.au

FOOTBALL OPERATIONS
Football Operations Manager
Gerard Ryan
03) 8341 6040 / gerard.ryan@aflvic.com.au

Football Operations Coordinator
William McGregor
03) 8341 6078 / will.mcgregor@aflvic.com.au

UMPIRING
Umpiring Development Manager
Russell O’Toole
0409 13 100 / russell.otoole@aflvic.com.au

Umpiring Development Manager (Bendigo)
Rod Threlfall
04090256726 / rod.threlfall@aflvic.com.au

INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING
Country Infrastructure & Planning Manager
Shayne Ward
03) 8341 6045 / shayne.ward@aflvic.com.au

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
IT Training & Support Officer
Keith Whitford
0417 340 110/ keith whitford18@bigpond.com

COACHING & UMPIRING MANAGER
Steve Teakel
8341 6015 / steve.teakel@aflvic.com.au

FINANCE
For all finance enquiries, please call
Lauren Keenan
(03) 8341 6080 / lauren.keenan@aflvic.com.au
Region General Manager - AFL Barwon
Lee Hartman
A: PO Box 6007 HIGHTON 3216
Ph: 5241 6774
Mob: 0417 715 774
E: gm@aflbarwon.com.au

Football Development Manager
Katie Geerings
Ph: 5241 6011  Mob: 0407 309 343
E: katie.geeringsl@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Tim Macmichael
Ph: 5241 6774  Mob: 0419 596 349
E: tim.macmichael@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Luke Maher
Ph: 5241 6774  Mob: 0458 715 776
E: luke.maher@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager - AFL Central Victoria
Paul Hamilton
Address: PO Box 415
GOLDEN SQUARE 3555
Ph: 5434 2403
Mob: 0413 155 667
E: paul.hamilton@aflcentralvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Tony McNamara
Ph: 5434 2403  Mob: 0419 103 178
E: tony.mcnamara@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Ricky Coburn
Ph: 5434 2403  Mob: 0438 410 315
E: ricky.coburn@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager - AFL Gippsland
Travis Switzer
A: PO Box 853 TRARALGON 3844
Mob: 0427 065 270
E: travis.switzer@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Chelsea Caple
A: Morwell Recreation Reserve MORWELL 3840
Mob: 0407 406 096
E: chelsea.caple@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Ryan Evans
A: Morwell Recreation Reserve MORWELL 3840
Mob: 0447 933 427
E: ryan.evans@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Rob Reid
A: PO Box 482 TRARALGON 3844
Ph: 5174 3445  Mob: 0409 139 099
E: rob.reid@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager / Gippsland Power Coach
Leigh Brown
A: PO Box 833 WARRAGUL 3820
Ph: 5134 8133  Mob: 0432 065 166
E: leigh.brown@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager - East Gippsland
Adrian Bromage
A: 20 Macarthur St
BAIRNSDALE 3875
Mob: 0408 861 768
E: adrian.bromage@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager - AFL Goldfields
Rod Ward
A: PO Box 586 BALLARAT 3353
Ph: 5334 1977
Mob: 0400 611 310
E: rod@aflgoldfields.com.au

Football Development Manager
Brett Anderson
Ph: 5334 4277  Mob: 0438 094 403
E: brett.anderson@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Tim Shearer
Ph: 5333 1977  Mob: 0408 586 536
E: tim.shearer@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager - AFL Goulburn Murray
Martin Gleeson
A: PO Box 1253 SHEPPARTON 3630
Ph: 5823 9808  Mob: 0413 040 849
E: martin.gleeson@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au

Football Development Manager
Mark Lambourn
Ph: 5823 9805  Mob: 0407 504 673
E: mark.lambourn@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Greg Liddell
Ph: 5823 9803  Mob: 0408 393 514
E: greg.liddell@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Trevor Mellington
Ph: 5823 9804  Mob: 0400 514 289
E: trevor.mellington@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager / Goulburn Power Coach
Leigh Brown
A: PO Box 1029 SHEPPARTON 3630
Ph: 5134 8133  Mob: 0432 065 166
E: leigh.brown@aflvic.com.au
Region General Manager - AFL North East Border
John O'Donohue
A: PO Box 1132 WANGARATTA 3676
Ph: 5721 9127
Mob: 0428 507 332
E: john.odonohue@aflneb.com.au

Football Development Manager
Jeff Chandler
A: 208 Fallon St NORTH ALBURY 2640
Ph: (02) 6040 6451   Mob: 0400 970 446
E: jeff.chandler@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Zac Guilfoyle
A: PO Box 1132 WANGARATTA 3676
Ph: 5722 1993   Mob: 0424 918 912
E: zac.guilfoyle@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Grant Saunders
A: PO Box 1132 WANGARATTA 3676
Ph: 5722 1993   Mob: 0418 179 675
E: grant.saunders@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager / Murray Bushrangers Coach
Darren Ogier
A: PO Box 854 WANGARATTA 3676
Ph: 5722 1776   Mob: 0458 397 872
E: darren.ogier@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager - AFL South East
Jeremy Bourke
A: PO Box 5154 CRANBOURNE 3677
Mob: 0415 844 580
E: jeremy.bourke@aflsoutheast.com.au

Football Development Manager
TBC
Mob: 
E: 

Football Development Manager
Michael Roberts
Mob: 0418 565 553
E: michael.roberts@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager - AFL Western District
Lachy Patterson
A: PO Box 523 WARRNAMBOOL 3280
Mob: 0429 955 669
E: lachy.patterson@aflwesterndistrict.com.au

Football Development Manager
Alan Thompson
A: 46 Membrey Way WARRNAMBOOL 3280
P: 5562 1167   Mob: 0419 103 176
E: alan.thompson@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager
Jock Whiting
A: PO Box 398 HAMILTON 3300
Ph: 5572 3218   Mob: 0408 331 736
E: jock.whiting@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager – AFL Yarra Ranges
Gordon Sumner
A: 7-9 Symes Rd. WOORI YALLOCK 3139
Ph: 5961 5611
Mob: 0408 997 005
E: gordon.sumner@aflyarraranges.com.au

Football Development Manager – Yarra Ranges
Dean Rice
A: PO Box 215 WOORI YALLOCK 3139
Ph: 5964 6247   Mob: 0414 402 398
E: dean.rice@aflvic.com.au

Region General Manager – West / North West
Bruce Petering
A: PO Box 1455 HORSHAM 3400
Ph: 5382 7512
Mob: 0439 474 114
E: bruce.petering@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager – Wimmera Mallee
Jason Muldoon
A: PO Box 1455 HORSHAM 3400
P: 5382 2701   Mob: 0417 133 990
E: jason.muldoon@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager – Central Murray
Jamie Macri
A: PO Box 280 KERANG 3579
Mob: 0407 216 719
E: jamie.macri@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager – Sunraysia
Trevor Ryan
A: 150 Pine Avenue MILDURA 3500
Ph: 5021 1833
Mob: 0427 750 283
E: trevor.ryan@aflvic.com.au
Please find following the contact details for JLT Sport:

**POLICY INFORMATION & GENERAL ENQUIRIES**  
Telephone No.: 1300 130 373 – Australia Wide  
Website: www.jltsport.com.au  
JLT Sport e-mail: jltsport@jlta.com.au

General Enquiries may include:
- information on upgrading your level of cover including
- Asset Protect, optional loss of income cover, non-Medicare medical, quadriplegia / paraplegia and volunteers

Enquiries on the progress of claims can be made to Echelon Australia on 1800 640 009

**Please Note**
For general information on the policy detail and making a claim, all Leagues, Clubs and players should refer to the information and documents on the JLT Sport website: www.jltsport.com.au.

Described below is a brief description of cover provided under the NCRPP. For further policy detail please go the website www.jltsport.com.au

**Public Liability**
Public Liability provides cover in the event the club faces legal action resulting from an act of negligence. Financial risks such as your club’s legal costs or other costs associated with legal action are covered to the terms and conditions of the policy. If your club is sued for breaching its duty of care (negligence) the club can lodge a public liability claim through JLT Sport.

**Club Management Liability**
Club Management Liability covers a range of financial risks for your club’s directors and officers such as costs associated with legal action if sued for:  
Negligence, libel, slander, defamation, discrimination, etc.  
Employment related matters (unfair dismissal)

Club Management Liability can also cover some of the costs associated with an employee stealing funds from the club.

For clubs to receive cover under this policy they must be currently incorporated as a football club.

Note: If an incident occurs that may lead to either Public or Management Liability claim it is important that the club contact JLT Sport as soon as they become aware of the incident.

**Personal Injury**
Personal Injury Cover provides financial assistance in three key areas:
- Non-Medicare Medical Benefits
- Loss of Income Benefits
- Capital Benefits

There is also opportunity for clubs to purchase additional cover above the standard Silver Level provided to all insured clubs under the AFL Programme.

Non-Medicare Medical - Increase the non-Medicare reimbursements that members receive if injured.

Capital Benefits - Increase the compensation payable for Paraplegia and Quadriplegia events.

Loss of Income Cover - An optional extra that clubs or individuals can elect to purchase for additional premium. This section of the Programme covers income lost as a result of a football related injury.

**Personal Injury – Umpires**
All volunteer club umpires are covered under the Australian Football National Risk Protection Programme (to the level of cover taken out by their club).

**JLT Sport Asset Protect**
JLT Sport Asset Protect is an insurance product recently introduced to Football Clubs, Leagues and Associations throughout Australia. Asset Protect Base Cover is automatically provided for all affiliated clubs in Victoria, ACT, NSW, Tasmania, WA and Queensland. This does not include Leagues or Associations – these entities need to apply for Asset Protect cover separately.

Base level cover automatically provides a maximum of $15,000 in total per claim for material loss or damage sustained to club assets.

All information provided above is general information and does not take into account the individual objectives, financial situations or needs of all clubs. All cover provided under the policies of the AFL National Risk Protection Programme is subject to the Trustee’s discretion and/or individual policy terms and conditions.

WWW.JLTSPORT.COM.AU
AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY
TRAINING RESOURCES & FUNDING PROGRAMS

Please contact your Area Manager or Football Development Manager for further information and advice on any of these programs, and how we may assist.

ADMINISTRATION
• Football Operations
• Finance
• Facility Planning, Development & Funding
• Volunteer Management
• IT Training
• Marketing
• Strategic Planning
• Induction Program
• Governance Training
• Events & Communications
• Judicial Training
• Accreditation Workshops

GAME DAY DEVELOPMENT
• Building Player Numbers
• Coaches Courses
• Trainers Courses
• Umpiring Programs

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
• AFL Kids First
• Vilification and Discrimination Policy
• Quality Club Program
• Volunteer Accreditation Program
• Cybersafety
• Fair Game: Respect Matters

GRANT & FUNDING
• Football Infrastructure Program
• WorkSafe Club Safety Fund
• AFL Preferred Facilities Guide
• Country Football Netball Program

REBATES & SUBSIDIES
• Jumper Subsidy
• Computer Subsidy
• Food Handlers Subsidy
• RSA Subsidy
• Trainers Course Subsidy
• Junior Carnival Subsidy
• Country Championship Subsidy

IT SUPPORT OFFICER
For all enquiries regarding the SportingPulse competition management system and website management:
Keith Whitford
0417 340 110
Keithwhitford18@bigpond.com

FURTHER INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE
Gerard Ryan
gerard.ryan@aflvic.com.au
VCFL DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Nicholas Rolfe

VICE PRESIDENT
Tony Mitchell

DIRECTORS
Chris Brown
Brant Dunshea
Brett Fitzpatrick
Gerard Lucas
Lloyd Sims

Please contact AFL Victoria Head Office on (03) 8341 6000 for the contact details for VCFL Directors.
AFFILIATION AGREEMENT

All WorkSafe Victorian Country League Leagues/Associations/Clubs (“the Affiliated Body”) affiliated with the Victorian Country Football League (Inc.) (“the VCFL”) hereby covenants and agrees with the VCFL:

1. To recognise the VCFL and AFL Victoria as the overall controlling bodies for all affiliated bodies with particular reference to the AFL Laws of the Game.

2. To observe and abide by the Statement of Purposes and Rules of the VCFL and AFL Victoria together with any rules or regulations which may be made by the VCFL and AFL Victoria from time to time including without limitation the regulations published by the VCFL and AFL Victoria at the date hereof. Where AFL Victoria Rules and regulations are silent on a matter VCFL Rules and regulations will apply.

3. That a copy of the Statement of Purposes, Rules and the said regulations have been made available through the official AFL Victoria Country handbook and AFL Victoria Country website and hereby acknowledges that the same are reasonable for the purpose of protecting and promoting the game of Australian Rules Football and that the restrictions contained therein are no more than necessary to serve and protect the legitimate objectives of the VCFL and AFL Victoria.

4. To use its best endeavours to ensure that the game of Australian Rules Football is conducted in a proper and efficient manner and that it shall not act in any way calculated to or which might otherwise have the effect of bringing the game of Australian Rules Football, AFL Victoria or the VCFL into disrepute.

5. That the relationship between the Affiliated Body, the VCFL and AFL Victoria is not and shall not be construed or deemed to be a partnership, agency or trust and the Affiliated Body shall not bind or purport to bind the VCFL or AFL Victoria in any way nor to pledge or purport to pledge the credit of the VCFL or AFL Victoria.

6. That it shall assume sole and absolute responsibility for and indemnify and save harmless the VCFL and AFL Victoria from all and any claims, liabilities, suits, losses, expenses, actions, causes of actions, responsibilities or damages by reason of any claim, proceedings, action, liability or injury arising out of the conduct of its competitions or as a result of its relations with any third party or as a result of any breach by it of any of the Constitution, rules or regulations of the VCFL or AFL Victoria.

7. That it be a requirement that before February 15 of each year, each VCFL affiliated League, Association and Umpire Group will provide a set of audited accounts to AFL Victoria of their most recent financial year end. In addition the audited accounts must be completed by a registered company auditor, a CPA member or a member of the institute of Chartered Accountants.

8. That on an annual basis the VCFL and AFL Victoria will set an appropriate Player Registration and Affiliation fee along with empowering AFL Victoria Regional Commissions with an ability to impose additional fees in consultation with the VCFL and AFL Victoria.

The VCFL and AFL Victoria hereby covenants and agrees with the Affiliated Body and in consideration of the foregoing, that it shall act in good faith and administer their Constitution, rules and regulations fairly and that they shall from time to time amend the same and make any new Constitution, rules or regulations as it may consider appropriate to better regulate the conduct of Affiliated Bodies and the game of Australian Football conducted by the Affiliated Bodies.
WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country League Contacts

AFL BARWON
A: PO Box 6007 Highton VIC 3216
P: 5241 6774 F: 5241 6776
REGION GENERAL MANAGER: Lee Hartman
E: gm@aflbarwon.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER: Michael Limb
E: michael@aflbarwon.com.au
FOOTBALL COORDINATOR: Sean Atkinson
E: sean@aflbarwon.com.au
NETBALL MANAGER: Nikki Cooke
E: nikki@aflbarwon.com.au
RECORD EDITOR: Jeanette Watt
E: jeanne@aflbarwon.com.au
ADMIN OFFICER: Deb Thewlis
E: deb@aflbarwon.com.au

AFL CENTRAL MURRAY
REGIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGER: David Alderuccio
P: 0408 807 325
E: david@afclcm.com.au

AFL CENTRAL VICTORIA
A: PO Box 415 Golden Square VIC 3555
P: 5434 2400 F: 5434 2444
REGIONAL OPERATIONS: Justin Abrams
M: 0437 981 510
E: justin.abrams@afclcentralvic.com.au
FOOTBALL OPERATIONS: Trevor Arnel
M: 0417 354 697
E: trevor.arnel@afclcentralvic.com.au
ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL OPERATIONS:
Norm Sheahan
M: 0427 006 675
E: norm.sheahan@afclcentralvic.com.au
Laura Naughton
P: 5434 2412
E: laura.naughton@afclcentralvic.com.au
TRAINEE: Amy Kenyon
P: 5434 2408
E: amy.kenyon@afclcentralvic.com.au

AFL GOULBURN MURRAY
A: PO Box 1253 Shepparton 3630
P: 5823 9800
E: admin@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au
REGION GENERAL MANAGER: Martin Gleeson
E: martin.gleeson@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au
LEAGUE OPERATIONS MANAGER: Simon Devine
E: simon.devine@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au
OPERATIONS & CLUB DEVELOPMENT:
Grant Wilson
E: grant.wilson@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au
JUNIOR COMPETITIONS & EVENTS: Bree Boyle
E: Bree.Boyle@aflgoulburnmurray.com.au

AFL GIPPSLAND
A: PO Box 853 Traralgon 3844
CENTRAL GIPPSLAND OPERATIONS MANAGER:
Gippsland League
Matt Ogilvie
A: Morwell Recreation Reserve Morwell 3840
PO Box 853 Traralgon 3844
M: 0437 292 825
E: matthew.ogilvie@aflgippsland.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER: Alberton FL
Lynn Whealan
A: PO Box 136 Inverloch 3996
P: 5674 1355 M: 0400 196 038 F: 5674 1255
E: admin@ngfnl@bigpond.com
OPERATIONS MANAGER:
North Gippsland FL & Traralgon DJFL
Pauline Bayley
A: PO Box 1987 Traralgon 3844
M: 0407 862 881
E: admin.ngfnl@bigpond.com

AFL GOLDFIELDS
A: 1431 Mair Street Ballarat 3350
Po Box 586 Ballarat 3353
F: 5333 3408
E: info@aflgoldfields.com.au
REGIONAL GENERAL MANAGER:
Rod Ward P: 5333 1977 M: 0400 611 310
E: rod@aflgoldfields.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER Ballarat FL:
Aaron Nunn P: 5333 1977 M: 0417 530 589
E: aaron@aflgoldfields.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER Maryborough & Castlemaine DFNL:
Scott Carey
P: 5333 1977 M: 0408 191 580
E: scott@aflgoldfields.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER Riddell District FL:
Toby Boyle P: 9740 5021 M: 0412 984 285
E: toby@aflgoldfields.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER Ballarat Football Umpires Association:
Liam Brady P: 5333 1977 M: 0408 518 908
E: liam@aflgoldfields.com.au
MEDIA, MARKETING & EVENTS MANAGER:
Shaun Kelly P: 5333 1977 M: 0409 072 403
E: shaun@aflgoldfields.com.au
NETBALL MANAGER:
Kim Bailey P: 5333 1977 M: 0417 642 271
E: kim@aflgoldfields.com.au
NETBALL OPERATIONS MANAGER:
Matthew Wiltshire P: 5333 1977 M: 0438 798 883
E: matthew@aflgoldfields.com.au
AFL NORTH EAST BORDER
111-113 Hume Street, Wodonga VIC 3690
P 02 6056 1993
E gavin.rendell@aflneb.com.au
E mark.bywater@aflneb.com.au (AFLNEB Umpires)
Wangaratta Showgrounds, Wangaratta VIC 3677
P 03 5722 1993
E jeremy.wilson@aflneb.com.au www.aflneb.com.au

AFL WIMMERA MALLEE
Stephen McQueen
A: PO Box 1455 Horsham 3400
Horsham City Oval, Hocking St, Horsham 3400
P: 5381 0134 M: 0427 842 340 F: 5382 7133
E: gm@aflwm.com.au
operations@aflwm.com.au

ALBERTON FNL
See AFL Gippsland
Lynn Whelan

ALBURY WODONGA JFL
See Ovens & Murray FNL

ARARAT & DJFA
PRESIDENT: Liesa Lezekil
305 Barkly St, Ararat, 3377
P: 0417350146 E: savaliesa@people.net.au

BALLARAT FL
See AFL Goldfields

BELLARINE FL
See AFL Barwon

BENALLA & DJFL
See AFL North East Border

BENDIGO FNL
See AFL Central Victoria

BENDIGO JFL
See AFL Central Victoria

CASTERTON COLERAINE JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
Paddy Neeson
A: 152 Chetwynd - Nareen Road, Nareen 3315
P: 5579 8523 M: 0429 798 523
E: anneperkin@hotmail.com

CENTRAL GIPPSLAND JFL Inc
Charles Weir
A: PO Box 20 Newborough VIC 3825
P: 0409 436 458 F: 5173 3003 E: cweir@agl.com.au

CENTRAL MURRAY FNL
See AFL Central Murray

COBRAM & DJFL
Peter Beasley
A: C/- Murray Valley Printers
Colgan St Cobram 3644
P: 0458 194 890
E: mvprint@iinet.net.au

COLAC & DFL
See AFL Barwon

DANDENONG RANGES JFL
Judy Orren
A: PO Box 70 Woori Yallock 3139
P: 5961 5611 M: 0417 514 582
F: 5961 5622
E: judy@yvmdfl.com.au

ELLINBANK DFL
MANAGER/SECRETARY - Ken Moore
A: PO Box 141 Warragul 3820
M: 0457 099 113
E: secretary@edfl.org.au

FOOTBALL NETBALL EAST GIPPSLAND
Rod Twining
45 Gatehouse Drive Bairnsdale 3875
M: 0407 347 727 F: 5152 7303
E: egfl2004@bigpond.net.au

FRANKSTON & DJFL Inc
A: PO Box 8217 Carrum Downs 3201
P: 9786 7581
PRESIDENT: Stuart Mason
M: 0408 517 446
E: president@fanddjflinc.org.au
ADMIN OFFICER: tbc
M: 0400 983 198
E: admin@fanddjflinc.org.au

GEELONG & DFL
Alan Moore
PO Box 204 Geelong 3220 P: 5248 6379
M: 0419 536 430 F: 5248 6039
E: alangdflwireless@bigpond.com

GEELONG FL
See AFL Barwon

GEELONG JFL
See AFL Barwon

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE
See AFL Gippsland

GOLDEN RIVERS FL
See AFL Central Murray

GOULBURN VALLEY FL
See AFL Goulburn Murray
GOULBURN CAMPASPE JFL
Rachael Shandley
A: 560 Lady Augusta Rd Echuca 3564
P: 5482 3056 M: 0413 271 123
E: gcjfl@bigpond.com

HAMILTON JFL
Jacki McKay
PO Box 857 Hamilton VIC 3300
M: 0439 876 181
E: hamiltonjfl@hotmail.com

HAMILTON JFL
Jacki McKay
PO Box 857 Hamilton VIC 3300
M: 0439 876 181
E: hamiltonjfl@hotmail.com

HAMPDEN FNL
Michael Farrow
A: PO Box 219 Warnambool VIC 3280
P: 5560 5211 M: 0417 125 482
E: hfnl@bigpond.com
JUNIOR OPERATIONS MANAGER:
Daniel O’Leary
M: 0419 355 337
E: admin@hampdenjunior.com.au

HAMPDEN JFL
See Hampden FNL

HEATHCOTE DFL
See AFL Central Victoria

HORSHAM DFNL
See AFL Wimmera Mallee

KYABRAM DFNL
See AFL Goulburn Murray

LARA LL
Justine Beekmans
M: 0430 432 434
E: jbeekmans11@hotmail.com

LODDON VALLEY FNL
See AFL Central Victoria

MALLEE FL
Anita McFarlane
367 Brim East Rd Brim 3391
P: 5390 4251 M: 0427 535 147
F: 5390 4364
E: nagpl@netconnect.com.au

MANSFIELD JFL
Bo Christopher
A: PO Box 384 Mansfield 3724,
M: 0409 950 280
E: bobaz@bigpond.net.au

MARYBOROUGH CASTLEMAINE DFL
See AFL Goldfields

MID GIPPSLAND FL
Rod Lucas
A: PO Box 263 Morwell 3840
P: 5134 1357 M: 0412 419 678 F: 5134 2894
E: mgfl@bigpond.com

MILLEWA FL
PRESIDENT: Adam Astill
P: 0413 622 443
FOOTBALL ADMINISTRATION: Peter Walker
P: 0409 220 606
A: 58a Lemon Avenue, Mildura, VIC 3500

MININERA & DFL
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: Dianne Memberry
Mobile 0409 194 030
E: mdfl1@bigpond.com
PO Box 204 Warrawamba, 3280
CLEARANCES: David Wade
A: 10 Jervis St Woondoo 3272
P: 55 995 361 F: 5599 5399 M: 0427 995 361
E: djwade@skymesh.com.au

MOORABOOL VALLEY LL
See AFL Barwon

MPJFL
PRESIDENT: Andrew Souter
A: 1973 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Hastings, 3915
P: 5971 5643 M: 0405 716 535 F: 5971 5643
E: admin@mpjfl.com.au

MPNFL
A: PO Box 468 Somerville VIC 3912
CEO: Jeff Jones
P: 5978 1204 M: 0439 616 581
E: jeffj@mpnfl.com.au
FOOTBALL NETBALL OPERATIONS:
Ian Benson
P: 5978 1203 M: 0414 853 511
E: ianb@mpnfl.com.au
DIGITAL, PRINT & COMMUNICATION
CO-ORDINATOR:
Brendan Tibballs
E: Communications@mpnfl.com.au

MURRAY FL
Dale Norman
A: PO Box 859 Yarrawonga 3730
P: 5743 2244 M: 0435 182 782 F: 5744 0313
E: mfl@mcmedia.com.au

MYRTLEFORD JFL
Sue Lunardi
A: 78 O’Donnell Ave Myrtleford 3737
M: 0407 770 008
E: suel8@bigpond.com

NEPEAN FL
See MPNFL

NEWTOWN LL
See AFL Barwon

NEIDGE FL
See MPNFL

NEWTON FL
See AFL Barwon

FOOTBALL COORDINATOR: Sean Atkinson

NORTH CENTRAL FL
Lance Standfield
98 High St Wedderburn 3518
P: 5494 3799 F: 5494 3799 M: 0427 844 770
E: nclflgm@bigpond.com
NORTH GIPPSLAND FNL
See AFL Gippsland
Pauline Bayley

OMEO & DFNL
Rod Twining
M: 0407 347 727  E: egfl2004@bigpond.net.au

OVENS & KING FL
See AFL North East Border - Wangaratta

OVENS & MURRAY FNL
A: 208 Fallon St North Albury NSW 2640
F: (02) 6025 0122
GENERAL MANAGER: Aaron McGlynn
P: (02) 6025 0622  M: 0439 721 001
E: omgm@bigpond.net.au
OPERATIONS OFFICER: Greg Dawson
P: (02) 6025 0633  M: 0419 607 425
E: omops@bigpond.net.au

PENINSULA FL
See MPNFL

PICOLA & DFNL
Brad Williams
PO Box 2150, Echuca VIC 3564
(M) 0419 485 665
E: picolaffl@bigpond.com

PORTLAND JFL
PRESIDENT: Adam Hawke
M: 0429 800 668
E: ahawke@bigpond.net.au
ADMINISTRATOR: Casey Dent
M: 0459 073 069  E: portlandjfa@gmail.com
A: PO Box 1243 Portland VIC

RIDDELL DFL
See AFL Goldfields

SALE & DJFA
Len Spencer
A: PO Box 143 Sale 3850
P: 5143 1044  M: 0428 963 367
F: 5144 2809  E: saledjfa@bigpond.com

SEYMOUR DJFNL
See AFL Goulburn Murray

SHEPPARTON & DJFL
See AFL Goulburn Murray

SOUTH EAST FNL (formerly Casey Cardinia FNL)
A: PO Box 5154 Cranbourne VIC 3977
P: 5995 5060  E: sefnl@afsl southeast.com.au
FOOTBALL OPERATIONS:
Liz Triffid
P: 5995 5060  E: sefnl@afsl southeast.com.au
NETBALL ADMINISTRATOR:
TBA
P: 5995 5060  E: sefnl@afsl southeast.com.au

SOUTH WEST DFNL
Chrissy Hawker
A: PO Box 416 Portland 3305
P: 5523 6294  M: 0428 865 437
E: hawkr@bigpond.net.au

STAWELL 13 & UNDER FA
PRESIDENT: Paul Hendy
P: 0429 948 765
TREASURER: Kerri Taylor
A: PO Box 283 Stawell 3380
P: 0438 584 956
E: ktaylor48@bigpond.com

SUNRAYSIA FNL
Peter Walker
A: PO Box 121 Mildura 3502
P: 0409 220 606
E: sflmild@bigpond.net.au

TALLANGATTA & DFL
See AFL North East Border - Wodonga

TRARALGON & DJFL
See AFL Gippsland
Pauline Bayley

UPPER MURRAY FNL
See AFL North East Border - Wodonga

WANGARATTA & DJFL
See AFL North East Border – Wangaratta

WARRAGUL & DJFL
Anthony Hibbs
A: PO Box 672 Warragul 3820
P: 5623 2842  M: 0408 595 967
E: wdjfl@dcisi.net.au

WARRNAMBOOL & DFNL
Dianne Membrey
A: PO Box 204 Warrnambool 3280
M: 0409 194 030  F: 5561 1426
E: wdfnl@bigpond.com

WIMMERA FL
See AFL Wimmera Mallee

YARRAWONGA & DLL
Dale Norman
A: 13 Pearce St Yarrawonga 3730
P: 57432548  M: 0435 182 782
E: normandv@bigpond.net.au

YARMDF&NL
Gordon Sumner
A: PO Box 215 Woori Yallock 3139
P: 5961 5611  M: 0408 997 005  F: 5961 5622
E: Gordon.Sumner@aflyarraranges.com.au
UMPIRING ASSOCIATIONS’ CONTACTS 2014

AFL North East Border Umpire Department
Mark Bywater
Level 3, 111-113 Hume St, Wodonga, VIC 3690
02 6056 1933 or 0416 468 132
mark.bywater@afl neb.com.au

Ararat UA
Tony Reynolds
6 High Street, Ararat, VIC 3377
5352 3736 or 0488 923 575
tony.reynolds4@bigpond.com

Ballarat FUA
Liam Brady
1431 Mair Street, Ballarat, VIC 3350
5333 1977 or 0408 518 908
liam@afl goldfields.com.au

Bendigo UA
Peter Cleary
PO Box 344, Bendigo, VIC 3552
5442 4804 or 0418 569 394
bendigoumpireassociation@yahoo.com.au

Central Murray FLUA
David Alderuccio
PO Box 376, Swan Hill, VIC 3585
15 Grey Street, Swan Hill
M: 0408 807 325
E: david@af icmp.com.au

Colac & DFUA
Russell Adams
70 Polwarth Street, Colac, VIC 3250
5231 3973 or 0410 407 032
adamsrussell@yahoo.com.au

East Gippsland UA
Administrator – Rod Twining
45 Gatehouse Drive, Bairnsdale, VIC 3875
0407 347 727
egf2004@bigpond.net.au

Frankston DFLUA
Stuart Mason
28 Quail Close, Chelsea Heights, VIC 3196
9772 9895 or 0412 050 757
umpires@fanddjfl inc.org.au

Geelong FUL
David Harris
PO Box 1607, Geelong, VIC 3220
5229 8599 (w) or 0438 652 187
genmanager@gful.com.au

Gippsland UA
Paul Osborn
22 Hopetoun Road, Drouin, VIC 3818
5625 1348 or 0408 316 155
paulo@dcsi.net.au

Goulburn Valley FUA
Tony Hajro
3 Henderson Court, Shepparton, VIC 3630
5831 4135 or 0417 517 756
gvfuasecretary@gmail.com

Latrobe Valley UA
Janine Lawrence
PO Box 492, Morwell, VIC 3840
5134 1058 or 0421 063 840
jblaw@speedweb.com.au

Northern District FUA
Scott Bourne
19 Marne Street, Kerang, VIC 3579
0407 879 242
goport23bull@hotmail.com

Rochester - Echuca FUA
Brett Ayres
PO Box 2145, Echuca, VIC 3564
0419 332 853
kbayres@bigpond.com

Sale UA
Keith Pritchard
3 / 82 Inglis St, Sale, VIC 3860
5144 6904 or 0407 097 184
keithwp45@hotmail.com

South Gippsland UA
Grant Robinson
PO Box 25, Tarwin Lower, VIC 3956
5663 7661 or 0432 326 949
sgua@bigpond.com

South West DFLUA
Chrissy Hawker
PO Box 416, Portland, VIC 3305
0428 865 437
hawkr@bigpond.net.au

Southern UA
Neil McKinnon
PO Box 8590, Carrum Downs, VIC 3201
9785 0000 or 0431 700 322
office.sua@gmail.com
### 2015 AFL Victoria Country Umpire Minimum Pay Rates Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Major League</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Boundary</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seniors</strong></td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>$101</td>
<td>$82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserves</strong></td>
<td>$132</td>
<td>$73</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thirds</strong></td>
<td>$103</td>
<td>$56</td>
<td>$47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>District League</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seniors</strong></td>
<td>$151</td>
<td>$86</td>
<td>$67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserves</strong></td>
<td>$98</td>
<td>$54</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thirds</strong></td>
<td>$88</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior League</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U15/16</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$47</td>
<td>$44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U13/14</td>
<td>$57</td>
<td>$38</td>
<td>$38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U10/11/12</td>
<td>$51</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Travel Reimbursement

Travel reimbursement rate for 2015 will be 68 cents per kilometre, which is set at a rate of 90% of the ATO travel reimbursement rate in November each year.

For the purposes of determining travel reimbursement one central point is to be agreed upon between Leagues and Umpiring Organisations (for example Umpires rooms, League offices or central point in town). Travel is not to be claimed for venues within 8 kilometres from the agreed central point.

If a full complement of 6 umpires or more is appointed to a game, two cars may be claimed. All other arrangements are to be mutually agreed upon between the respective Leagues and umpiring associations.

All pay and travel reimbursement rates as listed are GST exclusive.
AFL VICTORIA
Postal Address: GPO Box 4337, MELBOURNE VIC 3011
Phone: (03) 8341 6000   Fax: (03) 9380 1076
Website: www.aflvic.com.au

MANAGEMENT
AFL Victoria General Manager
Steven Reaper
Executive Assistant
Silvana Hurst
Email: silvana.hurst@aflvic.com.au

DEVELOPMENT
Coaching Development Manager
Steve Teakel
Email: steve.teakel@aflvic.com.au

Engagement Manager
Xavier Moloney
Email: xavier.moloney@aflvic.com.au

Female Development Manager
Chyloe Kurdas
Email: chyloe.kurdas@aflvic.com.au

FIDA Football Administration Manager
Logan Whitaker
Email: logan.whitaker@aflvic.com.au

Indigenous Programs Manager
Aaron Clark
Email: aaron.clark@aflvic.com.au

Infrastructure Planning Manager
Ricky Bell
Email: ricky.bell@aflvic.com.au

Marketing & Commercial Manager
Ryan Webb
Email: ryan.webb@aflvic.com.au

Media & Communications Manager
Anthony Stanguts
Email: anthony.stanguts@aflvic.com.au

NAB Auskick Manager
Stephen O’Donohue
Email: stephen.o’donohue@aflvic.com.au

North West Planning Manager
Darryl Collings
Email: darryl.collings@aflvic.com.au

Umpiring Development Manager
Neville Nash
Email: neville.nash@aflvic.com.au

SECTION 1: WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY INFORMATION
**REGIONAL STAFF**

**TAC CUP TALENT MANAGERS**

**BENDIGO PIONEERS**

Talent Manager - Ray Byrne  
PO Box 140, GOLDEN SQUARE VIC 3555,  
Ph: (03) 5444 5832 (B), 0419 881 908 (M),  
Fax: (03) 5444 4899,  
Email: ray.byrne@aflvic.com.au

**CALDER CANNONS**

Talent Manager - Ian Kyte  
PO Box 427, CRAIGIEBURN, VIC, 3064  
Ph: (03) 8339 7483 (B), 0419 521 499 (M),  
Fax: (03) 8339 7481  
Email: ian.kyte@aflvic.com.au

**DANDENONG STINGRAYS**

Talent Manager - Mark Wheeler  
PO Box 1313, DANDENONG VIC 3175,  
Ph: (03) 9791 8656 (B), 0419 529 766 (M)  
Fax: (03) 9791 8989,  
Email: mark.wheeler@aflvic.com.au

**EASTERN RANGES**

Talent Manager - Len Villani  
PO Box 594, KILSYTH, VIC 3137  
Ph: (03) 9724 9499 (B), 0402 846 935 (M),  
Fax: (03) 9724 9277,  
Email: len.villani@aflvic.com.au

**GEELOONG FALCONS**

Talent Manager - Michael Turner  
PO Box 1497, GEELOONG VIC 3220,  
Ph: (03) 5241 6986 (B), 0418 524 495 (M)  
Fax: (03) 5241 6616,  
Email: michael.turner@aflvic.com.au

**GIPPSLAND POWER**

Talent Manager - Peter Francis  
PO Box 833, WARRAGUL VIC 3820,  
Ph: (03) 5134 8133 (B), 0419 103 177 (M)  
Fax: (03) 5134 1855,  
Email: peter.francis@aflvic.com.au

**MURRAY BUSHRANGERS**

Talent Manager - Lee Fraser  
PO Box 854, WANGARATTA VIC 3677,  
Ph: (03) 5722 1776 (B), 0402 414 476 (M)  
Fax: (03) 5722 1798,  
Email: lee.fraser@aflvic.com.au

**NORTH BALLARAT REBELS**

Talent Manager - Phil Partington  
PO Box 151N, NORTH BALLARAT VIC 3350  
Ph: (03) 5333 0915 (B), 0418 558 850 (M)  
Fax: (03) 5332 9538,  
Email: phil.partington@aflvic.com.au

**NORTHERN KNIGHTS**

Talent Manager - Peter Kennedy  
PO Box 266, PRESTON VIC 3072  
Ph: (03) 9478 3431 (B), 0418 543 697 (M)  
Fax: (03) 9478 9541  
Email: peter.kennedy@aflvic.com.au

**OAKLEY CHARGERS**

Talent Manager - TBC  
PO Box 2047, OAKLEY VIC 3166  
Ph: (03) 9563 0588 (B),  
Fax: (03) 9563 0788

**SANDRINGHAM DRAGONS**

Talent Manager - Ryan O’Connor  
PO Box 101, CAULFIELD SOUTH VIC 3162  
Ph: (03) 9532 8688 (B), 0431 366 222 (M)  
Fax: (03) 9532 9034,  
Email: ryan.oconnor@aflvic.com.au

**WESTERN JETS**

Talent Manager - Shane Sexton  
PO Box 3170, NEWPORT, VIC 3015  
Ph: (03) 9391 0309 (B), 0419 504 120 (M)  
Fax: (03) 9390 0644,  
Email: shane.sexton@aflvic.com.au

**HIGH PERFORMANCE**

State League and Talent Manager  
John Hook  
Email: john.hook@aflvic.com.au

High Performance Managers  
Anton Grbac  
Email: anton.grbac@aflvic.com.au  
Leon Harris  
Email: leon.harris@aflvic.com.au

Head of Athlete Management  
Paul Sealey  
Email: paul.sealey@aflvic.com.au

Football Operations Coordinator  
Rhy Gieschen  
Email: rhy.gieschen@aflvic.com.au

Football Operations Coordinator  
Lauren Bunting  
Email: lauren.bunting@aflvic.com.au

State League Umpiring Manager  
Cameron Nash  
Ph: (03) 9416 1499  
Email: cameron.nash@aflvic.com.au

Competitions Manager - Women’s Football & VFL Academy Coach  
Darren Flanigan  
Email: Darren.Flanigan@aflvic.com.au

Operations Coordinator - Women’s Football, AFL Victoria  
Jess Smith  
Email: Jess.smith@aflvic.com.au
METROPOLITAN REGIONAL STAFF

Metropolitan Football Manager
Michael Daniher
Ph: (03) 8341 6008
Email: michael.daniher@aflvic.com.au

Community Football Operations - Manager
Gerard Ryan
Ph: (03) 8341 6006
Email: gerard.ryan@aflvic.com.au

REGION DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

Eastern Region Game Development Manager
Aaron Bailey
256 Scoresby Road, BORONIA, VIC, 3155
PH: (03) 9724 9488
Email: abealley@efl.org.au

Northern Region Development Manager
Phiv Demetriou
PO Box 405, GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088
PH: (03) 9432 2427 (B), 0419 308 972 (M)
Fax: (03) 9432 0147
Email: phiv.demetriou@aflvic.com.au

Northern Community Development Manager
TBC
PO Box 405, GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088
PH: (03) 9435 1264 (B), TBC (M)
Email: TBC

CONTRACTS:

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

Football Development Manager South West
Tom Delahunty
PO Box 3170, Newport, Vic, 3015
Ph: (03) 9391 0309 (B), 0428 866 335 (M)
Fax: 9390 0644
Email: thomas.delahunty@aflvic.com.au

Football Development Manager Inner West
Tony Nguyen
Western Region FL
Contacts: tbc

Football Development Manager
Outer North West
Tony Pasquali
Riddell DFL
Contacts tbc

Central Region Development Manager
Luke O’Shannessy
PO Box 2047, OAKLEIGH, 3166
Ph: (03) 9563 0588 (B), 0419 136 345 (M)
Fax: (03) 9563 0788
Email: luke.oshannessy@aflvic.com.au

Southern Region Development Manager
Gary Brown
PO Box 1018 MOORABBIN VIC 3189
PH: (03) 9555 3982, 0437 959 490 (M)
Email: gary.brown@aflvic.com.au
Box Hill Hawks
Mark Long
0439 331 195
mark@boxhillhawks.com.au
PO Box 143, Box Hill, VIC, 3128

Casey Scorpions
Matthew Young
0409 530 540
matt@scorpions.com.au
Suite 10, 65 Berwick/Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne East, VIC, 3977

Coburg Tigers
Craig Lees
0433 162 653
craig.lees@coburgfc.com.au
PO Box 154, Coburg, VIC, 3058

Collingwood
Luke Gatti
0412 358 818
lukeg@collingwood.com.au
PO Box 165, Abbotsford, VIC, 3067

Essendon
Matthew Little
0423 770 107
mlittle@essendonfc.com.au
PO Box 17, Essendon, VIC, 3040

Frankston
Simon Green
0447 799 013
Simongreen@frankstonfc.com.au
PO Box 354, Frankston, VIC, 3199

Footscray Bulldogs
Ben Graham
0417 331860
ben.graham@westernbulldogs.com.au

Geelong
Troy Selwood
0406 424 088
tselwood@geelongcats.com.au
PO Box 461, Geelong, VIC, 3220

North Ballarat
Mark Patterson
0418 135 279
marg@theroosters.com.au
PO Box 151N, Ballarat North, VIC, 3350

Northern Blues
Gary O’Sullivan
0409 235 083
Gary.osullivan@northernbluesfc.com.au
PO Box 231, Preston, VIC, 3072

Port Melbourne
Barry Kidd
0407 964 620
pmfc@bigpond.net.au
PO Box 247, Port Melbourne, VIC, 3207

Richmond
Daniel Hull
0425 731 561
dhull@richmondfc.com.au
PO Box 48, Richmond, VIC, 3121

Sandringham
John Mennie
0414 998 360
sandyfc@bigpond.net.au
PO Box 16, Sandringham, VIC, 3191

Werribee Tigers
Mark Penaluna
0409 252 660
mpenaluna@werribeefc.com.au
PO Box 2049, Werribee, VIC, 3030

Williamstown
Jason Reddick
0412 522 400
jreddick@williamstownfc.com.au
PO Box 307, Williamstown, VIC, 3016
AFL VICTORIA – KEY CONTACT DETAILS 2015
METROPOLITAN LEAGUES

EASTERN FL  www.efl.org.au
Postal Address: 256 Scoresby Road, Boronia 3155
9761 1315 (F)
CEO: Phil Murton
pmurton@efl.org.au
9762 5766 (B)  0425 823 704 (M)
General Manager Football Operations:
Matt Bishop
mbishop@efl.org.au
9762 5766 (B)  0400 556 088 (M)

ESSENDON DISTRICT FL  www.essendondfl.com.au
Postal Address: 14 Marshall Road, Airport West
3042
9338 4854 (F)
General Manager: Marc Turri
Marc.turri@essendondfl.com.au
9338 4854 (B)  0419 377 891 (M)
Football Operations Administration Manager:
Greta May
Greta.m@essendondfl.com.au
9338 4854 (B)

SOUTH METRO JFL  www.smjfl.com.au
Postal Address: PO Box 3, Moorabbin VIC 3189
9553 5655 (F)
General Manager: Jake McCauley
gm@smjfl.com.au
9553 5985 (B)  0421 413 893 (M)
Football Operations Manager: Emily McIntyre
administration@smjfl.com.au
9553 5985 (B)  0409 186 846 (M)

NORTHERN FL  www.nfl.org.au
Postal Address: PO Box 405, Greensborough 3088
9432 0147 (F)
CEO: Peter McDougall
peter@nfl.org.au
9435 8122 (B)  0407 046 328 (M)
Football Operations Manager: Ron McKeown
ronniemc@nfl.org.au
9435 8122 (B)  0449 252 440 (M)

SOUTHERN FL  www.sfl.com.au
Postal Address: PO Box 1018, Moorabbin VIC 3189
9553 5655 (F)
CEO: David Cannizzo
ceo@sfl.com.au
9553 5644 (B)  0422 692 185 (M)
General Manager Football Operations: Matt Duck
Matt.duck@sfl.com.au
9553 5644 (B)  0438 052 484 (M)

SOUTH EAST JUNIORS  www.southeastjuniors.com.au
Postal Address: PO Box 5154 Cranbourne, 3977
General Manager: Shaun Connell
gm@southeastjuniors.com.au
5995 0555 (B)  0423 421 021 (M)
Football Operations Manager: Nicole Edney
admin@southeastjuniors.com.au
5995 0555 (B)  0400 873 760 (M)

VAFA  www.vafa.com.au
Postal Address: PO Box 359 Elsternwick 3185
9537 6777  9531 6601
CEO: Michael Sholly
Michael@vafa.com.au
9537 6702 (B)  0407 813 780 (M)
General Manager Football & Umpire Operations:
Brian Goodman
brian@vafa.com.au
9537 6700 (B)  0408 338 098 (M)

VICTORIAN WOMENS FL  www.vwfl.org.au
Postal Address: PO Box 306, Coburg VIC 3058
Competitions Manager: Darren Flannigan
darren.flannigan@aflvic.com.au
8341 6027 (B)  0488 738 333 (M)
Operations Coordinator: Jess Smith
jess.smith@aflvic.com.au
8341 6025 (B)  0416 855 573 (M)

WESTERN REGION FL  www.wrfl.asn.au
Postal Address: PO Box 2243, Footscray VIC 3011
9315 5400 (B)  9362 7779 (F)
CEO: Bob Tregear
b.tregear@wrfl.asn.au
9315 5400 (B)  0418 348 986 (M)
General Manager Football Operations:
David Newton
d.newton@wrfl.asn.au
9315 5400 (B)  0410 628 067 (M)

YARRA JFL  www.yarrajfl.org.au
Postal address: PO Box 434, Bulleen Plaza 3105
9850 6615 (B)  9850 7141 (F)
League Manager: Peter Nicholls
Peter.nicholls@yarrajfl.org.au
9850 6615 (B)  0457 958 006 (M)
Operations Manager: Shaun Dowling
shaun.dowling@yarrajfl.org.au
9850 6615 (B)  0457 958 005 (M)

VICTORIAN METRO SUPERULES  http://mafv.com/
Postal address: PO Box 202, Bulleen Plaza 3105
9411 1299 (F)
Executive Director: Rebecca Fahey
Rebecca.fahey@live.com.au
0433 210 172 (M)

FIDA  www.fida.org.au
Postal Address: GPO Box 4337, Melbourne VIC 3001
9380 1076 (F)
Football Administration Manager: Logan Whitaker
Logan.whitaker@aflvic.com.au
8341 6078 (B)  0433 572 784 (M)
AFL & STATE FOOTBALL BODIES

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
GPO Box 1449, MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Phone: (03) 9643 1999  Fax: (03) 9643 1878
Website: www.afl.com.au

AFL NSW/ACT
PO Box 333
Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012
Work: (02) 8333 8000
Fax: (02) 9360 2255
info@aflnswact.com.au

AFL Northern Territory
PO Box 43196
Casuarina, NT 0811
Work: (08) 8980 4888
Fax: (08) 8945 0069
afint@aflint.com.au

AFL Queensland
PO Box 1211
Coorparoo DC, QLD 4151
Work: (07) 3394 2433
Fax: (07) 3394 4977
admin@aflq.com.au

South Australian National Football League
PO Box 1
West Lakes, SA 5021
Work: (08) 8268 2088
Fax: (08) 8445 7385
admin@sanfl.com.au

AFL Tasmania
PO Box 520
North Hobart, TAS 7002
Work: (03) 6230 1800
Fax: (03) 6234 3577
admin@footballtas.com.au

West Australian Football Commission
Gate 6 Subiaco Road
Subiaco, WA 6008
Work: (08) 9381 5599
Fax: (08) 6380 1280
exec@wafc.com.au
Netball Victoria is the state’s peak sporting body, responsible for the management and development of netball across Victoria. We meet the needs of netball players, coaches, umpires, administrators, associations and clubs across the state with the aim of increasing the number of people playing netball in Victoria. Netball Victoria comprises 111,000 members across 19 regions and approximately 220 Member Associations.

Netball Victoria also manages and develops Victoria’s elite team, the Melbourne Vixens.

**Game Development**
- Netball Victoria Member Services
- Participation – Strategy and Growth
- Schools
- Inclusion Programs (Multicultural, Indigenous, All Abilities)
- ANZ NetSetGO

**League/Club Support and Development**
- Education and Training Programs
- Facility Development and Funding
- Volunteer Support and Development

Katie Redding – General Manager Game Development
P: 9321 2266  E: katie.redding@netballvic.com.au

Pam Ferrari – Regional Development Manager (North)
P: (03) 5434 2417  E: pam.ferrari@netballvic.com.au

Melanie Taylor – Regional Development Manager (West)
P: (03) 5222 7543  E: melanie.taylor@netballvic.com.au

Judi Buhagiar – Regional Development Manager (East)
P: (03) 5134 1705  E: judi.buhagiar@netballvic.com.au

Tim Murdoch – Member Services Manager
P: 9321 2207  E: tim.murdoch@netballvic.com.au

Amanda Kappa – Members Services Coordinator
P: 9321 2208  E: amanda.kappa@netballvic.com.au

Ellie Trewin – Member & Association Support Officer
P: 9321 2260  E: ellie.trewin@netballvic.com.au

Deb Martin – Technology Services Coordinator
P: 9321 2214  E: deb.martin@netballvic.com.au

Stacey O’Neil – Program Development Manager
P: 9321 2271  E: stacey.o’neil@netballvic.com.au

Cassandra Hadson – Community Development Manager
P: 9321 2237  E: cassandra.hadson@netballvic.com.au

**Game Development (cont.)**

Erin Riley – Junior Development Coordinator (NetSetGO)
P: 9321 2246  E: erin.riley@netballvic.com.au

Amber Koster – Facilities & Development Manager
P: 9321 2241  E: amber.koster@netballvic.com.au

Netball Operations
- Coaching and Umpiring Development Programs
- Competitions – Regional State League, Association Championships, State Titles, VNL, ANL
- High Performance
- Elite Development

Michelle Gerdtz – General Manager Netball Operations
P: 9321 2204  E: michelle.gerdtz@netballvic.com.au

Rebecca Mellington – Senior Competitions Coordinator – VNL
P: 9321 2211  E: rebecca.mellington@netballvic.com.au

Nicole Richardson – Coach Development Coordinator
P: 9321 2213  E: nicole.richardson@netballvic.com.au

Ann Castles – Umpire Development Coordinator
P: 9321 2216  E: ann.castles@netballvic.com.au

Angela Banbury – Competitions Manager
P: 9321 2240  E: angela.banbury@netballvic.com.au

Ellie Bowden – Competitions Coordinator
P: 9321 2247  E: ellie.bowden@netballvic.com.au

Rebekah Webster – High Performance Manager
P: 9321 2218  E: rebekah.webster@netballvic.com.au

Hayley Van Den Boom – High Performance Coordinator – Pathways
P: 9321 2209  E: Hayley.vandenboom@netballvic.com.au

**Commercial Operations**
- Business Partners
- Marketing and Event Services
- Melbourne Vixens Memberships
- Merchandise and Licensing

Liz Palma – General Manager Sponsorship & Marketing
P: 9321 2204  E: liz.palma@netballvic.com.au

Naomi Barter – Sponsorship & Marketing Manager
P: 9321 2226  E: naomi.barter@netballvic.com.au

Briony Carlyon – Media and Communications Manager
P: 9321 2223  E: briony.carlyon@netballvic.com.au

Maeve Wood – Events & Marketing Assistant
P: 9321 2252  E: maeve.wood@netballvic.com.au

**Connect with Netball Victoria and the Melbourne Vixens online!**

Netball Victoria Facebook
www.facebook.com/netballvic
Twitter: @netballci

Melbourne Vixens
www.facebook.com/melbournevix
Twitter: @MelbourneVixens
# AFL Victoria Country Sponsors

## Naming Rights Sponsor

![WorkSafe Victoria Logo](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>8C, 333 Gillies Street</td>
<td>(03) 5338 4444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WENDOUREE VIC 3355</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>104 Queen Street</td>
<td>(03) 5443 8866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BENDIGO VIC 3550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dandenong</td>
<td>Level 3, 33 Princes Highway</td>
<td>(03) 8792 9000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DANDENONG VIC 3175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>Level 1, 1 Yarra Street</td>
<td>(03) 5226 1222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Cnr Brougham &amp; Yarra St)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GEELONG VIC 3220</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mildura</td>
<td>78 Lemon Avenue</td>
<td>(03) 5021 4001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MILDURA VIC 3500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulgrave</td>
<td>37 Dunlop Road</td>
<td>(03) 9565 9444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MULGRAVE VIC 3170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepparton</td>
<td>148 - 150 Welsford Street</td>
<td>(03) 5831 8260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SHEPPARTON VIC 3630</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traralgon</td>
<td>Suites 1 &amp; 2, 6 - 8 Grey Street</td>
<td>(03) 5174 8900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRARALGON VIC 3844</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wangaratta</td>
<td>24 Reid Street</td>
<td>(03) 5721 8588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WANGARATTA VIC 3677</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrnambool</td>
<td>76 Henna Street</td>
<td>(03) 5564 3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*WorkSafe Victoria*

1800 136 089

WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY LICENSEES
Refer to Rule 26.0 in AFL Victoria Country Rules & Regulations for purchasing guidelines.

GUERNSEYS

Cougar Teamwear
Heath Kendall
43 Latitude Boulevard, Thomastown VIC 3074
Ph: (03) 9463 1111 or 0413 437 252
Fax: (03) 9463 1122
Email: heath.kendall@cougarsports.com.au
Website: www.cougarsportswear.com.au

Loco Sportswear
Andrew Witts
259 Ingles Street, Port Melbourne VIC 3207
Ph: (03) 9820 9000 or 0404 841 932
Email: andy@locosportswear.com.au
Website: www.locosportswear.com.au

Lyon Sportswear
Tiffany Bassindale
20 Lamana Street, Mordialloc VIC 3195
Phone: (03) 9580 3122 or 0423 755 364
Fax: (03) 9580 3199
Email: sales@lyonsportswear.com.au
Website: www.lyonsportswear.com.au

Sherwood Sportswear
Jay Ellis
10 Pearl St, Brooklyn VIC 3012
Ph: (03) 9325 1766 or 0430 455 201
Fax: (03) 9325 1042
Email: jay@sherwoodsportswear.com.au
Website: www.sherwoodsportswear.com.au

TWP
Adam Skrobolak
4/368 Latrobe Terrace, Geelong VIC 3220
Ph: (03) 5229 2291 or 0411 984 212
Email: gm@teamworksperformance.com
Website: www.twp.com.au

SHORTS

Cougar Teamwear
Heath Kendall
43 Latitude Boulevard, Thomastown VIC 3074
Ph: (03) 9463 1111 or 0413 437 252
Fax: (03) 9463 1122
Email: heath.kendall@cougarsports.com.au
Website: www.cougarsportswear.com.au

FOOTBALLS

Burley Sekem
Matt Wilson
33 Trade Park Drive, Tullamarine VIC 3043
Ph: (03) 9279 2999
Mob: 0409 109 050
Fax: (03) 9279 2900
Email: mattw@sekem.com.au
Website: www.sekem.com.au

Sherrin - Russell Athletic
Brad Rundell / Rod Lawson
5 Lakeview Drive, Scoresby VIC 3179
Ph: (03) 9765 5908
Mob: 0411 201 096
Fax: (03) 9765 5988
Email: rundellb@russellcorp.com.au
Website: www.sherrin.com.au

UMPIRING APPAREL

AFL’s National Umpire Uniform Supply Program
Adam Davis
National Development Manager of Umpiring
140 Harbour Esplanade, Melbourne Docklands
Ph: 0401 514 440
Ph: (03) 9643 1575
Email: adam.davis@afl.com.au

Guernsey Licensees
Outside of the national umpire uniform scheme only the five guernsey manufacturers (listed left of page) have a license to produce umpire uniforms carrying the AFL Victoria Country logo as per AFL Victoria Country regulations.
JUNIOR COACHES
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Be familiar with the Laws of Australian football and abide by the rules and conditions of your league and club.

2. Teach your players that rules of the game are mutual agreements which no player should evade or break.

3. Group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity whenever possible in any competitive practice session.

4. Avoid over-playing the talented players. The ‘just average’ players need and deserve equal time, if not more.

5. Remember that the players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Emphasise the importance of the learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your players for making mistakes or losing a competition.

6. Ensure that equipment and facilities meets safety standards and are appropriate for the age and ability of the players.

7. The scheduling and length of practice times and competitions should take into consideration the maturity level of the player.

8. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgment of umpires and opposing coaches.

9. Follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured player is ready to play or train again.

10. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound junior coaching principles and developments. Endeavour to attain coaching accreditation and to become an active member of the local branch of the Australian Football Coaches Association.

11. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH AFL COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT WHERE APPLICABLE
JUNIOR PLAYERS
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Abide by the rules of the game and rules set down by your coach, club and league.

2. Never argue with an official or umpire. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.

3. Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials, umpires, spectators or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted.

4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team’s performance will benefit, so will you.

5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they be by your team, opponent or the other team. Be proud to walk off the ground after each game knowing that you have given your best effort and never involve yourself in an argument with opposing players, umpires or officials.

6. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Your involvement to play is for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it.

7. Co-operate with your coach and team mates, and respect the ability of your opponent. Without them there would be no game.

8. Play for the ‘fun of it’ and not just to please parents and coaches.

9. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.
PARENTS AND SPECTATORS OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Encourage children to participate if they are interested. However, if a child is not willing do not force them.

2. Focus upon the child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.

3. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.

4. Encourage your child always to play by the rules.

5. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.

6. Remember your child should be involved in football for their enjoyment, not yours.

7. Remember your child learns best by example. Applaud good play by both your team and by members of the opposing team.

8. If you disagree with an official or umpire raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public. Remember, most officials give their time and effort for your child's involvement.

9. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from junior sporting activities.

10. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child and deserve your support.

11. Support your club officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the league and your family. Offer your assistance to the team that your child is playing in so that every opportunity is being provided for the very best supervision and support. Your involvement will give both yourself and your child far more satisfaction.

12. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.
SENIOR COACHES
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Be familiar with the laws of Australian football and abide by the rules and conditions of your league and club.

2. Endeavour to attain coaching accreditation and to become an active member of the local branch of the Australian Football Coaches Association.

3. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and coaching developments.

4. Avoid verbal and physical confrontation with the other club’s players and officials and umpires at all times – use the League’s official vehicle of communication to report any unfair situations that you may believe arise.

5. Don’t ask for, but rather earn the respect of your players through your dealings with them and the manner in which you perform your coaching duties.

6. Through your behaviour in the community develop personal respect to enhance the image of your club and Australian football.

7. Never swear, or use abusive language during the game or when addressing the players. Be mindful of the presence of your people and other spectators.

8. Follow the advice of a qualified person when determining when an injured player is ready to play again.

9. Treat the umpires and opposition sides with respect.

10. Be aware of the differing needs and attitudes of players at your club, particularly young players.

11. Never place the value of winning above that of instilling the highest desirable ideals and character traits in players.

12. Be supportive of activities designed to encourage participation of young players at junior clubs, schools and development programs.

13. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH AFL COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT WHERE APPLICABLE
SENIOR PLAYERS
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. At all times abide by the rules of the League in which you compete and the club for which you play. Rules of the game are mutual agreements which no player should evade or break.

2. Do not assault or attempt to assault an umpire, another player, officials or spectators.

3. Ensure that both on and off field behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship. Swearing is not acceptable.

4. Do not abuse, dispute or react in an obviously provocative or disappointing manner towards an umpire.

5. Conduct yourself at a high level of personal behaviour on and off the field in such a manner so as not to bring your club or the game of Australian Football into disrepute.

6. Develop a respect for the League in which you compete, your club, team mates and opponents.

7. Be willing to be involved in local football development and promotional activities.

8. Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender or race.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country - RULES AND REGULATIONS</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives &amp; Definitions</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 Clearances – Players</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Player who has Previously played</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Players Seeking Transfer</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Penalty for playing ineligible (and/or) unregistered players</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Clearance procedure</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Uncontested Clearance – Junior Players</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Block Clearances</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Clearance appeals body</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 Effect of Refused Clearance on Playing Agreement</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9 Closing date for clearances &amp; permits</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10 Time limit and issue of permit upon failure to return a clearance application(s)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.11 Players Transferred in Employment</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.12 Players in Armed Forces</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.13 Permit – Under Age Compassionate Permit</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.14 Transfer Fees – AFL Victoria Country Clubs</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.15 Registered Player</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.16 Disbanded and/or Amalgamated Club Player</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.17 Player of Disbanded Club and Disbanded League</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.18 Player of Disbanded League</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.19 Refused Permit or Disqualification</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.20 Eligibility of Suspended Player to Seek a Clearance</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.21 Registration of Players/Minimum Age Entry Levels</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.22 Signing Registration</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.23 Coaches</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 Permits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Permits to Major Leagues</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Eight Matches</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Rule for District &amp; Junior Leagues</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Endorsement</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Transfer of Player</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Issue of Day Permits &amp; Teams of Clubs competing in different Competitions</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 One Match per Day</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Day Permits – No Appeal</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Permits for Players of Opposing Teams</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10 Area Permits</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11 Permits – Students Living Away from Home</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.12 Permits – Special Regulations relating to the VAFA</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.13 Special Circumstance Permit – Drought/Recess</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 Transfer of Existing Clubs/Admission of New Clubs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0 Appeals of Clubs</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0 Unbecoming Conduct</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Appointment of Investigation Officer</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Unbecoming Conduct</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.0 Affiliated/Unaffiliated Clubs</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.0 Disciplinary Matters

7.1 League Independent Tribunal
7.2 Area Appeal Committee
7.3 Jurisdiction of League Independent Tribunal and Area Appeals Committee
7.4 Appeals Against Refused Clearances – Players
7.5 Sanction imposed by a Club – Player Appeal
7.6 Procedure and Evidence before League Independent Tribunal and Area Appeals Committee

8.0 AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board – Appeal from League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee Decision

8.1 AFL Victoria Country Appeals Board
8.2 Regulation Paramount
8.3 Right of Appeal
8.4 Notice of Appeal
8.5 Lodgment of Notice of Appeal
8.6 Time for Hearing of Appeal
8.7 Obligations of Appeal Board
8.8 Adjournment and Stay of Sanction
8.9 New Hearing
8.10 Procedure and Evidence
8.11 Power of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board
8.12 Onus of Proof
8.13 Standard of Proof
8.14 Majority Decision
8.15 No Reason
8.16 Representation
8.17 Questions of Law and Fact
8.18 Costs
8.19 Abandon Appeal
8.20 Validity of Hearing
8.21 Co-operation with AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board
8.22 Exhaust Internal Appeal
8.23 Further Time

9.0 Vilification & Discrimination Policy

10.0 Interstate Players Transfers

11.0 Order Off Rule

12.0 Set Penalties

13.0 Treatment of Bleeding Players

14.0 Finals Eligibility – TAC Cup Players

15.0 Underage Competition Players – Gloves

16.0 Coaching Accreditation

17.0 Official Club Runners/Trainers/Water Carriers

18.0 Representative Team Availability

19.0 Club Team Numbers – Country Championships

20.0 Service Awards

21.0 Percentage when a club Forfeits

22.0 Leagues

23.0 Umpires

23.1 Registration
23.2 Umpires as Players
23.3 Players as Umpires
23.4 Approaches to Umpires

24.0 Domestic Matters
25.0 Interpretations or Rulings from Area Manager or Football Development Manager 65
  25.1 Questions not Provided For 65
  25.2 Decisions of AFL Victoria Country Board 65
  25.3 Authority – Area Manager or Football Development Manager 65

26.0 Licensing 65

27.0 Doping Policy 66

28.0 Risk Management 66

29.0 AFL Junior Match Policy 66

NATIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER REGULATIONS 67

  1. General 69
  2. Definitions 69
  3. National Player Transfer Regulations 70
     3.1 Transfer Process 70
     3.2 Refusals 70
     3.3 Transfer Withdrawals 70
     3.4 Suspended Players 70
     3.5 Appeals 71
     3.6 Transfer Fee 71
     3.7 Transfer Application Period 71
     3.8 Player Age Group 71
     3.9 Interchange Agreement 72
     3.10 Permits 72
     3.11 Player Contracts 72
     3.12 Junior Players 72
     3.13 Practice and Trial Matches 72
     3.14 State Football Body Responsible 73
     3.15 24 Month Rule 73
     3.16 Separate Agreements 73
     3.17 Team in Another Tier 1 League 73
     3.18 Northern Territory Football League 73
     3.19 State Affiliation - Tier 2 Leagues 73
     3.20 New Tier 1 League Club 73
     3.21 Transfer of Players to the AFL 74
     3.22 Transfer Fee - Delisted AFL Players 74
     3.23 AFL Talent Development Fee 74
     3.24 Transfer Fees 74
     3.25 Permit Committee 75

APPENDICES 76

APPENDIX 1 – Player Transfer Withdrawal Form 76
APPENDIX 2 – Player Transfer Refusal Form 77

AFL VICTORIA AFFILIATES REGULATIONS 79

AFFILIATE TO AFFILIATE - MOVEMENT OF CLUBS 87

AFL (NSW-ACT) / AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY AGREEMENT 93

VICTORIAN COUNTRY FOOTBALL LEAGUE (INC.) PLAYER TRANSFER AGREEMENT
WITH THE VICTORIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE FOR MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS BETWEEN
AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY AND THE VFL, VFL SENIOR AND UNDER 18 COMPETITIONS, AND THE AFL 94

  1. VFL Operations 94
     AFL Operations 94
     General 95

SECTION 2: WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY RULES & REGULATIONS 35
OBJECTIVES AND DEFINITIONS

Objectives
AFL Victoria Country and Leagues wish to ensure that teams fielded in competitions conducted by a League are as strong and well matched as possible.

The continuing support of such competitions and the opportunity for players to develop and employ their skills both depend upon a League continuing to conduct vigorous competitions between evenly matched and financially viable clubs.

In order to achieve these objectives, AFL Victoria Country has adopted these Rules and Regulations to supplement the provisions of contracts of service between players and their clubs to provide a system that will:

(a) ensure sufficient stability in the membership of Club teams to enable team spirit and public support to be maintained;

(b) provide opportunities for players to enter competitions conducted by Leagues and for an orderly system for:
   (i) players to move between Clubs; and
   (ii) Clubs to move between Leagues;

(c) provide Clubs with an incentive to expend time, effort and resources in a development of Australian Football.

(d) provide Junior Leagues and Clubs with the opportunity to expand participation within all levels of under age football.

Under these Rules and Regulations, a player or a Club is restrained in his or its freedom to transfer if it can be demonstrated that the restraint is necessary to achieve the objectives referred to above.

These Rules and Regulations also establish relevant bodies and a mechanism by which reportable offences and alleged conduct of persons can be referred to, heard and determined by the relevant body.

Australian Football competes with numerous other sports, not only with respect to public attendances, but also participation at a junior and senior level. At a time where athletes have numerous choices between competing sports, AFL Victoria Country and Leagues recognise that it is important to encourage such athletes to play Australian Football. This can be achieved, in part, if Australian Football is seen not only as a physical and skillfully demanding sport, but also a sport played within the Rules of game and in the spirit of true sportsmanship.

AFL Victoria Country and Leagues consider that Australian Football played within the competitions conducted by the Leagues should aspire to the game being played both competitively and fairly. It is against this background that relevant disciplinary bodies have been established and are given power to impose sanctions (such as suspension or a monetary sanction) in circumstances where the conduct of a person is in breach of rules and regulations applicable to that person or the Laws of Australian Football. AFL Victoria Country considers that the imposition of such penalties is reasonably necessary to ensure fair and responsible conduct and thereby encourage participation in Australian Football in the competitions conducted by Leagues affiliated to AFL Victoria Country.

Definitions
In these rules and regulations, unless the context requires otherwise, the following words have the following meaning:

AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board – the body established by AFL Victoria Country to hear appeals from a decision of a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee.

Aggrieved Person – any person or organisation subject to the decision of a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, excluding umpires and witnesses.

Area – has the same meaning as “AFL Victoria Country Region” contained in the Statement of Rules of AFL Victoria Country.

Area Appeal Committee – the body established under regulation 7.2.

Area Co-ordinator – the person appointed to that position by AFL Victoria Country to assist the respective Football Development Manager.

Bye – That a bye shall be defined as a break in a draw
   (a) That is caused by an uneven number of teams in a competition in any particular round.
   (b) That is caused by a split round or suspension of a complete round of matches.

Club – a body which participates in Australian Rules competitions conducted by affiliated bodies.

Commission – body established to govern football in a designated region of Victoria; affiliated to AFL Victoria.

Days – means each day of the week save for a Saturday or Sunday, but includes public holidays.

Football Development Manager – the person appointed to that position by AFL Victoria Country.

Hours – when related to Appeals of any description does not include weekends.

Investigations Officer – a person appointed by a relevant League to investigate a matter referred to him or her for investigation, who is AFL Victoria Country accredited.
Junior League or Club – an affiliated body which provides football competitions at under 16 and a half and younger age levels only.

Laws of Australian Football – the Laws of the Game as published by the Australian Football League (refer yellow section).

League Independent Tribunal – the tribunal appointed by the relevant League in accordance with regulation 8.1.

Ordinary Member – means a member appointed as such pursuant to the Rules of AFL Victoria Country Affiliated League, Affiliated Body or League.

VCFL Board – body elected by members to govern member clubs and leagues.

1.0 CLEARANCES – PLAYERS

1.1 Player who has Previously Played:

Any player who has played football with an affiliated club at any time must obtain a clearance from the club and League with which he last played (as determined by the National Player Transfer Regulations) before playing with his new club. Any player not having played during the previous 24 calendar months is free to register with the club of his choice provided the clearance application can be processed as determined by National Player Transfer Regulations.

1.2 Players Seeking Transfer

In the event of a player of an AFL Victoria Country club who has transferred to a club in another AFL Victoria Country region, the metropolitan area, or, another state, returning to the AFL Victoria Country area from which his transfer was effected, he shall not be regarded as bound to his former club and shall not be required to obtain a clearance from such club before being eligible to play with another club in AFL Victoria Country, subject to compliance with National Player Transfer Regulations.

In the event of a player of an AFL Victoria Country club who has transferred to a club of another league within the same AFL Victoria Country Area wishing to transfer to another club of the league from which he was cleared he shall not be regarded as bound to the club from which he was cleared and shall not be required to obtain a clearance from such club before being eligible to play with another club in his former league subject to compliance with National Player Transfer Regulations.

The procedures to be followed are outlined in the National Player Transfer Regulations.

Note: (a) Refer specific relevant clauses of agreements with the V.F.L., AFL Victoria and V.A.F.A

1.3 Penalty for playing ineligible (and)/or unregistered players:

Any player registered with a club in the previous 24 months and not transferred to another club will be deemed to be registered to that club in the event of them playing a match without a current registration for that season.

Local league laws are to be established as they see fit for the completion of the re-registration process.

In the event that the League Secretary substantiates that any AFL Victoria Country registered player, playing with any club affiliated or unaffiliated with AFL Victoria Country, without having first been granted the necessary registration, clearance and/or permit to play, required under these Rules, and is therefore deemed ineligible and unregistered, shall be deemed to be ineligible.

The AFL Victoria Country club with which the player concerned played shall provide a written submission outlining reasons behind the misdemeanour and forward such submission to the League Manager who in turn will address the matter with the Region General Manager and the club then be subject to:

(a) If the Senior Club wins the game:

(i) fine not less than $500,

(ii) reversal of match points,

(iii) loss of all points For pertaining to that game,

(iv) and may be subject to further penalty as determined by the League or AFL Region Commission.

(b) If the Senior Club loses the game:

(i) fine not less than $500,

(ii) loss of all points For pertaining to that game,

(iii) and may be subject to such penalty as determined by the League or AFL Region Commission.

(c) If the Junior Club wins the game:

(i) fine not greater than $250,

(ii) reversal of match points,

(iii) loss of all points For pertaining to the game,

(iv) may be subject to further penalty as determined by the League or AFL Region Commission

(d) If the Junior Club loses the game

(i) fine not greater than $250,

(ii) loss of all points For pertaining to that game, and

(iii) may be subject to such further penalty as determined by the League or AFL Region Commission.

If a club wishes to appeal any penalty applied under regulation 1.3 this appeal will be to the AFL Regional Commission according to its own constitution

1.4 Clearance procedure:

Each clearance application shall be signed in his own handwriting by the applicant player and if such player be under the age of eighteen (18) years the clearance application shall be endorsed by the player’s parent or guardian and lodged with the Club with which he desires to play; the Club shall forthwith date the application, enter it into the IT system and forward it to the Appointed League Official (by hand, post, facsimile or electronically) of the Club from which the clearance is desired.
Within six (6) clear business days of its receipt by him/her the Appointed League Official from which the clearance is desired shall have the application completed with all the necessary endorsements and returned to the Appointed League Official of the Club to which the player is being cleared.

Once a player's application for a clearance and/or registration has been granted:–
(a) the player shall become registered with the Club to whom he has sought the clearance registration; and
(b) the League in which the Club plays shall register the player as a player of that Club and permit him to play.

A player whose application for a clearance has been lodged, as provided for under these rules, shall not be permitted to lodge an application to play with another club until finality has been reached regarding his original application.

Leagues may not impose a ‘cut off’ time for the handling of clearances prior to 6.00pm on the Friday before a round of matches.

1.5 Uncontested Clearance – Junior Players
A registered player of an affiliated junior league/association shall be cleared to the club of his choice after the 1st day of February in the year next following that in which he became ineligible by virtue of age, to continue as a registered player of that junior league/association and this clearance may be granted at any time during the season.

If, in the opinion of the respective Football Development Manager with which such junior league/association is affiliated, the clearance is unreasonably withheld, the Football Development Manager shall be empowered to grant the necessary permit to allow the player concerned to play with the club of his choice.

1.6 Block clearances:
In the event of a transfer of a club to another League, all registered players shall automatically be transferred with such Club to the new League.

The Appointed League Official from which the club is transferring shall supply a certified list of all registered players of the club concerned to the club’s new League.

1.7 Clearance appeals body:
A Player who is refused a clearance to transfer from his current Club may lodge an appeal in accordance with regulation 7.4.

1.8 Effect of Refused Clearance on Playing Agreement:
Any agreement between a Player and the Club with which he desires to play will terminate in the event that the Player is unsuccessful in obtaining a clearance from the Club and League with which he last played.

A Player is “unsuccessful in obtaining a clearance” if following the refusal by the Club and League with which he last played, the Player appeals to the Area Appeal Board or subsequently to the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board and the Players appeal is unsuccessful.

Where the agreement between a Player and the Club with which he desires to play is terminated by virtue of this regulation, the Player shall reimburse or repay to the Club any prior payment, consideration, advantage or benefit given, provided or applied pursuant to the agreement and subject thereto, each party will be released from all obligations under the agreement.

1.9 Closing date for clearances and permits:
Except for clearances as provided for in Reg. 1.1 and 2.2 and as herein after provided, all applications for clearances lodged with the Appointed League Official of the club with which the player wishes to play shall close on the 30th June in each year and any applications lodged after 30th June shall be invalid and not considered.

All applications for clearances lodged on or before the 30th June shall be finalised by the clearing League not later than the 21st July and forwarded to reach the Appointed League Official to which the player desires to be cleared, not later than the 31st July, otherwise the clearance shall lapse.

Permits to play will not be granted to players transferring from interstate where the transfer notification is received by the relevant Appointed League Official after 30th June in any year.

(i) Junior Permits can be applied for after 1st July providing that there exists a current interchange agreement between the two Leagues involved in the interchange.

If a player has not played in the previous 24 months and wishes to register he can do so at any time during the year and is not bound by the June 30 cutoff.

If the player has played in the previous 24 months he requires a clearance and is then subject to AFL Victoria Country Rule 1.9.

1.10 Time limit and issue of permit upon failure to return a clearance application
1.10.1 As of the first (1st) day of February each year, a clearance application lodged by a player or coach of any team, if for any reason the clearance application is not endorsed and received within (6) clear business days from the date of its dispatch by the League to which the player is desirous of transferring the following procedure shall apply;

Refer National Player Transfer Regulations.

1.10.2 The Appointed League/Club Official of the forwarding League who has requested the clearance application (“the application”) electronically must keep a record of the original application that has been signed by the player making application and produce a copy of such original application on demand from
Players as defined above are subject to National Player Transfer Regulations. For forces, including a National Service Trainee, these regulations, a player engaged in the Armed Service duties, including a National Service Trainee, such player automatically revert to his former branch and club immediately upon termination of his Service duties. Players as defined above are subject to National Player Transfer Regulations. 

1.11 Players Transferred in Employment:
Notwithstanding anything elsewhere appearing in these Regulations, in the event of a player who has been in the service of his employer for three consecutive months immediately preceding his transfer, being transferred by his employer after the 1st July to another branch of the same employers business in another locality he shall be entitled to make application for a clearance and permit to play with a League in the Area to which he is transferred at any time after the 1st July, provided that such transfer is completed in time to permit the player playing at least one competition match, with a club in the League to which he is being transferred, prior to the first final match of that League. Provided further that where such League prescribes its own domestic residential or a minimum number of qualifying matches in excess of one for a player to participate in Finals matches, such domestic rules shall take precedence. The child of a person who is transferred in employment under the above condition is eligible to make application for a clearance and/or permit after the 1st July to play in the region to which his parent(s) is transferred or a contiguous region. This Regulation is effective only for players transferred after 1st July in each season and a player on temporary transfer being re-transferred by his employer to a branch in another region or back to his original branch, shall receive an immediate clearance and permit to play in such region or with his original club, as the case may be. Such clearance to be made available to the player by the club with whom he is then registered and any such player shall not be required to fulfill domestic residential qualifications. Players as defined above are subject to National Player Transfer Regulations.

1.12 Players in Armed Forces:
Notwithstanding anything elsewhere appearing in these regulations, a player engaged in the Armed Forces, including a National Service Trainee, transferred in the course of his duties, shall be entitled to receive a clearance and permit to play with a league in the region to which he is transferred, any time after the 1st July provided that such transfer is made and completed in time to permit his playing of at least one competition match with a club in the League to which he is being transferred prior to the first finals match of that body. He shall be eligible to play with his former club at any time during the currency of the season, including finals and be not subject to domestic rules, in respect of eligibility for finals. In the case of a member of the Armed Forces, including a National Service Trainee, such player shall automatically revert to his former League and club immediately upon termination of his Service duties. Players as defined above are subject to National Player Transfer Regulations. 

1.13 Permit – Under Age Compassionate Permit
(a) In the event of a player eligible to play in an under age junior affiliated competition being required to move residence for compassionate reasons from one Area to another Area after 1st July, he shall be eligible to make application to his club for a clearance and, subject to the satisfaction of the Football Development Manager concerning the compassionate reasons, receive a permit to play from the respective Football Development Manager to which he transfers, providing that in the season of receiving a permit under this rule, the player shall only be permitted to play in under age grades or competitions. (b) Where a player under the age of 16 years as at the 1st of January in a given year and is in a situation where the parents have separated and have special custody arrangements such players may be eligible to apply for a permit to play at a second or alternate club which is more than 150km away from his / her original club. A player eligible under this permit may only participate in one game per weekend and may be eligible for finals providing they have qualified under the local provisions however they may only play in one finals series per weekend. Permits will not be granted where a local Area Agreement can be applied. The ultimate verification and approval of this special Family Permit will rest with the respective Football Development Manager after lodgment of the Family Permit Form and proof of separation and residence of both parents. Family Permits cannot be applied for or approved after June 30th in each year and is only applicable for that year.

1.14 Transfer Fees – AFL Victoria Country Clubs:
No AFL Victoria Country club shall offer, pay, demand or receive a transfer fee for a player transferring between two AFL Victoria Country clubs.
No AFL Victoria Country club shall offer, pay, demand or receive a transfer fee for players transferring between a VFL and AFL Victoria Country club and an AFL Victoria Affiliated club and an AFL Victoria Country club. In the event of an AFL Victoria Country club or clubs being found in breach of this rule the matter shall be referred to the Area Appeals Board for adjudication and if necessary penalty.

The Area Appeals Board shall determine any penalty which may include the following:

1) a substantial fine
2) such penalty as is determined by the Area Appeals Board

1.15 Registered Player:
A player who is registered with a Club may only play with another Club if:

(a) he has obtained a clearance to and become registered with another Club in accordance with these Regulations; or
(b) he is otherwise ‘permitted’ to play for another Club under these Regulations.

1.16 Disbanded and/or Amalgamated Club Player:
If a player’s club has disbanded the player must obtain a clearance from his club’s league.

Where a player’s club amalgamates with another club, or clubs, the player shall automatically become attached to the combined club

1.17 Player of Disbanded League:
If a player’s League has disbanded, the player must obtain a clearance from his club and its Football Development Manager.

1.18 Player of Disbanded Club and Disbanded League:
If a player’s club and League have disbanded the player must obtain a clearance from his Football Development Manager.

1.19 Refused Permit or Disqualification

(a) Any person who has been refused a permit to play or has been disqualified shall not be allowed to hold any position whatever in connection with any club until such permit be granted or the period of disqualification has expired or is removed by the body imposing the disqualification, excepting that a player acting as coach to his club at the time of any disqualification for a field offence shall not be debarred from performing duties as coach to that club during the period of his disqualification.

(b) Non-playing coaches found guilty of an offence and disqualified shall not be permitted to undertake coaching duties or hold any position in conjunction with any club during the period of disqualification. In the event that the non-playing coach is a player with the club in another grade, and he is reported for an offence as a player and suspended as a result of such report, such suspension shall not prevent him from participating as a non-playing coach in the other grade.

1.20 Eligibility of Suspended Player to Seek a Clearance/Providing False Information:

(a) A player under suspension by his league’s tribunal shall be eligible to apply for a clearance, however such player cannot be eligible for competition matches until the period of suspension has expired or such suspension has been removed by the authority imposing the suspension.

However, where an AFL Victoria Country player’s suspension expires after the closing date for clearances and such player seeks a clearance, the clearance may be granted after expiration of the suspension provided such clearance has been lodged prior to the closing date for the clearances (as per rule 1.9) and is endorsed by the appropriate Football Development Manager.

A person seeking registration or a transfer from one club or league to another shall not falsely or recklessly furnish false information to a club, league or relevant tribunal, if found to have done so the relevant Commission shall deal with the player and the Club as it deems fit.

1.21 Registration of Players / Minimum Age Entry Levels

(a) Each League shall adopt and use the National Player Transfer System.

Where a player has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years the registration must be acknowledged by a parent or guardian or a person authorised in writing by a parent or guardian so to act.

(b) Each player shall pay a registration fee annually as determined by AFL Victoria Country.

(c) To be eligible to be registered players must have obtained seven (7) years of age at January 1.

A person seeking registration or transfer from one club or league to another shall not knowingly or recklessly furnish false information to a club, league or relevant tribunal, if found to have done so the relevant Football Body shall deal with the player and the Club as it deems fit.

1.22 Signing Registration:

(a) Where a player intends to play football for a Club for the first time or, having played for another Club intends to re-commence playing for a Club for which he has previously played, then before commencing or recommencing with such Club, the player must:

(i) complete, sign and lodge a current “AFL Victoria Country Clearance/Registration Form” and
(ii) become registered with that Club.
(b) Regulation 1.23 does not apply to a player who is required to obtain a day permit or area permit in accordance with these regulations.

(c) Players are permitted to be registered at one club only at any one time.

1.23 Coaches:
Any person or player desirous of coaching (playing or non-playing) any team must comply with the regulations governing the transfer of players and upon receiving such permit to coach, shall also be eligible to play.

This rule does not apply to registered players in an open age competition acting as non-playing coach to a team in an under age competition.

2.0 PERMITS

2.1 Permits to Major Leagues:
Affiliated Leagues in an Area shall be required by the respective Leagues, detailed in Statement of AFL Victoria Country Rules and Purposes to adopt a provision permitting any player of a District or Junior League to play with a club in a Major League provided the player resides within the radius of such Major League club (with the exception of Junior League players playing within a current interchange agreement between leagues), without a clearance, for not more than eight matches in any one season. Provided that, before each such match, he shall obtain permission from his parent club so to play. This written permission shall be made out in triplicate and signed by the applicant player. One copy which the opposing club Secretary or Captain is compelled to acknowledge by signing prior to the player taking the field must be forwarded by the Appointed League Official of the Major League club with which the player desires to play to the Appointed League Official of that clubs League; one copy must be sent by the Secretary of the club granting such permit to the Appointed League Official, and the third copy shall be retained by the Secretary of the club granting the permit.

All such permits (type 2 permits) shall be filed by the respective Officials and retained for production whenever required.

Any player having in any one season played eight matches under the provisions of this rule, and desiring to continue to play with a Major League club, shall only be permitted to do so upon applying for and receiving a clearance and permit from his club and League in the usual manner or where such is refused upon an appeal being lodged and upheld.

This clearance may be granted at any time during the current season.

In the case where a registered player of a club of a District League is not within the specific radius of any Major League he shall be entitled to apply for a day permit to any club in the Major League nearest to his own residence.

Players from District and Junior Leagues who are playing on permits in Major Leagues and are reported for a field offence shall have the charge heard by the Major League tribunal which in the event of finding the player guilty shall determine the penalty which shall then apply to matches of the club in the grade of competition where the offence occurred. The suspended player is not eligible to resume with his District League club until his penalty (matches suspended for) has been completed by the Major League club where the offence occurred.

2.2 Eight Matches:
This provision shall be restricted to a maximum of eight matches with a Major League club (with the exception of Junior League players playing within a current interchange agreement between leagues), in any one season, but such eight matches need not necessarily be with the same club of a Major League provided that any player having played under permit with one Major League club and desiring to play with another Major League club must, in addition to having the written permission of his parent club, also obtain the written consent of the Major League club with which he previously played under permit and such club shall thereupon cease to have any jurisdiction over such player.

Any player seeking a permit to play in a Major League with which such player has been registered in the past 24 months requires such permit to be endorsed by the club in the Major League with which the player played in the previous 24 months.

2.3 Rule for District and Junior Leagues:
It shall be obligatory upon any District and Junior League to insert in its rules the provision laid down in this regulation, but no player can play with a Major League unless his parent club shall first grant him the necessary permit required under the provision of this regulation.

2.4 Endorsement:
A day permit granted pursuant to this regulation shall not require any endorsement or approval by the League of the club granting the permit.

2.5 Transfer of Player:
Any player having played on permit under the provisions of this regulation and desiring to transfer from his parent club to another Major League club in the same League must also have his clearance approved by the last Major League club with which he played in that League under permit, but the right of such Major League club to endorse the clearance shall not extend beyond the season during which the last permit to play with such Major League club was granted.

2.6 Issue of Day Permits & Teams of Clubs competing in different Competitions:
One day permits shall be restricted to the Commission area concerned.
A Major League may limit the use of incoming day permits issued pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 2.1 and 2.2 as that Major League may deem fit.

For the purpose of interpretation of Regulations 2.1 to 2.7, a Major League shall be deemed to be the first eighteens only of the clubs comprising such Major League.

Any player who is older than under 16 and a half who is a member of a team which is affiliated with a Senior club, wherein the player participates in a different competition to that of the Senior club, may play with the Senior club, without the need to obtain a matchday permit.

2.7 One Match per Day:
A player shall not be permitted to play with a District or Junior League club and a Major League club on a one day permit on the same day.

Players are allowed to play with a VFL senior team or the TAC Cup Competition, but not in the VFL reserve grade on the one day. Players may only do so when the VFL senior team player or TAC Cup Competition player has played less than twenty five minutes of actual playing time and has been granted a medical clearance from the VFL or TAC Cup club, then he may return to play with his AFL Victoria Country club on the same weekend.

2.8 Day Permits – No Appeal:
There is no right of appeal against the refusal to grant a day permit.

2.9 Permits for Players of Opposing Teams:
Affiliated Leagues may approve the granting of a day permit to reserve grade and under-age players to play with the players opposing Reserve grade team or under-age competition team where the opposing team does not have the required number of players for that match. (These permits are to be entered as type 1 permits within Footyweb.)

Where a Senior grade team does not have the required number of players for a match and requires extra players from an opposition team the Affiliated League may apply to the relevant Football Development Manager, or in his absence AFL Victoria Country Operations Manager for approval to grant requested day permits.

Affiliated Leagues approving the granting of such permits must obtain from their Football Development Manager, or in his absence AFL Victoria Country Operations Manager, approval for the system under which the League will grant day permits for players to play with the opposing clubs.

2.10 Area Permits:
(a) Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations requiring the production of a clearance by a player, Leagues of an area and Leagues in adjacent areas may enter into written agreements annually to allow an interchange of players to meet local conditions, provided however that the provision of Regulation 2.1 (Permits to Major Leagues) must in all cases be strictly complied with when a registered player of a District or Junior League club desires to play with a club in a Major League. Permission may be granted for Areas to enter into written agreements to permit the transfer of players from District and Junior Leagues for the purpose of interpretation of this Regulation.

The written agreements must be submitted to, and approved by, the respective Football Development Manager concerned before the agreements become operative.

The respective Football Development Managers shall be empowered to approve agreements to operate between Affiliated AFL Victoria Country Leagues including under age competitions for the interchange of players between the competitions.

(b) A registered player of an affiliated club who is an age which permits him to play in an under age competition up to and including under 15 years of age shall be required to obtain a permit from his club to play with a club or competition other than an Under age grade of his league. Such permission may be granted at any time during the season and may be granted subject only to the conditions of an Area Agreement between the relevant leagues.

(c) Area Agreements shall operate under the following conditions:
An Agreement between the .........................
Football League and the .........................
Football League for the ......................... Season.

This agreement is signed pursuant to AFL Victoria Country rules and regulations pertaining to clearances and permits and in particular the Clause 2.10 – Area Permits, whereby an interchange of players between clubs of the abovementioned Leagues may take place without clearance or permits and is subject to any provisions contained within this agreement.

PROVIDED HOWEVER:
(i) That this Agreement is in force for the current season only.
(ii) That the player(s) concerned are acquainted with AFL Victoria Country regulations 2.1 and 2.5 regarding one day permits to Major Leagues and eight (8) matches.
(iii) That prior to playing, the player shall obtain written permission to do so from his parent club. The permit shall be in triplicate similar to a one day permit form and dispersed as required under Regulation 2.1 of AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations.

Prior to each match the player shall obtain permission electronically from his parent club.
(iv) With the exception of players of Junior age competitions, players of any club having a bye
will not be allowed to play with another club on that day, unless he has previously played with that club in the current season under this agreement. The club playing the player from the other League shall show his registered club on the match team sheet.

Players of third 18 teams of Senior Grade competitions are not to be classified as players of Junior age competitions.

(v) That this agreement cannot be altered unless agreed to by the Football Development Manager.

(vi) That in order for a player playing under such Area Permit to participate in a finals series in that season the player must have played a minimum of five (5) games in the team of the grade in which he has been selected to play in the finals and has met any additional league eligibility requirements.

2.11 Permits – Students Living Away from Home

(i) A player resident away from his usual place of abode while attending a secondary/TAFE college, institution or university on a full time and continuous basis and playing in any competition may, during registered school holidays and registered semester vacations, receive a permit to play with the club with which the player was last registered before being cleared to his current club from the respective Football Development Manager where such former club is located. If required by the respective Football Development Manager, the player shall supply documentary evidence of his attendance at the said college, institute or university.

(ii) In order for a student playing under such permit to participate in a finals series in that season a student must have played a minimum of 5 games in the team of the grade in which he is selected to play in the finals.

2.12 Permits – Special Regulations relating to the VAFA

The transfer referred to in clause 7 (a) of Appendix 1 of the National Player Transfer Regulations must take place before 1st July.

2.13 Special Circumstance Permit – Drought/Recess

Temporary Permits in Drought Effectuated Leagues Affiliated Clubs in Drought effected Leagues, as determined by AFL Victoria Country, where their season will be delayed (unable to begin on their scheduled starting date as previously fixtured) shall be required to adopt a provision permitting any player of a Major or District League to play with a club in another League without a clearance for not more than eight matches in any one season provided that before each such match(es) he shall obtain permission in writing from his parent club so to play. This written permission may be for one or two weeks at a time only and shall be made out in triplicate and signed by the applicant player. One copy which the opposing club Secretary or Captain is compelled to acknowledge by signing prior to the player taking the field must be forwarded by the Secretary of the club with which the player desires to play to the Secretary of that club’s League; one copy must be sent by the Secretary of the club granting such permit to the Secretary of his League, and the third copy shall be retained by the Secretary of the club granting the permit. All such permits shall be filed by the respective Secretaries and retained for production whenever required. Permits cannot be issued for players to represent multiple clubs.

Any player having in any one season played eight matches under the provisions of this rule, and desiring to continue to play with the League club, shall only be permitted to do so upon applying for and receiving a clearance from his club and League in the usual manner or where such is refused upon an appeal being lodged and upheld. This clearance must be granted prior to July 1.

Once the registered club’s season begins all existing permits cease to exist in each case.

Players who are playing on permits in other Leagues and are reported for a field offence shall have the charge heard by the League tribunal in which the alleged offence occurs which in the event of finding the player guilty shall determine the penalty which shall then apply to matches of the club in the grade of competition where the offence occurred. Players are unable to play for any team if suspended.

Temporary Permits for Players of Clubs in recess

Leagues who have clubs who go into recess, as determined by AFL Victoria Country, shall be required to adopt a provision permitting any player of a Major or District League to play with a club in another League without a clearance for not more than one season provided that before or during the season he shall obtain permission in writing from his parent club/league so to play.

This written permission shall be made out in triplicate and signed by the applicant player. One copy which the opposing club Secretary or Captain is compelled to acknowledge by signing prior to the player taking the field must be forwarded by the Secretary of the club with which the player desires to play to the Secretary of that club’s League; one copy must be sent by the Secretary of the club/league granting such permit to the Secretary of his League, and the third copy shall be retained by the Secretary of the club/league granting the permit.

All such permits shall be filed by the respective Secretaries and retained for production whenever required.

Permits cannot be issued for players to represent multiple clubs.

Any player having played under the provisions of this rule, and desiring to continue to play with the
League club, shall only be permitted to do so upon applying for and receiving a clearance from his club and League in the usual manner or where such is refused upon an appeal being lodged and upheld. This clearance must be granted prior to July 1.

Once the registered club comes out of recess all existing permits cease to exist in each case. Players who are playing on permits in other Leagues and are reported for a field offence shall have the charge heard by the League tribunal in which the alleged offence occurs which in the event of finding the player guilty shall determine the penalty which shall then apply to matches of the club in the grade of competition where the offence occurred. Players are unable to play for any team if suspended.

3.0 CLUBS/ADMISSION OF
NEW CLUBS
For rules 3.0 and 4.0 Secretary read also as AFL Victoria Country Football Manager.

General
3.1
For the purposes of Regulations 3 and 4, a decision of the Board means a decision of the VCFL Board as constituted under the Statement of Rules or a decision of the Commission means a decision of an AFL Regional Commission. Any alterations to regulations 3 and 4 by Commissions can only occur after approval from AFL Victoria.

New Clubs
3.2
An Affiliated League may only:–
(a) admit a newly formed club as a member or the representatives of such a club as members of the Affiliated League; or
(b) include a newly formed club in the Affiliated League's fixture of matches to be played in its football season; or
(c) permit a newly formed club to participate, compete or take part in any football match played under the authority, control or direction of the Affiliated League.

Where it has first sought and obtained the written consent of the AFL Regional Commission.

3.3
(a) Where an Affiliated League proposes to permit or admit a newly formed club or Umpire Group under Regulation 3.2, it shall lodge an application in writing with the Region General Manager during the period commencing on 1 August and ending on 30 November in each year.
(b) The AFL Regional Commission shall as soon as practicable grant or refuse the application and notify the Affiliated League of its decision in writing.

3.4
A meeting of the AFL Regional Commission to confirm or revoke its decision to refuse an application must be held not earlier than seven (7) days and not later than twenty eight (28) days after notice has been given to the Affiliated League in accordance with Regulation 3.5.

3.5
For the purposes of giving notice in accordance with Regulation 3.4, the Region General Manager shall, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the Affiliated League:–
(a) advising of the AFL Regional Commission decision to refuse the application;
(b) stating the date, place and time of the meeting at which the Affiliated League may address the AFL Regional Commission; and
(c) informing the Affiliated League that it may do the following:–
(i) attend the meeting; and
(ii) give to the AFL Regional Commission before the date of the meeting, written submissions in support of a revocation of the Board's decision.

3.6
(a) At a meeting of the AFL Regional Commission to confirm or revoke a decision to refuse an application under Regulation 3.3(b), the Board:–
(i) shall provide the Affiliated League an opportunity to be heard;
(ii) shall hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner;
(iii) is not bound by the rules of evidence or practices and procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit;
(iv) may regulate the proceedings before it in such manner as it thinks fit; and
(v) shall determine by ordinary resolution whether to confirm or revoke the decision.
(b) The AFL Regional Commission shall not be obliged to give reasons for confirming or revoking its decision to refuse an application under Regulation 3.3(b).

3.7 Existing or Amalgamated Clubs
3.7.1 An Affiliated League shall not:–
(a) admit an existing or amalgamated club as a member or the representatives of such a club as members of the Affiliated League; or
(b) include an existing or amalgamated club (or an under age club) in the Affiliated League's fixture of matches to be played in its football season; or
(c) permit an existing or amalgamated club to participate, compete or take part in any football match played under the authority, control or direction of the Affiliated League, until:

(i) the existing or amalgamated club has obtained the written consent of the immediate past Affiliated League with whom the existing or amalgamated club was affiliated ("the Governing Affiliated League"); and

(ii) the decision by the Governing Affiliated League to give its consent is approved by the AFL Regional Commission (each AFL Regional Commission if the club is changing regions) pursuant to Regulation 3.11; or

(iii) the AFL Victoria allows an appeal made by the existing or amalgamated club under Regulation 4.2

3.7.2 Negotiations with clubs/leagues:

(a) An Affiliated League or Club shall not engage in negotiations with another league or club without first notifying the Football Development Manager of their intentions.

In the event that the Football Development Manager is not notified in writing of their intention to approach, discuss or negotiate a potential move of an affiliated club from an existing league, the matter will be referred to the AFL Regional Commission for determination or action should the breach of this rule be proven.

A Club/League seeking permission to negotiate with an AFL Victoria Country Affiliated Club/League, in relation to a transfer, must apply to the Football Development Manager for such permission prior to July 31st and the club seeking the transfer must apply for a transfer from the Governing Affiliated League prior to October 31 in the same year.

(b) Upon receipt of such notice by the club or league the Football Development Manager shall notify the parties involved of his approval or otherwise for the club and or league to approach, discuss or negotiate any potential club movement.

(c) If an approach, discussion or negotiations in any given year fail to result in the movement of a club to a new league, any further application to approach, discussion or negotiations may not take place for a period of two years.

3.8 (i) Transfer of Club within the same AFL Regional Commission

(a) An existing or amalgamated club proposing to:

(i) transfer wholly to another Affiliated League; or

(ii) transfer an under age team or teams to another Affiliated League within the same AFL Regional Commission, shall lodge an application ("Transfer Application") in writing with the Governing Affiliated League and the AFL Regional Commission within the time specified in Regulation 3.8(b).

(b) A Transfer Application relating to the transfer of:

(i) the whole club shall be made during the period commencing on August 1 and ending on October 31 in each year;

(ii) an under age club shall be made during the period commencing on 1 August and ending on 31 March in the following year. A transfer of an under age club or teams after 31 October, and within the time limit specified, may only take place where a club has the prior written consent of both Affiliated Leagues involved in the transfer of the club.

3.8 (ii) Transfer of Club into another AFL Regional Commission

(a) An existing or amalgamated club proposing to:

(i) transfer wholly to another Affiliated League; or

(ii) transfer an under age team or teams to another Affiliated League within another AFL Regional Commission, shall lodge an application ("Transfer Application") in writing with the Governing Affiliated League and the governing AFL Regional Commission within the time specified in Regulation 3.8(b).

(b) A Transfer Application relating to the transfer of:

(i) the whole club shall be made during the period commencing on August 1 and ending on October 31 in each year;

(ii) an under age club shall be made during the period commencing on 1 August and ending on 31 March in the following year.

Permission granted by an AFL Victoria panel consisting of members of the current governing AFL Regional Commission, proposed new AFL Regional Commission and AFL Victoria according to the procedures outlined in Regulation 4.
3.9 The Transfer Application shall:–
(a) state the Affiliated League to whom the club or under age team of the club proposes to transfer;
(b) contain full and detailed particulars in support of the existing or amalgamated club's application;
(c) be accompanied by the signed minutes of the existing or amalgamated club's meeting at which the existing or amalgamated club's members resolved to transfer from the Governing Affiliated League; and
(d) be signed by a majority of Executive members of the existing or amalgamated club.

3.10 Within twenty-one (21) days of receiving a Transfer Application, the Governing Affiliated League shall:–
(a) notify the existing or amalgamated club in writing whether it has consented to or refused the Transfer Application; and
(b) where it refuses the Transfer Application, provide written reasons to the existing or amalgamated club.

3.11
Upon the Governing Affiliated League notifying the existing or amalgamated club of its decision under Regulation 3.10, the following provisions shall apply:–
(a) where the Governing Affiliated League consents to the Transfer Application:–
(i) the Governing Affiliated League shall immediately lodge the Transfer Application and evidence of its consent with the AFL Regional Commission;
(ii) the AFL Regional Commission shall as soon as practicable, approve or reverse the decision of the Governing Affiliated League; and
(iii) the Region General Manager shall notify all affected parties of the AFL Regional Commission's decision to approve, vary or reverse the decision of the Governing Affiliated League.
(b) where an Affiliated League refuses the Transfer Application, and both the Governing Affiliated League and Affiliated League are members of the one AFL Regional Commission the existing or amalgamated club may appeal to the AFL Victoria Country in accordance with Regulation 4. AFL Victoria will establish a panel as it sees fit.

3.12
(a) Where an Affiliated League does not notify an existing or amalgamated club of its decision within twenty one (21) days of receiving a Transfer Application, then upon application by the existing or amalgamated club, the AFL Regional Commission may:–
(i) approve or refuse the Transfer Application; or
(ii) make such other determination as it in its absolute discretion thinks fit.
(b) For the purposes of Regulation 3.12(a):–
(i) an application by an existing or amalgamated club is made by lodging a copy of the Transfer Application with the Region General Manager; and
(ii) once the Transfer Application is lodged with the Region General Manager, an Affiliated League is unable to approve or refuse the Transfer Application.

3.13
An existing or amalgamated club desiring to transfer, to a league affiliated to a controlling body other than AFL Victoria Country, shall obtain approval to transfer in accordance with the terms of the agreement between AFL Victoria Country and the controlling body.

N.B. Refer to AFL Victoria Regulations relating to club transfers.

3.14
An existing or amalgamated club may only lodge one (1) Transfer Application in each year.

3.15 Transfer of a League to another AFL Regional Commission
A league which desires to transfer to another AFL Regional Commission shall lodge a written application with its current Football Development Manager and a deposit of $1,000. The application must be lodged prior to 31 October in the year preceding the year in which the transfer will take effect if granted. The application for transfer will be forwarded by the Football Development Manager within nine (9) days of receipt to the Secretary and shall be dealt with within a period of thirty (30) days by the VCFL Board.

Prior to convening a meeting of an AFL Victoria panel, the applicant league and the two affected AFL Regional Commissions shall tender written submissions to AFL Victoria Community Football Operations Manager outlining the facts, reasons and arguments concerned in such application. The application must be lodged with AFL Victoria Community Football Operations Manager within nine (9) days of the date of receipt by the Football Development Manager. The deposit may be forfeited either in whole or part, if in the opinion of the AFL Appeals Panel the application is considered frivolous.
3.16 (1) – Expulsion (or fining) of an affiliated Club by an affiliated League, due to inadequate player numbers.

AFL Victoria Country affiliated leagues electing to fine or expel a member club of their league on the grounds of an inability to field a side(s) (other than the first senior team) must;

a) in the case of a fine – consult with AFL Victoria Country Region General Manager of the AFL Regional Commission they are affiliated with.

b) in the case of expulsion of a club – consult with AFL Regional Commission they are affiliated with.

In either case a hearing could be held by the AFL Regional Commission.

The matter to be heard in accordance with AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations (refer AFL Victoria Country Rules 4.4 and 4.5 for procedures relating to the Appeal).

3.16 (2) – Expulsion or suspension of an Affiliated Club by an Affiliated League, for whatever reason, other than inadequate player numbers; apply as per b) above.

4.0 APPEALS OF CLUBS

4.1

For the purposes of this regulation the Appeal Board where indicated as AFL Victoria Country shall be the AFL Victoria panel as it sees fit. Where indicated it shall be the AFL Regional Commission to which the club is affiliated.

4.2 (i)

(a) An existing or amalgamated club may appeal to the AFL Regional Commission in respect of a decision of an Affiliated League to refuse a Transfer Application to another league within the AFL Regional Commission it is affiliated with, provided the appeal is lodged in writing (“the notice of appeal”) with the Region General Manager within seven (7) clear days of receiving written notification of the refusal.

(b) The notice of appeal shall be accompanied by

(i) a copy of the Transfer Application

(ii) the sum of $500 for Senior clubs and $250 for Junior clubs, for costs of the appeal, which shall not be refunded in any circumstances; and

(iii) a further sum of $1500 for Senior clubs and $750 for Junior clubs which sum shall be dealt with as follows:

• where AFL Victoria upholds an appeal the sum paid by the club shall be refunded; or

• where AFL Victoria dismisses the appeal and determines that the Club’s reason(s) for the appeal did not have sufficient merit, it may determine in its absolute discretion, that all, or part of the sum not be refunded.

4.4

(a) Prior to determining the appeal, the existing or amalgamated club and both Affiliated Leagues shall, within the time specified by the Appeal Panel, lodge with the Region General Manager written submissions which contain:–

(i) any facts, reasons and arguments concerning the Transfer Application and the appeal; and

(ii) any other matters which they desire to be taken into account by the Appeal Panel in determining the appeal.

(b) The Appeal Panel:–

(i) shall consider and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and

(ii) is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to
courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit; (iii) may regulate the proceedings before it in such manner as it thinks fit; and (iv) may confirm, reverse or modify the decision of an Affiliated League and make such orders and give such directions in such manner as it thinks fit.

(c) The Appeal Panel shall not be obliged to give reasons for its decision.

4.6 An existing or amalgamated club may only lodge one (1) appeal in each year under this Regulation 4.

4.7 AFL Victoria Country Reviews - Implementation and Appeals

Where the WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country or AFL Regional Commission has conducted a review of a WorkSafe Affiliated League(s) or AFL Regional Commission the recommendations are required to be accepted provided that the following requirements have been met:

- Review – framework distributed to all affected stakeholders named in the framework
- Review – consultation meetings offered to all affected stakeholders named in the framework
- Review – draft review recommendations distributed to all affected stakeholders named in the framework
- Review – submissions on draft review recommendations from all affected stakeholders named in the framework considered by the Review Panel
- Review – submissions on draft review recommendations for stakeholders not originally included in the initial review framework considered by the Review Panel
- Review – final review recommendations distributed to all affected stakeholders named in the framework
- Review – appeal against the implementation of the review recommendations by an affected stakeholder(s)

Any appeal against the implementation of the final review recommendations would be heard by AFL Victoria following the procedures of 4.7.1.

4.7.1 Appeals of Stakeholders

(a) For the purposes of this regulation if the review was conducted by AFL Victoria and impacts across two AFL Regional Commissions the Appeal Panel shall be the AFL Victoria Appeals Panel.

(b) For the purposes of this regulation if the review was conducted by an AFL Regional Commission and impacts across a single AFL Regional Commissions the Appeal Panel shall be the AFL Regional Commission according to their constitution.

4.7.2

(a) An affected stakeholder to a review may appeal to the Appeal Panel in respect of review recommendations, provided the appeal is lodged in writing (“the notice of appeal”) with the Country Football Manager (4.7.1 (a) or Regional General Manager (4.7.1 (b)) within seven (7) clear days of receiving written notification of the final review recommendations.

(b) The notice of appeal shall be accompanied by:
- (i) a copy of the final review recommendations
- (ii) the sum of $500 for Senior appellants and $250 for Junior appellants, for costs of the appeal, which shall not be refunded in any circumstances; and
- (iii) a further sum of $1500 for Senior appellants and $750 for Junior appellants which sum shall be dealt with as follows:
  - where the Appeal Panel upholds an appeal the sum paid by the club shall be refunded; or
  - where the Appeal Panel dismisses the appeal and determines that the appellants reason(s) for the appeal did not have sufficient merit, it may determine in its absolute discretion, that all, or part of the sum not be refunded.

4.7.3

An appeal shall be considered by the Appeal Panel within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of the notice of appeal by the Region General Manager, or such other period as the Appeal Panel may determine.

4.7.4

(a) Prior to determining the appeal, the appellant shall, within the time specified by the Appeal Panel, lodge with the Region General Manager written submissions which contain:–
- (i) any facts, reasons and arguments concerning the review recommendations and the appeal; and
- (ii) any other matters which they desire to be taken into account by the Appeal Panel in determining the appeal.

(b) The Region General Manager shall as soon as practicable but prior to the matter being dealt with in the Appeals Panel, distribute the written submissions to the parties concerned in the appeal.

4.7.5

(a) The hearing before the Appeal Panel shall be:–
- (i) by submission only

(b) The Appeal Board:–
- (i) shall consider and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner;
- (ii) is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit;
(iii) may regulate the proceedings before it in such manner as it thinks fit; and
(iv) may confirm, reverse or modify the review recommendations and make such orders and give such directions in such manner as it thinks fit.

(c) The Appeal Panel shall not be obliged to give reasons for its decision.

4.7.6
An appellant may only lodge one (1) appeal in each year under this Regulation 4.7

5.0 UNBECOMING CONDUCT

Rule 5.1 Appointment of Investigation Officer:
Each league shall appoint an AFL Victoria Country accredited investigation officer to investigate any matter referred to him pursuant to Rule 5.2 (unbecoming conduct).

Rule 5.2 Unbecoming Conduct:
(a) The League, League Executive members, Club, Player, League or an AFL Victoria Country appointed official, who alleges that a player or an official of a club, umpire, official of an umpires’ Association, AFL Victoria Country Official, League official, Club, player advocate, or League appointed official has been guilty of conduct which is unbecoming to a player, umpire, such official, or club, or which has or is likely to bring the game of football into disrepute, may lodge with the League a Notice in writing setting out particulars of the allegation. Unless the notice is lodged by the League a deposit of $500 shall accompany the notice which shall be forfeited in whole or part in the event that the Investigation Officer or Independent Tribunal considers it frivolous. A Notice under this paragraph must be lodged with the League within five days after the date of the act or omission to which it relates unless the League agrees to extend this period to a maximum of thirty (30) days.

An extension agreed to by the League may be subject to such conditions as the League thinks fit and such request for an extension is to be provided to the League in writing outlining the reasons for the extension request.

(ii) within 2 days of the request for an investigation the league is required to provide all parties notification of the investigation outlining details of the incident or matter for investigation.

(b) Notice of any allegation received under paragraph (a) shall be referred to the Investigation Officer for investigation by him.

The Investigation Officer may investigate the allegation as he sees fit. Such investigation shall be completed within 21 days of the matter being referred to the Investigation Officer, unless, at the completion of the 21 days, one (1) extension of time being not more than ten (10) days is then granted by the League at the request of the Investigation Officer.

Request for extension must be received in writing.

(c) If the Investigation Officer, after investigation of the allegation, is of the opinion that the Player, Official or Club in question may have been guilty of conduct unbecoming to a Player, an Official or Club or is likely to bring the game of football into disrepute and that the allegation ought to be dealt with by the League Independent Tribunal as hereinafter provided, he may lodge with the League a Notice in writing setting out details of the allegation. (Refer to pro forma notice item 5 page 124).

(i) If the Investigation Officer is requested to investigate a matter pertaining to AFL Law 5.5.3 (Players Exceeding Permitted Number) – he will lodge with the League a Notice in writing setting out his findings which will be considered by the League in determining the matter as justice in the case may require.

(d) If a Notice is lodged with the League under paragraph (c), and the League determines that it should be heard at Tribunal the League Secretary shall fix a date, time and place for the hearing of the allegation before the League Independent Tribunal, being a date not later than 9 days after lodgment of the Notice and shall advise the Player, official or club, in question of those particulars and forward to the Player, Official, or club, care of the Club Secretary in question a copy, with a copy also to be forwarded to the Club Secretary of the Notice lodged under paragraph (c). Such notices shall be forwarded only to the charged player or official or club prior to the Hearing with such notice to be forwarded to the player and club at least 48 hours prior to the Hearing and the charged player or official or club shall be informed at the time as to whom it is proposed to call as witnesses.

Notices should include any other relevant information pertaining to the matter at hand.

(e) In any proceeding brought before a tribunal or Appeals Board under this rule the Investigation Officer shall personally appear before it and lay the necessary charge or charges and act as the prosecuting Officer for the League.

(f) If the League Independent Tribunal is of the opinion that the Player, Official or Club in question has engaged in unbecoming conduct or conduct which has or is likely to bring the game of football into disrepute, it may make such orders and give such directions in the matter as it thinks fit. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the League Independent Tribunal:–

(i) may impose a fine of such amount as it thinks fit on the Player, Official or club in question: or
must suspend the Player, Official or Club in question for such period as it thinks fit, if the Player, Official or Club is found guilty (refer AFL Victoria Country Rule 7.6.11 a)

For the purposes of interpretation of AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.2, the Investigation Officer shall not be deemed to be an advocate. In any hearing before an AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board the Investigations Officer will be the informant and witness for the league or Association and shall not be an advocate in the hearing.

6.0 AFFILIATED/UNAFFILIATED CLUBS

An affiliated club is a club which is a member of a League/Association which is affiliated with AFL Victoria Country.

6.1 An affiliated club is a club which is a member of a League/Association, which is affiliated with AFL Victoria Country, and must pay an affiliation fee annually as determined by AFL Victoria.

6.2 Clubs in recess must pay an Affiliation Fee including Public Liability Insurance to the level of one senior team rate.

6.3 After a period of two years in recess the club in recess will be deemed to have disbanded unless, after an application from the club, AFL Victoria Country extends the term.

7.0 DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND APPEALS

7.1 League Independent Tribunal

7.1.1 Appointment by League

Each League shall, in accordance with its Statement of Rules/Constitution and any relevant rules or regulations, appoint from time to time persons to a disciplinary tribunal to be known as the League’s Independent Tribunal. A League Independent Tribunal must, when hearing a matter, consist of at least 3 members, one of whom shall act as chairman.

7.1.2 Qualification

A person shall not be appointed to the relevant League Independent Tribunal if that person in the twelve months preceding the date of the proposed appointment

(a) has held any office of the League;
(b) has held any office of a Club competing in a competition conducted by the League.

7.2 Area Appeal Committee

7.2.1 Appointment and Members of Appeal Committee

Subject to the remaining provisions of Regulation 8.2, an Area Appeal Committee shall consist of the relevant Football Development Manager, Operations Manager and a Rules Committee member.

For the purposes of hearing and determining a matter, an Area Appeal Committee shall comprise 3 persons one of whom shall act as chairman.

7.3 Jurisdiction of League Independent Tribunal and Area Appeals Committee

7.3.1 League Independent Tribunal

The following matters shall be referred to a League’s Independent Tribunal for hearing and determination:

(a) reportable offences under the Laws of Australian Football;
(b) a matter referred by a relevant league or Association on the recommendation of an Investigation Officer;
(c) any appeal by a club/s, player/s or official/s against the decision of the affiliated League or it’s independent tribunal for non-reportable offences;
(d) any other matter referred to it by the relevant League or AFL Victoria Country Football Manager.

7.3.2 Area Appeal Committee

The relevant Area Appeal Committee shall, in accordance with these Regulations, hear and determine:

(a) any appeal by a player against a decision of either his current Club or League to refuse his application for a clearance; or
(b) any other matters referred to it by AFL Victoria Country Football Manager; or
(c) any appeal by a club/s, player/s or official/s against a decision of the affiliated league or its independent tribunal for non-reportable offences.

7.4 Appeals Against Refused Clearances – Players & Other Appeals under 7.3.2

7.4.1 Player May Appeal

(a) A player may appeal to his relevant Area Appeal Committee if:
   (i) he is not granted a clearance to transfer from his current Club to another Club within the same League;
   (ii) he is not granted a clearance to transfer from his current Club to another Club which plays in a League located within the same Area; or
   (iii) he is not granted a clearance to transfer from his current Club to a Club which plays in a League located in another Area.
7.4.3 Timing of Appeal

A Notice of Appeal must be lodged with the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy no later than 10 days from the date of email, posting or facsimile of the decision by the League Secretary or by the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy no later than 10 days from the date of email, posting or facsimile of the decision by the relevant Area Appeal Committee in determining the appeal.

7.4.4 How an Appeal may be Lodged

A Notice of Appeal may be lodged by hand, registered post, electronically or facsimile, addressed to the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy.

7.4.5 Convening Appeal and Timing for Hearing of Appeal

Upon receipt of a Notice of Appeal, the following shall apply:

(a) within 48 hours of receiving the Notice of Appeal, the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy shall provide a copy of that Notice to the player’s current Club which has refused the player’s application for a clearance or the League who has made the decision which is being appealed – refer 7.3.2 b) & c);

(b) within 48 hours of receiving the Notice of Appeal from the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy, the current Club must advise the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy in writing whether it intends to oppose the player’s appeal (the “opposing notice”) – clearance appeals only;

(c) if the current Club does intend to oppose the player’s appeal, it must, at the same time as lodging the opposing notice, pay to AFL Victoria Country – clearance appeals only:

(i) the sum of $250 for costs of the appeal, which sum shall not be refunded in any circumstances; and

(ii) a further sum of $500 for Senior clubs and $250 for Junior clubs, which sum shall be dealt with as follows: - clearance appeals only

(ii) any facts, reasons and arguments concerning the Transfer Application and the appeal; and

(ii) any other matters which they desire to be taken into account by the Area Appeal Committee in determining the appeal.

(d) The Area Appeal Committee shall not be obliged to give reasons for its decision.
- where an Area Appeal Committee dismisses an appeal made by a player/club, the sum paid by the Club shall be refunded; or
- where the Area Appeal Committee upholds the player’s appeal and determines that the Club’s reason(s) for refusing the clearance did not have sufficient merit, it may determine in its absolute discretion, that all, or part of the sum not be refunded;

(d) If the current Club does not, within the prescribed time, lodge an opposing notice or pay the required amounts, the player’s clearance must be granted by the relevant Football Development Manager without the Area Appeal Committee hearing the appeal - clearance appeals only.

In that event, the current club shall be fined $150 payable to AFL Victoria within 10 days of the date of Notice of Appeal with all monies to be refunded to the appellant - clearance appeals only.

(e) if the current Club does, within the prescribed time, lodge an opposing notice and pay the required amounts, Regulation 7.4.6 shall apply.

7.4.6 Time and Notification for Appeal
(a) Upon receiving a notice of appeal and payment of the required amounts within the prescribed time, the Football Development Manager or his appointed deputy shall:
(i) arrange the hearing of the appeal within 14 days of receiving the notice of appeal, or as soon as practicable after that time; and
(ii) give written notice of those particulars to all parties interested in the appeal at least 72 hours before the date scheduled for the appeal.
If the Football Development Manager does not fix a date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal, AFL Victoria Country Football Manager may, upon application by the player, refer the matter directly to the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board for hearing and determination.

(b) Variation of Hearing
The Area Appeal Committee may vary the hearing initially specified for the appeal and upon doing so, shall immediately provide all parties interested in the appeal written notice of any such variation.

7.5 Sanction imposed by a Club – Player Appeal
7.5.1 Right of Appeal
A Player may appeal to the League Independent Tribunal of the League in which his Club plays, in respect of a decision by his Club to impose a sanction upon him, including without limitation a suspension or monetary sanction.

7.5.2 Form and Timing of Appeal
An appeal by a player must:
(a) be in writing, signed by the player lodging the appeal;
(b) provide full particulars of the decision of the player’s Club;
(c) be lodged with the Secretary of the relevant League no later than 9 days after the player is notified of the sanction imposed by his Club; and
(d) be accompanied by a payment to the League Independent Tribunal of $500.00 for Seniors and $250 for Juniors, which the League Independent Tribunal shall determine in its absolute discretion whether to refund none, all or part of the $500.

7.5.3 Time for Hearing
(a) Upon receipt of an appeal under this Regulation 7.5, the Secretary or appointed representative of the relevant League shall:
(i) fix the date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal within 14 days of receipt of the appeal, or as soon as practicable after that time; and
(ii) give written notice of these particulars to the player and the relevant Club at least 72 hours before the date and time scheduled for the appeal.
(b) The League Independent Tribunal may vary the date, time and place initially specified for the appeal and upon doing so, shall immediately provide all parties interested in the appeal written notice of any such variation.

7.5.4 Player may still Lodge Clearance
Nothing in this Regulation 7.5 shall prevent a player from seeking a clearance from his Club in accordance with these Regulations.

7.5.5 No Further Right of Appeal
A decision by a League Independent Tribunal in respect of an appeal brought under this Regulation 7.5 shall be final and no appeal may be made to the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board.

7.6 Procedure and Evidence before League Independent Tribunal and Area Appeal Committee
7.6.1 Application of this Regulation
Unless otherwise stated, the provisions contained in this Regulation 7.6 shall apply in respect of all hearings of a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee.

7.6.2 Regulate Own Procedure
Subject to the further matters set out in this Regulation 7.6, a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee may regulate any proceedings brought before it in such manner as it thinks fit.
7.6.3 Conduct of Hearing and Attendance

(a) Conduct
A hearing before a League Independent Tribunal shall be:
(i) inquisitorial in nature; and
(ii) conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as a proper consideration of the matters before it permits

(b) Attendance
A person shall attend and appear before a League Independent Tribunal (Area Appeal Committee hearings are determined by submission – no attendance at such hearings are required) at the date, time and place fixed for hearing. Where a person fails to attend, other than a player reported for a field offence, before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, as the case may be, that body may hear and determine the matter in that party's absence.

Players reported for a field offence must attend the next tribunal hearing of the League Tribunal. The player cannot play unless the case has been heard. Where the Tribunal deems that the player has reasonably been unable to attend the hearing and therefore adjourns the matter the player shall be eligible to play pending resolution of the matter.

(c) Adjournment
In the event that an adjournment is sought by a charged player, because of legal action, such player will be automatically ineligible to play or participate in any official match until such charges have been heard.

7.6.4 Rules of Evidence

(a) Not Bound by Rules of Evidence
A League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee is not bound by the rules of evidence or practices and procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter and in such manner as it thinks fit.

(b) Video Evidence – League Independent Tribunal
Where a League Independent Tribunal is conducting a hearing into a reportable offence or other alleged conduct of a person and it considers that video evidence is capable of determining the reportable offence or alleged conduct, the League Independent Tribunal may make a finding solely on the basis of that unaltered video evidence.

7.6.5 Specific Procedure for Player Clearance – Contract in Dispute – Area Appeal Committee Only
Where a player has lodged an appeal for a clearance and an issue before the Area Appeal Committee is the validity of a contract between the player and his current Club, the following procedure shall apply:

(a) the Area Appeal Committee shall adjourn the hearing of the matter for a period of 14 days, or such other period as determined by the Chairman of the Area Appeal Committee;
(b) within 7 days of the adjournment, the player and the Club shall provide written submissions to the Chairman regarding the contract in dispute;
(c) the Area Appeal Committee shall determine the validity of the contract based upon the written submissions provided by the parties. In undertaking that task, the Area Appeal Committee may obtain its own legal advice concerning the issues requiring determination;
(d) where the Area Appeal Committee determines that the contract is invalid and unenforceable, the Area Appeal Committee shall advise the parties accordingly in writing, re-convene the further hearing of the appeal, and proceed to determine the appeal based on any other relevant matters put before it.

7.6.6 Natural Justice and Other Obligations
A League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee Board shall:

(a) provide any person whose interest will be directly and adversely effected by its decision a reasonable opportunity to be heard (in writing);
(b) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
(c) make a decision that a reasonable body could honestly arrive at.

7.6.7 Express Exclusion of Natural Justice – League Independent Tribunal Only
A League Independent Tribunal shall endeavour to hear and determine any reportable offence or matter referred to it before the person’s Club is next scheduled to compete, irrespective of whether the hearing is scheduled at short notice or whether the hearing of the matter may affect the person’s or the person’s Club’s preparation for the next scheduled match. To the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:

(a) a person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for a hearing; or
(b) the hearing be scheduled at a time that does not affect the person or the person’s Club preparation for the next scheduled match, those requirements are expressly excluded from these Regulations.

7.6.8 New Hearing
An Area Appeal Committee and a League Independent Tribunal (if it is hearing an appeal), shall deal with the appeal as a new hearing.
7.6.9 Standard of Proof
A League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee shall decide a matter before it to its reasonable satisfaction.

7.6.10 Onus of Proof
No person appearing before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee shall bear an onus of establishing the matters before the relevant body for determination.

7.6.11 Decision and Sanction
(a) Decision
If the case is heard by the Tribunal or Area Appeals Board and a player is found guilty of an offence the player may be subject to penalty as determined by the tribunal or area appeal committee as permitted within regulation 12.0. Players may also be subject to further penalty at the discretion of the tribunal or panel.

(b) Majority Decision
The question(s) before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee must be decided according to the opinion of a majority of members constituting the relevant body.

(c) Sanction – League Independent Tribunal
In the case of a League Independent Tribunal determining a sanction for a reportable offence or other conduct which has been sustained against a person, the League Independent Tribunal may have regard to any matters which it considers relevant to the question of sanction and without limitation may consider:
(i) the seriousness of the reportable offence or conduct sustained against the person;
(ii) any injury sustained or effect upon the person against whom the reportable offence or conduct has been committed;
(iii) the prior record of reportable offences or conduct committed by the person; and
(iv) in so far as they are relevant, any objectives contained in AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations or League Rules.

(d) Hearing on Sanction – League Independent Tribunal
Where a matter is sustained against a person by a League Independent Tribunal, the League Independent Tribunal shall provide that person a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the question of sanction before imposing any sanction.

(e) Set Sanctions
A League may pass a rule which prescribes a range of set sanctions for particular reportable offences, provided the rule complies with any guidelines published from time to time by AFL Victoria Country.

(f) Payment of Monetary Sanction
Unless otherwise determined by a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, any monetary sanction imposed shall be paid to the relevant League or no later than 28 days after the decision of a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, as the case may be.

7.6.12 No Reasons
A League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made by it.

7.6.13 Unreasonable Restraint of Trade
A League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee shall not make a determination which amounts to an unreasonable restraint of a person’s trade.

7.6.14 Guidelines
(a) AFL Victoria Country may make, revoke or amend guidelines for the practice and procedure with respect to a hearing before a League Independent Tribunal or an Area Appeal Committee. Such guidelines must be adopted and followed by each League and League Independent Tribunal and each Area Appeal Committee.

(b) The current guidelines for the practice and procedure with respect to a hearing before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee is contained in the document headed “AFL Victoria Country Independent Tribunal and Appeal Board Committee – Guidelines for Tribunal and Appeal Board Members”.

7.6.15 Representation
At any hearing before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, a person, other than a witness, may appear in person or appear with and be represented by an advocate. No person shall be represented by an advocate who is a barrister or solicitor or qualified to practise as a barrister or solicitor.

7.6.16 Co-operation with League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeals Committee
(a) A person shall appear before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee if requested, unless the relevant body is satisfied that the person has a legitimate reason for not attending.

(b) Any person who appears before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee shall:
(i) fully co-operate with the relevant body;
(ii) truthfully answer any questions he or she is asked;
(iii) upon request by the relevant body, provide any document in that person’s possession or control which is relevant to the matter to be determined by the relevant body;
(iv) not make any statement or act in a manner which is false or misleading or calculated to mislead or which is likely to mislead; and
(v) act in a courteous and polite manner during the hearing and after a decision has been made.
(c) Where a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee considers that a person has contravened this Regulation 7.6.16, it may deal with the matter and impose sanctions upon the person as it in its absolute discretion deems fit.

**8.0 AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Appeal Board – APPEAL FROM LEAGUE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL OR AREA APPEAL COMMITTEE DECISION**

**8.1 AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board**

**8.1.1 Appointment**

AFL Victoria Country Football Manager may from time to time appoint persons to a board to be known as the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board.

**8.1.2 Members of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board**

The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall consist of:

(a) a chairman and a deputy chairman, and

(b) a panel of not more than 5 who in the opinion of AFL Victoria Country Football Manager, possesses a knowledge of Australian Football and is suitable for appointment ("panel members").

**8.1.3 Absent Members**

If for any period and for any reason a member is absent or unable to attend a hearing of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board, AFL Victoria Country Football Manager may appoint a person who in his opinion is a suitable replacement.

**8.1.4 Resignation**

A member of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may resign by providing notice in writing to AFL Victoria Country Football Manager.

**8.1.5 Removal**

AFL Victoria Country Football Manager may remove a member of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board at any time in his absolute discretion.

**8.1.6 Composition for Hearing**

For the purpose of hearing and determining an appeal, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall be constituted by:

(a) the chairman or in the chairman’s absence, the deputy chairman who shall act as chairman; and

(b) at least two panel members; and the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board as constituted shall conduct a hearing in respect of the appeal.

**8.2 Regulation Paramount**

Regulation 8 prescribes the procedures for an appeal commenced by a charged person or organisation, excluding umpires or witnesses in respect of a decision made by a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee.

To the extent that any provision in Regulation 8 is inconsistent with any other AFL Victoria Country rule or regulation, the provisions of Regulation 8 shall prevail.

**8.3 Right of Appeal**

(a) Only the charged person or organisation, subject to the decision of a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Board under Rule 7.6.11, may appeal to AFL Victoria Country Appeal Committee provided the appeal is brought no later than 2.00 pm on the second day after which the decision of the tribunal or relevant body was made.

(b) The right of a person to appeal to AFL Victoria Country Appeal Committee does not apply to a decision of a League Independent Tribunal in respect of an appeal by a Player under Regulation 7.5.

**8.4 Notice of Appeal**

An appeal under Regulation 8.3 shall be brought by lodging with AFL Victoria Community Football Operations Manager a duly completed “AFL Victoria Country Notice of Appeal” in or substantially in the form prescribed in schedule 1 as Form 2, accompanied by:

(a) any documents initially provided to the relevant body whose decision is the subject of the appeal;

(b) payment or evidence of payment to AFL Victoria Country of the sum of $2500 for Senior clubs/umpires and for Junior clubs/umpires a sum of $1250 for costs of the appeal, which sum shall not be refunded in any circumstances; and

(c) payment or evidence of payment to AFL Victoria Country of the further sum of $3,000 for Senior clubs/umpires and for Junior clubs/umpires a sum of $1500, which sum shall be dealt with as follows:

(i) where the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board upholds the appeal, the sum of $3000 or $1500 shall be refunded; or

(ii) where the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board dismisses the appeal and considers that the appeal did not have sufficient merit, it may determine in its absolute discretion that all or part of the sum of $3,000 or $1500 not be refunded.

**8.5 Lodgment of Notice of Appeal**

An AFL Victoria Country Notice of Appeal shall be lodged by:

(a) hand delivering;

(b) transmitting by facsimile, or

(c) electronically that notice addressed to AFL Victoria Country Football Operations Manager, which must be received by him no later than 2.00pm on the second day after the
decision of the relevant body was made. A Notice of Appeal lodged by facsimile is lodged within time if it is accompanied by evidence that the $5500 for Seniors or $2750 for Juniors required to be paid under Regulation 8.4 has been paid and in that respect, the AFL Victoria Community Football Operations Manager may accept a photocopy of a cheque for the relevant amount and an undertaking that the cheque has been posted to AFL Victoria Country as sufficient compliance with Regulation 8.4.

8.6 Time for Hearing of Appeal

8.6.1 Notification

Upon receipt of an AFL Victoria Country Notice of Appeal and the required sum of $5500 (Senior) or $2750 (Junior), AFL Victoria Community Football Operations Manager shall:

(a) fix the date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal as soon as practicable; and
(b) advise all parties interested in the appeal in writing of those particulars.

8.6.2 Variation of Time or Place

The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may vary the date, time or place specified under Regulation 8.6.1 and upon doing so shall immediately provide all parties interested in the appeal written notice of any such variation. Where the appeal relates to a suspension imposed upon an appellant by a League Independent Tribunal, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall endeavour to hear and determine the appeal before the day on which the appellant’s Club is next scheduled to compete.

8.6.3 Attendance

All parties to the appeal shall attend and appear before the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board at the date, time and place fixed for the hearing of the appeal. Where a party fails to attend before the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may hear and determine the appeal in that party’s absence or have the unavailable party available by phone or video link should the need arise.

8.7 Obligations of Appeal Board

8.7.1 Natural Justice and Other Obligations

The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall:

(a) provide any person whose interest will be directly and adversely affected by its decision a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
(b) hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner; and
(c) make a decision that any reasonable body could honestly arrive at in the circumstances.

8.7.2 Express Exclusion

Subject to Regulation 8.6.2 and 8.8, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall endeavour to hear and determine an appeal brought under this Rule 8 before the appellant’s Club is next scheduled to compete, irrespective of whether the appeal is heard at short notice or whether the hearing of the appeal may affect the appellant’s or the appellant’s Club’s preparation for the next scheduled match. To the extent that the rules of natural justice require that:

(a) a person be given adequate notice of or sufficient time to prepare for an appeal; or
(b) the appeal be scheduled at a time that does not affect the appellant’s or the appellant’s Club’s preparation for the next scheduled Match, those requirements are expressly excluded from these Regulations.

8.8 Adjournment and Stay of Sanction

8.8.1 Person to Serve Sanction

Subject to Regulation 8.8.2, where a League Independent Tribunal imposes a sanction which prevents the appellant from participating in a match, the appellant shall serve that sanction pending the determination of the appeal.

8.8.2 Power to Adjourn and Stay of Sanction

Subject to Regulation 8.8.3, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may of its own motion or upon application of any party to the appeal, order:

(a) that an appeal be adjourned; and/or
(b) a stay of the execution of the sanction imposed by a League Independent Tribunal pending the determination of the appeal.

8.8.3 Exceptional and Compelling Circumstances

The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall make an order under Regulation 8.8.2 only where it is satisfied that there are exceptional and compelling circumstances that make it harsh and unconscionable if an order was not made staying the execution of the sanction. In determining that question, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall without limitation have regard to:

(a) the merits of the appeal and the appellant’s prospects of success;
(b) the interests of other Clubs and Players; and
(c) the effect on the results of the competition conducted by the relevant League.

8.9 New Hearing

(a) Subject to Regulation 8.9(b), the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall deal with the appeal as a new hearing.
(b) The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may have regard to any record of the proceeding before a League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Board, including a record of any evidence taken at the hearing.

8.10 Procedure and Evidence

8.10.1 Regulate own Procedure

Subject to the further matters set out in this Regulation 8, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board
may regulate any proceedings brought before it in such manner as it thinks fit.

8.10.2 Conduct of Appeal
The hearing before the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall be:

(a) inquisitorial in nature; and
(b) conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as the proper consideration of the matters before it permits.

8.10.3 Rules of Evidence
The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit.

8.10.4 Video Evidence
Where the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board is conducting a hearing into a reportable offence or other alleged conduct of a person and it considers that video evidence is capable of determining the reportable offence or the alleged conduct, the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may make a finding solely on the basis of that unaltered video evidence.

8.10.5 Specific Procedure: Validity of Playing Contract
Regulation 7.6.5 shall apply to the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board where an issue before it is the validity of a contract between the appellant and a Club and any reference to the Area Appeal Board shall be read as a reference to the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board.

8.11 Power of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board

8.11.1 Decisions
The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may confirm, reverse, increase or modify the decision of the body the subject of the appeal and make such orders and give such directions in such manner as it thinks fit. Any decision of the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board is not restricted in any way by the local rules or regulations of the League in question.

8.11.2 Certain Regulations to Apply
Regulations 7.6.11(c) and (d) and Regulation 8.6.3 shall apply to appeals before AFL Victoria Country Appeal Committee and any reference to the League Independent Tribunal or Area Appeal Committee, as the case may be, shall be read as a reference to AFL Victoria Country Appeal Committee.

8.12 Onus of Proof
No person appearing before the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall bear an onus of establishing the matters before it for determination.

8.13 Standard of Proof
The AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall decide a matter before it to its reasonable satisfaction.

8.14 Majority Decisions
The question on appeal before the AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board must be decided according to the opinion of a majority of the members constituting AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board.

8.15 No Reasons
The Appeal Board is not obliged to give reasons for a decision under Regulation 8.11.

8.16 Representation
At any hearing before AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board, a person or organisation, excluding umpires or witnesses may appear in person or appear with and be represented by an advocate. No person shall be represented by an advocate who is a barrister or solicitor or qualified to practise as a barrister or solicitor, excepting Investigation Officers who are barristers or solicitors or qualified to practise as a barrister or solicitor.

8.17 Questions of Law and Fact
In the hearing and determination of an appeal, AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall decide all questions of law and fact and without limitation, shall determine the meaning of any words.

8.18 Costs
Parties to an AFL Victoria Country Appeal can apply for reasonable costs by contacting AFL Victoria Country Football Operations Department.

8.19 Abandon Appeal
(a) An appellant may abandon an appeal no later than 48 hours prior to the time set down for the hearing by giving written notice to AFL Victoria Country Operations Manager, in which case the payments made by the appellant under Regulations 8.4 (b) and (c) shall be refunded.

(b) Where an appellant abandons the appeal within 48 hours of the time as set down for the hearing or during the conduct of the appeal and AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board considers that the appeal did not have sufficient merit, AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may determine in its absolute discretion that all or part of the payment made under Regulation 8.4(c) not be refunded.

8.20 Validity of Hearing
(a) Where there is any procedural irregularity in the manner in which an appeal has been brought, AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board may still hear and determine the appeal unless it is of the opinion that the irregularity has caused or may cause injustice if the appeal was heard.

(b) A decision of AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board is not invalid because of any defect or irregularity in, or in connection with, the appointment of an AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board Member.
8.21 Co-operation with AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board

(a) A person shall appear before AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board if requested, unless AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board is satisfied that the person has a legitimate reason for not attending.

(b) Any person who appears before AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board shall:
   (i) fully co-operate with AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board;
   (ii) truthfully answer any questions he or she is asked;
   (iii) upon request, provide any document in that person’s possession or control which is relevant to the matter to be determined; and
   (iv) not make any statement or act in a manner which is false or misleading or calculated to or which is likely to mislead.

(c) Where AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board considers that a person has contravened this Regulation 8.21(a) or (b), it may deal with the matter and impose sanctions upon the person as it in its absolute discretion deems fit.

8.22 Exhaust Internal Appeal

A person shall exercise his or her right of appeal under this Regulation 8 and have any appeal heard and determined by AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board before commencing any proceedings or becoming a party to any proceedings in a court of law.

8.23 Further Time

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules and Regulations, where any time limit is imposed for the doing of any act or thing or for any other purpose (including the time within which a person may appeal to the relevant Area Appeal Board or AFL Victoria Country Appeal Board), AFL Victoria Country Football Manager may in his absolute discretion extend or allow any further period of time within which a person may do any act or thing under these Rules & Regulations.

9.0 VILIFICATION AND DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Full details of the policy are available on the AFL Victoria website under the Policies section.

1. Prohibited Conduct

1.1 Vilification & Discrimination

No League Participant or Club Official shall engage in conduct which may reasonably be considered to incite hatred towards, contempt for, ridicule of or discrimination against a person or group of persons on the ground of their:

- race;
- religion;
- gender;
- colour;
- sexual preference, orientation or identity;
- special ability or disability.

2. Appointment of League Complaints Officer/s & Club Complaints Officer

2.1 The League shall appoint a League Complaints Officer/s to ensure that any breach of this Policy is responded to in an equitable and prompt manner in accordance with this Policy.

2.2 The League shall ensure that all Clubs have a Club Complaints Officer to whom all vilification and discrimination Complaints are directed.

2.3 The League Complaints Officer/s is responsible for liaising between Club Complaints Officers, in the case of an Inter-Club Complaint, or with a single Club Complaints Officer, in the case of an Intra-Club Complaint, in an attempt to achieve Informal Resolution of the Complaint.

2.4 The Club Complaints Officer and the League Complaints Officer/s shall liaise directly over incidents which in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer or League Complaints Officer/s are contrary to Section 1.

3. Preliminary Resolution Process

3.1 In the event that it is alleged that a person subject to section 3.1 has engaged in Prohibited Conduct, a Participant may by 5.00pm on the first working day following the day on which the Prohibited Conduct is alleged to have occurred, lodge a Complaint with the Club Complaints Officer.

3.2 In the case of an Inter-Club Complaint, the Club Complaints Officer where the Complaint was made shall by 5.00pm on the next working day following the day on which the Complaint was lodged with the Club, lodge the Complaint with the League’s Complaints Officer. The Club Complaints Officer shall take no further action once the Complaint has been lodged with the League unless otherwise instructed by the League’s Complaint’s Officer. In the case of an Inter-Club Complaint, the League Complaints Officer/s shall take reasonable steps within the next three (3) days following the day on which the Complaint was lodged with the League to achieve an Informal Resolution if, in the reasonable opinion of the League Complaints Officer, the Complaint is capable of an Informal Resolution.

3.3 In the case of an Intra-Club Complaint, the Club Complaints Officer shall take reasonable steps within the next three (3) days following the day on which the Complaint was lodged with the Club to achieve an Informal Resolution if, in the reasonable opinion of the Club Complaints Officer, the Complaint is capable of an Informal Resolution. If an Informal Resolution is not achieved or it is reasonably believed that the Complaint is incapable of an Informal Resolution, the Club Complaints Officer shall
as soon as is reasonably practicable lodge the Complaint with the League’s Complaints Officer. The Club Complaints Officer shall take no further action once the Complaint has been lodged with the League unless otherwise instructed by the League’s Complaints Officer.

3.4 In circumstances where in the reasonable opinion of the League Complaints Officer/s a Complaint cannot be resolved by way of Informal Resolution, the League Complaints Officer/s shall proceed to Conciliation in accordance with section 5 below.

4. Confidentiality and Records

4.1 Confidentiality must be maintained throughout the Complaints Process. All parties to a Complaint, the League’s Complaints Officer, the Club Complaints Officer, any witnesses and the conciliator must all agree to the maintenance of confidentiality. No person involved in the Complaints Process shall publicly comment on any aspect of the Complaints Process without the prior written agreement of all parties.

4.2 The League shall ensure that any documents relating to a Complaint shall remain confidential and be retained for 7 years from the date that the Complaint is made.

5. Conciliation Process

5.1 The League Complaints Officer/s shall:
(a) make every effort to ensure that:
(i) confidentiality is maintained at all times during the Complaints Process and that the outcome of the Complaints Process remains confidential;
(ii) any breach of confidentiality is referred to the League Tribunal no later than 5pm on the next working day following the day that the breach is discovered, with the Tribunal to be convened within 7 days from the day on which the referral is made;
(b) the person alleged to have contravened the Policy is informed of the Complaint, the Complaint Process and provide that person with an opportunity to respond to the Complaint;
(c) the President or CEO of the League or his or her Nominee is informed that a Complaint has been received by the League Complaints Officer/s;
(d) statements are obtained from any witnesses identified by the parties to the Complaint;
(e) where available, obtain any other relevant evidence;
(f) any witness statements or any other evidence obtained in the course of conciliating a Complaint is made available to both parties, with an opportunity to comment, as part of the Conciliation process;
(g) a conciliator is appointed to conciliate the Complaint; and
(h) all steps necessary for the Complaint to be conciliated are taken within 10 working days from the day on which the Prohibited Conduct is alleged to have occurred.

5.2 Participants subject to Conciliation who are under 18 years of age must be accompanied at the Conciliation by a Club Official over 18 years of age.

6 Investigation

6.1 In circumstances where a Complaint is not resolved in accordance with section 5 above, the League Complaints Officer/s may refer the matter to an Investigation Officer to investigate aspects of the allegation or circumstances surrounding the Complaint which, in the reasonable opinion of the League Complaints Officer/s, require further investigation to resolve the Complaint.

6.2 The Investigation Officer shall report to the League Complaints Officer/s on any information or evidence obtained in accordance with 6.1. Any information or evidence obtained by the Investigation Officer and provided to the League Complaints Officer/s shall be provided to all parties to the Complaint as part of the Complaint Process.

7 Tribunal Referrals, Process & Appeal

7.1 Following an investigation under section 6, if any, or following a failed Conciliation under section 5, the League Complaints Officer/s may refer the Complaint to a League Tribunal for determination. The League Complaints Officer/s shall take all steps necessary to make a decision about the referral of the Complaint to the League Tribunal as soon as is reasonably practicable.

7.2 The League Tribunal will be constituted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the League and the League shall determine who is responsible for prosecuting the Complaint at the Tribunal.

7.3 Where the referral to the League Tribunal is made pursuant to this section 7.1 of this Policy, the Tribunal will hear the Complaint within 5 working days of the Complaint referral being made.

7.4 The League Tribunal has the power to order any reasonable penalties or directions for breaches of this Policy as are allowable under the rules and regulations of the League in force at the time of the hearing.
7.5 Where a party to a Complaint is unsatisfied with the decision made by the League Tribunal, they may ask the Club’s Officer to request that the League establish a panel to hear an appeal from the decision in accordance with the League’s appeal regulations.

8 Club Liability

8.1 If found to have contravened this Policy a Club may be vicariously liable for Prohibited Conduct engaged in by a Participant connected to the Club if the Club is unable to establish that it took reasonable precautions to prevent the Participant from engaging in that Prohibited Conduct.

10.0 INTERSTATE PLAYER TRANSFERS

Attention is directed to the Australian Football League player transfer regulations governing Interstate Player Transfers, known as the National Player Transfer Regulations.

11.0 ORDER OFF RULE

In accordance with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, permission has been granted to AFL Victoria Country requiring all affiliated Leagues to adhere to the following guidelines for the Order Off rule:

(A) A player who commits the following AFL Laws of the Game offences shall be reported and ordered off the ground for the remainder of the game and is able to be replaced after 20 minutes of actual playing time. The player red carded can take no further part in the game:

(g) intentionally, recklessly or negligently:
   (ii) striking another person;
   (iii) tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;
   (v) charging another person;
   (vi) throwing or pushing another Player, after that Player has taken a mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play;
   (vii) engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable;
   (x) spitting at or on another person.
   (xi) bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that player has his head down over the ball;

(h) attempting to kick another person;

(i) attempting to strike another person;

(j) attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;

(l) wrestling another person.

(B) A player who commits the following AFL Laws of the Game offences shall be reported and ordered from the ground for 15 minutes of actual match playing time:

(g) intentionally, recklessly or negligently:
   (iv) engaging in time wasting;
   (viii) engaging in a melee.

(k) intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another Player is preparing to kick or is kicking for goal or after the Player has kicked for goal and the ball is in transit.

(m) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language;

(n) failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire.

(o) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9 of the AFL Laws of the Game.

(D) Any player reported for a second offence listed in (B) and (C) shall be sent from the field for the remainder of the match and is able to be replaced after 20 minutes of actual playing time. The player red carded can take no further part in the game.

Implementation

A Red Card indicates the player is ordered off for the remainder of the match and is able to be replaced after 20 minutes of actual playing time. The player red carded can take no further part in the game.

(E) For under age matches, field umpires may order a player off the ground for 15 minutes without reporting him.
Note: This would only apply when a player has not committed a reportable offence but has breached the law and given away a free kick in a deliberate or undisciplined manner or behaves in a manner detrimental to the image of the game.

The intention of this rule is to provide the player with a cooling off period.

**Implementation**

Only field umpires and emergency field umpires have the power to send players from the ground.

When ordering a player off, an umpire shall signal his intention by pointing to the interchange area with an outstretched arm and holding a coloured card above his head with the other.

A Red Card indicates the player is ordered off for the remainder of the remainder of the match and is able to be replaced after 20 minutes actual playing time.

A Yellow Card indicates the player is ordered off for 15 minutes of actual match playing time and cannot be replaced within that time.

A player ordered from the ground must leave the ground through the interchange area, report to the Interchange Steward or appropriate official on leaving the field and before returning.

In the event of a player failing or refusing to leave the field when ordered off, he shall be reported for misconduct. The player’s captain or deputy shall be advised by the umpire that his team shall forfeit the match unless the player leaves the field immediately.

If the player still refuses to leave the field, his team shall forfeit the match.

Boundary and goal umpires have the power to report however they do not have the power to order players from the ground, they shall advise one of the field umpires, of their report at the next appropriate break in play and the field umpire shall, with the umpire making the report, advise the player he/she has been reported and that player will be ordered from the ground.

For a player to be sent from the ground for the remainder of the match due to being reported twice (on two separate occasions) under Sections (B) and (C) of the Order Off Rule that player must have been reported on both occasions by a field umpire or league appointed boundary or goal umpire.

Procedures for implementation of regulation 11 as outlined within this regulation will not apply to AFL Barwon affiliated leagues for 2015 and 2016 whilst they implement a trial of an altered version of the Order off Rule.

**12.0 SET PENALTIES & REPRIMANDS**

All AFL Victoria Country affiliated Leagues shall adopt set penalties for reportable offences and such set penalties shall contain the following provisions.

1. Any player reported for the following offences (as numbered in the Laws of Australian Football) may apply for a suspension of one match.

19.2.2 (Laws of Australian Rules Football):

*(g) intentionally, recklessly or negligently: -

*(ii) striking another person

*(iii) tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg

*(iv) engaging in time wasting

*(v) charging another person

*(vi) throwing or pushing another Player after that Player has taken a mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play

*(vii) engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable

*(viii) engaging in a melee except where the Player’s sole intention is to remove a team mate from the incident.

*(i) attempting to strike another person

*(j) attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg.

*(k) intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another player is preparing to kick or is kicking for goal or after the player has kicked for goal and the ball is in transit

*(l) wrestling another person

*(m) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language

*(n) failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire

*(o) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9 of the AFL Laws of the Game.

Players are encouraged to apply for the minimum set penalty.

If the reported player has been previously suspended or reprimanded in the current or the preceding season the player shall not be able to accept the set penalty until offered by the League Secretary / General Manager / CEO.

The League Secretary / General Manager / CEO is the only person empowered to decide, after studying a player’s tribunal history whether a player can accept the minimum prescribed penalty or will be required to attend the Tribunal hearing.

If a player wishes to accept the minimum set penalty the club secretary must contact the League Secretary / General Manager / CEO, no later than 12 noon on the first business day immediately following the match for approval.
Such requests shall be made in writing, delivered, sent by facsimile or email to the League Secretary/General Manager/CEO.

If the case is heard by the Tribunal or Area Appeals Board and a player is found guilty of an offence (as outlined in 1 or 3) the player may receive the one match set penalty as a minimum (suspended sentences can only be provided for if the one match set penalty is applied - i.e. player found guilty and suspended for 3 matches for striking with 2 matches suspended, player to serve 1 match), or a reprimand (refer following).

Players may also be subject to further penalty at the discretion of the tribunal.

**Reprimands**

If the case is heard by the Tribunal and a player is found guilty of an offence the player may receive a reprimand.

Only the offences as listed following can carry a reprimand as the minimum penalty.

Reprimands can be applied where a player is found guilty of an offence as follows and any reprimand is to be determined at the Independent Tribunals discretion taking into consideration, but not limited, to a player’s playing record and player’s previous tribunal history.

**Offences Where A Reprimand May Apply (at the discretion of the Independent Tribunal)**

19.2.2 (Laws of Australian Rules Football)

* (g) intentionally, recklessly or negligently: -
  * (ii) striking another person
  * (iii) tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg
  * (iv) engaging in time wasting
  * (vi) throwing or pushing another Player after that Player has taken a mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play
  * (viii) engaging in a melee except where the Player’s sole intention is to remove a team mate from the incident.
  * (xi) bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that player has his head down over the ball;
  * (j) attempting to trip another person
  * (i) attempting to strike another person
  * (k) intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another player is preparing to kick or is kicking for goal or after the player has kicked for goal and the ball is in transit
  * (l) wrestling another person
  * (m) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language
  * (n) failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire
  * (o) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9 of the AFL Laws of the Game.

2. Umpires shall report and charge any player in accordance with the normal procedures for offences listed in 1 but the report shall not be heard by a Tribunal unless so requested by either the Umpire who lodges the report, the reported player, the player allegedly offended against or the President/Secretary of either club.

If the report is not requested to be heard by a tribunal by any party named above the player is automatically given a one match set penalty.

Such requests shall be made in writing, delivered, sent by facsimile or email to the League Secretary/General Manager, no later than 12 noon on the first business day immediately following the match.

3. Any player reported for the following offences shall appear before the League Tribunal:

19.2.2 (Laws of Australian Rules Football):

  (a) intentionally, recklessly or negligently making contact with or striking an umpire.
  (b) attempting to make contact with or strike an umpire
  (c) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an umpire.
  (d) behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire.
  (e) disputing a decision of an umpire
  (f) use of an obscene gesture
  (g) intentionally, recklessly or negligently:
    * (i) kicking another person
    * (p) any act of misconduct.
  (Note: misconduct covers offences not covered specifically under other laws, e.g. urinating in view of spectators, exposing themselves in front of spectators, headbutting, etc.)

4. These set penalties do not apply to club officials.

5. Offences as outlined in 12.1 do not apply to the MPNFL and MPJFL as they operate an abridged Report Form and Set Penalty system, where Set Penalties are listed for the majority of offences, with matters brought before an Independent Tribunal subject to the suspensions as determined by the panel.

Reprimands (as outlined in rule 12.0) are also applicable in relation to section (5) above (specifically the MPNFL and MPJFL), if a player is found guilty of an offence.

6. Offences listed with (*) in 1 & 3 above are the only offences where a reprimand may be applied.
13.0 TREATMENT OF BLEEDING PLAYERS
Please refer to the AFL Laws of the Game Rule 22 – INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

14.0 FINALS ELIGIBILITY – TAC CUP AND VFL PLAYERS
(a) For the purpose of finals qualification and player eligibility, the TAC Cup competition shall be considered the equal of AFL Victoria Country senior competition and TAC Cup matches shall be considered matches of the players senior AFL Victoria Country team for the purpose of eligibility to play in AFL Victoria Country finals.

(b) For purposes of finals eligibility within an AFL Victoria Country affiliated league, a player who has played more than ten (10) 1st 18 games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play finals within an AFL Victoria Country affiliated competition.

15.0 UNDERAGE COMPETITION PLAYERS – GLOVES
Gloves are permitted to be worn by AFL Victoria Country open age and junior registered players in competition matches.

16.0 COACHING ACCREDITATION
(a) All coaches of AFL Victoria Country clubs are required to obtain Level 1 Accreditation specific to the age of the players they are coaching, prior to the commencement of the season. The penalty to be imposed by leagues if coaches continue to coach having not obtained the necessary accreditation must be i) a $200 fine (Senior) or $100 fine (Junior) and ii) the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. In the event of no match points being received the league must apply the above fines. Fines are applied once only ($200 or $100) and are not applicable to every match.

In the instance where coaches are not accredited and commit to completing the next available (or otherwise agreed upon) AFL Victoria Coach Accreditation Course, the following bonds for clubs are to apply $200 (Senior) and $100 (Junior).

Where a coach fails to complete the agreed upon AFL Victoria Coach Accreditation Course the bond paid by the club is forfeited.

(b) All coaches of Affiliated AFL Victoria Country teams up to and including U/18’s will be reimbursed $50.00 following the achievement of Level 1 accreditation. All applications for reimbursement must be made through AFL Victoria Country Football Development Manager.

17.0 OFFICIAL CLUB RUNNERS/TRAINERS/WATER CARRIERS

17.1 Eligibility
No person who is a registered player or an official of any club of an open or junior age team, who is under disqualification or suspension by his home club or League, shall act as an official runner or water carrier in any competition match, or any other match in which an AFL Victoria Country affiliated club or League is participating.

Coaches
Further provided that no coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria Country team shall act as a runner, trainer or water carrier in a match in which the team that he coaches is participating.

Listing of Officials
All official runners, trainers and water carriers shall be listed on the official team sheet and for the purposes of interpretation of this regulation shall be deemed to be officials of the club for the match.

Number of Trainers/Water Carriers
No team shall be permitted to have more than the combined total of 6 trainers and water carriers, except were AFL Victoria Country Heat/Cold Policy is invoked.

Doctors
Registered doctors are not required to be registered as an official on the day or included on the official teamsheet.

Infringements
Any club that infringes this rule shall appear before the League’s Independent Tribunal to determine the penalty. The penalty applicable for determination by the Independent Tribunal shall include the following:

(a) Substantial fine, and/or
(b) Loss of points for the match, and/or
(c) Such other penalties as determined appropriate by the Tribunal.

17.2 Duties
All official runners, trainers and water carriers are to be dressed in a uniform determined by the league. The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of his/her club and to immediately leave the playing arena.

The sole duty of a water carrier shall be to convey water to players and to immediately leave the playing arena.

The duty of a trainer shall be to render medical assistance and convey water as required.

The officiating field umpire may, upon infringement of this rule, order the runner, trainer or water carrier of the offending club from the arena for a period of 15 minutes.
Any infringement of this rule or other infringement reported by the officiating umpire that shall include a field umpire, boundary umpire, goal umpire and emergency umpire, shall be referred to the leagues independent tribunal.

18.0 REPRESENTATIVE TEAM AVAILABILITY

Any AFL Victoria Country registered player who is not available for selection in an AFL Victoria Country Representative Team, without providing an adequate reason to the Selection Committee will incur a penalty of not being permitted to play in the next match in which his club is engaged.

19.0 CLUB TEAM NUMBERS – COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUES

Championship competing leagues clubs on weekends when club matches are played in addition to Championship matches may increase the number of players per team by 2.

20.0 SERVICE AWARDS:

20.1 Recognition of Service Medallion:

VCFL areas, affiliated leagues, clubs and umpire groups may nominate suitable persons to be recipients of the Recognition of Service Medallion, where it is desired to acknowledge outstanding service. Conditions of the award are as follows.

The award is to be made to persons who have rendered outstanding service to the VCFL's areas, leagues, clubs or umpire associations/groups.

The award is to recognize an administrator or volunteer's outstanding contribution to Australian Rules Football with a VCFL affiliate, over an extended period of time. A playing or umpiring career is not necessarily considered when assessing a nominee's qualifying status.

Nominations of people to be the recipients of the award are to be furnished through the affiliated League to the Football Development Manager for presentation to a VCFL Board Meeting for approval. All nominations must be lodged with the VCFL Chief Executive Officer twenty one (21) days prior to the date of the meeting at which such nomination will be considered.

A record of the service rendered by the nominated person is to be forwarded with each application for issue of the medallion. Unless the conditions of nominating for VCFL Service Medallion have been observed by submitting an application prior to VCFL meetings Service Medallions will only be approved under extenuating circumstances.

20.2 Award of Merit

In accordance with the following provisions the VCFL Award of Merit can be presented in acknowledgement of very special and outstanding service to VCFL activities:

(a) The nominee must have previously received a VCFL Recognition of Service Medallion.
(b) That nominations must be received from Football Development Managers and will be considered by the VCFL Board for recommendation.
(c) That a maximum of two Awards will be approved in any one year.
(d) Nominations must be lodged with the VCFL CEO between the 1st January and the 30th June in the year in which the nomination is applicable.

21.0 PERCENTAGE WHEN CLUB FORFEITS

Percentage calculation for forfeited matches –

(a) Where a team forfeits during the progress of a match.
(b) Where a team fails to appear.
(c) Where a match result is altered by protest or dispute.

Reference (c) – The team winning the protest or dispute to be awarded full premiership list points and their points scored FOR in such match to be recorded as usual in the calculation of percentage. The offending team shall lose their points scored FOR in such match and as such the calculation of their percentage adjusted accordingly. Scores for the match are to be adjusted following that round of matches.

The AFL Victoria Country rule to be read in conjunction with AFL Law 10.7.2 (b) – please note AFL Victoria Country has been granted an exemption to Law 10.7.2 (b) and the AFL Victoria Country rule is to be applied in all cases.

22.0 LEAGUES

22.1 Major Leagues:

For the purposes of AFL Victoria Country permit regulations the following are classed as major leagues; Ballarat Football League, Bendigo Football League, Goulburn Valley Football League, Hampden Football League, Mornington Peninsula Nepean Football League, North Central Football League, Ovens and Murray Football League, Gippsland League, Sunraysia Football League, Wimmera Football League, Murray Football League, Bellarine Football League, Geelong Football League, Yarra Valley Mountain District Football League and the Central Murray Football League. At the September/October meeting of the VCFL Board the Major Leagues for the next Season shall be named but no alteration shall be made unless at least three fourths of the Directors in attendance vote in favour of such alteration.

Should any AFL Regional Commission desire the naming of more than one Major League an application must be made to AFL Victoria Country for consideration and recommendation to AFL Victoria.
22.2 District Leagues:
All other affiliated Football bodies shall be known as the District Leagues.

22.3 Junior Leagues
All affiliated football bodies that provide for football competitions at under 16 and a half or lower age groups only shall be known as the Junior Leagues.

Resolution – Age grouping determination:
It is the responsibility of AFL Victoria Country and or Commission to set, or approve any changes in the age grouping structure within an Area or Commission, in consultation with affected leagues.

23.0 UMPIRES

23.1 Registration:
Field Umpires officiating at matches under the control of affiliated Leagues supplied by an official umpiring association shall be registered with, and required to pay an annual registration fee to AFL Victoria Country. Those not supplied from an official umpiring association body shall register with the respective Football Development Manager under such conditions as are from time to time determined by the Football Development Manager or AFL Victoria Country. It shall be competent for umpires so registered with the Football Development Manager to be appointed and officiate in an area other than that for which the Football Development Manager acts in AFL Victoria Country.

The fees and expenses of AFL Victoria Country umpires are to be submitted annually to AFL Victoria by Manager Coaching and Umpiring for approval and adoption.

23.2 Umpires as Players:
Members of recognised Umpires Groups and registered umpires of AFL Victoria Country forfeit all rights as a registered player and shall be ineligible to play during the current season of registration unless approval has been granted by the Football Development Manager before the 1st July, and furthermore he must comply with the domestic requirements of his League as a player.

23.3 Players as Umpires:
Notwithstanding rule 23.2 Umpires as Players, a registered player will be permitted to officiate as an umpire in any affiliated League or association provided approval has been granted by the League concerned and the player is not under disqualification. Leagues must liaise with umpires associations in cases where this rule is applied.

23.4 Approaches to Umpires:
Only the team captain shall be permitted to speak to Field Umpire during the progress of a match at intervals.

Any player or official in breach of this rule shall be reported by the Umpire and the matter referred to the league independent tribunal and if found guilty their club shall incur the following maximum penalty:
1st offence $100.00
2nd offence $200.00
3rd or any further offence $400.00

24.0 DOMESTIC MATTERS
Subject to the provision herein applied, each League or AFL Regional Commission shall have power to draw up rules not inconsistent with these Rules and provide for the management of its own domestic affairs. In the event of conflict between AFL Victoria Country Regulations and rules, and all amendments to its rules AFL Victoria Country Regulations will take precedence.

25.0 INTERPRETATIONS OR RULINGS FROM AREA MANAGERS OR FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

25.1 Questions not Provided for:
In the event of any question arising not provided for in these Rules, AFL Victoria shall have power to decide such question.

25.2 Decisions of AFL Victoria:
All decisions arrived at by AFL Victoria. shall be final. Where the question of interpretation or ruling is involved in connection with appeals, disputes, etc., it is desired that the league or the competent authority concerned obtain such interpretation or ruling on the relevant VCFL Constitution and WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Rules and/or Regulations from, or through, the appropriate Football Development Managers.

25.3 Authority – Football Development Manager, Regional General Manager or AFL Regional Commission:
The Football Development Manager, Regional General Manager or AFL Regional Commission may make decisions in that area providing that they are not in contradiction to the Rules, Regulations and Resolutions of AFL Victoria Country.

26.0 LICENSING

26.1 Each player in each team of each Club shall wear a uniform (including without limitation guernseys and shorts) that:
(a) complies with the minimum standards of quality and appearance and layout for uniforms as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time; and
(b) features the official AFL Victoria Country Logo (as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time), in a manner and on a location on each item of the uniform as specified by AFL Victoria Country from time to time.

26.2 Each Umpire of each Match shall wear a uniform (including without limitation guernseys and shorts) that:

(a) complies with the minimum standards of quality and appearance and layout for uniforms as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time; and

(b) features the official AFL Victoria Country Logo (as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time), in a manner and on a location on each item of the uniform as specified by AFL Victoria Country from time to time.

26.3 Each Club and League shall ensure that the football used in any match:

(a) complies with the minimum standards of quality for footballs as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time; and

(b) features the official AFL Victoria Country Logo (as determined by AFL Victoria Country from time to time), in a manner and on a location on the match football as is specified by AFL Victoria Country from time to time.

26.4 Each Club shall ensure that its players comply with this regulation.

26.5 Each League shall ensure that any affiliated Clubs comply with this regulation.

26.6 Sanction:

A sanction of up to $50 for a player wearing an incorrect uniform in each senior grade match, up to a maximum of $500 per team per match.

A sanction of up to $50 for any Umpire wearing an incorrect uniform in any Match.

A sanction of up to $50 where an incorrect football is used in a senior grade match.

A sanction for non-compliance with this regulation by any other teams (including junior teams), Clubs or Leagues as determined by AFL Victoria Country on a case by case basis, upon the recommendation by AFL Victoria Country Football Manager or Football Development Manager.

Any sanction shall be payable to AFL Victoria Country.

27.0 DOPING POLICY

The Doping Policy of the Australian Football League for the time being in force, shall apply to and be binding upon all Leagues, Associations and Bodies affiliated with the AFL, or affiliated with an Affiliated body of the AFL (refer AFL Laws of the Game – 21 Anti-Doping Policy).

28.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

All Affiliated Leagues and Clubs are directed to introduce appropriate Risk Management procedures as outlined in the Risk Management Manual ("Policy"). All affiliated members of AFL Victoria Country are to adopt this policy and use of the checklists as outlined in AFL Victoria Country Risk Management Manual.

Each League shall be responsible in ensuring that each club completes the checklists as outlined and that the storage of all paper checklists are kept in a safe and secure place for a period of (7) seven years from the date of the checklist.

29.0 AFL JUNIOR FOOTBALL GUIDELINES

AFL Victoria Country has adopted the AFL Junior Match Policy for junior affiliated leagues.

Any Junior leagues wishing to adopt by-laws that are not consistent with the AFL Junior Match Policy must obtain approval from the Football Development Manager.
AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NATIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER REGULATIONS

Final Version 2015
# INDEX

1. **GENERAL**
   - 69

2. **DEFINITIONS**
   - 69

3. **NATIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER REGULATIONS**
   - 70
     - 3.1 TRANSFER PROCESS
     - 70
     - 3.2 REFUSALS
     - 70
     - 3.3 TRANSFER WITHDRAWALS
     - 70
     - 3.4 SUSPENDED PLAYERS
     - 70
     - 3.5 APPEALS
     - 71
     - 3.6 TRANSFER FEE
     - 71
     - 3.7 TRANSFER APPLICATION PERIOD
     - 71
     - 3.8 PLAYER AGE GROUP
     - 71
     - 3.9 INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT
     - 72
     - 3.10 PERMITS
     - 72
     - 3.11 PLAYER CONTRACTS
     - 72
     - 3.12 JUNIOR PLAYERS
     - 72
     - 3.13 PRACTICE AND TRIAL MATCHES
     - 72
     - 3.14 STATE FOOTBALL BODY RESPONSIBLE
     - 73
     - 3.15 24 MONTH RULE
     - 73
     - 3.16 SEPARATE AGREEMENTS
     - 73
     - 3.17 TEAM IN ANOTHER TIER 1 LEAGUE
     - 73
     - 3.18 NORTHERN TERRITORY FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NTFL)
     - 73
     - 3.19 STATE AFFILIATION – TIER 2 LEAGUES
     - 73
     - 3.20 NEW TIER 1 LEAGUE CLUB
     - 73
     - 3.23 AFL TALENT DEVELOPMENT FEE
     - 74
     - 3.24 TRANSFER FEES
     - 74
     - 3.25 PERMIT COMMITTEE
     - 75

APPENDIX 1 PLAYER TRANSFER WITHDRAWAL FORM
   - 76

APPENDIX 2 PLAYER TRANSFER REFUSAL FORM
   - 77

SCHEDULE 1 NATIONAL DEREGISTRATION POLICY
SCHEDULE 2 STANDARD AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL PLAYER CONTRACT
1. GENERAL

Australian Football is a national sport which regularly involves players moving between Leagues both intrastate and interstate. The National Player Transfer Regulations (Regulations) are intended to operate as an agreement between and amongst all Football Bodies across Australia and elite, State, Territory and community based Leagues. In the event that State Football Bodies cannot agree on the interpretation of these Regulations they agree to submit the details of their dispute in writing to the AFL for decision, which decision shall be final and binding on each of the State Football Bodies and/or Leagues.

In the event that individual Football Bodies, to which Tier 2 Leagues within the same State are affiliated, be unable to agree with each other on the interpretation of these Regulations, they agree to submit the details of their dispute in writing to the relevant State Football Body in accordance with the rules, regulations or by-laws of the State Football Body for a decision, which decision shall be final and binding on each of the Football Bodies. Where individual Football Bodies with affiliate Tier 2 Leagues in different States are unable to reach agreement on the interpretation of these Regulations and their affiliated State Football Bodies are also unable to reach agreement, all parties agree to submit the details of their dispute in writing to the AFL for decision, with such decision to be final and binding on each of the Football Bodies.

In the event of any inconsistency between these Regulations and any individual Football Body or League rules, regulations and/or by-laws, these Regulations shall prevail.

2. DEFINITIONS

AFL means Australian Football League ACN 004 155 211 of 140 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands, Victoria 3008.

AFL Community Development Manager means the person appointed to the position by the AFL.

AFL Internal Legal Department means one or all of the AFL’s General Manager – Legal and Business Affairs, Manager - Broadcasting, Scheduling & Legal Affairs, and Legal Counsel.

AFL Footyweb means the online competition management system designed to assist affiliated Football Bodies with the management of their competitions and membership data.

AFL Primary Listed Player means a player currently listed by an AFL Club under the AFL player rules.

AFL Rookie Listed Player means a player who is listed on the rookie list of an AFL Club.

Business Day means each day of the week save for a Saturday or Sunday, but includes public holidays.

Club means a football club fielding a team within a competition conducted by the AFL, State Football Body or Unaffiliated Football Body.

Contracted Player means a player who is obliged, pursuant to a contract, to render his services as a footballer to a Club of a Tier 1 or Tier 2 League provided that the particulars of such contract are in accordance with Regulation 3.11.

Destination Club means the Club to which a player is Transferring.

Football Body means a football body conducting Tier 1, Tier 2 or Unaffiliated Australian football competitions, as the context dictates.

Former Club means the Club from which a player is Transferring.

Interchange Agreement means an agreement between two affiliated Football Bodies to allow a player to play under a permit between different Leagues.

Junior Player means a player under 18 years of age as at 1 January in the year concerned.

League means Tier 1 and/or Tier 2 League.

Local Interchange Permit means, subject to completion of an Interchange Agreement, a permit (Type 2) allowing a player to play a single match for a Club (other than the one to which the player is registered) and being a permit which does require home Club approval via Footyweb.

Match-Day Permit means a permit (Type 1) allowing a player to play a single match for a Club (other than the one to which the player is registered) and being a permit which does not require home Club approval via Footyweb.

NTFL means the Northern Territory Football League.

Permit means the forms or process required to make a player eligible to play in competitions conducted by a League other than the one with which the player is registered, and for the avoidance of doubt includes Local Interchange Permit, a Match-Day Permit and a Temporary Transfer. Permit Committee means a committee appointed pursuant to Regulation 3.26.

Practice or Trial Matches means a match between two Clubs, not forming part of the official match program of the competition in which the Clubs compete.

State means each State in the Commonwealth of Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

State Football Body means the governing State and Territory Football Bodies affiliated with the AFL as follows:
(a) AFL NSW/ACT
(b) AFL Queensland
(c) AFL Northern Territory
(d) AFL Tasmania
(e) AFL Victoria
(f) South Australian National Football League
(g) West Australian Football Commission
Temporary Transfer means a player who has temporarily transferred to or from the Northern Territory Football League for a maximum of one (1) season in accordance with these Regulations.

Tier 1 League means Senior Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 18 teams directly comprising clubs of the following:
(a) South Australian National Football League;
(b) Victorian Football League;
(c) TAC Cup;
(d) West Australian Football League;
(e) North East Australian Football League; and
(f) Tasmanian State League;

Tier 2 League means all other teams directly comprising Clubs within an Australian football competition, other than the AFL, Tier 1 or Unaffiliated Leagues.

Transfer means the process of moving a player from one Club to another.

Transfer Fee means the fee agreed according to Regulation 3.24.

Unaffiliated means a Football Body, League or Club conducting or participating in an Australian football competition which is not affiliated to the AFL or a State Football Body.

Uncontracted Player means:
(a) A player other than a Contracted Player who has attained the age of 18 years, who is currently registered and has played with a Club of a Tier 1 League in the past 24 months or who is not currently registered with a Club of a Tier 1 League but has played for a Club of a Tier 1 League within the previous 12 months.
(b) A player other than a Contracted Player who has attained the age of 18 years who has not registered or played with a Club of a Tier 1 League but who within the past 12 months played for a State Football Body in the AFL National Under 18 Championships.

3. NATIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER REGULATIONS

3.1 TRANSFER PROCESS

3.1.1 A Transfer must be initiated by the Destination Club by logging into AFL Footyweb and submitting a Transfer request.

3.1.2 Each Transfer application must be completed and lodged by the Transferring player. Where the player is under the age of eighteen (18) years, the Transfer application must be endorsed by the player’s parent or legal guardian.

3.1.3 The Destination Club must keep a record of the original application signed by the player and produce a copy of such original application on demand from the Football Body to which the Former Club is affiliated by no later than 5pm on the next Business Day following such request.

3.1.4 The Former Club has six (6) Business Days, commencing from when the application to Transfer is lodged through AFL Footyweb, to object the Transfer application. If the Former Club does not object within six (6) Business Days (or if the Former Club approves the Transfer within six (6) Business Days pursuant to Regulation 3.1.5), the Transfer application will be automatically approved and finalised. Once a player Transfer application has been finalised, the playing history, including the tribunal record, of the player will be automatically sent to the Football Body to which the Destination Club is affiliated, via AFL Footyweb. The Football Body to which the Destination Club is affiliated will promptly notify the player and the Destination Club by email upon approval of the Transfer.

3.1.5 The Former Club can approve the Transfer any time within the six (6) Business Days via AFL Footyweb. Should the Former Club fail to respond, the Transfer will occur automatically following the expiry of the six (6) Business Days.

3.1.6 Should any player complete the Transfer form incorrectly, the relevant Football Body shall deal with the player and the Club as it deems fit, subject to its Rules and Regulations.

3.1.7 For the avoidance of doubt, a Transfer is subject to Regulation 3.4.

3.2 REFUSALS

3.2.1 The Former Club can refuse the Transfer within the six (6) Business Days via AFL Footyweb.

3.2.2 A refusal can only occur where a Club can substantiate that the player:
(a) Is a Contracted Player; and/or
(b) Is indebted to the Club; and/or
(c) Is in possession of Club property (e.g. jumper) that needs to be returned; and/or
(d) Wishes to withdraw their Transfer application. Clubs can only submit this as a reason for refusal where the player has completed and lodged the Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form via AFL Footyweb in accordance with Regulation 3.3 below.

3.2.3 A Club refusing to Transfer a player must provide evidence upon request to its affiliated Football Body within 3 business days of the request in order to substantiate the claim. Failure to provide such evidence will result in the Football Body re-opening and approving the Transfer.

3.3 TRANSFER WITHDRAWALS
3.3.1 A Player wishing to withdraw their Transfer application must do so and lodge a via AFL Footyweb.

3.3.2 The completed Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form must be submitted by the player or the player's registered Club to its affiliated Football Body within six (6) Business Days from the date on which the Transfer application was lodged.

3.4 SUSPENDED PLAYERS

3.4.1 A player under suspension by a League can Transfer to another League, but cannot subsequently Transfer from the Destination Club until 28 days after the suspension has been completed.

3.4.2 Suspended players seeking a Transfer from winter competitions to summer competitions and vice versa must refer to Law 19.4.4 of the Laws of Australian Football, as amended from time to time.

3.5 APPEALS

3.5.1 Where the player disputes the reason for a Transfer refusal, the player/Destination Club must resolve the dispute with the Former Club. Where a dispute between the parties cannot be resolved, the player/Destination Club can appeal against the refusal of Transfer by notice in writing lodged with the relevant appeal body.

3.5.2 An appeal involving Clubs associated with the same League will be heard by the League's Independent Appeals Tribunal (refer to the appeals procedure for the respective Football Body).

3.5.3 An appeal involving Clubs from two different Leagues within the same State will be heard in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Football Body to which they are affiliated. If a State Football Body does not have an appeals process in place, the following rules shall apply:

(a) A player who has been refused a Transfer may appeal to the relevant State Football Body Independent Panel (Panel) against such refusal, by notice in writing lodged with the State Football Body within ten (10) Business Days of such refused Transfer being received by the Football Body to which the Destination Club is affiliated.

(b) A player may, if so desired, submit more than one (1) Transfer application during the current season and each application shall be dealt with separately although a player may submit only one (1) appeal in any season.

(c) The Clubs and players concerned shall each be entitled to representation at the hearing, the number of persons having representation to be limited to the player and his advocate, who shall also be the Club’s representative, and the defendant Club's representative and its advocate.

(d) Such appeal shall be heard within a period as determined by the State Football Body.

(e) The State Football Body shall inform each affected Football Body of the appeal as soon as practical after lodgement by the player of his notice of appeal.

(f) The appellant player/Club must lodge a bond of $550 (including GST) made payable to the State Football Body and such bond may be forfeited should the appeal be considered frivolous. A $250 administrative fee will be retained from the appeal bond.

(g) The appellant player/Club must also lodge an appeal in writing and include relevant details and reasons together with a copy of the latest Player Transfer Refusal Form for the player in addition to the appeal bond.

(h) The defendant Club must also lodge a bond of $550 (inc. GST) and such bond may be forfeited should the defence be considered frivolous. A $250 administrative fee will be retained from the appeal bond.

(i) Should the defendant Club fail to lodge with the State Football Body:

(i) an appeal in writing pursuant to Regulation 3.5.3(g) within four (4) days of being notified of the appeal details from the State Football Body; and

(ii) Bond of $550 (including GST) within six (6) days of being notified of the appeal details from State Football Body;

it shall be deemed to have granted the Transfer.

(j) In all cases in reference to the applicable time lines, the State Football Body shall determine the date and time for lodgement of the Form or bond, as the case may be.

(k) The Panel may regulate the proceedings before it as it deems fit and the decision of the Panel shall be final and binding on all parties.

3.6 TRANSFER FEE

3.6.1 Neither a Club nor Football Body affiliated with a Tier 2 League shall directly or indirectly receive or pay any monetary amount or any other consideration in respect of or in connection with the Transfer of a player to a
3.6.2 Transfer Fees shall not be payable by Tier 2 Leagues or Clubs for players Transferring from Tier 1 Leagues or the AFL.

3.7 TRANSFER APPLICATION PERIOD
3.7.1 No Transfer is to be lodged prior to 1 February in a given year.
3.7.2 No Transfer shall be lodged after 10pm on 30 June in a given year.
3.7.3 The above commencement and conclusion period is not applicable for Northern Territory competition where seasons are primarily conducted from October to March.

3.8 PLAYER AGE GROUP
3.8.1 A player must be 7 years old as at 1 January in each year to be eligible to be registered with an affiliated body in that year.
3.8.2 A player’s age group shall be based on a player’s age as at 1 January in each year.
3.8.3 Football Bodies who extend the age of a competition must adhere to the 1 January as the age determination date. E.g. for an Under 18 ½ competition in 2009, the age shall be extended back to 1 July 2008, thus allowing the player to be 18 ½ on 1 January 2009.

3.9 INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT
3.9.1 A Football Body may enter into an Interchange Agreement with another Football Body at the discretion of the relevant Football Bodies. A copy of the Interchange Agreement must be validly submitted through AFL Footyweb within ten (10) days of its execution. Interchange Agreements do not apply amongst the Tier 1 League Clubs, excluding the North East Australian Football League.
3.9.2 All Interchange Agreements must be in place by 30 June in each year.
3.9.3 Once an Interchange Agreement has been lodged with the State Football Body it will be considered ongoing unless revoked by one of the Football Bodies party to the Interchange Agreement by advising the State Football Body.

3.10 PERMITS
3.10.1 An Interchange Agreement must be in place in accordance with Regulation 3.9 above, prior to requesting a Local Interchange Permit.
3.10.2 Permits are to be applied in accordance with the respective State Football Body rules, regulations and/or by-laws and it is the responsibility of the relevant Football Body to monitor the application and management of Permits.

3.11 PLAYER CONTRACTS
3.11.1 It is recommended that Clubs use the National Standard Playing Contract developed by the AFL, as amended from time to time.
3.11.2 The following guidelines will also apply to player contracts:
   (a) A player must be at least 18 years old to sign a contract;
   (b) For a contract to be valid both parties shall have signed the contract and neither shall be in breach of contract;
   (c) Subject to clause 3.11.2(d), all contracts expire on 31 October in the year the contract ceases; and
   (d) Contracts that are executed between a player and a Club that competes in the Northern Territory Football League expire on 31 March in the year the contract ceases.
3.11.3 The contract shall only be valid when the player becomes registered with the Club (or, in the case of the NTFL, the player is on a Temporary Transfer).
3.11.4 A player will remain contracted to the Club until the expiration of the contract, unless the Former Club releases the player from the contract.
3.11.5 A Tier 1 League Club/AFL contract will take precedence over a Tier 2 League contract should the player wish to pursue their career at a Tier 1 League or AFL level, however should the player be released from a Tier 1 League/AFL contract within the time constraints of the Tier 2 League contract the player will still be bound to that Tier 2 League Club until it expires.
3.11.6 A Tier 1 League which by any means permits a Contracted Player of another Tier 1 League to play in a Club of its State without the consent in writing of the Club to which he is contracted or is otherwise in breach of these Regulations shall be liable to a penalty determined by the Permit Committee but not exceeding $5,000 and may be dealt with by the Permit Committee as if it had been guilty of conduct prejudicial to the interest of Australian Football.
3.11.7 If there is a dispute between a player and a Former Tier 1 League as to whether that player is a Contracted Player or an Uncontracted Player the player’s Former Tier 1 League may refer the dispute to the AFL to determine, via the AFL Community Development Manager or his nominee, by giving notice in writing of such dispute, together with a copy of any contract, to the AFL within six (6) Business Days of the date on which the Former Tier 1 League
completes the AFL Footyweb application. The AFL Community Development Manager may seek the advice of the AFL Internal Legal Department in reaching a determination, with such determination to be final and binding on the Tier 1 Leagues concerned.

3.12 JUNIOR PLAYERS

3.12.1 Junior Players resident in one State may not be recruited or registered with a Tier 1 League in another State without the approval of the Permit Committee. Such approval may only be granted where the Junior Player concerned has:
   (a) transferred interstate with his/her family;
   (b) a bona fide transfer of employment;
   (c) enrolled in a tertiary education course in another State; or
   (d) the support of the National Development Manager, in the interests of developing his/her football career.

3.13 PRACTICE AND TRIAL MATCHES

3.13.1 A Tier 1 Contracted or Uncontracted Player shall not be permitted to play in a Practice or Trial Match with a Club of another State without the consent in writing of the Club with which he is registered to play football.

3.13.2 A Tier 1 League (and/or an associated Club) which breaches this Regulation is liable to a sanction determined by the Permit Committee but not exceeding $5,000 for each offence.

3.14 STATE FOOTBALL BODY RESPONSIBLE

Where a Tier 1 League is separately constituted the Football Body to which it is affiliated shall be responsible for ensuring that the Tier 1 League concerned observes and complies with these Regulations.

3.15 24 MONTH RULE

3.15.1 A player who has not played competitive football in the previous 24 months and wishes to play at another Club can apply for registration with that Club at any time. The player’s Former Club cannot object to the Transfer under any circumstances.

3.15.2 Should the player lodge the registration application on or before 30 June, the player will be registered with the Destination Club using the normal AFL Footyweb Transfer process.

3.15.3 Should the player lodge the registration application after 30 June, only the Destination Football Body that the player intends to register with can process the registration using the AFL Footyweb Transfer process.

3.16 SEPARATE AGREEMENTS

3.16.1 A Tier 1 League may enter into an agreement with any other Tier 1 League, concerning the Transfer of players between those Leagues.

3.16.2 A copy of any such agreement is to be lodged with the AFL by 1 of February or within six (6) Business Days of making such agreement if made between the 1 February and 30 September.

3.16.3 A Tier 1 League may enter into an agreement with the AFL concerning the Transfer of players from that Tier 1 League to the AFL.

3.16.4 Each such agreement shall for all purposes be regarded as valid and subsisting when otherwise declared by any Court and if the provisions of any such agreement are inconsistent with these Regulations the agreement shall prevail.

3.17 TEAM IN ANOTHER TIER 1 LEAGUE

Where a team located in one State (State A) is admitted to a Tier 1 League of another State (State B), the players of the team from State A will be considered players from the State in which the team is based, that being State A. For the avoidance of doubt, from 2010, Northern Territory Football Club will be considered a Tier 1 League team of the Northern Territory and Gold Coast Football Club will be considered a Tier 1 League team of Queensland.

3.18 NORTHERN TERRITORY FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NTFL)

3.18.1 Players shall Transfer to or from the NTFL via a Temporary Transfer using AFL Footyweb. Such players shall remain registered with the League from which they have received the Temporary Transfer.

3.18.2 Temporary Transfers are valid for one (1) season only. Players wishing to continue on a Temporary Transfer basis will be required to complete a new AFL Footyweb application for each subsequent season.

3.18.3 Where a Tier 1 League Club recruits a player on a Temporary Transfer, the Tier 1 League shall be responsible for ensuring that the player participates with the Club for one (1) season only.

3.18.4 Where a player has participated under Temporary Transfers and has not played or made himself available for selection for more than five (5) home and away matches for his original Tier 1 League for a period of twenty-four (24) months, he shall be required to lodge a Transfer application through AFL Footyweb and the Transfer Fee specified in Regulation 3.24 shall apply.

3.18.5 Where players are drafted as an AFL Primary or Rookie Listed Player during the period of the Temporary Transfer, they shall be regarded as having been recruited from the League granting the Temporary Transfer.
3.18.6 Any player who is registered with, or has been registered with the Northern Territory Football Club (NT Thunder) in the last twenty-four (24) months is not eligible for a Temporary Transfer. For the avoidance of doubt, a Transfer Fee is payable for each player that has been registered with the Northern Territory Football Club in the past twenty-four (24) months should such player become registered with a Tier 1 League outside of the Northern Territory.

3.19 STATE AFFILIATION – TIER 2 LEAGUES
Tier 2 Leagues with two thirds or more of their Clubs domiciled in a State shall be required to affiliate with the Football Body recognised by the AFL as responsible for the region concerned and to process Transfer of players accordingly.

3.20 NEW TIER 1 LEAGUE CLUB
Where a Tier 2 League Club is admitted to a Tier 1 League after a player’s Transfer from that Club to another State, subject to the approval of the Permit Committee, such player may return to his Former Club without payment of a Transfer Fee.

3.21 TRANSFER OF PLAYERS TO THE AFL
3.21.1 Contracted or Uncontracted Players of Tier 1 or 2 Leagues are automatically registered to an AFL Club upon being drafted to the Primary List.

3.21.2 Upon registration with the AFL, the player may interchange with a Tier 1 League Club at the discretion of his AFL Club, provided that such interchange conforms to Transfer regulations of the Tier 1 League concerned.

3.21.3 An AFL Rookie Listed Player shall remain a registered player of the Club from which he was recruited until such time as he is registered as an AFL Primary Listed Player.

3.21.4 Should a Player be listed as an AFL Primary Listed Player by an AFL Club located in a State different to that of his Tier 1 League Club, he may play with a Tier 1 League Club in that State. In the event that he is delisted he will be regarded as a player of his original Tier 1 League.

3.21.5 For the purposes of these Regulations an AFL Primary Listed Player demoted to a Rookie List shall continue to be regarded as an AFL Primary Listed Player.

3.21.6 A player who is delisted by an AFL Club who returns to play for a Club of the Tier 1 League from which he was drafted will be bound by any Transfer and registration rules and regulations of that Tier 1 League if he desires to play football for a Club of that Tier 1 League other than the Club with which he was registered at the time of delisting.

3.21.7 Where a player is delisted from an AFL Club’s Primary or Rookie List and is drafted or Rookie Listed by another AFL Club for the following AFL season he shall be regarded as having continuous AFL registration.

3.22 TRANSFER FEE – DELISTED AFL PLAYERS
3.22.1 Where an AFL Primary Listed Player has been delisted by an AFL Club, no Tier 1 League Transfer Fees shall be payable to the Tier 1 League from which he Transferred to the AFL.

3.22.2 Where an AFL Rookie Listed Player has been delisted by an AFL Club without having previously been an AFL Primary Listed Player the Transfer Fees, specified in Regulation 3.24, shall be payable by the Tier 1 League to which he Transfers, should the player Transfer to a Tier 1 League other than that from which he had Transferred to the AFL.

3.22.3 Where a player has been delisted by the AFL and subsequently been registered with a Tier 1 League for a minimum twelve (12) months he shall be regarded as a Tier 1 League player for the purposes of these Regulations, unless he has been listed by another AFL Club as an AFL Rookie Listed Player.

3.23 AFL TALENT DEVELOPMENT FEE
3.23.1 For purposes of determining allocation of talent incentive payments and future talent development fee allocations, players shall be regarded as having been drafted from the State in which their Former Club is based.

3.23.2 Where a player has played in more than one (1) State in the three (3) years prior to Transferring to the AFL a one third pro-rata allocation shall be applied for each year. Should a player have played in two (2) or more States in one (1) year, the one third pro-rata shall apply in respect to the State where he played the majority of matches in that year.

3.23.3 Where a player is on a Temporary Transfer from the Northern Territory Football league, he shall be regarded as an NTFL Player irrespective of the State from which he Transferred to the AFL.

3.23.4 Players shall be listed as being recruited from the State they were registered in at the time of being drafted and when nominating for the AFL National Draft the player may nominate a secondary Club to be recognised for promotional purposes.
3.24 TRANSFER FEES

3.24.1 Where an Uncontracted Player Transfers from or to a Tier 1 League Club in another State, the maximum Transfer Fees set out in this Regulation shall be payable by the Destination Club to the Former Club within six (6) Business Days, except where the parties otherwise mutually agree, or in circumstances where the player is returning to the State League in which the player had first been registered to play.

3.24.2 For the purpose of this Regulation only:
(a) Category (a) Tier 1 Leagues (Category (a)) are as follows:
   (i) South Australian National Football League;
   (ii) Victorian Football League;
   (iii) TAC Cup; and
   (iv) West Australian Football League;
(b) Category (b) Tier 1 Leagues (Category (b)) are as follows:
   (i) North East Australian Football League; and
   (ii) Tasmanian Football League.

3.24.3 Subject to section 3.24.4, the maximum Transfer Fee payable shall be the following amount:
(a) From Category (a) Tier 1 League to Category (a)
   - Upon registration $15,000
   - Upon registration for a second year $5,000
(b) From Category (a) Tier 1 League to Category (b)
   - Upon registration $5,000
   - Upon registration for a second year $5,000
(c) From Category (b) Tier 1 League to Category (a)
   - Upon registration $15,000
   - Upon registration for a second year $5,000
(d) From Category (b) Tier 1 League to Category (b)
   - Upon registration $2,500
   - Upon registration for a second year $2,500

3.24.4 If a transferring player does not register to play for a second year with the new Club, that Club shall nevertheless remain liable to pay 50% of the second year registration payment set out in section 3.24.3 to the transferring Club unless the player returns to the Club or State League that he was recruited from.

3.24.5 A player’s total payment refers to the maximum amount that the player can expect to receive in the year of contract.

3.24.6 A Destination Tier 1 League may lodge an appeal with the Permit Committee for deferral of the registration fee or part thereof until the player has participated in one (1) to five (5) first grade matches with his new Club, as determined by the Permit Committee.

3.24.7 State Football Bodies will govern transfer fees between Affiliated Clubs as they deem appropriate.

3.24.8 For the avoidance of doubt, a Destination Club will still be required to pay a transfer fee in respect of a player who was last registered at a Club which at the time of that player’s registration was a Club competing in a Tier 1 League.

3.25 PERMIT COMMITTEE

3.25.1 A Permit Committee comprising three (3) members shall be appointed by the General Manager of AFL Game Development or his nominee and shall hold office until replaced by another member appointed by the General Manager of AFL Game Development or his nominee.

3.25.2 The General Manager of AFL Game Development or his nominee may revoke Permit Committee appointments at any time.

3.25.3 The Permit Committee shall hold the following powers and responsibilities:
(a) Mediate State Body disputes as they arise and provide final judgement where required.
(b) Consider and determine interstate Transfer applications lodged by Junior Players.
(c) Consult with State Football Bodies on any proposed amendment to these Regulations.
(d) Make such recommendations to the AFL for amendments to these Regulations as may be approved by not less than six (6) State Football Bodies.
(e) Determine matters raised under Regulation 3.11.6. and 3.13.2.
APPENDIX 1 - PLAYER TRANSFER WITHDRAWAL FORM

PLAYER WITHDRAWAL OF TRANSFER FORM

SECTION ONE - To be completed (BLOCK LETTERS) and signed by the player:-

I, (Players full name) ................................................................. Date of Birth: ....../ ....../ .......

Of (Address)..................................................................................................................

(Suburb) ............................................ (State) .................. (P/Code) ..............

Wish to withdraw my application to transfer to the......................................................... Football Club

In the......................................................................................................................... Football League/Association

And wish to remain a registered player with the......................................................... Football Club

In the......................................................................................................................... Football League/Association

Home Phone: ................................................ Work Phone: ........................................

Mobile: ..................................................

Email: .............................................................................................................................

I declare that all information provided is true and correct.

Signed: .......................................................... Date: ...............................................

NB: Deliberately providing misleading information could result in immediate penalties against the player and / or the Club.

SECTION TWO - To be completed (BLOCK LETTERS) and signed by the Club President / Secretary (or delegated representative) that the player wishes to remain at:-

On behalf of the Football Club, I declare that the above particulars are, to the best of my knowledge true and correct. (Penalties will apply to any Club that lodges a false Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form).

Name: (Please Print)  ____________________________________________________________________________________

Position: (President /Secretary)  __________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date:  __________________________
APPENDIX 2 - PLAYER TRANSFER REFUSAL FORM

PLAYER TRANSFER REFUSAL FORM

To be completed (BLOCK LETTERS) and signed by either the Club President / Secretary only:-

The................................................................................................................................................................. Football Club in the
................................................................................................................................................................. Football League/Association

Refuses the transfer of (Player’s full name)........................................................................................................ of

(Address) .............................................................................................................................................................

(Suburb) ......................................................................................................................................................... (State) ........................................ (P/Code) ........................................

Wishing to transfer to the .............................................................................................................................. Football Club in the
................................................................................................................................................................. Football League/Association

Based on the following reason/s (Please Note: A refusal can only occur where the Club can substantiate the reason):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REASON</th>
<th>(Please tick)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Player is contracted; and/or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The Player wishes to withdraw their Transfer application. Clubs can only submit this as a reason for refusal where the Player has signed the Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form (which must be attached to this form).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Other (Community Football League players only). i.e. Player is indebted to the Club or is in possession of Club property that needs to be returned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further comments to support the reason above

..........................................................................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................................................................

It is generally expected that a Club refusing a transfer of a player on one or more of the above grounds will be prepared to defend its position at a formal appeal hearing if required.

This form must be lodged with your affiliated league within time prescribed by the relevant Regulations.

Name: (Please Print) ____________________________________________________________________________________

Position: ______________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ____________________________________________________________ Date: __________________________
## INDEX

1. **Introduction**  
   1.1 Overview  
   1.2 Application  
   1.3 VFL Competition  
   1.4 Variation  

2. **Definitions and Interpretations**  
   2.1 Definitions  
   2.2 Interpretations  

3. **Player, Club and League Transfer Regulations**  
   3.1 Involvement  
   3.2 Disputes  
   3.3 Appeal Process  
   3.4 Conflicting Regulations  
   3.5 Existing Agreements  
   3.6 AFL / VFL Players  
   3.7 Affiliate to Affiliate Regulations  
   3.8 AFL Victoria Independent Panel & Appeals Board Nominations  

4. **Gender Regulations**  

5. **AFL Victoria Policies**  
   5.1 Required Affiliate Policies  
   5.2 Risk Management – Insurance Requirements  
   5.3 AFL Victoria / VFL Policies  
   5.4 Appeals  
   5.5 Coach Accreditation Appeals  

6. **Financial Reporting Procedure**  
   6.1 Annual Report  
   6.2 Financial Year  

7. **Sponsorships**  
   7.1 Negotiated sponsors  
   7.2 Protected sponsors  
   7.3 Notice
8. Communication Between AFL Victoria and Affiliates
   8.1 Affiliate input
   8.2 Policy distribution
   8.3 Affiliate obligation
   8.4 Affiliate contact details

9. Regulation and Policy Amendments and Additions
   9.1 Regulation and Policy review
   9.2 Affiliate submissions

Appendix

2 Affiliate to Affiliate: Movement of Clubs
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview
Further to the AFL Victoria / Affiliate Agreements, particularly clause 5, AFL Victoria provide these regulations and policies to assist Affiliates in the development of the game. The regulations and policies are to be read in conjunction with the AFL Victoria Membership Agreement particularly preserving the internal autonomy of the Affiliate.

1.2 Application
These regulations apply to all Affiliates of AFL Victoria and their subsequent affiliated leagues and clubs. Specifically in relation to player, club or league movements, these regulations govern the said movement from the jurisdiction of one Affiliate to another Affiliate.

1.3 VFL Competition
It is noted that regulations in respect of the VFL Competition are detailed in the “VFL Playing Rules and Regulations” and are to be applied to VFL Club Licence Holders.

1.4 Variation
Following Affiliate input and in accordance with the time line as set down in Regulation 9.2, AFL Victoria may, from time to time, alter these regulations in its absolute discretion.

2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

2.1 Definitions
Unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- **AFL Victoria**
  Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited ACN 24 147 664 579

- **Metropolitan Affiliate**
  a direct AFL Victoria Affiliate conducting a competition within Metropolitan Melbourne

- **Metropolitan Affiliates**
  the collective of all Metropolitan Affiliates

- **VFA**
  Victorian Amateur Football Association

- **VCFL**
  Victorian Country Football League or AFL Victoria Country

- **Local League**
  an Affiliate of the VCFL, a Metropolitan Member or the VFA

- **Local Club**
  an Affiliate Club of a Local League

- **Under Age Competition**
  a schedule of underage matches

- **Under Age Match**
  a match where participation is limited by the age of players

- **Open Age Match**
  a match where participation is not limited by the age of players

- **Third 18**
  the oldest under age team where such team is directly linked to an open age team

- **New Affiliated Body**
  the league to which a player or club seeks to transfer to

- **Former Affiliated Body**
  the league from which a player or club seeks to transfer away from

- **Days**
  business days, inclusive of the date of receipt regardless of the actual time received. For the purposes of these Regulations, business days relate to all weekdays (days excluding Saturday and Sunday) and excludes the following official Victorian Public Holidays when they fall on a weekday – New Years Day, Australia Day, Labour Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Queens Birthday, Melbourne Cup Day, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

- **AFL Victoria Decision**
  An AFL Victoria decision or determination for the purposes of these regulations include a decision or determination of the AFL Victoria Executive Committee which shall comprise the GM and at least two other persons appointed by the GM.

2.2 Interpretations
In the interpretation of these regulations, unless the context requires otherwise:-

(a) words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;

(b) words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;

(c) headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these Regulations;

(d) “including” and similar words are not words of limitation;

(e) any words, terms or phrases defined in the remainder of these Regulations shall have the meaning prescribed within the particular Regulation; and

(f) words, terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these Regulations, shall be given their ordinary meaning.
3. PLAYER, CLUB & LEAGUE TRANSFER REGULATIONS

3.1 Involvement
AFL Victoria regulations are applicable for any transfers involving more than one AFL Victoria Affiliate.

3.2 Disputes
AFL Victoria will make determinations in relation to any disputes that arise involving more than one Affiliate and decisions of AFL Victoria shall be binding.

3.3 Appeal Process
Unless otherwise determined by AFL Victoria, relevant appeals will be heard as follows:
Applications for an appeal hearing are to be lodged with AFL Victoria within ten (10) days of notification of a decision by a club, league or Affiliate (refer AFL National Player Transfer Regulations).
De-registration/player transfer appeals will be heard by the AFL Victoria Independent Panel as appointed from time to time pursuant to regulation 3.8.
All other appeals to AFL Victoria will be heard by the AFL Victoria Appeals Board as appointed from time to time pursuant to regulation 3.8.

3.4 Conflicting Regulations
No Affiliate shall have in place rules or regulations that conflict with these regulations unless such rule or regulation affects the Affiliate only. In the event of such rules or regulations being inconsistent, in conflict with or designed to circumvent these AFL Victoria regulations, then the latter shall bind Affiliates.

3.5 Existing Agreements
Existing agreements in place involving more than one Affiliate (i.e. AFL Victoria Country / Metropolitan Affiliates, Metropolitan Affiliates / VAFA, VAFA / AFL Victoria Country, Metropolitan Affiliates internal) are replaced by these regulations and Appendix 1 AFL National Player Transfer System and Appendix 2 Affiliate to Affiliate: Movement of Clubs.

3.6 AFL / VFL Players
The following regulations relate to the movement of players between the Affiliate and the VFL Open Age and Under Age competitions and the AFL.

3.6.1 AFL Listed Players
For the purposes of these regulations, the definition of VFL registered players includes those listed players at an AFL club where such club also competes in the VFL competition.

3.6.2 Interchange Form
Players desiring registration with the VFL Open Age or Under Age competitions shall complete the appropriate Interchange Form.
Upon lodgement of the form not yet signed by the player’s local club or league, the VFL may grant the applicant a permit to play.
Such form shall then be forwarded to the relevant League for completion and returned to the VFL within 10 days.

3.6.3 Suspended Players
(a) The permit to play will be withdrawn in the event the player is under suspension at the relevant time.
(b) Disqualifications by the VFL or local league tribunal shall be recognised by all parties to this agreement.

3.6.4 Interchange to Local Club
The relevant player retains registration with the local club and, in accordance with the VFL interchange regulations, the VFL may permit players to return to their interchange club when their VFL Club does not require their services. The VFL or a VFL club may not interchange a player to a club other than the players’ interchange club unless the player has first obtained a relevant transfer from his current interchange club.

3.7 Affiliate to Affiliate Regulations

3.7.1 Player Transfer and Appeal Process
Refer Appendix 1 AFL National Player Transfer System Regulations for appropriate rules.

3.7.2 Admission of New Clubs / Transfer of Existing Clubs and Appeals Process
Refer Appendix 2 for appropriate rules.

3.7.3 League Transfer process
Refer Appendix 2 for appropriate rules

3.7.4 Interchange Agreements
Interchange agreements involving two Affiliates may be introduced with support from both Affiliates and AFL Victoria.

AFL Victoria will make a determination on a dispute regarding a current interchange agreement following request for such determination from either party.

3.8 AFL VICTORIA Independent Panel & AFL VICTORIA Appeals Board Nominations
Nominations from Affiliates for appointments to either the AFL Victoria Independent Panel or AFL Victoria Appeals Board are to be received by the AFL Victoria GM by no later than 1st August in a given year.

AFL Victoria is to confirm the appointment of Affiliates to the AFL Victoria Independent Panel and AFL Victoria Appeals Board by no later than 1st October in a given year and shall make decisions on temporary vacancies. The decision of AFL Victoria regarding appointments shall be final.

4. GENDER REGULATION

a) In accordance with the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (Vic.) (“the Act”), people aged under 12 years of age cannot be excluded on the basis of sex or gender identity from participating in a competitive sporting activity. Pursuant to section 66 (1) of the Act, people of one sex or gender aged 12 and over can be excluded from participating in competitive sporting activities in which the strength, stamina and physique of competitors is relevant. AFL Victoria Affiliates will exclude females who reach 14 years of age as at 1 January in the year of play from playing in any competition that is not a ‘female competition’.

b) People who have been through the gender reassignment process shall be deemed the gender as verified by the appropriate Victorian State Government documentation.

Definition: Female competition
A female competition is a competition in which the majority of the players are female.

5. AFL VICTORIA POLICIES

5.1 Required Affiliate Policies
Considering the AFL Victoria objectives as set out in the Affiliate Agreement, each Affiliate must as a minimum adopt procedures and policies to address:

5.1.1 Risk Management;
5.1.2 Vilification and Discrimination;
5.1.3 Health Through Football;
   5.1.3 (a) Anti-Doping Policy
   5.1.3 (b) Infectious Diseases Policy
   5.1.3 (c) Alcohol Management Policy
   5.1.3 (d) Smokefree Policy
5.1.4 Codes of Conduct;
5.1.5 AFL Victoria De-registration Policy;
5.1.6 AFL Victoria Member Protection Policy;
5.1.7 AFL National Player Transfer System; and such other football or community issues that require policies and procedures that arise from time to time and notified by AFL Victoria.
5.1.8 Fair game respect matters

5.2 Risk Management – Insurance Requirements
Such minimum insurance requirements will alter in line with community and football requirements and AFL Victoria will notify Affiliates of the requirements at least annually.

5.3 AFL VICTORIA / VFL Policies
AFL Victoria has provided, and will continue to provide, the current AFL Victoria / VFL procedures and policies
in writing and / or via the official AFL Victoria website. These procedures and policies are to be used by Affiliates as the minimum requirement when developing the Affiliate’s relevant policy. The AFL Victoria / VFL Policy will be the Affiliate Policy should the Affiliate choose not to further update the AFL Victoria / VFL Policy.

5.4 Appeals
On request AFL Victoria may from time to time convene an Appeals Board and shall appoint persons to the Appeals Board. On any occasion when the Appeals Board is required to be convened AFL Victoria shall appoint a Chairman and a further person or persons to hear and determine the matter. The hearing shall be conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as a proper consideration of the matter permits. Subject thereto and any provision of the AFL Victoria Regulations in relations thereto, the procedure at any hearing shall be within the discretion of the person appointed as Chairman. The decision of the Appeals Board shall be final and binding.

5.5 Coach Accreditation Appeals
An applicant for coaching accreditation can appeal to AFL Victoria against a decision of the Coaching Development Manager refusing entry into an accreditation course or refusing accreditation once the applicant has completed such course.

6. FINANCIAL REPORTING PROCEDURE

6.1 Annual Report
Within 7 days of the Annual General Meeting of the Affiliate, the Affiliates Annual Report (including audited and detailed Financial Statements) are to be provided to AFL Victoria.

6.2 Financial Year
Unless otherwise approved, the financial year of AFL Victoria and all Affiliates shall be November 1st to October 31st.

7. SPONSORSHIP

7.1 Sponsors
Where AFL Victoria has entered into a sponsorship arrangement on behalf of its Affiliates, the Affiliate shall support those sponsors in accordance with the contractual arrangements.

7.2 Protected sponsors
From time to time AFL Victoria will nominate sponsors deemed to be ‘protected sponsors’ notwithstanding they may not be involved with Affiliates.

The Affiliate acknowledges and agrees that:

(a) the AFL Victoria Protected Sponsors provide in part the financial resources to AFL Victoria to enable it to financially support the development of Australian Football; and

(b) in order to maximise the financial benefits for AFL Victoria from such sponsorship, it will only enter into its own sponsorship arrangements with a person or business whose goods, services or operations compete with the goods or services supplied by or the operations of the AFL Victoria Protected Sponsors if it has first advised AFL Victoria of its intention to enter into such arrangement. AFL Victoria will provide advice to the Affiliate regarding implications of entering into such arrangement.

Protected sponsors will only be nominated after AFL Victoria makes every endeavour to ensure that such protected sponsors will not conflict with Affiliate arrangements.

7.3 Notice
AFL Victoria will give reasonable notice to Affiliates of protected and other sponsors

8. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AFL VICTORIA AND AFFILIATES

8.1 Affiliate input
Prior to formulating any AFL Victoria policy input will be sought from Affiliates.

8.2 Policy distribution
AFL Victoria will provide copies of all relevant policies affecting the Affiliate and will seek to promote these policies as widely as possible (e.g. newsletter, internet).

8.3 Affiliate obligation
It is the obligation of the Affiliate to distribute AFL Victoria policies & newsletters to its Affiliates.
8.4 Affiliate contact details
Each Affiliate must provide to AFL Victoria appropriate identity & contact details of its President and Manager and changes must be notified to AFL Victoria within 10 days of such changes taking place from time to time.

9. REGULATION & POLICY AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

9.1 Regulation and Policy review
AFL Victoria will from time to time review its policies and regulations and will provide Affiliates with appropriate consultation and an opportunity to provide input into any updates of AFL Victoria rules, regulations and policies.

9.2 Affiliate Submissions
Affiliates may make submissions to AFL Victoria in respect to current and / or potential future rules, regulations and policies.

Written submissions for AFL Victoria consideration are to be forwarded to the AFL Victoria GM by no later than 1st August in each year. AFL Victoria decisions regarding the submission are to be made by no later than 1st October in the same year following Affiliate input and review.
APPENDIX 2

MEMBER TO MEMBER
- Movement of Clubs

Amended: February 2014
# INDEX

1. **Admission of New Clubs / Transfer of Existing Clubs** 89  
   (1) General 89  
   (2) New Clubs 89  
   (3) Transfer of Existing or Amalgamated Clubs 89  

2. **Appeals of Clubs** 90
1. ADMISSION OF NEW CLUBS / TRANSFER OF EXISTING CLUBS

1.1 General
a) For the purposes of these regulations, a decision of the Board means a decision of the AFL Victoria Appeals Board as constituted under the rules, or a decision of the AFL Victoria Appeals Board.
b) Subject to Regulation 2 below, the decision of AFL Victoria shall be final and binding on all Affiliates.
c) AFL Victoria shall make such determinations and decisions in respect to Affiliates or Affiliated Bodies failing to comply with these regulations as it deems fit.

1.2 New Clubs
a) Affiliates intending to accept a new club must notify AFL Victoria of its intention to accept the new club in writing by December 1st.
b) In exceptional circumstances, the AFL Victoria General Manager may waive the new club deadline of December 1st at his discretion.
c) Notwithstanding Regulation 1.2(a) above, Affiliates intending to admit a newly formed club shall notify AFL Victoria in writing of its intention to admit such newly formed club no later than ten (10) business days after the league agrees to admit such club. The newly formed club may not participate in any league match until after AFL Victoria approval has been granted.
d) AFL Victoria will make a decision in relation to the requested approval of the newly formed club as soon as practical after requesting advice from the Affiliate.
e) If AFL Victoria directs the Affiliate not to admit or accept the newly formed club, then the Affiliate can appeal against such direction to the AFL Victoria Appeals Board under Regulation 2, below. The newly formed club cannot appeal the decision of AFL Victoria.

1.3 Transfer of Existing or Amalgamated Clubs
a) Affiliates intending to accept the transfer of existing or amalgamated clubs from one Affiliate to another Affiliate shall notify AFL Victoria and the former Affiliated Body of its intention to accept such transfer in writing by October 15th.
b) An Affiliate seeking to appeal against a decision of the new Affiliated Body to seek to accept such transfer is to provide written notification to AFL Victoria and the new Affiliated Body within ten (10) business days of receiving advice from AFL Victoria of such intended transfer.
c) AFL Victoria will make a decision in relation to the transfer of such existing or amalgamated club as soon as practical after requesting submissions from each party.
d) Where a club or clubs seek to transfer from one Affiliate to another Affiliate, such transfer must be approved by AFL Victoria. In making such determination or decision AFL Victoria will take into account, without limitation, the geographic nature of Leagues, League viability, community development and future growth of the Leagues concerned.
e) Clubs and Affiliates affected or potentially affected by such determination or decision by AFL Victoria shall have the right to a hearing before the AFL Victoria Appeals Board whose decision on the proposed application shall be final.
f) The procedure applicable to such hearing will be determined by the AFL Victoria Appeals Board and notified to those parties wishing to be heard.
2. APPEALS OF CLUBS

a) For the purposes of this Regulation, the AFL Victoria Appeals Board shall be validly constituted by three (3) Members.

b) The AFL Victoria Chairman has the authority to appoint 3 Members of the AFL Victoria Appeals Board and one member must be legally trained.

c) A member of the AFL Victoria Appeals Board must not be an Executive Officer of the Affiliated Bodies concerned in the appeal or other Affiliates as determined by the Chairman of AFL Victoria. The Chairman of AFL Victoria may delegate his responsibilities to AFL Victoria General Manager as he/she sees fit.

d) An appeal must be lodged in writing (“the notice of appeal”) with AFL Victoria within ten (10) days of the affiliated body receiving written notification from AFL Victoria of the decision. A copy of the Transfer Application shall accompany the notice of appeal (if applicable). An appeal shall be heard by the AFL Victoria Appeals Board within 15 days of receipt of notice of appeal by AFL Victoria or such other period as the Appeals Board determine.

e) Prior to the hearing of the appeal, each party shall, within the time specified by the AFL Victoria Appeals Board, lodge with AFL Victoria written submissions which may contain:

f) Any facts, reasons and arguments concerning the Transfer Application and the appeal; and

g) Any other matters that they desire to be taken into account by the AFL Victoria Appeals Board in determining the appeal.

h) AFL Victoria shall as soon as practicable, but prior to the hearing of the appeal, distribute the written submissions to the other parties concerned in the appeal.

i) At the hearing of an appeal, each party may be represented by an advocate provided that such advocate is not be a person who is legally qualified, unless approved by the Chairman of the Appeals Board.

j) The hearing before the AFL Victoria Appeals Board shall be:-

k) Inquisitorial in nature; and

l) Conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as a proper consideration of the matters before it permits.

m) The AFL Victoria Appeals Board:

n) Shall provide each party an opportunity to be heard;

o) Shall hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner:

p) Is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to courts of record, but may inform itself as to any matter in any such manner as it thinks fit.

q) May regulate the proceedings before it in such manner as it thinks fit;

r) May confirm, reverse or modify the decision of AFL Victoria and make such decisions in such manner as it thinks fit; and

s) Shall not be obliged to give reasons for its decision.

t) Upon request from the club and / or affiliates involved and subject to seven days notice to be provided to AFL Victoria, AFL Victoria will ensure that its Chairman of such appeal shall be legally qualified.

u) An existing or amalgamated club may only lodge one appeal in each year to AFL Victoria.
Policies

www.aflcommunityclub.com.au
- Next Generation Match policy
- AFL Kids First policy
- Heat policy
- Lightning policy
- Working With Children
- Risk Management policy

www.aflvic.com.au
- Member Protection policy
- National Risk Protection program
- Gender regulation
- De-Registration policy
- Infectious Diseases policy
- Anti-Doping policy
- Risk Management policy
- Vilification and Discrimination policy
AFL (NSW-ACT) / AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY AGREEMENT

Whereas it is in the mutual interest of AFL Victoria Country and AFL (NSW/ACT) to co-operate in the interests of the Australian National Game of Football and to assist each other by all reasonable means in their power, AFL Victoria Country and AFL (NSW/ACT) agree to observe the under-mentioned conditions covering the transfer of Clubs between their two organisations:

(a) A Club shall not be permitted to transfer from AFL Victoria Country to AFL (NSW/ACT), or vice versa without consent of its Controlling Body and an affiliated body shall not be permitted to transfer from AFL Victoria Country to AFL (NSW/ACT), or vice-versa without consent of AFL Victoria Country or AFL (NSW/ACT), as the case maybe, unless the affiliated body is affected by the AFF Article 44. When applications to transfer are refused, appeals against such decisions shall be dealt with by the Appeals and Disputes Board.

(b) (i) Appeals and Disputes Board consisting of five persons, two persons appointed by each of AFL Victoria Country and AFL (NSW/ACT), together with an independent Chairman shall deal with any appeal or dispute arising from this agreement other than those appeals referred in (i) above and shall meet within 14 days of notification being received from either party to this agreement that Meeting of the Board is desired.

The appellant party shall be required to satisfy the Appeals and Disputes Board that grounds for an appeal exist and shall also be required to lodge with each appeal a deposit of $300, such deposit to be forfeited if in the opinion of the Board the appeal is considered frivolous and in such cases the money so forfeited shall be utilised for defraying expenses incurred in connection with meetings of the Board.

Procedures to be used for the conduct of the appeal will be those of the Controlling Body (AFL Victoria Country or AFL NSW/ACT) where the transfer was initiated.

Notwithstanding the appointment of two members of the Board from each of AFL Victoria Country and AFL (NSW/ACT), each such body may nominate a representative to appear before the Board in the matter of any appeal or dispute.

(ii) Clearance applications by clubs close on 31st October in each year.

(iii) Applications of appeal to the Appeals and Disputes Board close on the 30th November in each year.

(c) AFL Victoria Country and NSWAFL affiliates may enter into Area Agreements. Area Agreements between AFL Victoria Country and NSWAFL affiliates shall operate under the following guidelines:

An Area Agreement between the

Football League and the

Football League.

This agreement is signed pursuant to the clearance regulations contained in AFL Victoria Country and AFL NSW/ACT transfer agreement whereby an interchange of players between clubs of the above-mentioned leagues may take place without clearance or permit and is subject to any provisions contained within this agreement:

PROVIDED HOWEVER:

(i) That this agreement is in force for the

season only.

(ii) That the players involved desire to play

with the club in the other league on the
day in question.

(iii) That the clubs involved are agreeable to

the players playing on the day in question.

(iv) A player reported whilst playing in a

league on permit in accordance with this
agreement shall have the charge heard by
the league in which he was playing when
reported which, in the event of finding the
player guilty, shall determine the penalty.

(v) That prior to each match played the player

shall obtain written permission to do so
from his parent club.

The permit shall be entered into the
Footyweb system.

(vi) With the exception of players of junior
age competitions, players of any club
having a bye will not be allowed to play
with another club on that day unless he
has previously played with that club in the
current season under this agreement.

The club playing the player from the
other league shall show his registered
club on the match team sheet. Players
of third eighteen teams of senior grade
competitions are not to be classified as
players of junior age competitions.

(d) This agreement shall be regarded as a
continuing agreement, with either party – i.e.
AFL Victoria Country or AFL (NSW/ACT) –
having equal rights to terminate by six months
notice.

SECTION 2: WORKSAFE AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY RULES & REGULATIONS 93
1. VFL OPERATIONS

(i) (a) An AFL Victoria Country player desiring registration with the VFL Competition shall complete and lodge with the VFL a VFL Interchange Form. Upon lodgment of the completed VFL Interchange Form the VFL may grant the applicant a permit to play. If the interchange form is not returned to the VFL within 7 days of receipt by the players AFL Victoria Country League the VFL may grant the player a permit.

(b) An AFL Victoria Country player desiring registration with the TAC/VFL Under 18 Competition shall complete and lodge with the VFL a TAC Interchange Form. Upon lodgment of the VFL Interchange Form the VFL may grant the applicant a permit to play. The form shall then be forwarded to the Secretary of AFL Victoria Country League concerned and the players club and returned to the VFL within 14 days. The permit to play would be withdrawn in the event that the player was under disqualification for a misdemeanour or financial reasons.

A AFL Victoria Country player desiring registration with the TAC/VFL Under 18 competition between the 1st July (closing date for AFL Victoria Country player clearance applications) and 1st August (closing date for VFL Player registrations) shall be granted a permit to play only on the production of a letter from the players AFL Victoria Country club indicating that the club has no objection to the transfer. A completed VFL interchange form is to accompany such club permission.

(ii) An AFL Victoria Country player who is granted a permit to play in the VFL Senior or TAC Under 18 competition shall retain registration with his AFL Victoria Country Club and shall be eligible to play with his AFL Victoria Country Club when his services are not required by his VFL Senior or Under 18 Club.

An AFL Victoria Country player playing in the VFL Senior competition shall require the written approval of the VFL Club to play with his AFL Victoria Country club and shall be subject to the rules of the VFL competition. A list of Senior VFL players available to play with AFL Victoria Country club with which they are registered shall be posted on the VFL website on Friday afternoon on the Friday prior to the weekend round of matches.

Where AFL Victoria Country registered players, who are also VFL listed, are not released by their VFL club, and as such play without permission, will be considered ineligible players under AFL Victoria Country rules and dealt with accordingly by AFL Victoria Country League, Area Appeals Committee or VCFL Appeals Board under the rules and regulations of AFL Victoria Country.

An AFL Victoria Country player who is granted a permit to play in the VFL Senior competition shall only transfer between VFL clubs after giving written advice to his AFL Victoria Country club of the impending transfer 48 hours before the transfer is to take effect via the lodgment of an interchange form with AFL Victoria Country Operations Manager.

Any AFL Victoria Country Player, who has played in the TAC/VFL/AFL competition on any weekend round of matches, is not eligible to play with their AFL Victoria Country club on the same weekend round of matches, excepting where the TAC/VFL senior team player has played less than twenty five minutes of actual playing time and has been granted a medical clearance from the TAC/VFL club he may return to play with his AFL Victoria Country club on the same weekend.

(iii) A player may interchange between the TAC/VFL and AFL Victoria Country at any time throughout the year subject to the player satisfying his AFL Victoria Country Leagues requirements for eligibility for finals matches.

(iv) Disqualifications by Independent Tribunals or decisions of Leagues and Clubs for disciplinary reasons against any player and endorsed by the TAC/VFL or AFL Victoria Country as the case may be shall be recognised by all parties to this Agreement.

AFL OPERATIONS

(v) A drafted player shall transfer from a AFL Victoria Country Club to an AFL Club on the Australian Football League Interchange Form 4. The form is to be returned to the AFL within fourteen (14) days of dispatch from the AFL. Should the form not be returned within the specified fourteen (14) days the AFL may grant the applicant permission to play.

The AFL shall notify AFL Victoria Country Club from which a player has been interchanged and granted a permit to play in the AFL by way of
ensuring a cover slip is dispatched to the club concerned in the week following the granting of such permit.

Upon registration with the AFL the player shall retain registration with his original club and may interchange with such club at his AFL Clubs discretion. Such agreement shall also apply to any subsequent transfer to other AFL Clubs. Should his AFL Club be resident in another State, he may interchange with a club in that State provided that he will require a Form 1 Transfer from his original club, should he be delisted by the AFL within 36 months from date of registration with the AFL club.

A Player delisted by an AFL Club shall be required to obtain a transfer, as outlined in the National Player Transfer Regulations, before being eligible to play, or continue to play, with another club, other than a transfer to an AFL Club.

A AFL Victoria Country player must meet his local League domestic requirements for eligibility for finals matches.

In the event of a player wishing to transfer to any club in any competition other than his AFL or AFL Victoria Country Clubs, he shall be required to complete all relevant transfer procedures from his AFL and AFL Victoria Country Club in accordance with AFL and AFL Victoria Country transfer regulations respectively.

(vi) Transfer fees for players from AFL Victoria Country affiliated clubs to transfer to the AFL shall be paid in accordance with the schedule of transfer fees specified in the AFL/VFL Agreement.

For the purpose of AFL/VFL transfer fee allocation, a player on interchange to the VFL or TAC U18 competition will be deemed to have played with AFL Victoria Country Club to which he remains registered.

GENERAL

(vii) A Committee comprising two representatives each of the VFL and AFL Victoria Country shall deal with any dispute arising from interchange of players under the provisions of this Agreement and any interpretation or variation of any Clause arising from this agreement, and its decisions shall be final and binding.

(viii) This Agreement shall be regarded as a continuing Agreement with each party (VFL or AFL Victoria Country) having equal rights to terminate by six months notice and may be varied by decision of the Committee as authorised in the terms of Clause (vi) hereof.
SECTION 3: INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL & APPEALS BOARD PROCEDURES FOR TRIBUNAL AND APPEAL BOARD MEMBERS

Tribunal Guidelines only!

IMPORTANT: The relevant rules and regulations contained earlier in AFL Victoria Country Handbook (“AFL Victoria Country rules”) are to be adhered to at all times. The following information is designed to assist in the application of the relevant AFL Victoria Country rules. Where a provision in these guidelines is inconsistent with a provision in AFL Victoria Country Rules, the provision in AFL Victoria Country Rules shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 SECTION 2 – INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rule(s)</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 League Independent Tribunal Procedure</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Practice and Pre-Season Matches</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Set Penalties</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 SECTION 3 – INVESTIGATION OFFICER</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rule(s)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.0 SECTION 4 – PLAYER CLEARANCE APPEALS</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rule(s)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Solicitor’s Advice</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0 SECTION 5 – AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY LEGAL CHALLENGE PROCEDURE</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX 1 - SUGGESTED LEAGUE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL “RUNNING SHEET”</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines for Player Advocates</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questioning of Witness</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX 2 - RECOMMENDED ROLE AND PROCEDURE OF INVESTIGATION OFFICER</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.0 INTRODUCTION

We live in what is an increasing litigious world, that is, people in all walks of life are quick to resort to legal action to seek redress of what they see as a wrong done to them. With greater awareness of their rights and a greater access to legal aid, this greater readiness to go to law will continue to increase.

One of the adverse aspects of this tendency is that well-meaning, honorary and amateur Tribunal members are at greater risk of finding themselves unwittingly engaged as Defendants in traumatic, time-consuming, and costly, Supreme Court litigation.

So it behoves those in our community who give of their time and goodwill in accepting honorary positions on Tribunals to take care and to become aware of what is expected of them when they give up a couple of hours on a Tuesday night to hear the case of Player X seeking a clearance from Club Y to Club Z or to hear the case of Player A charged with striking Player B with a clenched fist to the face.

The law expects certain standards of justice from those who accept the challenge of acting as Tribunal members and if one is not prepared to accept a little education in the area of ones responsibilities, it is best that the appointment not be accepted.

It is important that all leagues look at their constitutions to ensure that the Tribunals, are set up in the correct way, are given wide powers and that their powers are beyond legal challenge in terms of delegating power to that Tribunal and to make sure the tribunal is set up in such a way so it can effectively execute its powers, responsibilities and duties accordingly.

The Law does not expect Tribunal members to be expert in the intricacies of criminal law, contract law or administrative law. What the Law expects is that Tribunals will act fairly and responsibly and in accordance with what are commonly called the rules of natural justice. These rules of natural justice are not enshrined in any Act of Parliament which can be read and understood.

They have evolved over centuries of our law and basically can be summed up as meaning that all parties before the Tribunal must be given proper opportunity to be heard, to call all witnesses they desire to call, to question evidence called against them and to have the questions before the Tribunal determined only on the evidence before it and determined without bias or prejudice.

It is important to ask the player and his advocate whether they are satisfied that they have been given the opportunity to lead and give all evidence in the matter.

It is the Tribunal’s responsibility to enforce the rules under which the sport is administered and therefore it is imperative that Tribunal members become familiar with AFL Victoria Country rules and their particular league Constitution and Rules, in so far as they affect the issue before the Tribunal.

Remember, it’s the Tribunal members who will make the decision which is subject to challenge – not the League Secretary. It is not for a Tribunal to say “Well that rule’s pretty silly”, so in this case we’ll just ignore it and make the decision we think is the fairest.

It’s the Clubs who have joined together to make Leagues, who in turn join together to make up AFL Victoria Country. By their own Constitutions and Rules, they have decided how they will be governed. Just as the Courts of Law must interpret the laws which are made by our elected Parliament, and then enforce those laws as they apply to the facts of a case as determined by the Court – so also must a Tribunal decide the facts contested before it, and then apply the laws of the local league and AFL Victoria Country, as interpreted by the Tribunal, to those facts.

AFL Victoria Country rules lay down the procedures to be followed in the hearing of charges and clearance appeals.

To those dedicated people who are members of the Independent Tribunals of affiliated leagues of AFL Victoria Country, AFL Victoria Country extends its appreciation for your significant contribution to our game in this most important role.

AFL Victoria Country trusts the contents of what follows will be of benefit and assistance to you in discharging your onerous responsibilities.

2.0 LEAGUE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL

2.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rule(s)

(Refer Appendix 1 for sample Tribunal Running Sheet)

The rules and regulations relating to the establishment, jurisdiction and procedure of a League Independent Tribunal are contained in AFL Victoria Country rule 7.0.

2.2 League Independent Tribunal Procedure

Tribunal Procedure – Charges against Players and Officials etc.

The following provisions, which provide guidance for the conduct of a Tribunal hearing, have been prepared by AFL Victoria Country Rules Subcommittee and shall be adopted by all Affiliated Leagues. For convenience, the guidelines make reference to a “player” as being the person appearing before the Tribunal, however the guidelines do apply to and should be read as applying to any other person appearing before a Tribunal.

NOTE: All Tribunal Hearings shall be tape recorded and such tapes shall be kept for at least two (2) months.

1. A copy of the Umpires’ report complying with the format of AFL/AFL Victoria Country (Umpires Report Form) must be lodged with or be mailed to the League Secretary not later than midnight on the second day after the match, or as determined by the local league. If the report
5. The Tribunal Chairman asks the charged player if he was number ........ of the ......................... Football Club on the day and date stated and also asks the same question of any other relevant correspondence.

6. The charged player is then asked to give his version of the incident and may be questioned by the advocate.

7. If the charged player pleads guilty to the charge, the hearing may proceed with a summary of the facts of the charge by the Umpires Advocate followed by a plea in mitigation of the offence by the charged players advocate. The charged player’s advocate may or may not call the charged player to give evidence in the circumstances.

8. After the player pleads, the Umpire is asked to amplify his report and may be questioned by his advocate. The Umpire Advocate may then call his witnesses (if any) and these witnesses may then be questioned by the player’s Advocate.

9. The offended against player mentioned in the report is then recalled and asked to give his version of the incident and may be questioned by the Umpire/Investigation Officer’s advocate; and then the charged player through his advocate.

10. The charged player is then asked to give his version and may be questioned by his advocate; and by the Umpire’s/Investigation Officer’s advocate.

11. The charged player may then through his advocate call his witnesses. Once a witness is called to give evidence, he must remain in the room until the case is finished. Each witness is asked to give his version of the incident and may be questioned by the advocates as desired.

12. After all evidence is given, both advocates are given the opportunity of summing up their cases and when the Tribunal is satisfied that it has all the evidence it needs to enable it to come to a decision, the Tribunal will consider the case and record a finding based on what it believes to be the facts.

13. When this is done, all the parties to the hearing reassemble and the Chairman announces its finding. If the player is found guilty, his advocate will, on behalf of the player be given the opportunity by the Chairman to make a submission on the question of sanction i.e., to make a plea on behalf of the charged player. The Tribunal Chairman will ask the Tribunal Secretary of the guilty player’s tribunal record. The findings are then determined and recorded and signed by all members of the Tribunal.

14. Players reported for a field offence must attend the next scheduled hearing of the Tribunal. The player cannot play with his club until the case has been heard. Where the Tribunal deems that the player has reasonably been unable to attend the hearing and therefore adjourns the matter the player shall be eligible to play pending resolution of the matter.

15. Telephone evidence may be allowable at the Tribunal Chairman’s discretion.

NOTE: In the absence of an advocate for either the charged player or the Umpire then the player and/or Umpire as the case may be, with the Tribunal’s permission, becomes his own advocate.

16. The umpire is required to be present at the Tribunal hearing into the charge(s) he has laid against the player(s). If, due to unforeseen and urgent extenuating circumstances it is not possible for the umpire to be present at the hearing, and, subject to the permission of the Tribunal the Tribunal may proceed with the hearing in the umpires absence. The following rules shall apply in these circumstances—

(a) The Umpire shall forward to the Secretary of the League in addition to the brief written report of the incident, a detailed statement setting out the particulars of the incident in full together with such other relevant information as in the opinion of the Umpire.
would be of benefit to the Tribunal in enabling it to reach a decision.

(b) If the detailed statement is not received by the Secretary of the League at least eight hours prior to the time set down for the Tribunal hearing the charge shall lapse and not be heard unless otherwise determined by the Tribunal.

(c) After the brief report has been read as before and the charged player has pleaded, the detailed statement of the Umpire is then read out by the Tribunal, and at the same time a copy of this statement is to be made available to the reported player by the Tribunal Chairman.

(d) The Tribunal then hears any witnesses called on behalf of and at the request of the Umpire. These witnesses may be questioned, in turn, as in 8 above.

(e) The offended against player is then heard as in 9 above.

(f) The charged player then gives his version of the incident and may be questioned as set out in 10 above.

(g) The players may then call witnesses and these, in turn, may be questioned as in 11 above.

(h) Then the hearing proceeds as set out in 12 and 13.

(i) A player shall not be permitted to play with any team during the time of suspension.

17. In the case of a charge made at an interleague or practice match, the Tribunal hearing the charge shall have sole discretion in imposing the sanction and if a suspension is imposed, determining to which matches any suspension will apply.

18. A suspension shall terminate at midnight immediately after the round of matches in which the player’s final match of the suspension period is completed.

Note: All Tribunal and Appeal hearings are to be audio taped.

2.3 Practice Match Arrangements
Where a practice or pre-season match is played and a registered field umpire reports a player at or during the match, the following shall apply:

(a) The player who is reported must appear before the League Tribunal of the host club or organising League conducting the match. Such League Tribunal shall hear and determine the matter on both the question of liability and sanction.

(b) Where the practice or pre-season match is hosted by a VFL or VAFA Club, the League Tribunal of the VFL or VAFA, as the case may be, shall hear and determine the issue of liability only. If a report is found proven against a player, the matter shall be referred to the player’s League Tribunal on the question of sanction.

2.4 Set Penalties
All AFL Victoria Country affiliated Leagues shall adopt set penalties for reportable offences as contained within AFL Victoria Country regulation 12.0.

3.0 INVESTIGATION OFFICER

3.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rules AFL Victoria Country Rules 5.1 and 5.2
(Refer AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.0 Conduct Unbecoming)
(Refer Appendix 2 - Recommended Role and Procedure of Investigation Officer)

4.0 PLAYER CLEARANCE APPEALS – AREA APPEALS COMMITTEE

4.1 Relevant AFL Victoria Country Rules
The relevant rules and regulations relating to player clearance appeals are contained in AFL Victoria Country Rules 7.0 and 8.0).

5. AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY LEGAL CHALLENGE PROCEDURE
AFL Victoria Country recommends that when an affiliated body is threatened with Legal action against it, relating to its direct affiliation to AFL Victoria Country, the following action be taken:

(i) Immediately notice is received of any legal threat, the Club shall immediately advise JLT Insurance and AFL Victoria Country through the local AFL Victoria Country Football Development Manager, of the legal threat, and provide to JLT Insurance and AFL Victoria Country any papers, letters, summonses, statements of claim, affidavits, or any other legal papers together with the advice from its own Solicitor, at the time of advising AFL Victoria Country.

(ii) AFL Victoria Country may arrange for its own advice on the legal threat, to enable comparison with the legal advice referred to in (i) above.

(iii) An affiliated body should take no action to defend or settle, until approved by AFL Victoria Country administration and no party shall purport to act for or bind AFL Victoria Country, except where a person is specifically authorised in writing, to do so.

(iv) This procedure is not applicable for action which does not involve or relate to the Rules & Regulations of AFL Victoria Country as applicable to affiliated bodies.

The objective of implementing this procedure is to protect AFL Victoria Country Rules from unnecessary challenge by ensuring that the best and expert legal advice is available to concerned parties at all times.

AFL Victoria Country’s policy of not financing Club and League legal defences will continue to apply.
unless this procedure is followed and AFL Victoria Country agrees to support action, prior to its implementation.
APPENDIX 1 - SUGGESTED LEAGUE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL
“RUNNING SHEET”

1. CHAIRMAN
This session of the Football League’s Independent Tribunal is now open.
Mr. Secretary, would you make the introductions.

2. SECRETARY
The Chairman for this hearing is

The Panel Members are

The reported player is 
His advocate is
The offended player is 
The reporting umpire is 
Their advocate is

3. CHAIRMAN
Are you player number of , Football Club, the reported player?
Are you umpire , the officiating and reporting umpire?

4. CHAIRMAN
Would the offended player and all witnesses please vacate the room until called.

5. CHAIRMAN
Reads umpires report sheet.
Asks player’s advocate – do you object to any member of the Tribunal hearing this matter or the report.

6. CHAIRMAN
Player number of , you have heard the charge. How do you plead, guilty or not guilty?

7. PLAYER
Responds.

8. CHAIRMAN
Umpire , would you please enlarge on your written report.

9. UMPIRE
Responds.

10. CHAIRMAN
Asks questions of the umpire, then asks the other panel members if they have any questions of the umpire. The charged player’s advocate is then asked if they have any questions of the umpire.

11. CHAIRMAN
Asks Secretary to admit the offended player.

12. CHAIRMAN
Player number of , would you give the tribunal your version of why you think the umpire reported player number 

13. PLAYER
Responds.

14. CHAIRMAN
Any questions of the offended player:
Chairman and Panel. Umpire’s Advocate.
Charged Player’s Advocate.

15. CHAIRMAN
Asks the charged player:
Are you player number of , would you give your version of the reported incident.

16. PLAYER
Responds.

17. CHAIRMAN
Any questions of the charged player:
Chairman and Panel. Charged Player’s Advocate.
Umpire’s Advocate.

18. CHAIRMAN
Ask for any witnesses to be called and may be questioned by all parties. Charged player’s witnesses to be called before any witness for the offended player.
The Independent Tribunal should carefully consider the status and independence of witnesses giving evidence when assessing the weighting of the credibility of the evidence given.

19. CHAIRMAN
Asks for parties if they have any more questions of anyone.

20. CHAIRMAN
To ensure natural justice to all parties concerned, you are reminded of Rule 8.6 of AFL Victoria Country Handbook.

21. CHAIRMAN
Reads AFL Victoria Country Rule 8.3.

22. CHAIRMAN
Asks if all parties are satisfied that all the available evidence has been presented to the tribunal.
23. Asks for summing up by:
Umpire / Offended player Advocate.
Advocate for charged player.

24. CHAIRMAN
Asks all parties, including tribunal secretary, to vacate the room.

25. * * *
Panel considers evidence and having reached a verdict asks all parties to resume.

26. CHAIRMAN
Player of would you stand.

27. CHAIRMAN
We have carefully considered the evidence as presented and find you as charged. (Guilty or Not Guilty).

28. CHAIRMAN
If found guilty: Advocate for the charged player, do you wish to enter a plea on behalf of your player?

29. ADVOCATE
Responds.

30. CHAIRMAN
Asks Tribunal Secretary for the guilty player's tribunal record.

31. CHAIRMAN
Asks all parties, including the tribunal secretary, to vacate the room.

32. CHAIRMAN
Recalls all parties. The penalty decided on is (matches in which your club plays for premiership points or other penalty as determined by the tribunal within their powers).
The Chairman should be aware that this procedure applies also to players on permit as per AFL Victoria Country Rule 2.1.
The Chairman should also refer to Rule 8, 7.1.1.

33. CHAIRMAN
This case is now closed and I thank you for your attendance.

Guidelines for Player Advocates

Role of a players advocate.
Guidelines to assist with preparation and presentation of a case before tribunal hearings.

The following notes are intended solely as a practical guide to tribunal hearings in general and are not to be construed as laws to follow. For further and more detailed information a study of laws of the game and available text books is recommended.

Players Advocate:
Duties:
It has been suggested that every advocate has a duty to the following:

Case Preparation
(i) Preparation
(ii) Presentation
(iii) Evidence to be led
(iv) Summary

Preparation
The successful advocate will begin his preparation long before he is to appear before the tribunal, in fact he has a duty to prepare himself, generally by studying the various documents in his possession and by endeavouring to gain a good knowledge of relevant statements.
In addition he must:

Know his brief. His Player/witness.

In relation to the brief, consider the following matters:
(1) Is the proper date on charge sheet.
(2) Is the charge properly laid.
(3) Is there a more appropriate charge.
(4) Are all your witnesses available.
(5) Are they listed to be called in the most advantageous order.

Study
Read the laws of the game, know what is required of umpires when making reports, this is necessary if you are to do justice to yourself and the player/club you are representing.

Consider the Witnesses
Meet them before the case, put them at ease; see if they are nervous by their attendance at the tribunal. See if you can alleviate this.
Do not call witnesses in illogical sequence to the detriment of your case.

Presentation
In presenting your case you should pay attention to the following matters:
Dress appropriately. Be alert, Speak clearly, concisely. Don’t mumble.
“Stand up – speak up – wake up” your bearings and manner or speech will have a marked effect on your success as an advocate, try to appear confident, speak loudly, clearly, and conduct yourself with dignity. At all times remain alert, take notes observe everything said and done by others. Take notes of everything said including what the chairman says, when delivering his penalty.

Appearance at Tribunal
“Be respectful always”. This cannot be stressed too often, as we frequently find heated arguments developing in tribunals. It matters not that others become heated, the advocate must at all times keep his emotions in check.
Should you or your witness be criticised by the tribunal do not allow yourself to be provoked in making remarks you may regret later.
However, tact and discretion should remove any cause for unpleasantness and your bearing, manner and behaviour will have a marked impression on those in the tribunal so “be respectful always”.

**Evidence**

**Introduction**

Under the AFL Victoria Country system, the onus is on the umpire / league representative to prove the guilt of the player. The proof of a charge against any player can be established only by the production of evidence in support of the charge.

In discharging the burden of proof, only that evidence which is logically relevant to the facts in issue may be introduced. Evidence can be given orally, only by witnesses who are competent.

A plea of guilty is an admission of the truth of the charge, but not necessarily of the truth of the evidence in support of it. Sustained questioning on the facts may illicit provocation, or other elements to be considered by the tribunal when determining penalty.

**Nature of Evidence**

As a general proposition it can be said that evidence consists of:

- Facts, Testimony, Documents and Physical Exhibits which may be admitted in order to prove or disprove the facts under inquiry.

**Sources of Evidence**

The following are the sources from which the advocate may obtain evidence to rebut the charge:

(i) Examination of charge sheets.
(ii) Interview of player/witness.
(iii) Information received from club officials, members of public, officials at game.

**Charge Sheet**

Your most important document. Read it line by line looking for mistakes.


Every document tells a story, it is to your advantage, don’t take for granted that it will be right.

**Documentary Evidence**

If a photograph or a medical report is tendered at the hearing by someone other than the photographer or medical practitioner then the Tribunal must satisfy itself that such photograph or report is valid. Eg Have the photographer available if needs be, have the medical report provided on letter head.

**Video Evidence**

(1) The tribunal and or Area Appeals Committee should admit video evidence if such evidence is available.

(2) The club and umpire who intends to rely on the video evidence must provide a copy of such evidence to the league secretary at least 24hrs prior to the hearing.

(3) At the hearing the league secretary must provide opportunity for all interested parties to view the video evidence prior to the commencement of the hearing.

(4) It shall be a condition of admissibility of the video evidence that the club and umpire shall make available the person who recorded the video of the incident for examination by the tribunal and any interested party.

(5) Subsequent to the viewing of video evidence but prior to the commencement of the hearing, the reporting official may elect to withdraw the report.

**Evaluating the Evidence**

(a) Consider the charge(s) laid or possible charge(s) arising from the allegation being heard.

(b) Analyse the charge(s) to establish the proofs which have to be satisfied to sustain this charge(s).

(c) Consider what evidence is available and what must be sought to satisfy those proofs.

(d) Determine what evidence we have available for cross- examination of umpire witnesses.

**Qualities required of a Witness**

(1) He must have seen or heard something.

(2) He must be able to remember what he said or heard.

(3) He must have a degree of moral sense in that he must understand the duty of telling the truth; otherwise his evidence is valueless.

**Appreciation of a Witness’s Evidence**

Memory is based on the ability to:

(a) Observe

(b) Retain what is observed

(c) Recall what has been retained

The power of memory varies from person to person and in accordance with the circumstances under which the observation was made. There are occasions when a person makes a conscious effort at controlled visualisation and other occasions when the mind is free wheeling and the observation is not recorded.

A witness may have observed an incident for a few fleeting seconds and has the ability to recall the event in accurate detail which will depend on a number of factors.

Weather – fine – raining. Distance from incident. Obstructions, blocked view, etc.

The purpose of questioning is to try and demonstrate to the tribunal that the witness fails to satisfy one or more of these demands, that is to cast a doubt on his evidence.
Questioning of Witnesses

Basic Questioning

In any hearing, the advocate seeks the answers to questions concerning the matter under inquiry. If all of the right questions are asked, at least some of the right answers will be obtained. If none of the right questions are asked none of the right answers will be forthcoming.

Basic questions are: What? When? Where? How?

Extensions of the above are

What
What happened, what was the motive? What height, weight, build?

When
When did the incident occur? When did you observe it? When did you decide to report it?

Where
Where did the incident occur? Where were you/distance/vision? Where were the players?
Where were the other umpires?

How
How did it happen/describe?

The art of questioning can only be developed from long experience and practice, however, if the average advocate observes a few rules we can achieve a fair standard of efficiency. The basis of good questioning is simple.

Know what you want – when you get it sit down.

The effect of many good questions diminishes greatly if, after asking them, you then potter along with a series of ineffective questions which, perhaps weary and even irritate the tribunal/chairman.

When Questioning
(1) Be brief.
(2) Never ask a question to which you do not already know the answer.
(3) Listen to the answer.
(4) Do not quarrel with the witness.
(5) Avoid one question too many.

Warning

Never take anyone’s word as to the contents of a written exhibit or as to the appearance of that exhibit. Examine all exhibits yourself, it is your responsibility.

Through research and self application advocates can develop the proper attitude and skills necessary to prepare notes and a brief to present before a tribunal with confidence and competence.
APPENDIX 2 - RECOMMENDED ROLE AND PROCEDURE OF INVESTIGATION OFFICER

1. The Investigation Officer is instructed by the League Secretary to investigate the matter. The League Secretary supplies all relevant details regarding the alleged incident.

2. The Investigation Officer views video of alleged incident (if available).

3. The Investigation Officer interviews all witnesses (players, umpires, officials, spectators) pertaining to the matter taking a written copy of the interview. It is recommended that the interview be conducted in Question and Answer format.

   For example:

   Investigation Officer: Are you player (name) the wearer of number ...................... of .................................................. Club)

   who played in game .................................. (Club)

   vs .................................................. (Club)

   on .................................................. (date)

   at .................................................. (Venue)

   (can be modified for non-player witnesses).

   Player/Official/Other: Responds.

   Investigation Officer: It has been alleged that

   (description of alleged incident). What did you see of the alleged incident?

   Player/Official/Other: Responds.

   Investigation Officer: Asks further questions relevant to the alleged incident in order to obtain as much detail as possible.

   At conclusion of interview Investigation Officer reads a copy of the interview to the witness who agrees to content of interview and signs copy of interview.

4. The Investigation Officer submits all correspondence relating to the matter to the League Secretary with a recommendation as to whether the matter should be dealt with by the League Independent Tribunal. In the conduct of the investigation and in making the recommendation the Investigation Officer should have an open mind with any doubt regarding the events of the incident being considered in favour of the investigated player or official.

5. Proforma Notice from Investigation Officer to League

The following example of a notice from an Investigation Officer to a league is recommended for use by Investigation Officers when recommending charges be laid following an investigation per AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.2.

The notice would obviously have to be changed for each investigation although its general wording and presentation is recommended.

The Secretary

.................................................., Football League

Date: ..................................................

1. On .................................................. (date),

   I received notification from the Football League requesting an investigation be conducted, per AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.2, into an incident that allegedly took place between player X of .................................................. (club) and player Y of .................................................. (club).

2. The incident referred to by the .................................................. Football Club (reporting clubs) relates to the .......... quarter of the senior grade match between the two clubs on Saturday .................................................. (date) played at the .................................................. oval.

   The .................................................. (club) alleges that their player Y was struck by player X.

3. On the night of .................................................. (date),

   I spoke to the victim, other players, officials and spectators at .................................................. venue

   I have taken statements from the following: .................................................. (names).

4. On the night of .................................................. (date)

   I attended at and interviewed player X together with witness .................................................. name).

   Earlier in the day I had taken a statement from .................................................. (club) player .................................................. (name).

5. All parties agree on the fact that Player X struck Player Y. It was not in a contest for the ball, in fact play may have been at least 40 metres away. It appears the incident happened some distance behind play (more details of the incident can be supplied if desired).
6a. After making enquries into this incident, it is my opinion that Player X may have a charge to answer per AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.0 of Unbecoming Conduct, and therefore recommend that he be called before the League Independent Tribunal to answer that charge of unbecoming conduct in that he

6b. After making inquiries into this incident it is my opinion that Player X does not have to answer any charge and recommend no further action is necessary.

7. I have retained possession of all original signed documents in this matter. This report is forwarded to the league for action by the League Executive.

........................................................., (signed)
........................................................., (date)

.........................................................
League Investigation Officer.

8. In any proceeding brought before a tribunal under this rule the Investigation Officer shall personally appear before it and lay the necessary charge or charges and be prepared to be questioned about the Report he prepared on behalf of the League or Association.
STATE & TERRITORY AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CONTROLLING BODIES

AFL (NSW/ACT)
PO Box 333, Strawberry Hills, NSW, 2012

AFL QUEENSLAND
PO Box 1211, Coorparoo DC, QLD, 4151

AFL TASMANIA
PO BOX 520, North Hobart, TAS, 7002

AFL VICTORIA
GPO Box 4337, Melbourne, VIC, 3001

AFL NORTHERN TERRITORY
PO Box AFLNT 1, Casuarina, NT, 0811

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PO Box 1, West Lakes, SA, 5021

WEST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COMMISSION
PO Box 275, Subiaco, WA, 6904

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
GPO Box 1449
Melbourne VIC 3001
NOTE: AFL Victoria Country has been granted exemptions to AFL Rules. Please make note of the following references:

Definitions: The AFL Victoria Country Rules Committee draws attention of leagues and clubs to the above rule and points out that any player listed on the teamsheet must be at the ground, dressed in football playing attire and ready to take the field if called upon.

Rule 5.5.3 Counting of players
- Players exceeding permitted numbers.
- Refer procedure for investigation and penalties; WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.0

Rule 10.7.2 Consequences of Forfeiture
- calculation of percentage
- refer Worksafe AFL Victoria Country Rule 21.0

Rule 15.7 Free Kicks - Deliberate Rushed Behind
- Not applicable to WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country Matches.

Rule 19.4 The AFL Victoria Country has adopted reporting procedures to be used by all affiliates as outlined in Rule 12 of the AFL Victoria Country Rules & Regulations

Rule 19.4.4 The AFL Victoria Country has received permission from AFL Victoria/AFL to adopt a variation to this law. See AFL Victoria Country Rule 1.20.

Rule 20.7 The AFL Victoria Country Rule 11.0 Order Off Rule is to apply in all Affiliated Leagues
AMENDED LAWS

The following laws have been amended or added, effective from season 2015:

1.2(g)
15.5(c), (e)
15.10.1(b)
15.12.1
19.2.1
19.2.2
20.2(a), (e)
21
INTRODUCTION
Where Laws appear in normal type they are the Laws under which AFL and AFL Victoria Country football is conducted. Where Laws or parts thereof appear in bold they are the Laws that are “local” to AFL Victoria Country competitions.

CONTENTS
State & Territory Australian Football Controlling Bodies

PART A: INTRODUCTION
A. This Publication
B. Application
C. Nature and Object of Australian Football
D. Purpose of Laws

PART B: GENERAL AND DEFINITIONS
1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION
1.1 Definitions
1.2 Interpretation
1.3 AFL Rules Prevail
1.4 Variation
Playing field and playing positions

PART C: ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
2. CONTROLLING BODY
2.1 Definition
2.2 Application of these Laws
2.3 Variation/Exemption

3. PLAYING SURFACE AND GOAL POSTS
3.1 General
3.2 Playing Surface
3.3 Identifying Areas on the Playing Surface
3.4 Relocation of Centre Square
3.5 Goal Posts and Behind Posts
3.6 Goal Square and Kick-Off Line
3.7 Under-Age Competitions

4. THE FOOTBALL
4.1 Specifications
4.2 Supply and Selection of Footballs

5. TEAMS
5.1 Number of Players in Team
5.2 Variation of Number
5.3 Team Sheets
5.4 Change of Player Guernsey During Match
5.5 Counting of Players

6. TEAM OFFICIALS AND TEAM RUNNER(S)
6.1 Controlling Body To Regulate
6.2 Identification
PART D: PRE-MATCH AND MATCH PROVISIONS

7. INTERCHANGE
7.1 Interchange Steward —Appointment and Duties
7.2 Procedure for Interchange
7.3 Use of Stretcher
7.4 Interchange Steward Not at Match
7.5 Breach of Law 7

8. UMPIRES: DUTIES AND INSTRUCTIONS
8.1 Appointment and Duties of Umpires
8.2 Duties of Umpires

9. PLAYERS’ BOOTS, JEWELLERY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
9.1 Interpretation
9.2 Prohibition of Items
9.3 Inspection
9.4 Power to Order Off

10. TIMEKEEPERS, DURATION OF MATCHES, QUARTERS AND INTERVALS
10.1 Duration of Match and Intervals
10.2 Timekeepers
10.3 Procedure for Sounding Siren — Start of Match and Quarters
10.4 Bringing Play to an End
10.5 Stopping and Recommencing Time
10.6 Unauthorised Entry on Playing Surface and Termination of a Match
10.7 Forfeiture of Match

11. COMMENCING PLAY AND CHOICE OF GOAL
11.1 Choice of Goal
11.2 Commencement of Play
11.3 Bouncing the Football

12. SCORING: GOALS AND BEHINDS
12.1 Goals and Behinds
12.2 All Clear and Touched All Clear
12.3 Signalling a Goal or Behind
12.4 Relationship between Free Kicks and All Clear
12.5 Scoring Goal or Behind after Play Has Ended
12.6 Free Kick after Play Has Ended
12.7 Recording Scores

13. KICKING THE FOOTBALL INTO PLAY AFTER A BEHIND HAS BEEN SCORED
13.1 Football Must be Kicked
13.2 Direction by Umpire and Football Brought into Play Incorrectly
13.3 Kick into Play after a Goal Umpire Signal
13.4 Attacking Team Delaying Recommencement of Play
13.5 Official Within Fifty-Metre Arc
14. MARKING THE FOOTBALL

14.1 Definition 138
14.2 Particular Circumstances 138
14.3 Player to be Awarded the Mark 138
14.4 Field Umpire to Signal “Touched, Play On” 138
14.5 When a Mark is Not Awarded 138
14.6 Field Umpire Cancels Mark 139

15. FREE KICKS

15.1 Interpretation 139
15.2 Free Kicks Relating to Possession of the Football 139
15.3 Free Kicks Relating to Disposal of the Football 140
15.4 Free Kicks — Permitted and Prohibited Physical Contact 140
15.5 Free Kicks — Relating to Umpires 141
15.6 Free Kicks — Relating to Out of Bounds 141
15.7 Free Kicks — Deliberate Rushed Behind 142
15.8 Free Kicks — Shaking Goal Post 142
15.9 Free Kicks — Reportable Offences 142
15.10 Free Kicks — Generally 142
15.11 Free Kicks after Disposal 142
15.12 Free Kicks — Stadium Roofs 143

16. DISPOSAL FROM MARK OR FREE KICK

16.1 Standing the Mark and Ten-Metre Protected Area 143
16.2 Playing from Behind the Mark 143
16.3 Kicking for Goal 143
16.4 Disposal by a Defending Player — Goal Line and Behind Line 144
16.5 Disposal — from Out of Bounds 144
16.6 Disposal Where Player Awarded Free Kick or Mark is Injured 144
16.7 Further Breach of Laws Before Disposal 144

17. PLAY ON AND THE ADVANTAGE RULE

17.1 Ball in Play 144
17.2 Circumstances — Play On 144
17.3 The Advantage Rule 145

18. FIFTY-METRE PENALTY

18.1 When Imposed 145
18.2 Imposing a Fifty-Metre Penalty 145
18.3 Local Conditions 145

19. REPORTING PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

19.1 Obligation to Report 145
19.2 Reportable Offences 145
19.3 Reporting Procedure 146
19.4 Sanctions and Suspensions 147
20. ORDER OFF LAW

20.1 Application

20.2 Order Off for Remainder of Match

20.3 Other Reportable Offences

20.4 Replacing Player

20.5 Order Off for Specified Period

20.6 Signalling and Procedure for Order Off

20.7 Reduction of Players

21. ANTI-DOPING CODE AND MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

21.1 Application – Anti-Doping Code

21.2 Variation and Interpretation

21.3 Application – Member Protection Policy

22. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

22.1 The Meaning of Active Bleeding

22.2 Participation in Matches When Actively Bleeding

22.3 Active Bleeding — Role of Umpire

22.4 Procedure when Player Not Actively Bleeding

22.5 Variation by Controlling Body

22.6 Failure to Obey Direction

22.7 Special Circumstances at the End of a Quarter

22.8 Deliberate Smearing of Blood

22.9 Protective Gloves

22.10 Disposal of Bloodied Clothing and Other Material

22.11 Dressing Rooms

22.12 Hygiene

22.13 Trainers

22.14 Sanctions — Controlling Body
PART A: INTRODUCTION

A. THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains the Laws of Australian Football as administered and controlled by the AFL as well as local Laws as are applicable to the AFL Victoria Country affiliates.

B. APPLICATION

These Laws apply to bodies affiliated to the AFL and to bodies affiliated to AFL Affiliates. Controlling bodies may make appropriate modifications consistent with the spirit of these laws for under-age competitions.

C. NATURE AND OBJECTS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL

Australian Football is a game played between two Teams competing in accordance with these Laws. The objective of each Team playing Australian Football is to win by scoring more points than the opposing Team.

The winner of a Match of Australian Football is the Team which has scored, in accordance with these Laws, the greater number of points at the conclusion of the Match. A Match is drawn when each Team has the same number of points at the conclusion of the Match.

D. PURPOSE OF LAWS

These Laws explain how a Match of Australian Football is played and seek to attain the following objectives:

(a) to ensure that the game of Australian Football is played in a fair manner and a spirit of true sportsmanship;

and

(b) to prevent injuries to Players participating in a Match so far as this objective can be reasonably achieved in circumstances where Australian Football is a body contact sport.
1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 DEFINITIONS

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

AFL: the Australian Football League.

AFL Anti-Doping Code: the code adopted by the AFL, (and any variation), which regulates the use and administration of drugs by Players competing in the competitions conducted by the AFL.

AFL Rules: the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the AFL, the AFL Player Rules, the AFL Regulations and any resolution or determination passed from time to time by the AFL Commission.

All Clear or Touched All Clear: the verbal and visual instruction given by a field Umpire for the goal Umpire to signal and record a Goal or a Behind, as the case may be.

Arena: means the Playing Surface and all of the area between the Playing Surface and the perimeter fence, including any break in the perimeter fence.

Australian Football: the contest played between two Teams competing in accordance with these Laws.

Behind: the recording of 1 point, when any of the circumstances described in Law 12.1.2 occur.

Behind Line: the white lines marked on the Playing Surface between the goal posts and the behind posts.

Boundary Line: the white line drawn on the ground to identify the Playing Surface, as described in Law 3.2.

Centre Circle: the area on the Playing Surface described in Law 3.3.

Centre Square: the area on the Playing Surface described in Law 3.3.

Charge or Charging: the conduct described in Law 15.4.4.

Controlling Body: the league, association or other body described in Law 2.1.

Correct Disposal or Correctly Dispose: disposing of the football in a manner permitted under Rule 15.3.1.

Correct Tackle or Correctly Tackled: the conduct permitted under 15.4.1.

Fifty Metre Penalty: the act of advancing by 50 metres towards the centre of the Goal Line, the position on the Playing Surface where a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark.

Fifty Metre Arc: the line drawn in the shape of an arc at each end of the Playing Surface to show that the distance to the centre of the Goal Line is fifty metres.

Free Kick: giving possession of the football to a Player on the occasions described in Law 15.

Goal: the recording of 6 points, when any of the circumstances described in 12.1.1 occur.

Goal Line: the white line marked on the Playing Surface between each goal post.

Goal Square: the areas on the Playing Surface described in Law 3.6.

Handball: the act of holding the football in one hand and disposing of the football by hitting it with the clenched fist of the other hand.

Home and Away Matches: the Matches played between Teams to determine the premier Team or those Teams who will compete in a finals series to determine the premier Team.

Interchange Area: the area marked on the Boundary Line through which Players may enter and leave the Playing Surface.

Interchange Player(s): the Player(s) of a Team who are not on the Playing Surface but who are listed on the Team Sheet and available to replace a Player on the Playing Surface.

The AFL Victoria Country Rules Committee draws attention of leagues and clubs to the above rule and points out that any player listed on the teamsheet must be at the ground, dressed in football playing attire and ready to take the field if called upon.

Interchange Steward: the person(s) appointed by the relevant Controlling Body to monitor and approve the interchange of Players during a Match.

Kick or Kicking: in relation to disposing of the football, means making contact with the football with any part of the Player's leg below the knee.

Kick Off Line: the straight line drawn on the Playing Surface which runs parallel with the Goal Line, as described in Law 3.6.

Mark: has the meaning described in Law 14.1.

Match: the contest of Australian Football played between two Teams.

Melee: An incident involving three or more Players and/or officials who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another and which, in the opinion of the field Umpire or any other person authorised by the relevant Controlling Body, is likely to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute or prejudice the interests or reputation of the relevant Controlling Body or the competition(s) conducted by that Controlling Body.
Official: includes but is not limited to an officer, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, employee or any person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of the club or Team.

Out of Bounds: means the football passes completely over the Boundary Line or touches a behind post but before doing so, touches the ground or is touched by a Player.

If any portion of the football is on or above the Boundary Line, the football is not Out of Bounds.

Out of Bounds on the Full: means the football, having been Kicked, passes completely over the Boundary Line without touching the ground within the Playing Surface or being touched by a Player, or the football has touched the behind post or passed over the behind post without touching the ground or being touched by a Player.

Player: a person who plays or is selected to play with a Team or a person who otherwise trains with a Team or who is within the purview of these Laws.

Playing Surface: the field of play inside the Boundary Line, Goal Line and Behind Line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence.

Play On or Touched Play On: the verbal and visual instruction given by a field Umpire to indicate that:

(a) a Free Kick or Mark will not be awarded and play will continue; or

(b) a Player has attempted to dispose of the football other than in a direct line over the mark and the football is therefore in play.

Prohibited Contact: contact between Players which is prohibited under Law 15.4.5.

Protected Area: the area described in Law 16.1.2.

Ruck: Player who engages in the initial contest of the Football following a bounce, throw up or boundary throw in.

Shepherd: the contact described in Law 15.4.2.

Team: the group of Players competing against another group of Players in a Match of Australian Football.

Team Runner(s): the person(s) appointed to deliver messages to the Players of a Team during a Match.

Team Sheet: the document which must be completed and lodged by each Team under Law 5.3.

Timekeeper(s): the person(s) appointed by a Controlling Body (or Teams) to keep the time of a Match.

Time Wasting: occurs where a field umpire is of the opinion that a Player is unnecessarily causing a delay in play.

The mark: the position on the Playing Surface where an opposition Player may stand after a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, as described in Law 16.1.1.

Throw: shall be given its ordinary meaning, but also includes the act of propelling the football with one or both hands in a scooping motion.

A Player does not throw the football if the Player hits, punches or taps the football without taking possession of the football.

Umpire: includes all of the field, boundary, goal and emergency Umpires officiating or at a Match.

Under Age Competition: a competition conducted between Teams in which the age of the Players in each Team fall within a specified age category or below an age limit.

1.2 INTERPRETATION

In the interpretation of these Laws, unless the context requires otherwise:-

(a) words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;

(b) words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;

(c) headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these Laws;

(d) “including” and similar words are not words of limitation;

(e) any words, terms or phrases defined in the remainder of these Laws shall have the meaning prescribed within the particular Law; and

(f) words, terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these Laws, shall be given their ordinary meaning.

(g) a reference to “careless” or “carelessly” may be interpreted as a reference to “negligent or reckless” or “negligently or recklessly” (as applicable).

1.3 AFL RULES PREVAIL

Where any provision in the AFL Rules is inconsistent with any provision contained in these Laws, the provision in the AFL Rules shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

1.4 VARIATION

The AFL may from time to time change these Laws and make further Laws in its absolute discretion.
Diagram 1

PLAYING FIELD AND PLAYING POSITIONS

Minimum distance between boundary line and fence should be 3.0-3.5 metres.
PART C: ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

2. CONTROLLING BODY

2.1 DEFINITION
A Controlling Body includes:-
(a) the AFL;
(b) any league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of Matches of Australian Football, who has determined to play such Matches in accordance with these Laws;
(c) a league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of Matches of Australian Football and who is affiliated to the AFL (“AFL Affiliates”); and
(d) any league, association or body responsible for the organisation and conduct of Matches of Australian Football who is affiliated to the AFL Affiliates.

2.2 APPLICATION OF THESE LAWS
Unless Law 2.3 applies, these Laws shall apply to all Matches of Australian Football organised and conducted by a Controlling Body.

2.3 VARIATION/EXEMPTION
(a) a Controlling Body may apply to the AFL to vary these Laws as they apply to the competition or competitions conducted by the Controlling Body.
(b) an application to the AFL by a league, association or body affiliated to the AFL Affiliate shall be made through the AFL Affiliate.
(c) unless specifically allowed under these Laws or a variation is allowed by the AFL under Law 2.3(a), a Controlling Body shall not prescribe any rules or laws in addition to or which conflict with or affect the full operation of these Laws.

3. PLAYING SURFACE AND GOAL POSTS

3.1 GENERAL
The dimensions and markings of the Playing Surface and the playing positions for Players are contained in this Law 3 and illustrated in Diagram 1, p140.

3.2 PLAYING SURFACE
(a) The Playing Surface shall be:-
(i) oval in shape;
(ii) between 135 metres and 185 metres in length; and
(iii) between 110 metres and 155 metres in width.

(b) a white line shall be marked on the ground to identify the Playing Surface. This white line shall be drawn in the shape of an arc from the behind post at one end of the Playing Surface to the behind post at the other end of the Playing Surface. The white lines which are drawn are called the Boundary Line.

3.3 IDENTIFYING AREAS ON THE PLAYING SURFACE
The following areas shall be marked on the Playing Surface:-
(a) a square, to be called the Centre Square, which shall:-
(i) be located in the centre of the Playing Surface; and
(ii) be 50 metres long and 50 metres wide;
(b) a Centre Circle, 3 metres in diameter, and an outer circle 10 metres in diameter which shall:
(i) be located in the middle of the Centre Square; and
(ii) both be divided into two semicircles, by drawing a straight line parallel with each goal line;
(c) an Interchange Area, which shall be 15 metres wide
(d) a Goal Square at each end of the Playing Surface
(e) the Goal Line and Behind Line; and
(f) a Fifty Metres Arc at each end of the Playing Surface

3.4 RELOCATION OF CENTRE SQUARE
Where a Controlling Body is satisfied that the area within the Centre Square and Centre Circle will prevent the bouncing of the football or is otherwise in an unsuitable condition, it may direct the relocation of the Centre Square and or Centre Circle.

3.5 GOAL POSTS AND BEHIND POSTS

3.5.1 Position
(a) two posts, to be called goal posts, shall be a minimum height of 6 metres and be placed at each end of the Playing Surface at a distance of 6.4 metres apart.
(b) a further two posts, to be called behind posts, shall be a minimum height of 3 metres and be placed at a distance of 6.4 metres on each side of the goal posts so that a straight line can be drawn on the ground to join each post.

3.5.2 Padding
A Controlling Body must ensure that padding is attached around each goal and behind post as follows:-
• a minimum of 35mm thick foam padding, covered in canvas or painted;
• a minimum height of 2.5m from the bottom of each goal and behind post;
• a suitable width to allow the padding to be fixed around each goal and behind post; and
• the padding must be securely attached around each goal and behind post.

### 3.6 GOAL SQUARE AND KICK OFF LINE

A further area, to be called the goal square, shall be marked by drawing two lines at right angles to the Goal Line for a distance of 9 metres from each goal post and connecting the outer end of each line by a straight line. This line is called the Kick Off Line.

### 3.7 UNDER AGE COMPETITIONS

A Controlling Body may approve smaller dimensions for the Playing Surface and areas identified under Law 3.3 for an Under Age Competition or for open age competition where a complying venue is not readily available.

### 4. THE FOOTBALL

#### 4.1 SPECIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise determined by the AFL a football shall be of a symmetrical oval shape and conform to the standard size of 720-730 millimetres circumference and 545-555 millimetres transverse circumference and be inflated to a pressure between 62-76Kpa.

#### 4.2 SUPPLY AND SELECTION OF FOOTBALLS

Unless the Controlling Body decides on an alternative procedure, the following procedure shall apply to the supply and selection of footballs for a Match:-

(a) the home Team shall supply a minimum of two footballs approved by the Controlling Body to the field Umpires before the commencement of the Match;

(b) the field Umpires shall inspect and ensure that the two footballs are suitable to be used during the match;

(c) the field Umpires shall submit the two footballs to the captain of the away Team, who shall select the football to be used; and

(d) unless the captains of each Team otherwise agree, the football selected by the captain of the away Team shall be the football used for the entire Match.

### 5. TEAMS

#### 5.1 NUMBER OF PLAYERS IN TEAM

Unless the number is varied under Law 5.2, a Team must consist of between 14 and 18 players, who may be on the Playing Surface at any one time, and no more than 4 Interchange Players. Controlling Body shall determine the actual number of Players which may play for each Team in the competitions conducted by the Controlling Body.

### 5.2 VARIATION OF NUMBER

Unless otherwise determined by the AFL, a Controlling Body may reduce below 14 or increase above 22 the number of Players (including Interchange Players) who may participate in a Match played in the competition conducted by the Controlling Body.

### 5.3 TEAM SHEETS

#### 5.3.1 Details

Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, a Team Sheet shall:-

(a) list the names and numbers of the Players in the Team;

(b) identify the Interchange Players;

(c) identify the captain; and

(d) list the name of the coach, Team Runner and any other Official participating in the Match.

#### 5.3.2 Completing and Lodging Team Sheet

Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, an Official of each Team shall complete and lodge with a field Umpire its Team Sheet no later than 30 minutes before the scheduled commencement of a Match.

### 5.4 CHANGE OF PLAYER GUERNSEY DURING MATCH

#### 5.4.1 Replacement Guernsey

Each Team shall ensure that a replacement guernsey is available for each Player participating in a Match.

#### 5.4.2 Replacement of Guernsey with Same Number

Where it becomes necessary to replace a guernsey worn by a Player during a Match, the Team shall ensure that the replacement guernsey displays the number allocated to the Player before the commencement of the Match.

#### 5.4.3 Second Replacement of Guernsey

If it becomes necessary to replace the guernsey of a Player on a second occasion, a Player may wear a guernsey that displays a different number to that originally worn by the Player. Where the replacement guernsey of a Player does display a different number, the Team Runner shall advise the Interchange Steward and the field Umpire during the next interval or, if the change occurs during the final quarter, at the first available opportunity. Upon being advised, the Interchange Steward or field Umpire, as the case may be, shall make an appropriate amendment to the Team Sheet at the first available opportunity.

#### 5.4.4 Variation by Controlling Body

Where financial or other circumstances of a Team reasonably prevents Law 5.4.2 being followed, the Controlling Body may allow the replacement guernsey worn by a Player to display a different number to that originally worn by the Player. Where the replacement guernsey of a Player does display a different number, the Team Runner shall advise the Interchange Steward and the field Umpire during the...
next interval or, if the change occurs during the final quarter, at the first available opportunity. Upon being advised, the Interchange Steward or the field Umpire, as the case may be, shall make an appropriate amendment to the Team Sheet at the first available opportunity.

5.5 COUNTING OF PLAYERS

5.5.1 Request by Captain

The captain or acting captain of a Team may at any time during a Match request that the field Umpire count the number of Players of the opposing Team who are on the Playing Surface.

5.5.2 Procedure

(a) where a request is made under Law 5.5.1, the field Umpire shall:-

(i) stop play at the first available opportunity;

(ii) call into line within the Centre Square the Players of both Teams who are at the time on the Playing Surface and count the number of Players;

(iii) upon completing the count, ensure that each Team has the permitted number of Players on the Playing Surface and then re-commence play at the position on the Playing Surface where the field Umpire stopped play; and

(iv) as soon as practicable after the Match, report to the Controlling Body that a request has been made to count the number of Players in a Team and the number of Players actually counted.

(b) the maximum number of Players permitted on the Playing Surface at the same time is eighteen or, in circumstances where a Player(s) has been ordered from the Playing Surface under Law 20, eighteen less the Player(s) ordered from the Playing Surface.

5.5.3 Players Exceeding Permitted Number

Where a Team has more than the permitted number of Players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

(a) a field Umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing Team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;

(b) a Fifty-Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and

(c) the matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit - note that the offending team does not lose all points scored in the Match up to the time of the count on matchday. Refer AFL Victoria Country Rule 5.2 c i) for procedures for investigation.

5.5.4 Correct Number and Request Without Merit

Where a count reveals that the opposing Team has the permitted number of Players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

(a) a field Umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing Team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;

(b) a Fifty-Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and

(c) if a field Umpire is of the opinion that a request was made under Law 5.5.1 primarily to delay play or such request did not have sufficient merit, the field Umpire shall report the Player who requested the count for Time Wasting under Law 19.2.2.

6. TEAM OFFICIALS AND TEAM RUNNER(S)

6.1 CONTROLLING BODY TO REGULATE

A Controlling Body shall adopt rules which:

(a) specify the times and occasions when an Official and Team Runner may enter the Playing Surface; and

(b) identify the tasks or duties which such persons may perform when on the Playing Surface.

6.2 IDENTIFICATION

Each Team Official and Team Runner shall wear a uniform or other form of identification, (such as an armband), as determined by the Controlling Body.
7. INTERCHANGE

7.1 INTERCHANGE STEWARD – APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES
A Controlling Body may appoint two Interchange Stewards to officiate during a Match. The Interchange Steward shall:-
(a) be positioned throughout the Match at or near the Interchange Area;
(b) monitor and approve the interchange of players made by each Team during a Match; and
(c) report to the Controlling Body any infringement by a Team of this Law 7.

7.2 PROCEDURE FOR INTERCHANGE
The following procedure shall apply to the interchange of Players during a Match:
(a) the captain of a Team, Team Runner or Official shall advise the Interchange Steward of the Team’s intention to replace a Player who is currently on the Playing Surface for another Player listed on its Team Sheet;
(b) upon being satisfied that the replacement is permitted, the Interchange Steward shall approve the replacement;
(c) a Team may interchange the Players concerned within a period of 3 minutes from the time approval is given by the Interchange Steward, after which the approval shall lapse;
(d) unless Law 7.3 applies, the Players concerned shall leave and enter the Playing Surface through the Interchange Area;
(e) a Player who does not leave the Playing Surface as specified under Law 7.2(d) is unable to reenter the Playing Surface for the remainder of the Match.
(f) where a Player does not enter the Playing Surface as specified under Law 7.2(d), the Interchange Steward and/or field Umpire shall report the circumstances to the Controlling Body, including the scores at the time. The Controlling Body may determine the matter by way of fine, reversal of Match results or other sanction as it deems appropriate.

7.3 USE OF STRETCHER
7.3.1 Health and Safety of Player
Any Player who is injured during a Match and who, in the opinion of a doctor, trainer or Official, requires the assistance of a stretcher, shall be attended by the Team’s training staff and a stretcher as soon as possible so as to ensure the health and safety of the Player.

7.3.2 Procedure
Where a stretcher is required, the following procedure shall apply:-
(a) upon being advised or noticing that a Player requires a stretcher, the field Umpire shall stop play at the earliest opportunity and unless a doctor considers or it is apparent that it is unsafe to do so, the Player must be removed from the Playing Surface on the stretcher by the shortest possible route and taken to his/her team’s change rooms;
(b) a Team may replace the injured Player with a Player listed on its Team Sheet, who must enter the Playing Surface via the Interchange Area;
(c) the Interchange Steward may allow the Player who is replacing the injured Player to enter the Playing Surface before the injured Player is removed from the Arena;
(d) once the injured Player has been removed from the Playing Surface, the field umpire shall recommence play by either bouncing the football or allowing a player who had been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark at the time play was stopped, to dispose of the football as follows depending on the circumstances:
(i) where the ball was in dispute at the time play was stopped, by bouncing the football;
(ii) where the ball was out of bounds at the time play was stopped, by directing the boundary umpire to throw the ball in;
(iii) where a Player had possession of the football at the time Play was stopped, by awarding a Free Kick to the Player;
(iv) where a player had been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark at the time play was stopped, by allowing the player to dispose of the football.
(e) a Player for whom a stretcher was called shall not resume playing for a period of 20 minutes (excluding intervals between quarters) from the time when the Player left the Playing Surface. After the 20 minute period has expired, the Player may be interchanged in accordance with the procedure set out under Rule 7.2 provided the Player is able, having due regard to his or her health and safety, to resume playing in the Match; and
(f) where a stretcher enters the Playing Surface but the player elects to walk off, all provisions of Law 7.3.2 apply but the player may go to the interchange bench.

7.4 INTERCHANGE STEWARD NOT AT MATCH
Where an Interchange Steward is not in attendance at a Match, the field Umpires or emergency Umpire(s) shall perform the duties that the Interchange Steward would have otherwise performed. A Team shall only advise the field Umpire or emergency Umpire of its intention to make an interchange during a period when time is being added on to the playing time in accordance with Law 10.
7.5 BREACH OF LAW 7
The Interchange Steward or field Umpire, as the case may be, shall advise the Controlling Body of any breach of this Law 7.

8. UMPIRES: DUTIES AND INSTRUCTIONS

8.1 APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF UMPIRES

8.1.1 Appointment
Unless Law 8.1.2 applies, a Controlling Body shall appoint for each Match:-
(a) a field Umpire or Umpires;
(b) two or more boundary Umpires; and
(c) two goal Umpires.

8.1.2 No Appointment of Boundary/Goal Umpires
(a) Where it is impractical to appoint or the Controlling Body has not appointed a boundary or goal Umpire to officiate at a Match, the field Umpire(s) may, in consultation with each Team, appoint persons before the commencement of the Match to officiate in those roles.
(b) Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, a field Umpire may overrule the decision of a boundary or goal Umpire who was appointed under Law 8.1.2(a).
(c) When no boundary or goal Umpire has been appointed under Laws 8.1.1 or 8.1.2(a), the duties normally undertaken by a boundary and goal Umpire shall be undertaken by the field Umpire.

8.1.3 Replacement of Field Umpire
A Controlling Body shall adopt rules which prescribe the replacement of an Umpire who, by reason of injury or otherwise, becomes incapable of officiating either before or during a Match.

8.1.4 Non Attendance of Field Umpire
Where a Controlling Body has not appointed a field Umpire or for any reason a field Umpire is unavailable or does not attend to officiate at a Match, the competing Teams may elect to play the Match and upon doing so, may appoint an Umpire(s), (inclusive of field, boundary and goal Umpires), to officiate at the Match. The relevant Controlling Body may determine in its absolute discretion whether to recognise the result of such Match.

8.2 DUTIES OF UMPIRES

8.2.1 Field Umpires
The field Umpires shall officiate and have full control of a Match.

8.2.2 Boundary Umpires
(a) Duties
Unless determined otherwise by the relevant Controlling Body, the duties of a boundary Umpire include without limitation:
(i) judging whether a football is Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full and signalling to the field Umpire when that has occurred;
(ii) throwing the football back into play if it has gone Out of Bounds, when directed to do so by a field Umpire;
(iii) determining whether a Player has incorrectly entered the Centre Square in contravention of Law 11.3.4, including notifying the field umpire of the Centre Square infringements;
(iv) bringing the football back to the Centre Square after a Goal has been scored; and
(v) reporting a Player or Official who commits a Reportable Offence.
(b) Assists the goal umpire to determine a score
(c) Bringing Football into Play
When the boundary Umpire signals that the football is Out of Bounds, the field Umpire shall immediately sound a whistle to indicate that the football is out of play. When directed by the field Umpire, the boundary Umpire shall bring the football into play by throwing the football over his or her head towards the centre of the Playing Surface. The field Umpire may recall any throw in by the boundary Umpire that in his opinion does not allow any opportunity for the ball to be contested.

8.2.3 Out of Bounds
Where the field Umpire has failed to notice a boundary Umpire’s signal that the football has gone Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full, the following shall apply:
(a) the boundary Umpire shall continue signalling until he or she is noticed by the field Umpire;
(b) upon noticing the boundary Umpire’s signal, the field Umpire shall stop play and direct that the football be taken to where it crossed the Boundary Line, at which point the football shall be thrown in by the boundary Umpire or Kicked back into play, as the case may be. This provision does not apply if a Free Kick or Fifty Metre Penalty is awarded before the field Umpire notices the boundary Umpire’s signal;
(c) this Law applies even if a Goal or Behind is scored before the field Umpire notices the boundary Umpire’s signal. In such instances, the field Umpire shall direct the goal Umpire to annul the score.

8.2.4 Goal Umpire
(a) Duties
Unless otherwise determined by the relevant Controlling Body, the duties of a goal Umpire include:-
(i) judging whether a football is Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full and signalling to the field Umpire when that has occurred;
(ii) throwing the football back into play if it has gone Out of Bounds, when directed to do so by a field Umpire;
(iii) determining whether a Player has incorrectly entered the Centre Square in contravention of Law 11.3.4, including notifying the field umpire of the Centre Square infringements;
(iv) bringing the football back to the Centre Square after a Goal has been scored; and
(v) reporting a Player or Official who commits a Reportable Offence.

(iv) reporting a Player or Official who commits a Reportable Offence.
(v) Assisting boundary Umpires to determine if the ball is Out of Bounds.

(b) Behind or Out of Bounds
Where a goal Umpire considers that a Behind has been scored and a boundary Umpire considers the football has gone Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full, the decision of the goal Umpire shall prevail.

(c) Comparing Score
At the end of each quarter and at the end of a Match, the goal Umpires shall compare the score which they have recorded. If the scores are different and cannot be agreed upon or corrected by the goal Umpires, the scores shall be compared to the score recorded by the Timekeeper(s) or person(s) appointed by the Controlling Body under Law 12.7 (if any). If the matter still remains unresolved or the Timekeeper has not recorded the scores, the matter shall be referred to the relevant Controlling Body for determination.

(d) Goal Umpire Unsure
If a goal umpire is unsure whether the ball has crossed the goal or behind line, or is out of bounds; he/she shall seek the assistance of the field and boundary umpires. If the correct decision cannot be determined following consultation, the goal umpire shall give the lesser score.

9. PLAYER’S BOOTS, JEWELLERY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

9.1 INTERPRETATION
For the purposes of this Law 9, Protective Equipment includes but is not limited to:-
(a) hard-shell helmets;
(b) knee braces;
(c) shoulder pads;
(d) back supports;
(e) arm guards; and
(f) any other item designated as such by the relevant Controlling Body.

9.2 PROHIBITION OF ITEMS
A Player shall not wear during a Match:-
(a) any form of jewellery;
(b) bootstuds, plates/clets or any Protective Equipment (other than Protective Equipment approved by the Controlling Body) unless the field Umpire is satisfied that the item does not constitute a danger or increase the risk of injury to other Players competing in the Match; or
(c) Protective Equipment which has been approved by the relevant Controlling Body, if the field Umpire is satisfied that such equipment has, during the Match, become dangerous or increased the risk of injury to other Players.

9.3 INSPECTION
At any time before or during a Match, a field Umpire may inspect a Player’s boots or hands or any Protective Equipment that a Player intends to wear or use during the Match.

9.4 POWER TO ORDER-OFF

9.4.1 Order-off by Umpire and Replacement Player
A field Umpire may order from the Playing Surface a Player who is wearing or using an item prohibited under Law 9.2. Where a Player is ordered from the Playing Surface under this Law:
(a) an Interchange Player may replace the Player ordered from the Playing Surface; and
(b) the Player ordered from the Playing Surface may only re-enter the Playing Surface once the Player has removed the prohibited item.

9.4.2 Refusal to Leave Surface
Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Surface when ordered to do so by a field Umpire, the following shall apply:-
(a) the field Umpire shall warn the Player that a Free Kick will be awarded and that the Player may be reported if he or she does not leave the Playing Surface;
(b) if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Surface, the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to where the warning was given or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty;
(c) if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Surface:
   (i) the field Umpire shall report the Player for misconduct in failing to follow a direction of an Umpire;
   (ii) the Match shall immediately end and the reported Player’s Team shall forfeit the Match; and
   (iii) Law 10.7 shall apply to any Match which is forfeited.
### 10. TIMEKEEPERS, DURATION OF MATCHES, QUARTER AND INTERVALS

#### 10.1 DURATION OF MATCH AND INTERVALS

##### 10.1.1 Duration
Subject to Law 10.1.3, a Match shall be played for a period of 80 minutes, divided into 4 quarters, each of 20 minutes duration. The 20-minute duration for each quarter shall be actual playing time and shall not include stoppages in play.

##### 10.1.2 Intervals Between Quarters
Subject to Law 10.1.3, an interval shall be taken between each quarter as follows:

- (a) a maximum period of 6 minutes between the end of the first quarter and the beginning of the second quarter;
- (b) a maximum period of 20 minutes between the end of the second quarter and the beginning of the third quarter; and
- (c) a maximum period of 6 minutes between the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth quarter.

##### 10.1.3 Variation
A Controlling Body may vary the duration of a Match and the duration of the interval between quarters.

#### 10.2 TIMEKEEPERS

##### 10.2.1 Appointment
(a) A Controlling Body shall appoint two (2) or more persons to act as the Timekeepers for a Match.
(b) Where the Controlling Body does not appoint a Timekeeper, each Team shall appoint a person to act as a Timekeeper for the Match in which the Teams participate.

##### 10.2.2 Duties
Each Timekeeper appointed for a Match shall:

- (a) keep time for each quarter of a Match;
- (b) record on time cards the time taken to play each quarter and lodge the completed cards with the relevant Controlling Body;
- (c) sound the siren in accordance with the procedures contained in these Laws;
- (d) stop the clock which is used for the timing of each quarter as required under Rule 10.5 for a stoppage in play; and
- (e) perform any other function as may be directed by the relevant Controlling Body.

#### 10.3 PROCEDURE FOR SOUNDING SIREN - START OF MATCH AND QUARTERS
The Timekeepers shall sound the siren at the times and on the number of occasions as set out in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start of Match</th>
<th>Number of Occasions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and as Umpires enter the Arena</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>twice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One minute prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled starting time (Start of Match)</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Quarter time Interval</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Second Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>twice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One minute prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Time Interval</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Third Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Quarter and as Umpires enter the Arena</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>twice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One minute prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Quarter Time Interval</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of Final Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>twice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One minute prior to the scheduled starting time</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)</td>
<td>once</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Match</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SECTION 4: LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL (IN INVOLVING AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY BY-LAWS)**
10.4 BRINGING PLAY TO AN END

10.4.1 End of Quarter

The Timekeepers shall sound the siren to signal the end of a quarter until a field umpire acknowledges that the siren has been heard and brings play to an end.

10.4.2 Siren Heard by Field Umpire

Play in each quarter shall come to an end when any one of the field Umpires or emergency field Umpires hears the siren.

10.4.3 Signal

A field Umpire shall signal that he or she has heard the siren by blowing a whistle and holding both arms above his or her head. If immediately before hearing the siren, a field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player should be awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, the field Umpire shall signal that play has come to an end and then award the Free Kick or Mark to the player. A free kick will not be awarded where the football has been kicked and after the field has heard the siren, lands out of bounds on the full.

10.5 STOPPING AND RECOMMENCING TIME

10.5.1 Stopping Time

The Timekeepers shall stop the clock which is used for the timing of a Match when:

(a) directed to do so by a field Umpire in accordance with Law 10.5.3;
(b) the goal Umpire signals that a Goal has been scored;
(c) the goal Umpire signals that a Behind has been scored; or
(d) the boundary Umpire signals that the football is Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full.
(e) When the field Umpire crosses his or her arms to indicate he/she is going bounce or throw the ball up.

10.5.2 Recommencing Time

The Timekeepers shall recommence the clock used for the timing of a Match when:

(a) directed to do so by the field Umpire in accordance with Law 10.5.3;
(b) the football is bounced or thrown up by the field Umpire;
(c) the football is brought back into play after a Behind has been scored;
(d) the football is thrown back into play by the boundary Umpire or brought back into play by a Player (as the case may be), after it has gone Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the Full; or
(e) the football is obviously in play.

10.5.3 Signalling

A field Umpire shall signal to the Timekeeper to stop the clock or re-start the clock used for the timing of the Match by blowing a whistle and raising one arm above his or her head.

10.5.4 Domestic Provisions

A Controlling Body may prescribe that Law 10.5.1(d) does not apply (for Matches organised and conducted by the Controlling Body).

10.6 UNAUTHORISED ENTRY ON PLAYING SURFACE AND TERMINATION OF A MATCH

10.6.1 Entry on Playing Surface

Where a person(s) enters the Playing Surface when he or she is not permitted to do so, the field Umpire shall:

(a) stop play at the first available opportunity; and
(b) seek the assistance of person(s) authorised by the relevant Controlling Body to remove the unauthorised person(s) from the Playing Surface.
(c) Once the person(s) has been removed from the Playing Surface, the field Umpire shall recommence play as follows depending on the circumstances:
   (i) Where the Football was in dispute at the time play was stopped, by bouncing or throwing up the Football;
   (ii) Where the Football was out of bounds at the time play was stopped, by directing the boundary Umpire to throw the Football in;
   (iii) Where a Player had possession of the Football at the time play was stopped, by awarding a Free Kick to the Player;
   (iv) Where a Player had been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark at the time play was stopped, by allowing the Player to dispose of the Football.

10.6.2 Incomplete Match

If a Match is unable to commence or continue within the time scheduled for the Match for reasons beyond the control of either Team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the Match to proceed) the following shall apply:

(a) Match Not Commenced

   The result of a Match which is unable to commence for reasons beyond the control of the Team shall be determined by the Controlling Body.

(b) Prior to Half Time

   If a Match has commenced but is not able to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall depart from the Arena.

   If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30 minute period and the elapsed playing time of the Match was less than the half time period, the Match shall be deemed to be drawn and the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.
(c) Half Time & Beyond

If the half time interval has been reached and the Match is unable to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall leave the Arena, or in the case of Half Time, not return to the Arena.

If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30 minute period, the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the Match.

The Team with the highest score shall be deemed the winner of the Match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.

(d) Match Not Able to Proceed

Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, a field Umpire shall, having regard to the health and safety of the Players and any other relevant circumstances, determine whether a Match is unable to commence or proceed. A field Umpire must determine that a Match is unable to commence or proceed for such time as lightning is present at or within the immediate proximity of the venue where the Match is being conducted.

(e) Recommencing of Play

Where a Team is directed to recommence play by a field Umpire and the Team fails, refuses or neglects to recommence play, the Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match, in which case Law 10.7 shall apply.

(f) Controlling Body

The controlling body may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals, to suit practical circumstances.

10.7 FORFEITURE OF MATCH

10.7.1 Forfeiture

For the purposes of this Law, a Team forfeits a Match if:

(a) it is unable or it fails, refuses or neglects to commence or recommence play:

   (i) at the scheduled starting time; or

   (ii) within such other time period determined or specified by the Controlling Body, a field Umpire or these Laws, or

(b) the field Umpire determines, in accordance with these Laws, that a Team has forfeited the Match; or

(c) an event occurs under the Laws which results in a Team forfeiting the Match.

10.7.2 Consequence of Forfeiture

Where a Team forfeits a Match, the following shall apply:

(a) the points for the Match shall be awarded to the Team who did not forfeit the Match; and

(b) at the conclusion of the Home and Away Matches:

   (i) the percentage of the Team who did not forfeit the Match shall be adjusted by crediting and debiting that Team with the average number of points for the Home and Away Matches that were scored for and against the Team who did forfeit the Match; and

   (ii) the percentage of the Team who did forfeit the Match shall be adjusted by crediting and debiting that Team with the average number of points for the Home and Away Matches that were scored for and against the Team who did not forfeit the Match.

Refer AFL Victoria Country Rule 21.0 for percentage calculation requirements.

10.7.3 Variation by Controlling Body

If the relevant Controlling Body is of the opinion that a Team will be disadvantaged by the calculation of percentage under Law 10.7.2, the Controlling Body may, upon application by the Team, vary the points debited or credited to the Team or the method of calculating the Team’s percentage.

11. COMMENCING PLAY AND CHOICE OF GOAL

11.1 CHOICE OF GOAL

The end of the Playing Surface to which a Team shall play shall be decided by the toss of a coin as follows:

(a) the field Umpire (or such other person approved by the Controlling Body) shall toss the coin;

(b) before the coin is tossed, the captain of the “away” Team shall call “the fall of the coin”;

(c) the captain of the Team who wins the toss of the coin shall choose the end to which his or her Team shall play in the first quarter; and

(d) at the conclusion of each quarter, the Teams shall change ends.

11.2 COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY

11.2.1 Readiness to Commence Play

(a) All interchange Players must leave the Playing Surface two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of a Match, being the time when the Timekeepers sound the siren 3 times.

(b) Before commencing play in each quarter, the field Umpire shall:

   (i) ensure that the Timekeepers are ready to commence timing the Match; and

   (ii) confirm with each captain that each Team is ready to commence play.
11.2.2 Commencing Play

(a) The field Umpire shall take up a position on the white line either side of the Centre Circle prior to bouncing the football.

(b) Unless Law 11.2.2(c) applies, the field Umpire shall commence play in each quarter by holding the football above his or her head, blowing a whistle and bouncing the football in the Centre Circle.

(c) Where the field Umpire awards a Free Kick to a Player before bouncing the football, he/she shall signal time on, blow his/her whistle “and give the ball to the Player”. The Timekeepers shall acknowledge commencement of play.

(d) The Timekeeper shall commence the clock used for timing the Match when the ball touches the ground in the act of bouncing or leaves the umpire’s hands in the act of throwing the ball in the air or when a Player, who has been awarded a Free Kick, brings the football into play.

11.2.3 Report to Controlling Body

The field Umpire shall advise the Controlling Body of any occasion when a Team is not ready to commence play at the scheduled starting time. The Controlling Body may impose a sanction as determined in the absolute discretion of the Controlling Body.

11.3 BOUNCING THE FOOTBALL

11.3.1 Centre Square and bouncing the ball

The field Umpire shall bounce the football on the occasions and at the position on the Playing Surface as set out in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occasion</th>
<th>Position on Playing Surface</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unless Law 11.3.2 applies, at the start of each quarter or after a Goal has been scored.</td>
<td>The Centre Circle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where the football has become trapped as two or more opposing Players struggle for possession of the football.</td>
<td>Where the football becomes trapped.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where a field Umpire is unsure about which Player has taken a Mark or has cancelled a Mark.</td>
<td>Where the Mark was contested or cancelled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When a Player fails to bring the football back into play after a Behind has been scored in accordance with Law 13.</td>
<td>The centre of the Kick-Off Line.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the field Umpire bounces the football and the football crosses the Goal, Behind or Boundary Line without being touched by a Player.</td>
<td>The position where the initial bounce took place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When a Player, who has claimed to have taken a Mark which is not awarded by the field Umpire, is Correctly Tackled by an opponent, provided the field Umpire is of the opinion that the Player did not hear or see the field Umpire’s signal of “Touched Play On” or “Play On”.</td>
<td>Where the Player is Correctly Tackled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the goal Umpire is unable to decide whether a Goal or a Behind has been scored.</td>
<td>The centre of the Kick-Off Line.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When a Player or Players from both Teams enter the Centre Square at the same time contrary to Law 11.3.4.</td>
<td>The Centre Circle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the football accidentally hits any part of a stadium roof structure (other than the roof beams).</td>
<td>The position on the Playing Surface nearest to where the football hit the stadium roof structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unless a Free Kick or a Mark is awarded, if the football is in the proximity of an injured Player.</td>
<td>The location of the football when play is stopped.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11.3.2 Free-Kick awarded

If the field Umpire awards a Free Kick to a Player during the period between when a Goal is scored and the football is bounced, play shall recommence when the Player brings the football into play.

11.3.3 Throwing up Football

The field Umpire may throw the football in the air:

(a) where he or she is of the opinion that the conditions are unsuitable for bouncing but before doing so, shall advise the Players accordingly; or

(b) if directed to do so by the Controlling Body.

11.3.4 Permitted Numbers at the Centre Bounce

When the football is bounced to start a quarter or recommence play after a Goal has been scored, the following shall apply:-
(a) a maximum of 4 Players from each Team are permitted in the Centre Square;

(b) of the 4 Players, one player from each team is permitted to be within the 10 metre circle;

(c) where a Player or Team Official contravenes Law 11.3.4(b), the field Umpire shall signal time on and award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Circle. The Free Kick to be taken in the centre of the Playing Surface behind the line through the Centre Circle;

(d) where a player has been pushed or otherwise forced into the Centre Square in contravention of Law 11.3.4(b) the Free Kick shall be awarded against the team which caused the transgression and all the provisions of Law 11.3.4 shall apply;

(e) where Players or Officials from opposing Teams simultaneously encroach, the Umpire shall blow his/her whistle and direct the offending personnel to exit the Centre Square;

(f) if an injured Player is receiving treatment (but does not require a stretcher) in the Centre Square at the time of a centre bounce, the field Umpire shall:
   (i) instruct the Player to immediately leave the Centre Square; and
   (ii) not recommence play until the Player has left the Centre Square;

(g) if an injured Player does not leave the Centre Square upon being instructed to do so, the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Circle;

(h) where an injured Player requires a stretcher at the time of a centre bounce, Law 7.3 shall apply.

11.3.5 Contesting the Centre Bounce

(a) The centre bounce or throw up shall be contested by one nominated Player from each Team. Such Player shall be nominated to the field Umpire prior to the bounce or throw of the football. The Player contesting the centre bounce shall be positioned in his or her Team’s defensive half of the Playing Surface and with both feet within the 10-metre circle.

The Player may only enter the Team’s attacking half after the football touches the ground in the act of bouncing or leaves the field Umpire’s hand, in the act of being thrown up. The Player shall not be permitted to block an opponent’s approach to the contest. The Players must have both feet inside the 10-metre circle at all times until they contest the bounce or until the Umpire calls play on due to an “offline bounce”.

No other Player may enter the 10-metre circle until the football touches the ground in the act of bouncing or is thrown up by the field Umpire.

(b) Where a Player contravenes Law 11.3.5(a), the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick to the Player on the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Circle.

(c) Unless otherwise determined by the Controlling Body, where the field Umpire bounces the football off line, the field Umpire shall immediately call “play on” and the football may be contested by any Player.

11.3.6 Recalling off line bounces

A field Umpire may recall any bounce or throw up that in his opinion does not allow for the ball to be contested.

(a) A field Umpire.

(b) Where a field Umpire recalls a bounce under 11.3.6(a), the football should be thrown up to restart play.

12. SCORING: GOALS AND BEHINDS

12.1 GOALS AND BEHINDS

12.1.1 Scoring a Goal

Subject to Law 12.2, a Goal is scored when the football is kicked completely over the Goal line by a Player of the attacking Team without being touched by any other Player, even if the football first touches the ground.

12.1.2 Scoring a Behind

Subject to Law 12.2, a Behind is scored when any of the following occurs:

(a) the football touches or passes over the Goal post; or

(b) the football passes completely over the Behind Line; or

(c) a Player of the attacking Team kicks the football over the Goal Line but before passing over the Goal Line, the football is touched by another Player; or

(d) if a Player from the defending Team kicks, handballs, knocks or otherwise takes the football over the Goal Line or Behind Line; or

(e) if a defending Player plays on from Behind the Goal Line or Behind Line, and in doing so, moves off the direct line between himself and the Player standing the mark.

12.1.3 Clarification and Examples

For the avoidance of doubt:

(a) if the football touches an Umpire or any Official and then passes over the Goal or Behind Line, a Goal or Behind, as the case may be, shall still be recorded;

(b) if the football touches an Umpire or any Official and does not pass over the Goal or Behind Line, the football shall remain in play;
13.1.4 Football Touching the Behind Post
Where a football touches or passes over a Behind post the football shall be Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the full.

12.1.5 Goal Umpire to judge Goal or Behind
(a) The Goal Umpire shall decide whether a Goal or Behind has been scored but may, before deciding, consult with the field or boundary Umpires or the official scorer. The decision of the Goal Umpire shall be final. The Goal Umpire shall only signal that a Goal or Behind has been scored when the field Umpire signals “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear”, as the case may be.

(b) Law 12.1.5(a) does not apply if a Controlling Body prescribes that a field Umpire may overrule the decision of a Goal Umpire who has not been appointed by the Controlling Body.

12.2 ALL CLEAR AND TOUCHED ALL CLEAR

12.2.1 Signal by Field Umpire
A Goal or a Behind shall only be signalled by a field Umpire and recorded as a Goal or Behind when:

(a) in the case of the football passing over the Goal or Behind line, or touching or passing over the Goal post, the field Umpire signals “all clear”;

(b) In the case of the football being touched by another Player and then passing over the Goal Line, or touching or passing over the Goal post, the field Umpire signals “Touched All Clear”.

12.2.2 Goal Umpire to notify field Umpire
(a) Where the Goal Umpire is of the opinion that a Goal or Behind has been scored and the field Umpire has allowed play to continue, the Goal Umpire shall immediately notify the field Umpire. Upon being notified by the Goal Umpire, the field Umpire shall stop play and signal “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear”, as the case may be, and the Goal or Behind shall be signalled by the Goal Umpire and recorded as a score.

Play shall then re-commence in accordance with these Laws.

(b) Unless Law 12.4.1 applies, any Free Kick awarded to a Player before the field Umpire signals all clear or Touched All Clear under Law 12.2.2(a) shall be cancelled.

12.3 SIGNALLING A GOAL OR BEHIND

12.3.1 Goal
The Goal Umpire shall signal that a Goal has been scored by raising both index fingers and then waving two flags.

12.3.2 Behind
The Goal Umpire shall signal that a Behind has been scored by raising one index finger and then waving one flag.

12.3.3 Changing a Decision
(a) The Goal Umpire may change his or her decision about the scoring of a Goal or a Behind if and only if the goal Umpire notifies the field Umpire before the football is brought back into play.

(b) A Goal Umpire shall signal that the scoring of a Goal or Behind has been changed by:

(i) immediately standing on the centre of the Goal line and holding both flags above his or her head in a crossed position; and

(ii) then signalling the new score or advising the boundary Umpire to signal Out of Bounds or Out of Bounds on the full, as the case may be.

12.4 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FREE KICKS AND ALL CLEAR

12.4.1 Free Kick Awarded Before All Clear
Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player immediately after the football passes the Goal or Behind Line but before the field Umpire signals “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear”, the following shall apply:

(a) Where the Player is in attack the field Umpire shall signal “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear”, after which the goal Umpire shall signal and record the score; and

(i) the Free Kick shall then be taken where the infringement occurred, or the position at which the football is brought back into play, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

(b) Where the player is defending the field Umpire shall not signal “All clear” or “Touched All Clear” and a Free Kick shall be awarded.

12.4.2 All Clear Given but Play has not Recommenced
(a) Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player during the period when the field Umpire has signalled “All Clear” for a Goal to be recorded and the football is bounced in the Centre Circle, the Free Kick shall be taken where the infringement occurred, or at the Centre Circle, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

(b) Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player after during the period when the field Umpire has signalled “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear” for a Behind to be recorded but before and the football is being brought back into play, the Free Kick shall be taken from the following positions:

(i) in the case of a Free Kick being awarded to the defending Team, where the infringement occurred, or at the back line of the Centre Square or the field umpire shall award a Fifty-Metre Penalty from the kick-off line, whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking Team; or
(ii) in the case of a Free Kick being awarded to the attacking Team, the centre of the Kick-Off Line, or where the infringement occurred, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

12.5 SCORING GOAL OR BEHIND AFTER PLAY HAS ENDED

12.5.1 Goal Or Behind Recorded in Certain Circumstances

Even though play has come to an end, a Goal or Behind shall be recorded for a Team if:-
(a) the Goal or Behind is scored by a Player from a Free Kick or Mark which was awarded to the Player before play came to an end; or
(b) the Goal or Behind was scored by a Player who disposed of the football before play came to an end; or
(c) the Goal or Behind is scored by a Player who was awarded a Free Kick under Law 12.6.

12.5.2 Football touched in Transit

A Behind shall still be recorded under Law 12.5.1 if the football is touched in transit by another Player, provided the field Umpire is satisfied that the scoring of the Behind was not assisted by a Player from the same Team.

12.5.3 Field Umpire Sole Judge

A field Umpire shall be the sole judge in deciding whether a Free Kick or Mark should be awarded or whether the football was disposed of by a Player before play came to an end.

12.6 FREE KICK AFTER PLAY HAS ENDED

12.6.1 Before Kick or in the act of Kicking

After a field Umpire has signalled that play has come to an end, any field Umpire may award a Free Kick to any Player when a Player is preparing to Kick or in the act of Kicking for Goal. In such a case, the following shall apply:-
(a) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team, the Free Kick shall be awarded to the Player where the infringement occurred or, the Player in the attacking Team who is preparing to kick or in the act of Kicking for Goal shall be awarded a Fifty Metre Penalty, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending Team; or
(b) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the defending Team, the Player shall be awarded the Free Kick where the infringement occurred or where the football is at the time of the infringement, whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking Team.

12.6.2 After the Kick

After a field Umpire has signalled that play has come to an end, any field Umpire may award a Free Kick to any Player during the period when a Player has been Kicked for Goal and the football is in transit or during the period when a Player has kicked a Goal or Behind but before the field Umpire has signalled “All Clear” or “Touched All Clear”. In such cases, the following shall apply:
(a) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team and a Goal is Kicked, the field Umpire shall signal “All Clear” and a Goal shall be recorded; or
(b) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team and a Goal is not scored, then that Player may take the Free Kick where it was awarded (or where the football is at the time the Free Kick was awarded, whichever is the greater penalty) or, where a Behind is scored, elect to have the Behind recorded; or
(c) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the defending Team, the Player shall be awarded the Free Kick where the infringement occurred. For the avoidance of doubt, any Goal or Behind which would have been recorded in favour of the attacking Team but for the awarding of the Free Kick to a Player on the defending Team, shall not be recorded.

12.7 RECORDING SCORES

A Controlling Body may appoint a person or persons to record the scores of a Match independently from the Goal Umpires. Where the Goal Umpires cannot agree on the final score of a Match, the Controlling Body may take into account the scores recorded by the person(s) so appointed to determine the result of a Match.

13. KICKING THE FOOTBALL INTO PLAY AFTER A BEHIND HAS BEEN SCORED

13.1 FOOTBALL MUST BE KICKED

Unless Law 12.4 applies, when a Behind has been recorded, the following shall apply:-
(a) the football must be Kicked back into play by any Player of the defending Team within a reasonable time;
(b) the football must be Kicked from within the Goal Square. For the avoidance of doubt, one foot of the Player must be Behind any of the lines which define the Goal Square at the time when the Player kicks the football;
(c) other than the player kicking the football into play all players must immediately vacate the area within 5 metres of the Goal Square;
(d) the Player kicking the football into play may, provided he has kicked the football clear from his hands, regain possession and play on from within the goal square.
13.2 DIRECTION BY UMPIRE AND FOOTBALL BROUGHT INTO PLAY INCORRECTLY

(a) After giving a player a reasonable opportunity, the field umpire shall direct a player to kick the football back into play. If a player fails to kick the football back into play after being instructed to do so by a field umpire, the field umpire shall call “play on”. The player shall be required to dispose of the ball in accordance with Laws 13.1 (b) and (d). Opposing players however, may enter the goal square and tackle the player with the ball once “play on” is called. The provisions of these Laws relating to Free Kicks shall apply.

(b) If the field umpire is of the opinion that a player has not kicked the football back into play in accordance with Law 13.1, the field umpire shall bounce the football in the centre of the kick off line to recommence play.

(c) If the field umpire is of the opinion that a player has not kicked the football back into play in accordance with Law 13.1, and the player deliberately steps back over the scoring line, it shall be determined by the Umpire as a Free kick for the opposite team in accordance with 15.7.

13.3 KICK INTO PLAY AFTER GOAL UMPIRE SIGNAL

A Player of the defending Team may kick the football into play when the goal Umpire has signalled that a behind has been scored.

13.4 ATTACKING TEAM DELAYING RECOMMENCEMENT OF PLAY

(a) Where the field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player from the attacking Team:
   (i) is within 5 metres of the Goal Square at the time when a Player from the defending Team is kicking the football back into play and the field umpire is of the opinion that the player had sufficient time to vacate the area;
   (ii) has prevented or attempted to prevent the Player from the defending Team from kicking the football back into play; or
   (iii) has otherwise delayed play, the field Umpire shall bring the mark forward from the Goal Square to the back line of the Centre Square, at which location the football shall be Kicked back into play by the Player of the defending Team who is closest to that location.

(b) Where the field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player of the attacking Team has again contravened Law 13.4(a), the mark shall be brought forward from the back line of the Centre Square to the forward line of the Centre Square, at which location the football shall be Kicked back into play by the Player of the defending Team who is closest to that location.

13.5 OFFICIAL WITHIN FIFTY METRE ARC

Unless attending to an injured Player, no Official is permitted within the Fifty-Metre Arc during the time when a defensive Player is preparing to Kick or in the act of Kicking the football back into play after a Behind has been scored. Where an Official contravenes this Law, the opposing Team shall be awarded a Free Kick at the back line of the Centre Square, to be taken by the Player from the opposing Team who is closest to that location.

14. MARKING THE FOOTBALL

14.1 DEFINITION

A Mark is taken if, in the opinion of the field Umpire, a Player catches or takes control of the football:-
   (a) within the Playing Surface; and
   (b) after it has been Kicked by another Player a distance of at least 15 metres; and
   (c) which has not touched the ground or been touched by another Player during the period when the football was Kicked until it was caught or controlled by the Player.

14.2 PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES

(a) For the avoidance of doubt, a Mark shall be awarded if:-
   (i) a Player catches or takes control of the football before it has passed completely over the Boundary Line, Goal Line or Behind Line; or
   (ii) before the football was caught or controlled by the Player, it was touched by an Umpire or any other Official.

(b) The field Umpire may consult with the Boundary or Goal Umpire before deciding whether a Mark has been taken before the football passed completely over the Boundary Line, Goal Line or Behind Line.

14.3 PLAYER TO BE AWARDED THE MARK

(a) Where a field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player has taken a Mark, he or she shall award the Mark to the Player at the location on the Playing Surface where the Mark was taken.

(b) Law 16 shall apply when a Player has been awarded a Mark.

14.4 FIELD UMPIRE TO SIGNAL “TOUCHED, PLAY ON”

Where a football is touched by another Player during the period when the football was Kicked until it is caught or controlled by a Player, the field Umpire shall immediately call and signal “Touched, Play On” in order to indicate to the Players that a Mark will not be awarded.

14.5 WHEN A MARK IS NOT AWARDED

Where a Player claims to have taken a Mark which is not awarded by the field Umpire, the following shall apply:-
SECTION 4: LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL (INVOLVING AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY BY-LAWS)

(a) if the Player does not retain possession of the football, play shall continue; or
(b) if the Player retains possession of the football and the Player is correctly tackled by an opponent, the field Umpire shall bounce the football in accordance with Law 11.3.1, provided he or she is satisfied that the Player did not hear or see the signal of “Touched, Play On” or “Play On”. If the field Umpire considers that the Player did hear or see the signal of “Touched, Play On” or “Play On”, Law 15.2.3 shall apply.

14.6 FIELD UMPIRE CANCELS MARK

(a) Where a field umpire is of the opinion that he or she has incorrectly blown the whistle to award a mark that was not subsequently completed, he or she may cancel the decision and call “Play On”.

(b) If the player retains possession of the football, and the player is correctly tackled by an opponent, the field umpire shall bounce or throw the football up in accordance with Law 11.3.2 provided he or she is satisfied that the player could not reasonably have disposed of the football.

15. INTERPRETATION

15.1 INTERPRETATION

15.1.1 Spirit And Intention of Awarding Free Kicks

It is the spirit and intention of these Laws that a Free Kick shall be awarded to:

(a) ensure that a Match is played in a fair manner;
(b) provide to a Player, who makes obtaining possession of the football his or her sole objective, every opportunity to obtain possession;
(c) protect Players from sustaining injury; and
(d) a Player who executes a Correct Tackle which results in an opponent failing to dispose of the football in accordance with these Laws.

15.1.2 Awarding Free Kicks

In addition to any other circumstances described elsewhere in these Laws, a Free Kick shall be awarded to or against a Player, as the case may be, when a field Umpire considers that any of the circumstances set out in this Law 15 occur, irrespective of whether the football is in play.

Unless otherwise stated in these Laws, a Free Kick shall be taken where it is awarded or where the football is at the time, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

15.1.3 When a Free Kick may Be Awarded

A Free Kick may be awarded when the football is or is not in play. For the avoidance of doubt, a Free Kick may be awarded:

(a) if an infringement occurs on the Playing Surface before the commencement of a quarter, in which case the Free Kick shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where the infringement occurred, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team; and
(b) after a score has been recorded or play has come to an end, in the circumstances described in Laws 12.4, 12.5 and 12.6.

15.1.4 Effect of Free Kick

A Free Kick means that possession of the football is given to a Player of the Team who is awarded the Free Kick, after which play shall continue in accordance with Law 16.

15.2 FREE KICKS RELATING TO POSSESSION OF THE FOOTBALL

15.2.1 In Possession of the Football

A Player is in possession of the football if, in the opinion of the field Umpire:

(a) the Player is holding or otherwise has control of the football;
(b) the Player is in the act of bouncing the football; or
(c) the Player dives or lies on top of or drags the football underneath his or her body.

15.2.2 Remaining in Possession and Bouncing the Football

(a) A Player may remain in possession of the football for any length of time:
(i) unless the Player is Correctly Tackled by an opponent; or
(ii) unless directed to dispose of the football by a field Umpire;
(iii) provided the Player complies with Law 15.2.2(b).

(b) Where a Player is moving whilst in possession of the football, he or she must bounce or touch the football on the ground at least once every 15 metres, irrespective of whether such Player is running in a straight line or otherwise. For the purposes of this Law, a Player shall be deemed to be in possession of the football during the period when the Player handballs the football to himself or herself and regains possession without the football touching the ground.

(c) A field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against a Player if he or she is of the opinion that a Player has contravened Law 15.2.2(b).

15.2.3 Holding the Football – Prior Opportunity/No Prior Opportunity

Where the field Umpire is satisfied that a Player in possession of the football:

(a) has had a prior opportunity to dispose of the football, the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against that Player if the Player does not Kick
or Handball the football immediately when he or she is Correctly Tackled; or

(b) has not had a prior opportunity to dispose of the football, the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against that Player if, upon being Correctly Tackled, the Player does not Correctly Dispose or genuinely attempt to Correctly Dispose of the football after being given a reasonable opportunity to do so.

(c) Except in the instance of a poor bounce or throw, a Player who takes possession of the football while contesting a bounce or throw by a field Umpire or a boundary throw in, shall be regarded as having had prior opportunity.

(d) has driven their head into a stationary or near stationary opponent, the Player shall be regarded as having had prior opportunity.

15.2.4 Application – Specific Instances where play shall continue

For the avoidance of doubt, the field Umpire shall allow play to continue when:

(a) a Player is bumped and the football falls from the Player’s hands;

(b) a Player’s arm is knocked which causes the Player to lose possession of the football;

(c) a Player’s arms are pinned to his or her side by an opponent which causes the Player to drop the football, unless the Player has had a prior opportunity to Correctly Dispose of the football, in which case Law 15.2.3(a) shall apply;

(d) a Player, whilst in the act of kicking or handballing, is swung off balance and does not make contact with the football by either foot or hand, unless the Player has had a prior opportunity to Correctly Dispose of the football, in which case Law 15.2.3(a) shall apply;

(e) a Player is pulled or swung by one arm which causes the football to fall from the Player’s hands, unless the Player has had a prior opportunity to Correctly Dispose of the football, in which case Law 15.2.3(a) shall apply.

15.2.5 Diving on Top of the Football

Where a Player is in possession of the football by reason of diving on top of or dragging the football underneath his or her body, the field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against that Player if he or she does not immediately knock the football clear or Correctly Dispose of the football when Correctly Tackled.

15.2.6 Football held to the body of a Player

(a) The field Umpire shall bounce the football when a Player, in the act of applying a Correct Tackle, holds the football to the body of the Player being Tackled or the football is otherwise pinned to the ground, unless the Player being Tackled has had a prior opportunity to Correctly Dispose of the football, in which case Law 15.2.3(a) shall apply.

(b) If the player being tackled is not making a genuine attempt to Correctly Dispose of the football 15.2.3(b) shall apply.

15.3 FREE KICKS RELATING TO DISPOSAL OF THE FOOTBALL

15.3.1 Correct Disposal

A Player Correctly disposes of the football if he or she Kicks or Handballs the football.

15.3.2 Incorrect Disposal and Payment of Free Kick

When the football is in play, a Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player who hands the football to another Player or who throws the football.

15.4 FREE KICK – PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED PHYSICAL CONTACT

15.4.1 Correct Tackle or Correctly Tackled

(a) For the purposes of these Laws, a Player executes a tackle correctly if:-

(i) the Player being held is in possession of the ball; and

(ii) that Player is held (either by the body or playing uniform) below the shoulders and above the knees.

(b) For the avoidance of doubt, a tackle may be executed correctly by holding a Player from the front, side or behind, provided that a Player held from behind is not pushed in the back.

15.4.2 Shepherd

A Shepherd is using the body or arm to push, bump or block:

(a) a Player who does not have possession of the football and who is no further than 5 metres away from the football at the time when the push, bump and block occurs; and

(b) where such contact is otherwise not prohibited contact under Law 15.4.5.

15.4.3 Permitted Contact

Other than the Prohibited Contact identified under Law 15.4.5, a Player may make contact with another Player:

(a) by using his or her hip, shoulder, chest, arms or open hands provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the Player;

(b) by pushing the other Player with an open hand in the chest or side of the body provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the Player;

(c) by executing a Correct Tackle;

(d) by executing a Shepherd provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the Player; or

(e) if such contact is incidental to a marking contest and the Player is legitimately Marking or attempting to Mark the football.

15.4.4 Charge or Charging
(a) A charge means an act of colliding with an opposition Player where the amount of physical force used is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances, irrespective of whether the Player is or is not in possession of the football or whether the Player is within 5 metres of the football.

(b) Without limiting the general application of Law 15.4.4(a), a Charge occurs when a Player unreasonably or unnecessarily collides with an opposition Player:

(i) who is not within 5 metres of the football;
(ii) who, although within five metres of the football, is not in the immediate contest for the football and would not reasonably expect such contact;
(iii) who is attempting to Mark the football or who has Marked the football or been awarded a Free Kick;
(iv) after that Player has disposed of the football;
(v) who is Shepherding another Player on his or her Team; or
(vi) before the football is brought into play.

15.4.5 Prohibited Contact and Payment of Free Kick
A field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against a Player where he or she is satisfied that the Player has made Prohibited Contact with an opposition Player. A Player makes Prohibited Contact with an opposition Player if he or she:

(a) makes contact or attempts to make contact with any part of their body with an opposition Player in a manner likely to cause injury;

(i) above the shoulders (including the top of the shoulders or bump to the head); or
(ii) below the knees.

(b) pushes an opposition Player in the back, unless such contact is incidental to a Marking contest and the Player is legitimately Marking or attempting to Mark the football;

(c) holds an opposition Player who is not in possession of the football;

(d) pushes, bumps, blocks, holds an opposition Player or deliberately interferes with the arms of an opposition Player, who is in the act of Marking or attempting to Mark the football;

(e) pushes, bumps, holds or blocks an opposition Player when the football is further than 5 metres away from the opposition Player or is out of play;

(f) pushes, bumps, holds or blocks an opposition Player who is contesting a bounce or throw by a field Umpire or boundary throw in;

(g) charges an opposition Player;

(h) trips or attempts to trip an opposition Player, whether by the use of hand, arm, foot or leg;

(i) kicks or attempts to kick an opposition Player, unless contact is accidentally made whilst the Player is Kicking the football;

(j) strikes or attempts to strike an opposition Player, whether by hand, fist, arm, knee or head;

(k) holds or throws an opposition Player after that Player has disposed of the ball;

(l) engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable; or

(m) kicking or attempting to Kick the ball in a manner likely to cause injury.

(n) bumps or makes forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that player has his head down over the ball.

Note:
- a player can bump an opponent’s body from side-on but any contact forward of side-on will be deemed to be front-on;
- a player with his head down in anticipation of winning possession of the ball or after contesting the ball will be deemed to have his head down over the ball for the purposes of this law.

Diagram 2

**Bump Permitted**

**No Front-On Bump Head Over Football**

15.5 FREE KICKS RELATING TO UMPIRES
A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or Official who:-

(a) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards an Umpire;

(b) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an Umpire;
(c) intentionally or carelessly makes contact with an Umpire;
(d) enters the Centre Circle when the field Umpire is bouncing or attempting to bounce the football; or
(e) intentionally or carelessly engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents an Umpire from performing their duties.

15.6 FREE KICKS RELATING TO OUT OF BOUNDS

15.6.1 When Awarded
A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player who:-
(a) kicks the football Out of Bounds on the Full;
(b) in the act of bringing the football back into play after a Behind has been scored, kicks the football over the Boundary Line without the football first being touched by another Player;
(c) intentionally Kicks, Handballs or forces the football over the Boundary Line without the football being touched by another Player;
(d) having taken the football over the Boundary Line, fails to immediately hand the football to the boundary Umpire or drop the football directly to the ground; or
(e) touches the football after the boundary Umpire has signalled that the football is Out of Bounds, except for a Player who has carried the football over the Boundary Line under this Law 15.6.1 or a Player awarded a Free Kick under these Laws.
(f) hits the football Out of Bounds on the full from a boundary throw or a field bounce or throw by a field Umpire.

15.6.2 Where Free Kick Taken
A Free Kick awarded under Law 15.6.1 shall be taken at the point where the ball crossed the Boundary Line.

15.7 FREE KICK – DELIBERATE RUSHED BEHIND

15.7.1 When Awarded
A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player from the defending Team who intentionally Kicks, Handballs or forces the football over the attacking Team’s Goal Line or Behind Line or onto one of the attacking Team’s Goal Posts. In assessing whether a Free Kick should be awarded under this Law, the field Umpire shall give the benefit of the doubt to the Defender.

15.7.2 Taking Free Kick
A Free Kick awarded under Law 15.7.1 shall be taken at the point where the football crossed the Goal Line or Behind Line or from the relevant Goal Post.

15.8 FREE KICK – SHAKING GOAL POST

15.8.1 Awarding Free Kick
Unless Law 15.8.3 applies, a Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or Official who intentionally shakes a Goal or Behind post (either before or after a Player has disposed of the football) which may affect whether a Goal or Behind is scored.

15.8.2 Taking Free Kick
The following shall apply to a Free Kick awarded under Law 15.8.1:
(a) if a Free Kick is awarded against a Player or Official of the defending Team and a Goal is not scored, the Player from the attacking Team who was about to or who has Kicked for Goal, shall take the Free Kick at the centre of the Goal Line;
(b) if the Free Kick is awarded against a Player or Official of the attacking Team, the Player on the defending Team who was nearest to the position from where the football will be or has been Kicked, shall take the Free Kick from that position. For the avoidance of doubt, any Goal or Behind which would have been recorded in favour of the attacking Team but for the awarding of the Free Kick to a Player of the defending Team, shall not be recorded.

15.8.3 Goal Scored
If a Player or Official of the defending Team contravenes Law 15.8.1 but a Goal is still scored, the field Umpire shall not award a Free Kick. In such cases, the field Umpire shall signal “All Clear” and a Goal shall be recorded.

15.9 FREE KICKS–REPORTABLE OFFENCES

(a) Unless Law 15.9(b) applies, a field Umpire shall award a Free Kick against a Player or Official who is reported for a Reportable Offence.
(b) Unless otherwise determined by a field Umpire, where a Player(s) or Official(s) from both Teams are reported for conduct arising from the same incident, the field Umpire shall allow play to continue or if that is not practicable, recommence play by bouncing the football.

15.10 FREE KICKS – GENERALLY

15.10.1 When Awarded
A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or a Team where the field Umpire is of the opinion that:-
(a) the Player is engaging in Time Wasting;
(b) an Official of the Team or such other person of the Team who may from time to time be permitted onto the Playing Surface, intentionally or carelessly interferes with the football, a Player of the opposition Team, an Umpire or general play;
(c) a Player has lifted a Player or climbed on the shoulders of a Player from the same Team. This Free Kick shall be taken by a Player from the opposing Team where the infringement occurred or where the football is at the time of the infringement, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;
(d) a Free Kick to be awarded against a Player who uses abusive insulting threatening or obscene language and/or gesture.

(e) a Player has contravened the provisions of Law 11.3.5 (a).

(f) a Player has engaged in misconduct.

15.10.2 Taking a Free Kick Given Against an Official

Where a Free Kick is awarded against a Team because of the conduct of an Official of the Team, the Free Kick shall be taken by the Player of the opposition Team who is closest to where the infringement occurred or where the football is located, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

15.11 FREE KICKS AFTER DISPOSAL

(a) Subject to Law 15.11(b), where Prohibited Contact is made against a Player who has disposed of the football or against a Player who is Shepherding a Player who has disposed of the football, a Free Kick shall be awarded to that Player's Team and shall be taken by a Player of that Team who is nearest to the location where the football touches the ground, a Player or crosses the Boundary Line, as the case may be. If taking the Free Kick at this location will penalise the Team awarded the Free Kick, the Free Kick shall be taken by the Player against whom and at the location where Prohibited Contact was made.

(b) If a field Umpire is satisfied that a Player tackles, holds or makes high contact against a Player who has disposed of the football for the purpose of preventing that Player from taking part in the next act of play or being able to run to the next contest then, if it is a greater penalty than would otherwise be provided by Law 15.11(a), the field umpire shall award a free kick and a 50 metre penalty to that Player's team.

16. DISPOSAL FROM MARK OR FREE KICK

16.1 STANDING THE MARK AND TEN METRE PROTECTED AREA

16.1.1 Standing The Mark

When a Player is awarded a Mark or Free Kick or is Kicking into play after a Behind has been scored, one Player from the opposing Team may stand at the position on the Playing Surface where the Mark or Free Kick was awarded or where the field Umpire otherwise directs the Play to stand. The position on the Playing Surface where the opposing Player stands is known as "the mark".

16.1.2 Protected Area

The Protected Area is a corridor which extends from 5 metres either side of the mark to 5 metres either side of, and a 5 metre radius behind, the Player with the football as illustrated in diagram 3 appearing on p159. No Player shall enter and remain in the Protected Area unless the field Umpire calls Play On or the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of his or her opponent.

16.2 PLAYING FROM BEHIND THE MARK

A Player who has been awarded a Mark or Free Kick shall dispose of the football from directly behind the mark. If a Player disposes or attempts to dispose of the football other than in a direct line over the Mark, the field Umpire shall call Play On and the football shall immediately be in play. This Law does not apply if a Player is disposing of the football from beyond the Goal Line, Behind Line or Boundary Line, in which case Laws 16.4 or 16.5 shall apply.

16.3 KICKING FOR GOAL

16.3.1 Centre of Goal Line

(a) Where a Player is kicking for a Goal after being awarded a Mark or a Free Kick, the kick shall be taken along a direct line from the Mark to the centre of the Goal Line.

(b) where a player is kicking for goal after being awarded a mark or a free kick in the goal square, the kick shall be taken from directly in front of the goals from a spot horizontally across from where the mark or free kick was awarded.

16.3.2 Encroaching the Mark whilst Player is Kicking for Goal

If the Player standing the Mark encroaches the Mark whilst a Player is in the act of Kicking for Goal, the following shall apply:-
(a) if a Goal is Kicked, the field Umpire shall signal "All Clear" and a Goal shall be recorded;
(b) if a Goal is not Kicked, the Player may elect to take another Kick, in which case the Player shall also be awarded a Fifty Metre Penalty.

16.4 DISPOSAL BY A DEFENDING PLAYER – GOAL LINE AND BEHIND LINE
If a defending Player is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and is given or takes possession of the football beyond the Goal Line or Behind Line, the following shall apply:
(a) the Player standing the Mark must be positioned 5 metres away from the Goal Line or Behind Line, as the case may be;
(b) the defending Player may Play On in any direction provided he or she first crosses the Goal Line or Behind Line prior to disposing of the football;
(c) if the defending Player decides to play from beyond the Goal Line or Behind Line, he may Kick or Handball the football in any direction provided he does not move off the direct line between himself and the Player standing the mark. If the defending Player does move from this line, the field Umpire shall call "Play On" and the Goal Umpire shall signal and record a Behind;
(d) if the defending Player, in disposing of the football, hits either the Goal or Behind post, the Player shall be given the football again to recommence play.

16.5 DISPOSAL – FROM OUT OF BOUNDS
16.5.1 When Permitted
(a) A Player who is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark may bring the football into play from beyond the Boundary Line provided that the Player moves in one direction whilst in the act of Kicking, Handballing or moving to cross the Boundary Line.
(b) Failure to bring the ball into play if a player taking his kick from outside the boundary line
(i) fails to bring the football into play or
(ii) attempts to play on outside the boundary line;
(iii) Not bringing the ball into play in accordance with 16.5.1 (a) then the ball shall be deemed to be out of bounds and the boundary umpire shall throw the ball back into play at the spot where the original mark or free kick took place.

16.5.2 Standing The Mark Adjacent To Behind Post
Where a Player is given or takes possession of the football beyond the Boundary Line within 2 metres of the behind post, the Player standing the Mark must be positioned 5 metres away from the Boundary Line.

16.5.3 Football Back In Play
The football is deemed to be back in play when any portion of it is on or above the Boundary Line.

16.6 DISPOSAL WHERE PLAYER AWARDED FREE KICK OR MARK IS INJURED
Where a Player is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and, in the opinion of the field Umpire, that Player is suffering from an injury which will prevent him from disposing of the football, the Player who is nearest to and on the same Team as the Player awarded the Free Kick or Mark, shall dispose of the football at the location (or as near as possible) where the Free Kick or Mark was awarded.

16.7 FURTHER BREACH OF LAWS BEFORE DISPOSAL
Where a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and before disposing of the football:-
(a) he or she or a Player from the same Team engages in conduct which contravenes these Laws, then the field Umpire shall award a Diagram 3 Free Kick to the Player against whom the conduct was directed or who is nearest to where the conduct occurred; or
(b) where a Field Umpire has awarded a Free Kick or a Mark to a player and before disposing of the football a Player from the opposition team engages in conduct, for which a Free Kick would be ordinarily be awarded, then the resultant free kick shall be taken where the offence occurred, or a 50 metre penalty shall be awarded to the player with the original Free Kick or Mark, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.

17. PLAY ON AND THE ADVANTAGE RULE
17.1 BALL IN PLAY
The football shall remain in play on each and every occasion when the field Umpire calls and signals "Touched Play On".
17.2 CIRCUMSTANCES – PLAY ON
The field Umpire shall call and signal “Play On” or “Touched Play On” when:-
(a) an Umpire is struck by the football while it is in play;
(b) the field Umpire is of the opinion that the football, having been Kicked, was touched whilst in transit;
(c) the field Umpire is of the opinion that the football, having been Kicked, does not travel a distance of at least 15 metres;
(d) the field Umpire cancels a Free Kick; or
(e) the field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player, who has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, runs, Handballs or Kicks or attempts to run, Handball or Kick otherwise than over the mark.
(f) where a Player, awarded a Mark or Free Kick, fails to dispose of the football when directed to do so by the field Umpire.
(g) subject to Law 11.3.6, in the instance of a poor bounce by a field Umpire; or
(h) where a player fails to bring the ball back into play when kicking in from behind after being directed to do so by the field umpire.
(i) where the field umpire cancels a mark.

17.3 THE ADVANTAGE RULE
Where the field Umpire intends to or has signalled that he or she intends to award a Free Kick to a Player, the field Umpire may, instead of awarding the Free Kick, allow play to continue if the player of the team who receives the Free Kick has taken the advantage.

18. FIFTY METRE PENALTY
18.1 WHEN IMPOSED
Where a field Umpire has awarded a Free Kick or a Mark to a Player, the field Umpire shall also award a Fifty Metre Penalty in favour of that Player if he or she is of the opinion that any Player or Official from the opposing side:-
(a) has encroached the mark;
(b) engages in Time Wasting;
(c) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards an Umpire;
(d) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an Umpire or disputes the decision of an Umpire;
(e) enters the Protected Area, except when the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of his or her opponent;
(f) has not returned the football directly and on the full to the Player awarded the Free Kick or mark;
(g) engages in any other conduct for which a Free Kick would ordinarily be awarded, in accordance with 16.7 (b).
(h) when not in the immediate contest, holds a player after that player has marked the football or who has been awarded a free kick; or
(i) a player in the contest who unreasonably holds a player after that player has marked the football or who has been awarded a free kick.

18.2 IMPOSING A FIFTY METRE PENALTY
When the field Umpire imposes a Fifty metre Penalty, the following procedure shall apply:-
(a) the field Umpire shall signal to the Timekeeper to stop the clock used for the timing of the Match for such time as it takes to impose the Fifty Metre Penalty;
(b) the field Umpire shall advance the mark by Fifty Metres in a direct line with the centre of the Goal Line; and
(c) if the Player who is obtaining the benefit of the Fifty Metre Penalty is less than Fifty Metres from the Goal Line, the mark shall become the centre of the Goal Line.

18.3 LOCAL CONDITIONS
A Controlling Body may reduce the distance of a fifty metre penalty to 25 metres for the Matches played in the competition conducted by the Controlling Body.

19. REPORTING PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS
19.1 OBLIGATION TO REPORT
19.1.1 To Controlling Body
An Umpire shall report to the Controlling Body any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence:-
(a) during a Match; or
(b) on the day of the Match and within the immediate proximity of the Arena where the Match is conducted.

19.1.2 Interpretation – “Within the Immediate Proximity of the Arena”
Without limiting their ordinary meaning, the words “within the immediate proximity of the Arena” shall include any area within 500 metres of the Arena where the Match is conducted.

19.1.3 Other appointed persons
In addition to an Umpire, a Controlling Body may authorise a person or persons to report any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence. Any person so authorised shall have the same powers and duties as imposed upon an Umpire under this Law 19.
19.2 REPORTABLE OFFENCES

19.2.1 Degree of Intent – Clarification

Where any of the Reportable Offences identified in Law 19.2.2 specify that conduct may be intentional or careless:

(a) any report or notice of report which does not allege whether the conduct was intentional or careless shall be deemed to and be read as alleging that the conduct was either intentional or careless; and

(b) the Tribunal or other body appointed to hear and determine the report may find the report proven if it is reasonably satisfied that the conduct was either intentional or careless.

19.2.2 Specific Offences

Any of the following types of conduct is a Reportable Offence:

(a) intentionally or carelessly;
   (i) striking another person;
   (ii) kicking another person;
   (iii) kneeing another person;
   (iv) stomping on another person;
   (v) charging another person;
   (vi) engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable;
   (vii) bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that Player has their head down over the football;
   (viii) head-butting an opponent or making contact to an opponent using the head;
   (ix) eye-gouging an opponent or making unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the eye region of an opponent;
   (x) making unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the face of an opponent;
   (xi) making unreasonable or unnecessary contact with an injured Player;
   (xii) scratching another person; or
   (xiii) tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;

(b) intentionally making contact with, or striking, an Umpire;

(c) attempting to make contact with, or strike, an Umpire;

(d) carelessly making contact with an Umpire;

(e) spitting at or on an Umpire;

(f) spitting at or on another person;

(g) attempting to strike another person;

(h) attempting to kick another person;

(i) attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;

(j) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language;

(k) using abusive, insulting or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire;

(l) behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire;

(m) disputing a decision of an Umpire;

(n) use of an obscene gesture;

(o) engaging in time wasting;

(p) engaging in an act of staging;

(q) engaging in a melee, except where a Player's sole intention is to remove a teammate from the incident;

(r) instigating a melee;

(s) wrestling another person;

(t) pinching another person;

(u) interfering with a Player kicking for goal;

(v) kicking or otherwise causing the football to hit any part of a stadium roof's structure;

(w) intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another Player is preparing to Kick or is Kicking for Goal or after the Player has Kicked for Goal and the football is in transit;

(x) failing to leave the Playing Surface when directed to do so by an Umpire;

(y) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9; or

(z) engaging in any other act of misconduct or serious misconduct.

NOTE:
- a Player can bump an opponent’s body from side-on but any contact forward of side-on will be deemed to be front-on;
- a Player with their head down in anticipation of winning possession of the football or after contesting the football will be deemed to have their head down over the football for the purposes of this law.
19.3 REPORTING PROCEDURE

19.3.1 Reports During Match
(a) Where an Umpire reports a Player or Official during the course of a Match, the Umpire shall use his or her best endeavours to inform the Player or Official of the report:-
(i) at the time of the incident; or
(ii) before the commencement of the next quarter;
(iii) where the incident occurs in the final quarter, after the completion of the Match.
(b) The Umpire shall use his or her best endeavours to inform the person against whom a Reportable Offence has been committed of the report (if applicable).
(c) An Umpire may inform the captain, acting captain or Official of a Team of a report where it is impractical to inform the Player or Official who has been reported.
(d) Apart from informing a Player or Official of the report, an Umpire shall not speak with the reported Player or Official or any other Player or Official about the report which has been made.

19.3.2 Completing Notice of Report
(a) During the Match or after the completion of the Match, the Umpire shall complete a notice of report in the form prescribed by the Controlling Body.
(b) Each Controlling Body shall adopt rules which prescribe the procedures for the lodgement and notification of notices of report.

19.4 SANCTIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 19.4 AFL Victoria Country has adopted reporting procedures to be used by all affiliates as outlined in Rule 12 of the AFL Victoria Country Rules & Regulations

19.4.1 Controlling Body
(a) A Controlling Body shall hear and determine a report made against a Player or Official and if the report is proven, may impose such sanctions (including suspension for any term or a monetary sanction), make such orders and give such directions in each case as it in its absolute discretion thinks fit.
(b) A Controlling Body may prescribe set sanctions for Reportable Offences.

19.4.2 Delegation
A Controlling Body may delegate the power to investigate, hear and determine a report to a tribunal or other similar body duly established and constituted in accordance with the Controlling Body’s constitution.

19.4.3 Rules
Each Controlling Body shall adopt Rules which prescribe the procedures for the hearing and determination of a report. Such rules must prescribe that the person reported be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

19.4.4 Effect of Suspension
Rule 19.4.4 AFL Victoria Country has received permission from AFL Victoria/AFL to adopt a variation to this law. See AFL Victoria Country Rule 1.20.
(a) Unless Laws 19.4.4(d) or 19.4.4(e) apply, a Player or Official suspended by a Controlling Body is, for the period of the suspension, or while the suspension remains unserved, prohibited from playing or participating in a Match conducted by the Controlling Body imposing the suspension and a Match conducted by any other Controlling Body.
(b) Where a suspended Player or Official transfers from one Club to another Club competing in the same or another competition, the Player or Official shall complete the period of suspension with his or her new Club if that Club competes in a competition conducted during the same period as the Club from which the Player has transferred.
(c) A Controlling Body may still require a Player or Official to complete any period of a suspension imposed by the Controlling Body, if the Player or Official returns to the competition conducted by the Controlling Body within 12 months of completing the suspension in another competition. This Law applies even though the Player or Official has completed the suspension in another competition.
(d) A Player or Official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 31 March and 30 September may, upon obtaining the prior written approval of the Controlling Body who imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March.
(e) A Player or Official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March may, upon obtaining the prior written approval of the Controlling Body who imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 31 March and 1 October.

20. ORDER OFF LAW

Rule 20.0 AFL Victoria Country Rule 11.0 Order Off Rule is to apply in all Affiliated Leagues

20.1 APPLICATION
This Law 20 applies to all competitions other than the AFL competition.
20.2 ORDER OFF FOR REMAINDER OF MATCH
In addition to being reported, a field or emergency field Umpire shall order the Player reported from the Playing Surface for the remainder of a Match if the Player is reported for any of the following Reportable Offences:

(a) intentionally or carelessly making contact with or striking an Umpire;
(b) attempting to make contact with or strike an Umpire;
(c) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire;
(d) behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire;
(e) intentionally or carelessly kicking another person;
(f) an act of misconduct if the Umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature. A Controlling Body may specify other Reportable Offences or conduct for which a Player may be ordered from the Playing Surface for the remainder of the Match.

20.3 OTHER REPORTABLE OFFENCES
A Player reported on a second occasion by an Umpire for the same or any other Reportable Offence other than those listed in Law 20.2, shall, in addition to being reported, be ordered from the Playing Surface for the remainder of the Match.

20.4 REPLACING PLAYER
A Controlling Body may determine a period of time which must elapse before a Player ordered from the Playing Surface under Laws 20.2 or 20.3 can be replaced by another Player. In the absence of a determination by a Controlling Body, a Player ordered from the Playing Surface under this Law shall not be replaced by another Player.

20.5 ORDER OFF FOR SPECIFIED PERIOD
In addition to being reported on the first occasion for committing a Reportable Offence, other than those listed in Law 20.2, a Controlling Body may determine that a Player be ordered from the Playing Surface for such period as it in its absolute discretion deems fit.

20.6 SIGNALLING AND PROCEDURE FOR ORDER OFF

20.6.1 Signal
A field Umpire shall, in addition to informing a Player that he or she is to immediately leave the Playing Surface, signal that the Player has been ordered off the Playing Surface by pointing to the Interchange Area. He or she shall hold aloft a red card to signal that the Player has been ordered off for the remainder of the match or a yellow card to signify that the Player has been ordered off for a period of time as specified by the Controlling Body.

20.6.2 Player to Leave Playing Surface
(a) A Player shall immediately leave the Playing Surface when ordered to do so by an Umpire under this Law 20.
(b) Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Surface when ordered to do so by an Umpire, the following shall apply:
   (i) in addition to being reported for the Reportable Offence which led to the Player being ordered from the Playing Surface, the Player shall be reported for misconduct in failing to follow a direction of an Umpire;
   (ii) the Match shall immediately end and the reported Player’s Team shall forfeit the Match; and
   (iii) Law 10.7 shall apply to any Match which is forfeited.

20.7 REDUCTION OF PLAYERS
If a Team is reduced to less than 14 Players by reason of a Player(s) being ordered from the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:-

(a) the field Umpire may, in his or her absolute discretion, declare the Match forfeited by the Team with less than 14 Players, in which case Law 10.7 shall apply; or
(b) if the Match continues, the field Umpire shall, as soon as practicable, lodge with the relevant Controlling Body a written report which contains:-
   (i) the circumstances leading to the reduction of Players;
   (ii) the scores of each Team at the time the field Umpire allowed the Match to continue; and
   (iii) the final score of the Match; and
(c) upon receipt of the written report, the Controlling Body may in its absolute discretion:-
   (i) confirm the results of the Match; or
   (ii) determine the Match forfeited by the Team with less than 14 Players, in which case Law 10.7 shall apply.

21. ANTI-DOPING CODE & MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

21.1 APPLICATION – ANTI DOPING CODE
The AFL Anti-Doping Code, as varied from time to time, shall apply to all persons to whom these Laws apply, unless a Controlling Body has adopted its own code or policy which has been approved by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).
21.2 APPLICATION – MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY
The Australian Football Member Protection Policy shall apply to all persons to whom these Laws apply, unless a Controlling Body has adopted its own relevant policy to replace a National Policy (as defined in the MPP) approved by the relevant Football Body (as defined in the MPP).

22. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

22.1 THE MEANING OF ACTIVE BLEEDING
In this Law 22, the term “Active Bleeding” means the existence of an injury or wound, which continues to bleed. Active Bleeding does not include minor bleeding from a graze or scratch, which has abated and can be readily removed from a Player or any part of his uniform.

22.2 PARTICIPATION IN MATCHES WHEN ACTIVELY BLEEDING
(a) Unless Law 22.7 applies:
   (i) a Player must not remain on the Playing Surface for so long as he or she is Actively Bleeding;
   (ii) a Club or Team must not allow any of its Players to remain on the Playing Surface for so long as the Player is Actively Bleeding;
(b) Unless immediate treatment needs to be given, having due regard to a Player’s health and safety, a Club or Team must not allow any Player who is Actively Bleeding to be treated on the Playing Surface.

22.3 ACTIVE BLEEDING — ROLE OF UMPIRE
22.3.1 Role of Umpire
Where a field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player is Actively Bleeding, the field Umpire must stop play at the first available opportunity:
(a) direct the Player concerned to immediately leave the Playing Surface;
(b) subject to Law 22.3.3, wait a reasonable period to allow the replacement Player to take up position before re-commencing play; and
recommence play.

22.3.2 Player to Follow Directions of Field Umpire
Where a Player is directed by a field Umpire to leave the Playing Surface because he or she is actively Bleeding, the Player must leave the Playing Surface immediately Through the Interchange Area. The Player must not re-enter the Playing Surface or take any further part in any Match until and unless:
(a) the cause of such bleeding has been abated;
(b) the injury is securely bound to ensure that all blood is contained;
(c) any blood stained article of uniform has been removed and replaced; and
(d) any blood on any part of the Player’s body has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

22.3.3 Replacement Player
A Player directed to leave the Playing Surface may be replaced by another Player listed on the Teamsheet. A replacement Player may enter the Playing Surface while the Player that he or she is replacing is leaving the Playing Surface. If a replacement Player has not entered the Playing Surface by the time the directed Player has left the Playing Surface, the field Umpire must recommence play immediately.

22.4 PROCEDURE WHEN PLAYER NOT ACTIVELY BLEEDING
Where a field Umpire is of the opinion that a Player is not Actively Bleeding, but the Player has blood on any part of his body or uniform, the following will apply:
(a) at the first available opportunity, the field Umpire must signal and direct the Player to obtain treatment. After the signal is given, play will continue;
(b) the Player may remain on the Playing Surface after the signal is given by the field Umpire, but must at the earliest opportunity:
   (i) in the case of blood being on any part of his uniform, have the piece of uniform removed and replaced; and/or
   (ii) in the case of blood being on any part of his body, have the blood removed and the cause of any bleeding (if any), treated and covered so that all blood is contained;

If after receiving treatment, the field Umpire is of the opinion that blood is still appearing on any part of the Player’s body or uniform, the Player is deemed to be Actively Bleeding and Law 22.3 will apply.
22.5 VARIATION BY CONTROLLING BODY

A Controlling Body may adopt its own rules to specify that Law 22.3 applies to all bleeding.

22.6 FAILURE TO OBEY DIRECTION

A Player's refusal to promptly obey a direction of a field Umpire given under Law 22.3 or 22.4 is a reportable offence;

Any fine, period of suspension or other sanction determined by a tribunal or other body hearing the Reportable Offence shall be in addition to any sanction which may be imposed by a Controlling Body under Law 22.14.

22.7 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AT THE END OF A QUARTER

A Player awarded a Mark or Free Kick may Kick the football after the field Umpire has signalled that play has come to an end, even though he is at that time Actively Bleeding. However, this Law is subject to Law 16.6.

22.8 DELIBERATE SMEARING OF BLOOD

Regardless of any other provision in these Laws, if a Player intentionally smears or otherwise causes blood to be placed on another Player's body or uniform, the field Umpire must immediately stop play and allow that Player such time as is necessary to have the blood removed or item of uniform removed and replaced.

22.9 PROTECTIVE GLOVES

Each club or Team must ensure that any doctor, trainer and any other person treating Players of a Team wears protective gloves as may be approved from time to time by the relevant Controlling Body.

22.10 DISPOSAL OF BLOODIED CLOTHING AND OTHER MATERIAL

Each club or Team must ensure that:

(a) Any bloodied item of uniform or clothing of a Player is placed as soon as possible in a hygienic sealed container and laundered to ensure the removal of all blood; and

(b) all towels, wipes, bandages, dressings and other materials used in the treatment of bleeding Players must be placed in a hygienic sealed container and discarded or destroyed in a hygienic manner.

22.11 DRESSING ROOMS

Each club or Team must ensure that all dressing rooms and other areas occupied by the Team prior to, during or immediately following the completion of any Match are kept clean and that no blood remains on any surface, equipment, hand basin, toilet, shower, bath or other area. All such surfaces, equipment and areas must be cleansed and disinfected immediately after contact with blood.

22.12 HYGIENE

Each club or Team must ensure that:

(a) Players do not urinate (other than in a toilet) in or about any dressing rooms or on the Playing Surface prior to, during or immediately following the completion of any Match; and

(b) Each of its Players observe a high standard of personal hygiene.

22.13 TRAINERS

Unless Law 22.4 applies, a Trainer or other personnel responsible for the treatment of Players shall not provide treatment to a Player on the Playing Surface for any cut, abrasion or other injury involving the discharge of blood.

22.14 SANCTION – CONTROLLING BODY

A Controlling Body may impose a sanction upon a Player, Club or Team for a breach of any obligation imposed under this Law 22.
## INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantage Rule</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>paying advantage</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| AFL (see Controlling Body) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFL Anti-Doping Policy</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>application</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>specific reference</td>
<td>21.2.1</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>testing</td>
<td>21.2.2</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variation and interpretation</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Clear (See also Touched All Clear)</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>before recommencement of play</td>
<td>12.4.2</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free kicks awarded before</td>
<td>12.4.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goal/behind not noticed by Field Umpire</td>
<td>12.2.2</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signal by Field Umpire</td>
<td>12.2.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Ball (see Football) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behind</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>after siren</td>
<td>12.5.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind line</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind post</td>
<td>3.5.1(b)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clarification and examples</td>
<td>12.1.3</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free kick after behind scored</td>
<td>12.4.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hitting behind post</td>
<td>12.1.4</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rushed</td>
<td>12.1.2 (c),(d)</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rushed after siren</td>
<td>12.5.1, 12.5.2</td>
<td>136, 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scoring a</td>
<td>12.1.2</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signalling</td>
<td>12.3.2</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behind Posts</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>padding</td>
<td>3.5.2</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>position</td>
<td>3.5.1(a)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>size of</td>
<td>3.5.1(b)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Blood Rule (see Infectious Diseases) |
### Bouncing the Football
- **player in possession**: Law 15.2.2(b), Page 139
- **umpire, occasions when**: Law 11.3, Page 134
- **umpire, throwing up instead of**: Law 11.3.3, Page 134

### Boundary Line
- **ball on or above**: Law 16.5.3, Page 144
- **definition**: Law 1.1, Page 122
- **disposal from beyond**: Law 16.5, Page 143
- **football crossing over**: Law 15.6.1, Page 141
- **free kicks from**: Law 15.6.2, Page 141
- **identification of**: Law 3.2(b), Page 125

### Bringing Play to an End
- **end of quarter**: Law 10.4.1, Page 132
- **hearing siren**: Law 10.4.2, Page 132
- **signal by umpire**: Law 10.4.3, Page 132

### Centre
- **circle identification**: Law 3.3(b), Page 125
- **infringements**: Law 11.3.4(b),(c), Page 134
- **relocation of circle/square**: Law 3.4, Page 125
- **square identification**: Law 3.3(a), Page 125
- **square infringement**: Law 11.3.4, Page 134

### Centre Bounce
- **contesting**: Law 11.3.5, Page 135
- **infringements**: Law 11.3.4(b),(c),(d), Page 134
- **number of players in centre square**: Law 11.3.4, Page 134

### Coin Toss
- **definition**: Law 11.1, Page 133

### Charge or Charging
- **definition**: Law 1.1, 15.4.4, Page 122, 140
- **prohibited contact, free kick for**: Law 15.4.5(f), Page 140
- **reportable offence**: Law 19.2.2(g) (v), Page 145
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commencing Play</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before free kick awarded</td>
<td>11.2.2(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consulting captains/timekeepers</td>
<td>11.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure for</td>
<td>11.2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>readiness to commence</td>
<td>11.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>starting and signalling each quarter</td>
<td>11.2.2(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time keepers role</td>
<td>11.2.2(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>umpires position</td>
<td>11.2.2(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlling Body</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>application of Laws to</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1, 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variation of Laws by</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counting Players</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>correct number after count</td>
<td>5.5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exceeding permitted number</td>
<td>5.5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure for</td>
<td>5.5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>request</td>
<td>5.5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal of Football (see also Kicking, Free Kick, Handball)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after mark or free kick</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beyond goal or behind line</td>
<td>16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>breach of Laws before</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>correct / incorrect disposal</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from out of bounds</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>when player injured</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressing Rooms</td>
<td>22.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Of Play</td>
<td>10.4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inspection of</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interpretation of</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>order from playing surface</td>
<td>9.4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prohibited items</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>protective, definition of</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>refusal to leave playing surface</td>
<td>9.4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty-Metre Penalty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>application by umpire</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>local requirements</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure for</td>
<td>18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>within 50m of goal</td>
<td>18.2(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>LAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dimension of</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disposal of</td>
<td>15.3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in possession of</td>
<td>15.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marking the</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>supply of</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weight of</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forfeiture</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>consequences of</td>
<td>10.7.2</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of match, general rule</td>
<td>10.7.1</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>player numbers</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>refusal to leave playing surface</td>
<td>9.4.2, 20.6.2</td>
<td>130, 147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variation of percentage by controlling body</td>
<td>10.7.3</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Free Kick</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>advantage</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after “all clear” given</td>
<td>12.4.2</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after siren</td>
<td>12.6.1, 12.6.2</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before all clear given</td>
<td>12.4.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before bounce of football</td>
<td>11.2.2(c)</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.3.5(b)</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15.1.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before disposal</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cancellation of</td>
<td>17.2(d)</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deliberate out of bounds</td>
<td>15.6.1(c)</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diving on top of football</td>
<td>15.2.5</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>downfield</td>
<td>15.10</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hitting stadium roof</td>
<td>15.11</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>holding a player not in possession</td>
<td>15.4.5(c)</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>holding the football</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incorrect disposal (throw)</td>
<td>15.3.2</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- definition of throw</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lifting team mate</td>
<td>15.10.1(c)</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>off the ball (see free kick downfield)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officials, awarded against</td>
<td>15.10.1(b)</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out of bounds</td>
<td>15.6.1</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>player unable to take</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prior opportunity / no prior opportunity</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
prohibited contact
- after disposal 15.10 142
- below knee/above shoulder 15.4.5(a) 140
- charging 15.4.5(g) 140
- deliberate interference with arm 15.4.5(d) 140
- front-on bump/forceful contact 15.4.5(n) 140
- holding (opponent) 15.4.5(c)(k) 140
- kicking 15.4.5(i) 140
- pushing/bumping/blocking 15.4.5(b),(d),(e) 140, 141
- striking 15.4.5(j) 141
- tripping 15.4.5(h) 141
protected area 16.1.2 143
relating to possession of the football 15.2 139
reportable offences 15.9 142
running with football 15.2.2(b) 139
shaking goal/behind posts 15.8.1 142
spirit and intention of awarding 15.1.1 139
time wasting 15.10.1(a) 142
umpire
- behaviour 15.5(b) 141
- contact with 15.5(c) 141
- interference with duties 15.5(e) 141
- language towards 15.5(a) 141

Goal
after play has ended 12.5 136
awarding of (all clear) 12.1.1, 12.2.1 135, 136
choice of 11.1 133
clarification and examples 12.1.3(a),(b) 135
definition 1.1 122
line, definition 1.1 122
posts 3.5 125
scoring of 12.1.1 135
signalling 12.3.1 136
square 1.1, 3.6 122, 126
umpire (see Umpires)

Goal Posts
padding 3.5.2 125
position 3.5.1 125
size of 3.5.1 125

Guernsey
replacement of 5.4 126
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ground (see Playing Surface)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Handball</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scoring of</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holding the Football (see Possession of Football)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incomplete Match (see Match)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infectious Diseases</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>active bleeding, definition</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>club/Team obligations</td>
<td>22.2(a), 22.2(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deliberate smearing of blood</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disposal of bloodied clothing</td>
<td>22.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dressing rooms</td>
<td>22.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hygiene</td>
<td>22.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participation when actively bleeding</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>players obligation</td>
<td>22.2 (a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>players to obey directions/failure to</td>
<td>22.3.2, 22.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure when not actively bleeding</td>
<td>22.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>protective gloves</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>refusal to leave playing surface</td>
<td>22.3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>replacement player</td>
<td>22.3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctions</td>
<td>22.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>special circumstances</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trainers</td>
<td>22.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>umpires role</td>
<td>22.3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variation by controlling body</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interchange</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>area, definition</td>
<td>1.1, 3.3(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field umpire's role of</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number of players</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>use of interchange</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>use of stretcher</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interchange Steward</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appointment and duties</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure when absent</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Interpretations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>definitions</td>
<td></td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jewellery (see Equipment, prohibited items)

### Jumpers (see Guernsey)

### Kicking (the football)

- **after behind scored (see kick in)**
  - definition
  - [Law 1.1](#) 122
  - for goal
    - centre of goal line [Law 16.3.1(a)](#) 143
    - from goal square [Law 16.3.1(b)](#) 143
    - encroaching over the mark [Law 16.3.2](#) 143
    - from beyond behind or goal line [Law 16.4](#) 143
    - from outside boundary line [Law 16.5.1](#) 143
    - over the mark [Law 16.2](#) 143

### Kick In (after a Behind scored)

- infringement
  - [Law 13.2](#) 137
  - playing on from
    - [Law 13.1(d)](#) 137
  - procedure
    - [Law 13.1, 13.3](#) 137, 138
  - restriction on attacking team
    - [Law 13.1(c), 13.4](#) 137, 138
  - restriction on player kicking the ball
    - [Law 13.1(b)](#) 137

### Kicking (a person)

- free kick for
  - [Law 15.4.5(i)](#) 140
- reportable offence
  - [Law 19.2.2](#) 145

### Laws

- applications
  - [Law 2.2](#) 125
- interpretation of
  - [Law 1.2](#) 123
- nature of
- purpose of
  - variation by controlling body
  - [Law 2.3](#) 125

### Mark

- definition
  - [Law 1.1, 14.1](#) 122, 138
- not awarded
  - [Law 14.5](#) 138
- cancelled
  - [Law 14.6](#) 138
- on goal / behind or boundary line
  - [Law 14.2(a)](#) 138
- when awarded
  - [Law 14.2, 14.3](#) 138
### Match

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>commencement of</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consequence of forfeiture</td>
<td>10.7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duration of</td>
<td>10.1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>end of</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forfeiture of</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intervals during</td>
<td>10.1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incomplete</td>
<td>10.6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unauthorised entry on playing surface</td>
<td>10.6.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Melee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reportable offence</td>
<td>19.2.2(g)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Number of Players (see Teams)

### Officials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>definition of</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free kick against</td>
<td>15.10.1(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identification</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedure (reporting)</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>regulations applying to</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reporting of</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>restrictions inside the fifty metre arc</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>team sheet, listing on</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Order Off Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>duration of</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for reportable offences</td>
<td>20.2, 20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for wearing prohibited items</td>
<td>9.4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not applicable to AFL matches</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reduction of players</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>replacement player</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signalling</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Out of Bounds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free kicks relating to</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on the full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- free kick for</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play On (Touched Play On)</td>
<td>LAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recalling</td>
<td>17.3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>when called</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Players</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>counting</td>
<td>of 5.5</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number on playing surface, in team</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>order off</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>team sheet, listed on</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Playing Positions</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playing Surface</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boundary line</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>centre circle</td>
<td>3.3(b)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>centre square</td>
<td>3.3(a)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dimensions</td>
<td>3.2(a)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forty five metre arc</td>
<td>3.3(f)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interchange area</td>
<td>3.3(c)</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invasion of</td>
<td>10.6.1</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>markings on</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number of players on</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possession of Football</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bouncing</td>
<td>15.2.2 (b)</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- definition</td>
<td>15.2.1</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diving on top of football</td>
<td>15.2.5</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free kicks</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>handball to oneself</td>
<td>15.2.2(b)</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>holding the football</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>length of time</td>
<td>15.2.2(a)</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prior opportunity / no prior opportunity</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protective Equipment</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>inspection of</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>removal of</td>
<td>9.2(c)</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>types of</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Reportable Offences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>degree of intent</td>
<td>19.2.1</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>19.1.2</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obligation to report</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>offences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- abusive language etc.</td>
<td>19.2.2(m)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- charging</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (v)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- kicking / attempting to</td>
<td>19.2.2(g),(h)</td>
<td>145, 146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- football onto roof surface</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (ix)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- front-on bump/forceful contact</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (xi)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- melee</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (viii)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- misconduct</td>
<td>19.2.2(p)</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- obscene gesture</td>
<td>19.2.2(f)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- prohibited equipment</td>
<td>19.2.2(o)</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- rough play</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (vii)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- shaking goal/behind post</td>
<td>19.2.2(k)</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- spitting</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (x)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- striking / attempting to strike</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (ii), (i)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- time wasting</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (iv)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- throwing player</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (vi)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- tripping</td>
<td>19.2.2(g) (iii)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- wrestling</td>
<td>19.2.2(l)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sanctions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- by controlling body</td>
<td>19.4.1</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- effect of suspension</td>
<td>19.4.4</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Report Procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- during match</td>
<td>19.3.1</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- notices of report</td>
<td>19.3.2</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- rules</td>
<td>19.3.2</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sanctions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- by controlling body</td>
<td>19.4.1</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- effect of suspension</td>
<td>19.4.4</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### umpire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- abusive language</td>
<td>19.2.2(c)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- behaviour towards</td>
<td>19.2.2(d)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- contact with / attempted contact with</td>
<td>19.2.2(a),(b)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- disputing decision of</td>
<td>19.2.2(e)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Runners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>identification</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>regulations applying to</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>restrictions inside the forty five arc</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoring</td>
<td>LAW</td>
<td>PAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind</td>
<td>12.1.2</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- after siren</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- hitting post (behind)</td>
<td>12.1.4</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- rushed</td>
<td>12.1.2(d)</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>changing score</td>
<td>12.3.3</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>football hitting umpire</td>
<td>12.1.3</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>football hitting official</td>
<td>12.1.3</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goal</td>
<td>12.1.1</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- after siren</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- before / after all clear</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recording scores</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Shaking Goal Post (see Free Kick / Reportable Offence)**

**Shepherding**
- definition                                      15.4.2 | 140  |
- execution                                        15.4.3(d)| 140  |

**Siren**
- play ended                                       10.4  | 132  |
- procedure for sounding                           10.3  | 131  |
- scoring after siren                               12.5  | 136  |

**Standing The Mark**
- protected area                                    16.1.2| 143  |
- standing the mark                                 16.1.1| 143  |

**Starting Play (see Commencing Play)**

**Stopping and Recommencing Time**
(see also Bringing Play to an End)
- domestic provisions                               10.5.4| 132  |
- signalling                                         10.5.3| 132  |
- when stopped                                       10.5.1| 132  |
- when re-commenced                                  10.5.2| 132  |

**Stretcher**
- procedure                                         7.3.2 | 128  |
- restrictions on players removed by stretcher      7.3.2(e)| 128  |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tackling</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>correctly tackled</td>
<td>1.1, 15.4.1</td>
<td>122, 140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diving on the football</td>
<td>15.2.5</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>football held to the body of player</td>
<td>15.2.6</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>holding (player)</td>
<td>15.4.5(c)(k)</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prior opportunity/no prior opportunity</td>
<td>15.2.3</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teams</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>numbers of players</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>team sheets, lodgment of</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variation of number</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Throw (see Disposal of Football, Incorrect)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duration of match</td>
<td>10.1.1</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>end of play</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intervals during match</td>
<td>10.1.2</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recommencement</td>
<td>10.5.2</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signalling</td>
<td>10.5.3</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stopping</td>
<td>10.5.1</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timekeeper</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appointment</td>
<td>10.2.1</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duties</td>
<td>10.2.2</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toss of Coin (see Goal, choice of)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Touched All Clear</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition (all clear)</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signal by field umpire</td>
<td>12.2.1</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trainers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>role in treating player</td>
<td>22.13</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Umpires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAW</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>appointment</strong></td>
<td>8.1.1, 8.1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>boundary umpire</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- duties</td>
<td>8.2.2(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- throw in</td>
<td>8.2.2(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>field umpire</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- awarding free kicks</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- calling time on</td>
<td>10.5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- control of match</td>
<td>8.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- equipment inspection</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- order off</td>
<td>20.6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- play on (marking)</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- play on</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- role in dealing with infectious diseases</td>
<td>22.3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- signalling a score</td>
<td>12.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- siren, hearing of</td>
<td>10.4.1, 10.4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- starting match</td>
<td>11.2.1, 11.2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>goal umpire</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- duties</td>
<td>8.2.4(a)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>