WEST AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL COMMISSION INC.

WA FOOTBALL COMMISSION

2021 JUNIOR FOOTBALL

COMPETITION POLICIES, RULES & REGULATIONS

RULES & REGULATIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Rules & Regulations
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC R&R
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	10 December 2020

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the Community Football Rules & Regulations for all Junior and Youth competitions conducted by the West Australian Football Commission (WAFC). These competitions shall be played according to the AFL Laws of Australian Football and any modified form of Australian Football as amended by the Australian Football League (AFL) or the WAFC.

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Every participant understands that Football in Western Australia is delivered to the Community with the Spirit of the Game in mind.

It is incumbent on every participant irrespective of their place in the game, to ensure that they will;

1.1. ***Not focus on winning at all costs*** and understand that the role of Junior & Youth Football is to foster the development of players, volunteers, umpires, coaches and officials. Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant but must remain secondary to the primary focus of player development.

1.2 Maximise the enjoyment and development of Junior & Youth footballers.

1.3 Provide our children with a game environment that is safe, fun and fair.

1.4 Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.

1.5 Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, Laws, Codes, Policies and Spirit of the game.

1.6 Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our games environments (coaching, playing, volunteering, spectating and umpiring).

1.7 Adhere to any directive issued by the games controlling bodies in the best interests of achieving the above.

1.8 Coaches should adopt an athlete centred coaching philosophy.

A Person must not engage in conduct which is unbecoming or likely to prejudice the interests or reputation of Junior Football or to bring the game of football into disrepute.

2. SUPPORTING UMPIRES OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Umpires play a key role in the successful delivery of Community Football. Coaches, officials, players and parents play a vital role in developing the highest quality umpires.

2.1 All team players, officials, parents and spectators are expected to adhere to the following; WA Football has a ***ZERO TOLERANCE*** stance against any form of umpire or official abuse, verbal dissent, intimidation or disputing of decisions.

2.2 Players, officials, parents and spectators are not permitted to comment about an umpire or the performance of an umpire in any way other than in writing to the Umpires Coach via the Club President.

2.3 Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an umpire during the breaks in a match. The Captain or Team Manager cannot question decisions, interpretations or question the free kick count.

3. INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS

All Committees, Coaches, Players and Parents should request interpretations, clarifications and explanations of the Competition Policies, Rules and Regulations via the Club President or Club Secretary.

Arena	The playing field and all the area between the playing field and the perimeter fence, including any break in the perimeter fence
Club	Any junior football club which affiliates with the RDC/RFDC through membership.
Community Football Appeal Board	An appeal tribunal convened by a Junior Competition.
Community Football Tribunal	An independent tribunal acting on behalf of Community Football in WA.
Competition	The specific division in which a team has fixtured matches.
Development Squad Player	Any player who played in a WAFL Development Squad match or taken part in a WAFL Development program in the past 12 months.
Forms	Refers to either paper based or electronic based forms.
Juniors	Persons who play football within the boundaries of the RDC/RFDC up to the age determined from time to time by the WAFC.
Junior Match Committee	A group established by the WAFC to classify Reportable Offences.
Match Day Checklist	A venue checklist as provided by the insurer to complete prior to matches, currently the Marsh Match Day Checklist.
Member	A club or person elected to membership of the RDC /RFDC.
Open Competition	Any competition that is open to: Males: Auskick to Year 12 Females: Auskick to Year 9 As opposed to female only competitions.
Perimeter Fence	The physical barrier surrounding the playing field. Where an arena does not have a perimeter fence, then the perimeter fence shall be interpreted as being located 10m outside and parallel to the playing field.
Playing Field	The field of play inside the boundary line, goal line and behind line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence.
Registration System	The WAFC adopts the Sports TG Footyweb registration and competition management system.
RDC	Regional Development Council
WAFC	West Australian Football Commission, or an authorised representative of the West Australian Football Commission.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION GOVERNANCE

4. COMPETITIONS

4.1 The WAFC shall arrange inter-club football competitions in specific year groups for players registered with affiliated junior clubs.

4.2 The WAFC may divide the area within its jurisdiction into sub-districts. It is recommended that all players residing within an allocated area play for the aligned club. The WAFC may alter, vary or add to the boundaries of its sub-districts as it sees fit.

5. SCRATCH MATCHES

Clubs may arrange scratch/practice matches outside of WAFC fixtured competitions. For insurance purposes:

5.1 All scratch matches must be played within the WAFC Policies and Rules & Regulations

5.2 All players must be registered through the WAFC approved registration system or fall within the four-week prospective members clause.

5.3 All scratch matches with official umpires are bound by the Laws of the Game, including penalties for reportable offences.

6. RULES & REGULATIONS, POLICIES & CODES OF CONDUCT

All clubs, players, parents, spectators and officials are bound by the WAFC's Junior & Youth Football Policies and True Sport Codes of Conduct and are subject to penalties at the discretion of the WAFC for any breach.

Penalties handed down for breaches of these Rules & Regulations, Policies and Codes of Conduct can only be applied to and served in competitions within the scope of these rules.

7. DISPUTES & APPEALS – COMPETITION POLICIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS

Should any dispute or objection arise as to the meaning or interpretation of any of these Rules & Regulations, the WAFC shall settle such dispute or objection.

Clubs are entitled to appeal penalties and or decisions for any breach of the WAFC's Junior and Youth Football Rules & Regulations or Policies on the grounds that the penalty provided meets one of the following criteria:

- An error in the application of a rule has occurred.
- The decision of the Competition is so unreasonable that no Competition acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it.
- The sanction imposed by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

The appeal will be heard by the relevant independent body as appointed by the WAFC.

Request to Appeal:

7.1 E-Points cannot be appealed if aligned to a Red or Yellow Card infringement.

7.2 A club shall submit a written communication addressed to the WAFC requesting to appeal a penalty within 48 hours of receiving notification of the penalty, accompanied by a non-refundable $250 fee. Within the written request to appeal the club will outline on what basis the penalty meets the above appeal criteria.

Appeal Panel:

7.3 The Chair of the Appeal Panel may determine whether the case meets the Appeal Criteria prior to the panel sitting and has the power to determine that a case should not be heard on the basis that it does not meet the appeal criteria.

7.4 The Appeal Panel will determine whether the penalty fits within one of the appeal criteria based on the evidence provided and any new additional evidence provided by the club.

7.5 All members of the Appeal Panel must be independent to the case.

Appeal Hearing:

7.6 If circumstances prevail whereby a hearing must be heard prior to the clubs next match, the WAFC will make a reasonable attempt for this to occur.

7.7 The Appeal Panel may use its full discretion to gather and take into account any relevant evidence in making its determination.

7.8 A club attending an appeal hearing may be represented by an advocate. An advocate may not be a legal practitioner.

7.9 The club will have the opportunity to present its case to the Appeal Panel.

Appeal Decision:

7.10 The Appeal Panel shall not dismiss any case on grounds of technicality.

7.11 The Appeal Panel will make a determination as to whether the penalty handed down by the WAFC is in breach of one of the appeal criteria.

7.12 The Appeal Panel will make recommendations as to what they believe the appropriate penalty should be.

7.13 The WAFC has discretion as to whether to implement the recommended penalty.

7.14 The WAFC will communicate the decision of the Appeal Panel back to the club within a reasonable period of time after the decision has been made.

8. ALTERATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS

Should any situation arise which is not covered in these Rules & Regulations, then the WAFC Policies and Codes of Conduct shall apply.

8.1 The WAFC may elect to resolve any matter, which is not provided for in these Rules & Regulations and any such resolution shall immediately become an amendment to the Rules & Regulations and shall automatically be included herein.

8.2 Any variation (exemptions) to these Rules & Regulations must be approved by the WAFC prior to implementation.

SECTION 3: SEASON ADMINISTRATION

9. YEAR GROUPS

9.1 Any player who is repeating Year 12 at school is not eligible to play in the Year 11-12 competition and should be encouraged to join a senior community competition.

9.2 On application to the WAFC, a player may be eligible to play up a MAXIMUM of one year group only. In a combined age group, only the senior aged players can apply to go up to the next age bracket.

9.3 A player who does not meet the Physical Development Criteria or the Disability criteria for a play down must apply to the WAFC in writing for approval.

9.4 With reference to combined year groups, the WAFC or controlling body will make the final determination regarding play up applications. It is generally considered that only top aged players are eligible to play up a year group.

9.5 The granting of any such request shall apply only to the current season and can be subject to review by the WAFC during the current season.

9.6 A player who is playing down due to their current school year group, must supply a letter from the school confirming that they are attending school in the year group in which they are playing.

Physical Development Criteria

Players must apply to the WAFC for permission to play down a year group during the current season.

9.7 Approval will only be granted if the player submits written authority by a sports physician or doctor along with their application to play down a year group. The written authority should specify that the participant falls below the fifth percentile for height or weight.

9.8 A player granted permission to play down a year group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which they have received permission to play.

9.9 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.

Disability – Physical and Intellectual

A player with a disability that limits their ability to play, may apply to the WAFC for permission to play down one or more year groups during the current season.

9.10 Approval will only be granted if the player submits written authority by a sports physician or registered medical practitioner along with their application to play down a year group.

9.11 A player granted permission to play down a year group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which they have received permission to play.

9.12 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.

Gender Diversity

9.13 The WAFC is committed to inclusion and will utilise the AFL's Gender Diversity Policy in instances where Trans, Non-Binary or other Gender Identity is raised.

10. CLUB OFFICIALS

Each Club shall elect Club administrators and officials who will be responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the Club. These officials may include:

10.1 President, Committees, Delegates to the RDC and other required officials who will be elected as per each club's constitution.

10.2 Each Club shall elect or appoint a Registrar who shall be responsible for the registration of players for that Club and shall keep a record of the achievements of those players as may be required. The Club Registrar shall be responsible for managing any changes to the personal details of any players registered with that Club in accordance with the WAFC approved registration system.

10.3 All District and Club volunteers may be subject to a Working with Children Check as per legislative requirements.

10.4 Clubs are to have in place a policy on 'Duty of Care' relevant to Club and Team officials. When adults have responsibility of care for children, Clubs must ensure the safety, health and protection of children. Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of its Club and Team officials in line with WA Football Policies.

11. REGISTRATION

No player shall be eligible to take part in any match under the control of the WAFC until an online registration form is completed and approved through the WAFC approved Registration System.

11.1 Players must not alter their name or date of birth to register via the Registration System.

11.2 Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Team, Club and/or District/Region which is playing in a single Junior Competition.

11.3 A Club Official must witness the birth registration number, State or country of birth or other authentication of birth date prior to playing a match.

SECTION 4: TRIBUNAL GUIDELINES

12. INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

The Tribunal Guidelines are adopted by WAFC and Country Junior Competitions to provide clubs, players and officials with clear guidelines for those who commit reportable offences.

The span of the Tribunal Guidelines is outlined below:

- Team Officials – Year 3 to Year 12
- Players – Year 7 to Year 12

13. PROCESS

Report

The Junior Match Committee will assess all reports and potential Reportable Offences. Reportable Offences can be reported by the following groups:

- Umpire
- Umpire Coach
- Competition Official
- WAFC Staff Member

All Notice of Reports are to be received by **12pm Monday** after the match is played**.**
The Junior Match Committee will gather the required information relevant to making a decision on whether a charge is made.

Determination of type of offence and appropriate charge

Following the review of each report or referral, the Junior Match Committee will determine whether the charge is appropriate and alter the charge if required. There are three types of Reportable Offences:

- A low-level offence
- A classifiable offence
- A direct to tribunal offence (referred directly to the community football tribunal)

The Junior Match Committee will inform the player or official and their club president whether or not a reported or referred player/official has been charged and the corresponding base sanction for that charge by **5pm Monday** after the match is played.

Options available to the player or official charged with a reportable offence:

A player or official charged with a Reportable Offence may:

- Submit an early guilty plea, in which case the relevant sanction for the Reportable Offence will apply subject to a reduction available as a result of the early guilty plea as per grading table.
- Contest a charge at the Community Football Tribunal using evidence to show they are not guilty of the classifiable offence or guilty of a lesser charge.

The player or official charged must submit their Option by **12pm Tuesday** after the match is played.

Timelines may be adjusted at the discretion of the WAFC under exceptional circumstances.

Tribunal Hearing

The tribunal will hear a charge for which a Player or Official has pleaded not guilty or has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge. The tribunal may find the Player or Official guilty of the original charge, a lesser charge or not guilty of any charge. The tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction within the Standard Range of Penalties for the Reportable Offence if it finds the player guilty of a Reportable Offence.

Unless requested for attendance by the Tribunal Chairman, Umpires or Victims may provide evidence prior to the Tribunal hearings however must be available to be contacted by the Tribunal Chairman during the hearing period if required.
Players, Officials and Umpires are permitted to be accompanied by an advocate however this advocate may not be a legal practitioner and is only to act in the role of providing support. An advocate will not be asked to provide evidence.

The Community Football Tribunal will operate within the Community Football Tribunal Guidelines.

Appeal Hearing

A player or official may decide to appeal the decision of the Tribunal to the Community Football Appeal Board based on one of the following criteria being applied:

- An error of law has occurred;
- The decision of the Tribunal is so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it;
- The classification of the offence by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate; or
- The sanction imposed by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

All appeal lodgements must occur within 48 hours of notification of the Tribunal decision, accompanied by a $250 non-refundable fee and articulate how the decision fits into one of the above stated appeal criteria.
Competition Management also reserves the right to appeal decisions of the Tribunal to the Community Football Appeal Board based on the above stated appeal criteria.
The Community Football Appeals Board will operate within the Community Football Tribunal Guidelines.

14. REPORTABLE OFFENCES

A reportable offence occurs where a Player or Official commits any of the offences set out in Law 22.2.2 of the Laws of Australian Football. Broadly speaking there are three categories of Reportable Offences - Low Level, Classifiable, and Direct to Tribunal Offences.

Any Offence defined in the AFL Laws of the Game but not specified in these Tribunal Guidelines will be categorised as Direct to Tribunal Offences.

Low Level Offences

List of Low Level Offences

The following are low-level offences which do not require classification however may be addressed by the Junior Match Committee through the issuing of a Yellow or Red Card. In the case of a Red Card, the player will receive an automatic 1 match suspension.

If relevant and appropriate evidence is present, the Competition Officials have the powers to:

- Issue Yellow & Red Cards
- Upgrade a Yellow Card to a Red Card
- Downgrade a Red Card

Low Level Offences cannot be taken to the Community Football Tribunal:

- Attempting to strike, kick or trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg.
- Careless contact with an umpire
- Spitting at another player.
- Engaging in a Melee, except where a Player's sole intention is to remove a Player from the same Team from the incident. *
- Engaging in an act of staging.
- Making unreasonable or unnecessary contact with an injured Player.
- Using abusive, insulting, or obscene language.
- Engaging in Time Wasting.
- Throwing or pushing a Player after that Player has taken a mark, disposed of the ball or after the ball is out of play.
- Wrestling another person.
- Use of an obscene gesture.
- Disputing a decision of an Umpire.
- Pinching another person.
- Interfering with a Player Kicking for Goal.
- Failing to leave the Playing Surface when directed to do so by an Umpire.
- 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.
- Wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9.
- Any other act of low-level misconduct which is not a Classifiable Offence or Direct Tribunal Offence.

**Penalties may be applied to Teams who engage in a melee at the discretion of the WAFC.*

Classifiable Offences

List of Classifiable Offences

The following offences are Reportable Offences that are graded by the Junior Match Committee to determine an appropriate base sanction:

- Striking another person.
- Kicking another person.
- Kneeing another person.
- Stomping on another person.
- Charging another person.
- Engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstance is unreasonable.
- Bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that Player has their head down over the football.
- Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire.
- Head-butting an opponent or making contact to an opponent using the head.
- Eye-gouging an opponent or making unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the eye region of an opponent.
- Making unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the face of an opponent.
- Scratching another person.
- Tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg.
- Using abusive, insulting or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire.

Note: WAFC or Competition Officials may use their discretion to establish an appropriate prescribed penalty for Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire.

Grading of Classifiable Offences

Conduct	Impact	Contact	Base Sanction	Early Guilty Plea
Intentional	Severe	All	**Tribunal**	**N/A**
	High	High/Groin	**Tribunal**	**N/A**
		Body	**4 Matches**	**3 Matches**
	Medium	High/Groin	**3 Matches**	**2 Matches**
		Body	**2 Matches**	**1 Match**
	Low	High/Groin	**2 Matches**	**1 Match**
		Body	**1 Match**	**1 Match**
Careless	Severe	All	**Tribunal**	**N/A**
	High	High/Groin	**3 Matches**	**2 Matches**
		Body	**2 Matches**	**1 Match**
	Medium	High/Groin	**2 Matches**	**1 Match**
		Body	**1 Match**	**1 Match**
	Low	High/Groin	**1 Match**	**1 Match**
		Body	**1 Match**	**Yellow Card/Reprimand**

As indicated in the table above, the determination of a base sanction for a Classifiable Offence will be made based on an assessment of whether:
1. The conduct is Intentional or Careless,
2. The impact is Severe, High, Medium or Low; and
3. The Contact with the other Player/Official is High/Groin or to the Body

All penalties (Base Sanction and Early Guilty Plea) will be doubled if the player or official has been found guilty of a reportable offence within the past 12 months.

Reduction in base sanction for early guilty plea
The base sanction for Classifiable Offences will be subsequently decreased where a player submits an early guilty plea.

Direct to Tribunal Offences

List of Direct to Tribunal Offences

The following offences are Reportable Offences that are sent directly to the Community Football Tribunal to determine an appropriate penalty within the Standard Range of Penalties:

- Intentionally making contact with, or striking, an Umpire.
- Attempting to make contact with, or strike, an Umpire.
- Carelessly making contact with an Umpire.
- Spitting at or on an Umpire.
- Spitting on another person.
- Instigating a Melee.
- Any classifiable offence which attracts a base sanction that the Junior Match Committee finds inappropriate.
- Any other act of serious misconduct which the Junior Match Committee considers appropriate to send to the Community Football Tribunal.

The Community Football Tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction for a Direct to Tribunal offence within the Standard Range of Penalties.

15. STANDARD RANGE OF PENALTIES

Offence	First Offence	Second Offence
Striking	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Kicking	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Kneeing	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Stomping	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Charging	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Rough Conduct	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Forceful front on contact	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Headbutt or contact using head	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Eye-gouging/unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the eye region	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Unreasonable or unnecessary contact to the face	1-5 weeks	2-10 weeks
Scratching	1-5 weeks	2-10 weeks
Tripping	2-10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Intentional contact with an umpire	4 weeks – 2 years	Life Ban
Striking an umpire	2 years – 10 years	Life Ban
Spitting on or at an umpire	1 year – 5 years	Life Ban
Spitting on another person	2 – 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Attempting to strike an umpire	1 year – 5 years	Life Ban
Instigator of a Melee *	2 – 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks
Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire	2 - 10 weeks	4 – 20 weeks

**Penalties may be applied to teams who engage in a melee at the discretion of the WAFC.*

16. SUSPENSIONS

16.1 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator suspended by either a tribunal or prescribed penalty in a WAFC affiliated competition will not be permitted to play, coach or participate in any capacity, in any WAFC affiliated competition including schools, senior metropolitan community football or regional football, for the duration of the penalty unless otherwise stated by the WAFC.

16.2 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator reported or in receipt of a prescribed penalty notice, is not to play or act in any official capacity in a WAFC affiliated competition until such time as the charge has been dealt with.

16.3 Any player, Official, Club Member or Spectator who chooses to contest a Red Card, Report or Prescribed Penalty is deemed suspended until such time as the charge or report is dealt with to the satisfaction of the WAFC.

16.4 A player, Official, Club Member or Spectator found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, fine or any other sanction by the Community Football Tribunal, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match Days while the penalty remains unserved.

SECTION 5: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

2020 AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC POL.01: Member Protection Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Member Protection Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.01
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	18 September 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

Member protection is a term used by the Australian sports industry to describe the practices and procedures that protect an organisation's members - both individual members such as players, coaches and officials, and the member organisations such as clubs and other affiliated organisations. It involves:

- protecting members from harassment, abuse, discrimination and other forms of inappropriate behaviour
- adopting appropriate measures to ensure the right people are involved in an organisation, particularly in relation to those involved within junior sport
- providing education
- promoting and modelling positive behaviour

As an affiliated state body of the AFL, the WAFC subscribes to the AFL Member Protection Policy with can be found at www.afl.com.au/policies. By way of affiliation the AFL Member Protection Policy applies to all clubs.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Member Protection Policy

WAFC POL.02: Communications Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Communications Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.02
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	18 February 2021

PUBLIC STATEMENT

All media enquiries should be directed through the West Australian Football Commission. District, Club and Team representatives should not make public statements about WAFC managed competitions.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The WAFC has an obligation to ensure that affiliated clubs maintain a safe physical and emotional environment for its members and this includes cyber safety and the safe and responsible use of Internet and Information & Communication Technologies (ICT). Individual members also have a responsibility to use ICT in a safe and responsible way, and not bring the game into disrepute.

This policy outlines the expectations of all Community Football stakeholders in ensuring we create a cybersafe environment

By way of affiliation the AFL National Social Media Engagement Policy applies to all clubs.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

All Community Football stakeholders, including clubs and their members will create a cybersafe environment by:

- Using the WAFC/Community Football Club's name, motto, crest and/or logo only in an appropriate way in line with the organisation's guidelines,
- Using the WAFC/Community Football Club's websites to provide information about competitions, committees, policies, rules, social events or other important sport related issues,
- Using SMS and/or email by officials, managers, coaches etc. to communicate organisation business and organisation sanctioned social events (via parents in the case of juniors),
- Using the WAFC/Community Football Club's social network pages to promote positive organisation news and events (with permission obtained from featured individual(s) and via parents for juniors),
- Ensuring content of posts or electronic communication doesn't breach any WAFC/Community Football Club policies or codes of conduct,
- Ensuring content of posts or electronic communication doesn't breach state or commonwealth law. This includes not engaging in 'sexting' where a member sends or is in possession of an inappropriate sexualised image of a person under the age of 18 years – this is a criminal offence in WA and the Police will be informed immediately,
- Not engaging in cyber bullying, including but not limited to:
    - harassing, teasing, intimidating or threatening another person via electronic means,
    - sending or posting inappropriate digital pictures or images, email/instant/phone/text messages, or website postings (including social network sites i.e. Facebook or blogs) and is irrespective of whether the page could be viewed by the wider public or not,

- Members will remain responsible for and be vigilant of the content and security of their individual accounts such as email, social networking (i.e., Facebook), micro blogging (i.e., Twitter), video sharing (i.e., YouTube), picture sharing (i.e., Instagram) and mobile phones.

PENALTIES

Any breach of this policy will be investigated by the WAFC and penalties may be issued at the absolute discretion of the Competition Team. Penalties include but are not limited to suspension, fines, loss of E-Points and/or sanctions.

Any cyber-bullying or threats to participants including officials and umpires via social media will not be tolerated and may attract significant penalties.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL National Social Media Engagement Policy

WAFC POL.03: Sponsorship Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Sponsorship Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.03
Adapted by:	JB.
Last Modified:	19 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission Commercial, Communications & Strategy team manages all central football sponsorships and reviews sponsorship policies, templates and proposals.

Sponsorships and explicit endorsement of products and or services of a sponsor must be in the public interest and must be approved via the management process.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

RULE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION
1	All potential sponsors must have company values that are in line with and compliment the values or Australian Football. These are: • Social equality • Participation • Integration and inclusion
2	Sponsorships that could involve football in controversial issues or expose football to adverse criticism must be avoided. The following sponsors are regarded as inappropriate: • Political or religious organisations, • Programs that denigrate exclude or offend minority community groups, • Sponsors that may present a hazard to the community (including cigarette companies), • Sponsors that create environmental hazards, • Sponsors that do not reflect community standards,
3	All clubs must comply with sponsorship requirements related to Junior Football as directed by the WAFC.

WAFC POL.04: Equal Opportunity Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Equal Opportunity Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.04
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	9 February 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission will ensure that equal opportunities for participation in football are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.

RULES

1. FEMALE PARTICIPATION	
Single sex (all boy/all girl) competitions are preferred if teams can be arranged within the schools or junior districts and/or country regions.	
1a	Females can participate with males until and including Year 9.
2. PLAYER ROTATION	
It's the role of the coach to ensure all players, regardless of their age, size, gender, ability or the competition they are playing in, are given an equal opportunity to play in a variety of positions on the field. This is important in allowing players to gain experience and learn and develop the skills of each position. Adhering to this policy and its intent ensures all players and parents feel they are getting a fair go and are a part of the team, enhancing overall participation in Junior & Youth Football.	
2a	Every player in a team must play at least half (50%) of a game. This only applies to the first game a player plays in a weekend, e.g. if a player has completed a match with their team and then plays up for another team who is short of players, that player is not required to play 50% game time in the second match.
2b	All players must play equal game time across the season.
2c	Each team is required to track player game time utilising an app or program prescribed by the competition.
3. MAXIMISE PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES	
Coaches are required to utilise all available players up to the maximum allowable on the bench.	
3a	Coaches must utilise all places in the team for each match and play the maximum number of players available to them. This includes finals but only refers to players that are qualified to play in the final.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC COMPRULES

WAFC POL.05: Drugs & Alcohol Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Drugs & Alcohol Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.05
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	30 November 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission strictly prohibits illicit drugs and excessive alcohol consumption at any level of Community Football, and greatly appreciate the support of the wider football family by supporting the Smoke Free Environments at football grounds around WA.

RULES

1. ALCOHOL	
1a	Clubs have a responsibility to ensure they meet legislative requirements regarding alcohol management within the club. This can be broken down into two areas: i. Liquor license requirements ii. Responsible serving of alcohol requirements.
1b	Clubs with liquor licenses must ensure they meet all responsible serving of alcohol requirements and ensure that anyone consuming alcohol does not engage with Junior & Youth Football in any way.
1c	Bringing your own alcohol to any Junior or Youth Football match or training session is strictly prohibited.
1d	Football Clubs need to have clear policies, procedures and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's) that address the issue of alcohol sales and consumption, particularly when attached to Sporting Clubs or Senior Football Clubs. Shires and local councils should have specific policies, procedures and MOUs in place.
2. SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT	
Smoke Free Environments must be maintained and implemented into all areas of our game using the following strategies. For the purpose of this policy, Smoking includes the use of e-cigarettes and vaping.	
2a	Smoke Free change rooms – Please ensure player changing areas are always smoke free.
2b	Smoke Free club rooms (social halls, canteens, etc.) – please ensure the club rooms, social hall, kitchen and canteen are smoke free at all times.
2c	Smoke Free interchange benches, including coaches and managers area – Please ensure there is no smoking by any person in the interchange area where the coach, manager and interchange players sit or stand.
2d	Smoke Free viewing areas – Please ensure the following areas are Smoke Free during matches and other events. i. Club room verandas. ii. Interchange benches. iii. Seated outdoor viewing areas. iv. Areas close to where juniors are coached.
2e	Smoke Free NAB AFL Auskick – Our youngest players are the future of our game. Please ensure there is no smoking in any area where the NAB AFL Auskick activities are taking place.
2f	Smoke Free Area acknowledgement – to assist promote your sporting area as smoke free, the following announcements may be utilised: *"WA Junior Football Clubs support smoke free sporting venues for all members and supporters. Please observe the smoke free areas which include change rooms, club rooms, verandas, interchange benches, outdoor seated viewing areas and areas close to where juniors are coached".*

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: WAFC.POL.19 – True Sport Codes of Conduct

WAFC POL.06: Pregnancy Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Pregnancy Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.06
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	11 November 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

Sports Medicine Australia has developed guidelines entitled *"Participation of the Pregnant Athlete in Contact and Collision Sports".*

The guidelines are intended to provide recommendations to the pregnant athlete and sporting organisations on safe participation in contact and collision sports during pregnancy.

SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES

Football is classified as an unlimited contact and collision sport;

- Contact or collision is frequent and maybe quite forcible,
- A high risk of falls, blows to the abdomen and contact with a projectile exists,
- In a normal pregnancy, participation can only be recommended during the first trimester.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Display a copy of the summary of the statement issued by the Medicine and Science for Women in Sport committee of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation on club notice board so that players can make an informed decision about playing,
- Encourage any player that is pregnant to seek the advice of a medical professional,
- Provide a safe environment for all footballers.

INSURANCE & THE PREGNANT PLAYER

The pregnant player is provided with the same personal accident policy that is provided for all registered members of the football leagues. However, the player is not covered if the resultant injury is found to be due to the pregnancy. NO cover is provided for the unborn baby.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Participation of the Pregnant Athlete in Contact and Collision Sports

WAFC POL.07: Weather Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Weather Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.07
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

Environmental factors regularly affect the playing of Australian Football. While environmental factors will not usually influence whether an Australian Football Match should commence or continue to be played, occasionally extremely adverse weather conditions may give rise to a need to assess whether players and/or officials are in environmental danger. This policy sets out the approach that the Football Body should adopt when assessing extreme weather conditions.

As an affiliated state body of the AFL, the West Australian Football Commission subscribes to the AFL Extreme Weather Policy which can be found at www.afl.com.au/policies.

RESULTS

If a game is abandoned due to weather conditions, the WAFC shall decide if the fixture is to be rescheduled or determine a result according to the progress score and point of the game at which the game was abandoned.

For all final round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by the WAFC or their appointed officials as per the following guidelines:

- Games abandoned prior to half time, the Match Day Official will contact the Match Day Management Committee (Conference CDM & Team Leader) for guidance on how to proceed.
- Games abandoned after half time will have the team with the higher score deemed to be the winner.

RESPONSIBILITY

All clubs competing in a competition administered by a Football Body should monitor environmental factors. Umpires in consultation with the a WAFC competition official are responsible for the ongoing assessment of suitability to play in line with the respective AFL policies.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Extreme Weather Policy
AFL Heat Policy
AFL Lightning Policy

WAFC POL.08: Protective Equipment Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Protective Equipment Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.08
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission understands that due to the nature of Australian Football, parents and players may want to take certain safety measures to ensure they are protected while participating in training and matches. In doing this, the WAFC must ensure that any protective equipment is suitable for football and that the safety of all participants is considered.

RULES

1. MOUTH GUARDS	
1a	The WAFC strongly recommends that all players wear a mouth guard when either at training or playing football.
2. PROTECTIVE HEAD GEAR	
2a	A player who desires to wear protective headgear during a match must wear Sports Physician or Doctor approved headgear that is suitable for football.
2b	The necessary headgear approval form, signed by a competition official, must be available to the umpire to view at each match. The umpire is authorised to forbid the player from participating in the game or ask the player to remove the helmet if the form of approval is not shown.
2c	**Players suffering from disabilities or medical conditions:** A player who has a disability or medical condition which could potentially result in injury is required to have a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying that the player will (in the view of the medical practitioner) receive adequate protection from the protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from the WAFC.
3. SPECTACLES	
3a	To minimise the risk of injury, players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses. Spectacles must be held on securely by a band.
4. OTHER PROTECTIVE GEAR	
4a	Players are not permitted to wear a Plaster Cast during a game.
4b	Players are not permitted to wear jewellery including wrist bracelets.
4c	Medical bracelets are permitted however they must be taped and marked 'MEDIC'.
4d	All other protective gear must be approved by the WAFC. This includes but is not limited to shin guards, diabetic pumps and kidney guards.

WAFC POL.09: Vilification Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Vilification Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.09
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	6 December 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

Vilification to any degree is totally unacceptable at any level of football. All those involved in Community Football have the right to be involved in an environment that is free from vilification and/or harassment. The West Australian Football Commission takes an extremely firm stance on eliminating this type of behaviour from the game.

As an affiliated state body of the AFL, the WAFC subscribes to the AFL Vilification Policy with can be found at www.afl.com.au/policies. By way of affiliation this policy applies to all clubs.

RULES

RULE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1. AN ALLEGED INCIDENT		
1a	Conduct that threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person on any basis, including but not limited to, a person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, illness, disease or sexual orientation, preference or identity.	Vilified Player
2. GAME DAY RESOLUTION		
2a	The clubs and individuals concerned will take immediate action to resolve the matter at the ground between the two teams concerned.	Team Managers
2b	If the matter is resolved a written report is required to be submitted to the Club President by the Team Manager of the complainant within 24 hours.	
2c	No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the club(s) involved.	
2d	If the matter cannot be resolved immediately it is the responsibility of both Team Managers to inform their respective Club President of the issue immediately.	
3. CLUB RESOLUTION		
3a	The Club President of the complainant is then required to contact the opposition President within 24 hours of the incident.	Club Presidents
3b	The clubs then have 48 hours to mediate and resolve the matter.	
3c	If the matter is resolved, a written report is required to be submitted by both Club Presidents to the WAFC within 24 hours post resolution.	
3d	No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the club(s) involved.	
3e	If the matter cannot be resolved at a club level, then it is the responsibility of the complainant's Club President to contact the WAFC no later than 72 hours after the incident requesting that they investigate the matter.	

4. COMPETITION RESOLUTION		
4a	The WAFC will investigate the matter and determine the appropriate next course of action. This may involve mediation or referral directly to the Tribunal.	WAFC
4b	No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires, or any representative of the of the club(s) involved.	
5. MEDIATION		
5a	The WAFC will arrange for a mediation meeting between the individuals and clubs to be held at the earliest convenience. This should be held no later than 7 days of receiving the complaint.	WAFC
5b	At the discretion of the WAFC, mediators may opt to initially meet with each party independently, without the other party being present. This process may also include the sharing of statements or claims made.	
5c	If no resolution can be reached the matter will be referred to the Tribunal for determination.	
5b	No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the club(s) involved.	
6. TRIBUNAL		
6a	The Tribunal to decide on the matter in accordance with the Guidelines, Policies, Rules and Regulations of the competition.	WAFC

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL National Vilification Policy

WAFC POL.10: Competitions Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	21 August 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the procedures involved in conducting Junior & Youth Competitions controlled by the West Australian Football Commission. The various sections of this policy have been divided up into the following sub-procedures for ease of access and editing:

WAFC POL.10:

- A – Team Nominations
- B – Colours & Team Uniform
- C – Fixtures
- D – Transfers & Permits
- E – Premiership Points
- F – Forfeits
- G - Awards

WAFC POL.10A Competitions Policy: Team Selection & Nominations

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Team Selections & Nominations
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10A
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	3 December 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission is committed to forming fair, even and competitive competitions that enable young players of all abilities to have fun, actively participate and improve their knowledge and skills of the game. The intent of this policy is to:

a) clearly outline the team nomination process.
b) provide guidance on how clubs can allocate players to teams in instances where there is more than one team in a year group.

TEAM NOMINATIONS

The West Australian Football Commission will establish a date each year where clubs will submit team nominations for year groups in which they wish to field teams for the upcoming season. The WAFC shall consider all nominations and where possible shall include teams in competitions as nominated.

RULES

1. TEAM NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS	
1a	Each team nomination should include the name and other relevant details of the following people: i. An accredited coach capable of teaching players the laws and skills of Australian Football in line with the Spirit of the Game and the WAFC's True Sport Codes of Conduct ii. A manager capable of assisting the coach by carrying out clerical and other duties relating to the efficient functioning of the team.
2. ENTERING MULTIPLE TEAMS IN A DIVISION/YEAR GROUP	
If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any year group or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply.	
2a	Each team nominated by the respective club must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within its nominated division.
2b	If a club has two teams in one division, it must be done so in such a way that each team is competitive within that division.
2c	If the teams are viewed to be uncompetitive by the WAFC within the first five rounds as per Rule 4 of this document, the WAFC has the power to direct the club to re-allocate players.
2d	If the club is directed to re-nominate the teams, the club will resubmit the teams and will be subject to further review by the WAFC.
2e	Specific competition rules regarding entering multiple teams in a division/year group can be found in the individual Competition Rules documents.
3. TEAM WITHDRAWALS	
3a	A Club which withdraws a team or teams from any competition without a reason acceptable to the WAFC, may be liable to a penalty. If a team is withdrawn from a competition after the commencement of a season, the WAFC shall determine how the fixtures will be re-organised and for which games premiership points will be awarded.

UNCOMPETITIVE TEAMS PROCESS

This process provides clubs a clear and transparent process for determining whether a team is uncompetitive under Rule 2 of this document, and how the WAFC will work with a club to rectify this.

RULES

4. UNCOMPETITIVE TEAMS PROCESS	
4a	Prior to the season, the WAFC will formally notify any clubs if they believe a team may be deemed uncompetitive based on the previous year's results which will include a recommendation to re-allocate players across teams prior to the season beginning
4b	At any point across the first five rounds of the season, the WAFC may formally notify clubs if they believe a team may be deemed uncompetitive and provide a recommendation to re-allocate players across teams.
4c	For a team to be deemed uncompetitive they must meet the following criteria as a minimum. i. Must have lost a minimum of three matches by 60 points or more across the first five matches. ii. A Competition Official must have attended two matches across the first five matches and have made an assessment that the team is uncompetitive within the context of the match at both matches.
4d	If a team is deemed uncompetitive at the conclusion of Round 5, they will be requested to provide evidence to the competition that they have taken steps to improve the competitiveness of the team, including re-allocating players between teams within the club.
4e	If a team is deemed uncompetitive and the club refuses to re-allocate players after the completion of Round 5, that team will not be eligible to play for premiership points for the remainder of the season.

TEAM ALLOCATION

There are various methods a club may choose to adopt when allocating players among two or more teams in a year group. The WAFC suggests that Clubs consider each of the below methods.

- **Even Teams**: Ensuring each team is of equal strength.
- **Friendship Groups:** Ensuring players are able to play with their close friends.
- **School Groups:** Ensuring players are able to play with their school friends.
- **Annual Rotation:** Ensuring players are able to experience playing with different players and are prepared for older year groups when there is an increased likelihood that teams will merge.

The below table is designed to assist clubs in managing multiple teams in a year group. It outlines when and how to split players across multiple teams to ensure all teams are competitive within their division and that players are provided with the best opportunity to enjoy playing, learning and developing the skills of Australian Football.

5. ADOPT A CLUB MENTALITY OVER A TEAM MENTALITY

Clubs are encouraged to adopt a club mentality rather than an individual team mentality. This will encourage long-term friendships that extend beyond school groups and past teammates and minimises the impact of players having to move or merge teams during their Junior Football career.

The WAFC encourages teams from the same club, in the same year group to train together as one. The benefits of doing this include:

- Building a strong club culture
- Encouraging strong friendships between a larger group of players and parents making any regrade or reallocation of players less daunting for players and their families.
- Ability to run more effective training sessions with larger numbers at training, implementing a hub training model which keeps players engaged and exposes them to a variety of coaches and coaching styles.
- Sharing of resources – green space, coaches, equipment etc.

6. WHEN SHOULD CLUBS MERGE OR SPLIT TEAMS?

With a focus on participation, the WAFC looks to maximise the number of opportunities for as many young players as possible to play the game. As such, denying registrations and turning players away is discouraged, however the WAFC understands the complications involved when deciding whether to enter one or more teams in a year group. The below table will act as a guide to assist clubs in working through these decisions.

Year Group	1 Team	Requires Action	2 Teams	3 Teams
12-a-side Competitions	9 – 18 players	19 – 22 players	23 – 34 players	35+ players
15-a-side Competitions	12 – 23 players	24 – 28 players	29 – 46 players	47+ players
18-a-side Competitions	15 – 28 players	29 – 35 players	36 – 56 players	57+ players

Action Required

If a club sits within the above 'Requires Action' column for any of their year groups, the below options are available and should be considered:

1. **Recruitment:**
   Work together with WAFC district staff to recruit additional numbers in order to enter a second team.
2. **Utilising current WAFC Policies, Rules & Regulations:**
   Enter a second team and utilise current Junior Football Policies, Rules & Regulations to ensure sufficient numbers for a match, which includes:
   - Play Ups - see 9.2 of the WAFC Community Football Junior Rules & Regulations.
   - Even Up – see WAFC POL.15D Game Day Even Up
3. **Player Permitting:**
   The WAFC has developed a WAFC.POL21 Rotating Player Permit Policy, which enables teams with excess players to temporarily permit their players to a nearby club to assist with teams who are low on numbers. This is a great way of ensuring players get maximum playing time and more opportunities to touch the football and further develop their skills rather than not playing or sitting on the bench.
4. **Team Mergers:**
   Work together with neighbouring clubs who may also be low on numbers in the same year group, to enter a merged team.

Considerations

The below considerations must be made, particularly when numbers sit within the 'Requires Action' column in the above table:

- Entering one team with too many players results in excessive interchange sizes, reduced game time and fewer coaches per player.
- Entering a second team with too few players increases the number of coaches and volunteers required.
- Priority should be given to returning and new players over players transferring in from other clubs.

7. WHO SHOULD SPLIT PLAYERS BETWEEN TWO OR MORE TEAMS?

The Club President and/or the Club Coaching Coordinator in consultation with the head coaches within a year group should make the decision on when and how players should be split into multiple teams.

8. HOW SHOULD PLAYERS BE SPLIT BETWEEN TWO OR MORE TEAMS?

The WAFC suggests that clubs should endeavour to make their teams as even as possible, splitting players based on their skills, size, speed and overall ability. The method below has been employed by several Junior Clubs in the past with great success.

Step 1: Assign each player a rating from 1 through to 5 (1 being the strongest).

Player Name	Rating
Billy Hobbs	3
Peter Smith	1
Jonny Jones	4
Jack Brown	2
Jimmy Kent	2
Jesse Williams	3
Harry Palmer	5
Sam Perry	5
Robert Walsh	4
Scott Cook	3
Luke Walker	3
Cameron Green	2
Jackson Keogh	1
James Taylor	3

Step 2: Allocate Coaches, Assistant Coaches and a Team Manager to each team.

Team 1	Team 2
Coach Walker	Coach Smith
Assistant Coach Hobbs	Assistant Coach Jones
Team Manager Walsh	Team Manager Green

Step 3: Sort the list of players numerically from the 1s through to the 5s.

Player Name	Rating
Peter Smith	1
Ben Cox	1
Jack Brown	2
Jimmy Kent	2
Cameron Green	2
Billy Hobbs	3
Jesse Williams	3
Scott Cook	3
Luke Walker	3
James Taylor	3
Jonny Jones	4
Robert Walsh	4
Harry Palmer	5
Sam Perry	5

Step 4: Starting at the top of the list, allocate players to alternate teams

Player Name	Rating
Peter Smith	1
Ben Cox	1
Jack Brown	2
Jimmy Kent	2
Cameron Green	2
Billy Hobbs	3
Jesse Williams	3
Scott Cook	3
Luke Walker	3
James Taylor	3
Jonny Jones	4
Robert Walsh	4
Harry Palmer	5
Sam Perry	5

Team 1	Team 2
Coach Walker	**Coach Smith**
Assistant Coach Hobbs	**Assistant Coach Jones**
Team Manager Walsh	**Team Manager Green**
Peter Smith (1)	Ben Cox (1)
Jack Brown (2)	Jimmy Kent (2)
Cameron Green (2)	Billy Hobbs (3)
Jesse Williams (3)	Scott Cook (3)
Luke Walker (3)	James Taylor (3)
Jonny Jones (4)	Robert Walsh (4)
Harry Palmer (5)	Sam Perry (5)
Total Rating: 20	**Total Rating: 21**

Step 5: Make any changes to ensure volunteer's children are on the required team. At this point, players should only be swapped for players with an equal rating.

Team 1	Team 2
Coach Walker	**Coach Smith**
Assistant Coach Hobbs	**Assistant Coach Jones**
Team Manager Walsh	**Team Manager Green**
Peter Smith (1)	Ben Cox (1)
Jack Brown (2)	Jimmy Kent (2)
Cameron Green (2)	Billy Hobbs (3)
Jesse Williams (3)	Scott Cook (3)
Luke Walker (3)	James Taylor (3)
Jonny Jones (4)	Robert Walsh (4)
Harry Palmer (5)	Sam Perry (5)

Trades:

Billy Hobbs (3) moves from Team 2 to Team 1 in exchange for **Jesse Williams (3)**
Robert Walsh (4) moves from Team 1 to Team 2 in exchange for **Jonny Jones (4)**
Peter Smith (1) moves from Team 1 to Team 2 in exchange for **Ben Cox (1)**
Cameron Green (2) moves from Team 2 to Team 1 in exchange for **Jimmy Kent (2)**

Team 1	Team 2
Coach Walker	**Coach Smith**
Assistant Coach Hobbs	**Assistant Coach Jones**
Team Manager Walsh	**Team Manager Green**
Ben Cox (1)	Peter Smith (1)
Jack Brown (2)	Cameron Green (2)
Jimmy Kent (2)	Jesse Williams (3)
Billy Hobbs (3)	Scott Cook (3)
Luke Walker (3)	James Taylor (3)
Robert Walsh (4)	Jonny Jones (4)
Harry Palmer (5)	Sam Perry (5)
Total Rating: 20	**Total Rating: 21**

Step 6: Assess the two teams and consider how they would compare in a match. Fine tune the teams by making any necessary changes to ensure teams are as even as possible in terms of players' physical size and speed and overall team balance. Once again only swap players of the same value.

Step 7: As teams have been split evenly, they should be nominated in the same competition during the Team Nomination process. Please discuss with your WAFC Competition staff who will provide guidance as to the most suitable division for your teams.

Considerations

Please consider the below when following the above procedure:

- For clubs affected by PSA boarders, please ensure there are an equal number of boarders spread across the two teams.
- Upon request to the WAFC, Clubs will have the ability to make changes over the first two rounds of the Home & Away season, providing flexibility to get team balance right.
- After teams have been split, they are still encouraged to train together as per Rule 5 above.
- The WAFC encourages clubs to follow this process and reallocate players to a new team each season. The idea behind this is to promote players' individual development and allows them to experience the game playing with different teammates. It also promotes a club over team mentality where players are exposed to different coaches and coaching styles and encourages new friendships in both the player and parent groups.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC POL.15D
WAFC POL.19
WAFC POL.21
WAFC COMPRULES

WAFC POL.10B Competitions Policy: Colours & Team Uniform

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Colours & Team Uniform
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10B
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	11 December 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

Each Club shall nominate its colours and design of playing uniform.

RULES

1. APPROVAL	
1a	All designs must be approved by the WAFC.
1b	All teams representing a Club shall wear the playing uniform approved for that Club by the WAFC.
2. JUMPER CLASHES	
2a	If the WAFC deems that there is a clash, they shall request that the club determine another design within agreed design criteria.
2b	If the WAFC determines that there is a clash between two teams for a given match, then the Away Team must wear an alternative strip.
3. COMPRESSION GARMENTS – Year 7 to Year 12 ONLY	
3a	The wearing of full-length arm and leg compression garments must be approved by the WAFC Competition Team.
3b	The colour, length & style of compression undergarments (such as 'Skins' or 'Under Armour') shall be approved by the WAFC in line with the playing uniform.
3c	T-shirts and other non-compression garments are not permitted to be worn unless authorised by WAFC Competition Team.
4. COMPRESSION GARMENTS – Year 3 to Year 6 ONLY	
4a	Unless directed by the WAFC Competitions Team, competition participants may wear compression garments of any style, colour or length.
4b	Long and short sleeve, non-compression t-shirts may be worn if the shirt does not have a hood.
4c	Players are not permitted to wear jumpers, jackets or hooded garments under a football jumper during a match.
5. TEAM OFFICIAL GARMENTS	
5a	Team Officials are required to wear garments or vests as directed by the WAFC.

WAFC POL.10C Competitions Policy: Fixtures

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Fixtures
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10C
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	10 February 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

Prior to the commencement of each football season the WAFC shall appoint a person or committee to prepare a fixture list for all matches to be played in competitions under the control of the WAFC and to allocate grounds and times for such matters. This policy aims of providing clarity and integrity to fixturing across WA Junior Footy.

RULES

1. FRAMEWORK	
1a	Each competition will have a maximum of 8 teams, unless this is logistically unachievable due to the total number of teams within a year group.
1b	Divisions of 6 or 8 teams will be established from the top grade down based on grading to maximise competitiveness.
1c	The lowest division in each year group will be allocated the remaining number of teams, With a minimum of 6 teams, at the conclusion of the above
1d	In a 6-team competition, teams will play each team 3 times over a 15-week season and then play a 3-week finals series.
1e	In an 8-team competition, teams will play each team at least twice and then play a 3-week finals series.
1f	Where possible and subject to ground availability, competition fixtures will include: i. An equal number of matches played between all teams in each competition. ii. An equal number of home and away matches for each team. iii. Minimum of one fixture against every side to be played at home venue. iv. A clear indication of grounds and match times.
2. AMENDMENTS AND CANCELLED FIXTURES	
2a	Any proposed amendment or alteration to the fixtures shall be submitted in writing to the WAFC.
2b	Any re-fixturing that occurs after the commencement of the season will be at the discretion of the WAFC.
2c	If a round is cancelled due to factors outside the WAFC's control, all matches will be recorded as a 0-0 Draw and both sides will receive 2 Premiership and 4 E-points. If a side is scheduled to have a bye, they will receive no points as if the round had been played and the bye will be recorded as per normal circumstances.
2d	Any adjustments regarding Finals' Qualifications criteria will be at the WAFC Competition Team's discretion and will be assessed as required and communicated as soon as practicable.
3. RE-GRADING	
3a	Re-grading will occur after Round 5 of all competitions if required.
3b	For re-grading to occur, the following criteria must be met: i. A team shall be deemed uncompetitive in the division they are currently in. ii. There must be a team that has demonstrated that they will be more competitive in the division of the team which is being re-graded.

3c	Once re-grading occurs in a division, all the premiership points will be reset.
3d	If re-grading occurs, the following season structures will be adopted: i. In a 6-team competition each team will play each other twice, followed by a 3-week finals series. ii. In an 8-team competition, fixtures will be determined as per FootyWeb's fixture grid followed by a 3-week finals series.
4. FINALS	
4a	In competitions where a 3-week finals series is played, the top four teams will make finals, with the top two teams receiving a second chance.
4b	In competitions that play a cross conference finals series, a 3-week finals series is played, the top four teams will make finals, with the top two teams receiving a second chance. This will be followed by a cross-conference quarter final and a state grand final
4c	Where possible, Grand Finals will be played on neutral grounds.

WAFC POL.10D Competitions Policy: Transfers & Permits

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Transfers & Permits
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10D
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

All West Australian Football Commission competitions adhere to the AFL National Player Transfer Regulations. In addition to the national regulations, the below transfer and permit rules apply to all Junior & Youth Competitions under the control of the WAFC.

LOCAL TRANSFER RULES

At the full discretion of the WAFC Competitions Team, any one team with five or more WAFL Development Squad players can be penalised for transferring or permitting in any additional Development Squad players. Penalties include but are not limited to Premiership Points and can be reviewed and applied at any stage of the regular season.

PRIMARY REGISTRATION OF YOUTH PLAYERS

With the exclusion of WAFL Club listed participants, registered players who turn 18 on or after July 1 of the given year should hold their Primary Registration with a Junior Club or a club that have teams registered in a Junior competition. Players can Type-2 permit to Senior Community Clubs within partnership agreements.

Any players who turn 18 on or after July 1 who requests a transfer to a senior club are subject to approval by the WAFC.

LOCAL APPLICATION OF PERMITS

PERMIT TYPE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION
Type 1: Match Day Permits Allows a player to play a single match for a Club (other than the one to which the player is registered) and does not require home Club approval via Footyweb.	The WAFC prohibits the use of Type 1: Match Day permits in Junior & Youth Competitions. Type 1 permits are only to be used for representative football.
Type 2: Local Interchange Permits Subject to completion of an Interchange Agreement, this permit allows a player to play matches for a Club (other than the one to which the player is registered) and requires home Club approval via Footyweb.	The WAFC allows the use of Type 2: Local Interchange permits in Junior & Youth Competitions.
Type 3: Temporary Transfer Allows a player to temporarily transferred to or from the Northern Territory Football League for a maximum of one (1) season in accordance with the AFL National Player Transfer Regulations.	The WAFC allows the use of Type 3: Temporary Transfer permits for players playing in the NTFL only.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL National Player Transfer Regulations

WAFC POL.10E Competitions Policy: Results, Premiership Points & E-Points

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Results, Premiership Points & E-Points
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10E
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 January 2010

PREMIERSHIP POINTS

Premiership Points are awarded in all West Australian Football Commission run competitions in Year 7 and above.

RULES

1. PREMIERSHIP POINTS	
1a	Four Premiership Points are to be awarded to the winning team of a Home & Away match.
1b	Two points are to be awarded to each team in a drawn Home & Away match
1c	If a winning team's margin exceeds 60 points (10 goals) the team will only be credited with a maximum of 60 points (10 goals) winning margin.
1d	Where equality in total premiership points occurs at the conclusion of the qualifying round (Home & Away season), the position of a team shall be decided by E-points and then percentage.
1e	In the event that uneven matches are played, a match ratio shall apply to the premiership table. Match Ratio is calculated by the number of wins divided by the number of games played multiplied by 100.

E-POINTS

The purpose of the E-Point system is to weight game day behaviour with the same importance as winning a match and reward teams for displaying positive game day behaviour. The system deters players, coaches and parents from engaging in negative game day behaviour prior to it taking place. The E-Point model is applied to all competitions from Year 7 and above.

RULES

2. E-POINTS	
2a	A maximum of four E-Points will be awarded per team per game for each completed regular season match. The team's behaviour (including that of players, team officials, support staff or spectators) will determine if any of these E-Points will be deducted.
2b	One E-Point will be deducted for every Yellow Card received by each participating team on game day and the penalised club may be liable for a financial fine.
2c	Two E-Points will be deducted for every Red Card received by each participating team on game day and the penalised club may be liable for a financial fine.
2d	Two E-Points will be deducted from a team who has a player, parent/spectator or official who is issued a prescribed penalty with a base sanction of one match or more.
2e	Up to four E-points may be deducted from a team for any code of conduct, policy or bylaw breach relating to inappropriate game day behaviour. This is at the sole discretion of the WAFC.
2f	If any breach occurs during a break of play or after the final siren, the number of E-points deducted will be doubled as the umpire does not have the ability to award a free kick.
2g	During Finals, the WAFC can substitute financial fines in the place of E-Point penalties.

WAFC POL.10F Competitions Policy: Match Forfeits

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Match Forfeits
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10F
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 January 2021

RULES

1. FORFEITURE OF MATCHES	
1a	In a competition playing for premiership points, a match shall be deemed a forfeit if at the start of the match either team consists of less than: • 12 players (18-a-side competitions) • 10 players (15-a-side competitions) • 7 players (12-a-side competitions)
1b	Where a team fails to appear or forfeits a match, full premiership points (4) and E-Points (4) shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
1c	A team receiving a forfeit will be credited with 60 points for and zero points against on the competition ladder.
1d	A team giving the forfeit will be credited zero premiership points and zero E-points on the competition ladder
1e	In the event of a forfeit, both Clubs involved shall advise the WAFC in writing of the date of the match and include the reasons for the forfeit.
1f	Players for the team receiving the forfeit shall be credited as having played that game for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records. Players for the team that forfeited the match will not be credited as having played the match.
1g	Should a team play in ineligible player or utilise an ineligible official, that team will forfeit the game.
2. PAYMENT OF UMPIRES	
2a	If a team forfeits and provides less than 24hours notice to the WAFC, that team is required to pay 100% of umpires' fees for the match, as per WAFC Pol.14A.
2b	No payment of umpires is required if more than 24hrs notice be provided to the WAFC.

WAFC POL.10G Competitions Policy: Awards

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Competitions Policy: Awards
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.10G
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

In every match played in Year 7 – 12 Competitions, Field Umpires shall allocate votes for players they consider to be the fairest and best players in that match.

RULES

1. AWARDS	
1a	The fairest and best player in the game shall receive three votes, with the other fairest and best players receiving two, and one votes in order of performance. These votes shall be recorded by the umpire in an approved method set out by the WAFC.
1b	The approved voting method shall clearly outline: • Age group, date and venue of match • Surname, initial, club and jumper number of the three players selected to receive votes
1c	The WAFC shall appoint a person to whom the fairest and best votes are to be entrusted and stored.
1d	The WAFC shall decide on the place and date where all fairest and best votes are tallied by persons appointed by the WAFC. i. The player who polls the highest number of votes in each competition shall be adjudged the 'Fairest and Best' player of that competition. ii. The player who polls the next highest number of votes shall be adjudged the 'Runner Up Fairest and Best'. iii. In the event of an equality of votes, then two or more trophies shall be presented. iv. Any player who is suspended throughout the season will be deemed ineligible.
1e	Where discrepancies in names or other details occur in voting then the team sheet for the relevant match shall be referenced to clarify the information.
1f	The WAFC may at its discretion allow a Donor or Donors to donate or establish a trophy or award in the form approved by the WAFC and bearing the name of the Donor or Donors.
1g	The following awards and trophies shall be presented by the WAFC each year: i. WAFC 'Fairest and Best' and 'Runner Up Fairest and Best' awards to the player or players who poll the highest number of umpire votes in each age group in Youth competitions. ii. WAFC award to the player selected by the Field Umpire or a specially appointed panel as the Fairest and Best player in the Grand Final of each competition. iii. Pennants and/or medallions for the team which wins the Grand Final in each age group in Youth competitions. iv. Any other awards or trophies as the WAFC shall deem fit.
1h	No Junior or Youth Player is to receive cash/cheque/monies as payment, incentive or reward for playing football in underage competitions. Vouchers from a sponsor or the club canteen are the preferred incentive method.

WAFC POL.11: Privacy Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Privacy Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.11
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	18 September 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission acknowledges the importance of our stakeholders' privacy and adheres to the National AFL Privacy Policy which can be found at www.afl.com.au/policies. By way of affiliation the National AFL Privacy Policy applies to all clubs.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Australian Football Bodies Privacy Policy

WAFC POL.12: Concussion Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Concussion Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.12
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	21 January 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission is committed to the health and safety of all people who play the game of Australian Football in WA. Concussion is a brain injury that occurs from impact to a player's head, either through collision with another player (which includes whiplash from body contact) or with the ground. Whilst the skull is in place to protect the brain, in a high impact collision, the brain can move back and forward within the skull causing temporary dysfunction.

GUIDELINES

Head impacts can be associated with serious and potentially fatal brain injuries. In the early stages of injury, it is often not clear whether you are dealing with a concussion or there is a more severe underlying structural head injury. For this reason, the most important steps in initial management include:

1. Recognising a suspected concussion;
2. Removing the player from the game;
3. Referring the player to a medical doctor for assessment.

Any player who has suffered a concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury and **must NOT** be allowed to return to play in the same game/practice session. There should be an accredited first aider at every game and the basic rules of first aid should be used when dealing with any player who is unconscious or injured.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR SUSPECTED CONCUSSION

<table>
<tr><th>RULE</th><th colspan="2">DESCRIPTION OF ACTION</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.</td><td colspan="2">Presence of any concussion symptoms or signs (e.g. stunned, confusion, memory problems, balance problems, headache, dizziness, not feeling right)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.</td><td colspan="2">Implement first aid management protocol, including cervical spine immobilisation</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.</td><td colspan="2">Remove from the ground and assess using pocket CRT (Concussion Recognition Tool)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">4.</td><td colspan="2">Presence of any factors for urgent hospital referral (e.g. confusion, vomiting, worsening headache).</td></tr>
<tr><td>YES
Call for ambulance and refer to hospital</td><td>NO
Do not allow player to return to play. Refer to medical doctor for assessment (at venue, local general practice or hospital emergency department)</td></tr>
</table>

HEADCHECK CONCUSSION APP

The Headcheck Concussion App continues to help Trainers, Coaches and Parents/Guardians recognise the symptoms of a suspected concussion and its severity through a series of concise questions and observations to quickly identify whether a child's head injury requires an ambulance, hospital, or a GP visit. The App also assists Parents/Guardians in managing their child's recovery program based on the symptoms displayed as well as guide the Parents/Guardians on their child's safe return to school, training and games.

The Headcheck Concussion App can be downloaded for free on both Apple and Android devices. For more information about the app, please visit www.headcheck.com.au

WAFC POL.12: Concussion Policy

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Community Concussion Guidelines
Head Injury Assessment Form
Pocket Concussion Recognition Tool (CRT)
Headcheck Concussion Management App

WAFC POL.13: Insurance Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Insurance Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.13
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission has negotiated in conjunction with the AFL, an Australian national insurance program with Insurance Brokers Marsh (formerly JLT). The program covers four critical areas of insurance:

- Player and Volunteer Personal Accident,
- Public Liability,
- Asset protection (theft and/or damage), and
- Associations (Directors and Officers Liability)

The national scheme covers each junior club from November 1 to October 31 at the base bronze level for Personal Accident. Upgrades to higher levels and therefore higher returns on claims are available after contacting Marsh direct.

TYPE OF COVER

All clubs are insured at a basic Bronze level coverage and should investigate upgrading their level of cover.

	Bronze Cover	Silver Cover	Gold Cover	Platinum Cover
Non-Medicare Medical Costs *(examples include: Ambulance, Physio, Dental, Chiro, Private Hospital Accommodation)*	• 50% Reimbursement • $2,000 Max. per claim • $100 excess per claim	• 75% Reimbursement • $2,500 Max. per claim • $75 excess per claim	• 90% Reimbursement • $3,500 Max. per claim • $50 excess per claim	• 90% Reimbursement • $7,500 Max. per claim • $50 excess per claim
Capital Benefits	• $20,000 for players under 18	• $30,000 for players under 18	• $40,000 for players under 18	• $50,000 for players under 18
Quad / Para Benefit	• $250,000 maximum	• $250,000 maximum	• $250,000 maximum	• $250,000 maximum

This table is to provide a brief overview. For full information regarding coverage and any changes to the policy please visit: https://sport.marshadvantage.com.au/afl

PRE-SEASON TRAINING INSURANCE

Within the AFL National Risk Protection Programme, Marsh covers all players who are registered to play with a club to the level of cover taken out by that club. In acknowledging that some players train to assess whether they want to register and play the full season, there is scope within the policy whereby 'prospective members' are covered for up to 4 weeks after their initial engagement with the club. If the player or member doesn't register within 4 weeks of their initial engagement with the club, they won't be covered

WAFC POL.13: Insurance Policy

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

MARSH AFL NRPP Summary
MARSH Player Information Flyer
Public Liability, Club Management Liability & Personal Injury
NAB AFL Auskick

WAFC POL.14: Umpire Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Umpire Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.14
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	7 May 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the procedures relating to umpires in Junior & Youth Competitions controlled by the WAFC. The various sections of this policy have been divided up into the following sub-procedures for ease of access and editing:

WAFC POL.14:

- A – Umpire Fees
- B – Match Day Paperwork
- C – Umpire Pathway
- D – Umpire Handshake Policy

WAFC POL.14A Umpire Policy: Umpire Fees

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Umpire Policy: Umpire Fees
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.14A
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission has developed a new Umpire fee structure with a clear focus on improving the match day environment by increasing attraction and retention rates and building a strong pathway for Community Football Umpires.

All Junior Umpire Fees will be reviewed annually as the WAFC continues to look at ways to reduce and clearly define payment levels. This will hopefully remove some of the barriers allowing for greater flexibility for Umpires to be appointed games across various levels of Community Football. From a Club and League volunteer perspective, the simplification of Umpire fees will also reduce confusion and administrative workload around Umpire payments.

The WAFC shall fix the maximum fee for umpires annually prior to the commencement of the season.

PAYMENT

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is the preferred payment method with 50% paid by each team. This process was successfully implemented in 2020 across most Metro Junior competitions with the intention of having every junior District adhere to this process.

In the event of a forfeit less than 24 hours prior to a game, Umpires will still be required to be remunerated, with the entire cost being paid by the team forfeiting.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Year 3 – Year 4 Competition Rules
Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules
Year 7 – Year 8 Competition Rules
Year 9 – Year 10 Competition Rules
Year 11/12 Competition Rules
AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC POL.14A Umpire Policy: Umpire Fees

COMPETITION	FEES
YEAR 11/12 COMPETITIONS The WAFC 18s Competition is played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. • Minimum 2 Umpire System • 4 x 20-minute quarters • 18-a-side	**$100 per Umpire**
YEAR 10 COMPETITIONS • 2 Umpire System (where possible) • 4 x 20-minute quarters • 18-a-side (Northern Conference only) • 15-a-side (Southern, Peel & Central Conferences) This age group plays as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. **YEAR 9 – YEAR 11 FEMALE COMPETITIONS** • 2 Umpire System (where possible) • 4 x 15-minute quarters • 15-a-side 15-a-side competitions are played on smaller sized grounds with the 'Last Possession' rule enforced. Field Umpires adjudicate out of bounds free kicks removing the need for Boundary Umpires.	**$100 per Umpire (1 umpire)** **$75 per Umpire (2 umpire)**
YEAR 9 COMPETITIONS • 2 Umpire System (where possible) • 4 x 20-minute quarters • 15-a-side This age group plays as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. Some Year 9 competitions are 15-a-side and played on smaller sized grounds with the 'Last Possession' rule enforced. Field Umpires adjudicate out of bounds free kicks removing the need for Boundary Umpires.	**$95 per Umpire (1 umpire)** **$70 per Umpire (2 umpire)**
YEAR 8 COMPETITIONS • 2 Umpire System (where possible) • 4 x 15-minute quarters • 15-a-side 15-a-side competitions are played on smaller sized grounds with the 'Last Possession' rule enforced. Field Umpires adjudicate out of bounds free kicks removing the need for Boundary Umpires.	**$95 per Umpire (1 umpire)** **$65 per Umpire (2 umpire)**
YEAR 7 COMPETITIONS • 2 Umpire System (where possible) • 4 x 15-minute quarters • 15-a-side 15-a-side competitions are played on smaller sized grounds with the 'Last Possession' rule enforced. Field Umpires adjudicate out of bounds free kicks removing the need for Boundary Umpires.	**$80 per Umpire (1 umpire)** **$55 per Umpire (2 umpire)**
YEAR 3 – YEAR 6 COMPETITIONS • 1 Umpire System • 4 x 15-minute quarters • Male: 15-a-side/Female: 12-a-side With shorter games, reduced ground size and reduced numbers on the field, only one Umpire is required in these competitions. As they also play the "Last Possession" rule, there is no requirement for Boundary Umpires which increases the responsibilities of the Field Umpire.	**$40 per Umpire**

WAFC POL.14B Umpire Policy: Match Day Paperwork

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Umpire Policy: Match Day Paperwork
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.14B
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	19 November 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

The WAFC uses the Match Day Report function within Sports TG's Footyweb for all Metro Junior and Youth competitions. Umpires are required to log into the Match Day Paperwork (MDP) app at the conclusion of each match to complete the necessary reports as a way of positively addressing game day environment, reporting any incidents and recording Fairest & Best votes.

WAFC POL.14C Umpire Policy: Umpire Pathway

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Umpire Policy: Umpire Pathway
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.14C
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	16 November 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

Umpiring is a fantastic way to get into the game with males and females of all ages playing a key role in Community Football in WA. However, with the continued growth of Australian Football, there is a need to increase the number of umpires. The AFL is committed to offering pathways nationally to people from non-traditional umpiring backgrounds.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Umpiring Pathway Document

WAFC POL.14D Umpire Policy: Umpire Handshake Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Umpire Policy: Umpire Handshake Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.14D
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2021

POLICY STATEMENT

Coaches are expected to shake the hand of the match day umpires both pre- and post-game.

This mark of respect will reinforce our commitment to influencing positive game day environments and stands as an excellent example of behaviour from the Coach to Players and Spectators. Coaches should also shake each other's hand both pre- and post-match.

COVID-19 Amendment

The Handshake Policy will continue to exist in principle, but participants are not required to physically shake the hand of the umpire. A preferable option is to discuss the positive game day environment and reflect on the positives of football, demonstrating good sportsmanship.

WAFC POL.15: Match Operations Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	14 November 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the procedures and rules involved in conducting Junior & Youth matches controlled by the WAFC. The various sections of this policy have been divided up into the following sub-procedures for ease of access and editing:

WAFC POL.15

- WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
- WAFC POL.15B – Team Sheets
- WAFC POL.15C – Match Duration
- WAFC POL.15D – Game Day Player Even Up
- WAFC POL.15E – Send Off Rule
- WAFC POL.15F – Removal of Players from the Arena
- WAFC POL.15G – Ground Encroachment
- WAFC POL.15H – Match Ball Policy
- WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy
- WAFC POL.15J – Blood Rule

WAFC POL.15A Match Operations Policy: Ground Preparation

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Ground Preparation
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15A
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	10 February 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

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

RULES

1. GROUND MARKING	
1a	The ground shall be marked in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football, which shall include a spectator line at least two metres outside the boundary line and six metres behind the goals.
2. COACHES BOX	
2a	A clearly identified Coaches and players box shall be marked no less than five metres from either side of the interchange area in Year 5 competitions and above. The placement and dimensions of the Coaches box shall be set up as per **Figure 1** in below **Ground Preparation Diagrams** section.
2b	The Coaches box must be marked in paint. Where this is not possible, cones may be used with the permission from the WAFC.
2c	The Coaches box cannot be marked in front of the spectator line.
3. MATCH DAY CHECKLIST	
3a	A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate Match Day Checklist completed.
3b	If a Youth match is played following a Junior or Auskick match and/or the weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that game commencing and be documented.
4. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS	
4a	Matches are not permitted to commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Laws of Australian Football.
4b	There must be access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.
4c	There must be a stretcher present at the ground.
4d	There must be access to ice for medical treatment.
5. LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS	
5a	In accordance with Australian Standards, any night fixture shall have a minimum of 50 lux for Year 3 – 6 competitions and a minimum of 100 lux for Year 7 competitions and above.

COMPETITION	TRAINING REQ.	MATCH REG.
Junior (Year 3 – 6)	50 lux	50 lux
Youth (Year 7 – 10)	50 lux	100 lux
18s	50 lux	100 lux

For more information on lighting requirements please refer to the AFL Community Preferred Facility Guidelines.

6. GROUND SIZE SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

WAFC POL.15A Match Operations Policy: Ground Preparation

GROUND PREPARATION DIAGRAMS

Fig. 1

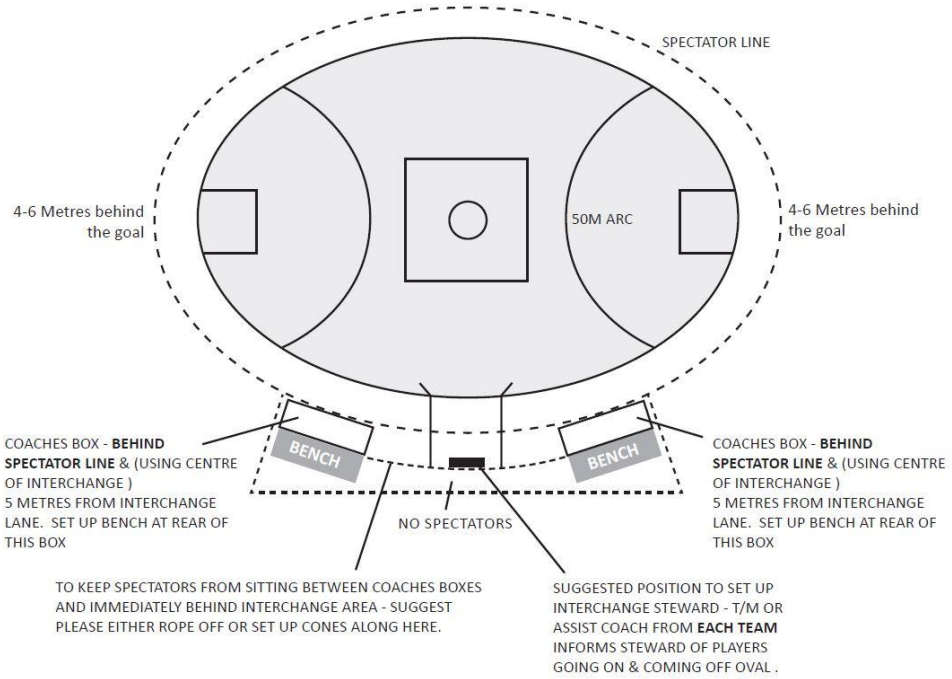
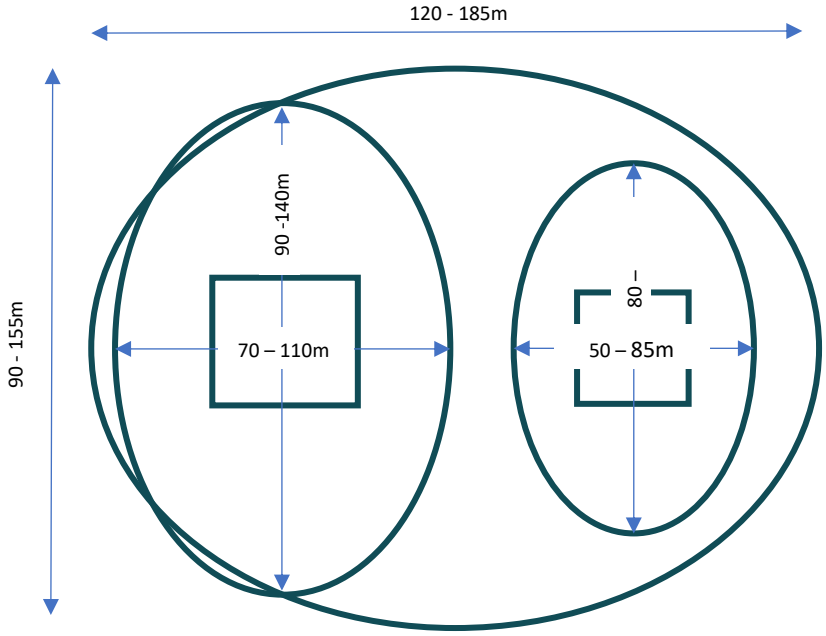


Fig. 2



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Laws of Australian Football

AFL Community Preferred Facility Guidelines

WAFC POL.15B Match Operations Policy: Team Sheets

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Team Sheets
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15B
Adapted by:	JS.
Last Modified:	6 December 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the procedures involved in submitting Team Sheets for Junior & Youth Football matches controlled by the WAFC. All competing teams shall ensure all players, coaches and team officials representing the team for any given match are included on the team sheet in the WAFC approved Registration System. Each team shall be responsible for following this policy at all games.

RULES

1. TEAM SHEETS	
1a	Each competing team shall provide WAFC approved team sheets for each match.
1b	All players' jumper numbers shall be displayed on the team sheet.
1c	Players may only enter the field of play if they are listed on the team sheet and in attendance at the game.
1d	A player can only be listed on the team sheet if they enter the field of play.
1e	Late arriving players cannot take to the field until presented to the umpires at the next break between quarters. Late arriving players shall not enter the playing field after half time.

WAFC POL.15C Match Operations Policy: Match Duration

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Match Duration
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15C
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	30 October 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

This document outlines the duration of Junior & Youth matches controlled by the WAFC, including the length of time between quarters and any rules surrounding time on/extra time.

RULES

1. MATCH DURATION	
1a	As per the WAFC Competition Rules, the length of match duration for all Junior & Youth Matches controlled by the WAFC shall be as follows: **Year 3 – Year 6:** 4x 15-minute quarters **Year 7 – Year 8:** 4x 15-minute quarters **Female Year 9 – Year 11:** 4x 15-minute quarters **Male Year 9 – Year 12:** 4x 20-minute quarters
2. TIME ON/EXTRA TIME	
2a	No time on may be added to any game, except: i. If the field umpire suspends play (by blowing their whistle and indicating to the Time Keeper with both hands above their head in the shape of a "T") due to a player sustaining an injury that requires the use of a stretcher or that the Umpire considers serious. ii. If the field umpire suspends play in the event of any Order Off offence committed by a player or official. iii. If a Captain approaches the field umpire to request a head count. iv. If in the opinion of the field umpire, exceptional circumstances are warranted.
3. INTERVALS	
3a	The maximum times allowed for intervals between quarters in all age groups are: i. First quarter interval shall be not more than five minutes. ii. Half time interval shall be not more than ten minutes. iii. Three quarter time intervals shall be not more than five minutes. iv. Upon a second warning from the umpire, if a team has not made an acceptable effort to take the field, the umpire shall award a free kick to the opposing team. Should both teams be offending the umpire will pay a free kick to the 1st returning team. v. In addition, if any team is deemed by the Umpire to be in breach this rule, the coach(s) of the offending team(s) shall be reported for engaging in time wasting.
4. FINALS	
4a	Should the final scores of both teams in any final round match, including the Grand Final, be equal at the end of the time allocated for the match, such match shall be extended by two additional periods of five minutes with no time on, in which the teams shall change ends and kick to either end of the ground alternatively.
4b	Should the scores still be tied at the end of these addition periods the team captains will decide which team will kick to which end of the ground by the toss of a coin and play will then resume until one team scores and that team shall be declared the winner.

4c	At the end of the game there will be a two-minute break between fulltime and the commencement of the extra time. (Coaches are allowed on the field at this time).
4d	After the completion of the first five minutes of extra time, teams are required to change ends with no break. Coaches and officials are not permitted to be on the field during this time.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC Competition Rules
AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC POL.15D Match Operations: Game Day Even Up

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Game Day Player Even Up
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15D
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28 January 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

This document outlines the Game Day Player Even Up Rules that are to be enforced in all Junior & Youth Football matches controlled by the WAFC. The Even Up rule is in place to ensure both teams have equal numbers on the field while maximising participants' playing time and shall be applied to all matches, including finals.

RULES

1. GENERAL APPLICATION	
1a	The even up rule will apply when one or two teams have less than the maximum number of players for the competition.
1b	If a team cannot field the maximum number of players for that competition, the team with the greater number of players must offer additional players to the lesser numbered team until team numbers comprise the maximum number of players, are even, or differ by one only.
1c	Each team shall have even numbers of players on the field during the match.
1d	Players must be rotated so that no single player plays more than one quarter per match for the opposition team.
2. INJURIES	
2a	If a player is injured and the team has no player to replace the injured player, the opposing team must even up immediately. A team captain may not call for a Player Count until the injured player is replaced.
3. YELLOW & RED CARDS	
3a	A player ordered off for a Red card offence during an even-up situation cannot be replaced for the remainder of the match.
3b	For the team utilising the even-up rule, if a player receives a Yellow card, for the period of time spent off the field, the same ruling as per a Red card will be applied, not as per the injury instructions.

WAFC POL.15E Match Operations Policy: Send Off Rule

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Send Off Rule
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15E
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 December 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

This document outlines the Send Off Rule that is to be applied in all Junior & Youth Football matches controlled by the WAFC. The Send Off Rule is in place in order to positively address the Game Day Environment in Junior Football

RULES

1. GENERAL	
1a	Umpires can issue Yellow and Red Cards to any player, official or spectator as deemed necessary.
2. YELLOW CARDS	
2a	An offender ordered off for a Yellow Card offence can be replaced immediately but is prohibited from taking the field for 15 minutes playing time.
2b	In the event that a Player or Official: i. Is issued with two Yellow Cards on the day of the match, then the offender shall take no further part in the game and cannot be replaced for 15 minutes and receives an automatic 1-week suspension. ii. Is ordered off for a Yellow Card offence and fails to leave the field immediately when directed by the field umpire, then the offender shall be reported for misconduct and consequently be deemed to have committed a Red Card offence. iii. Is issued with three Yellow Cards over the duration of a season, then the third and every yellow card received thereafter shall be upgraded to a Red Card at the conclusion of the match, resulting in an automatic one-week suspension.
3. RED CARDS	
3a	An offender ordered off for a red card offence cannot be replaced for 15 minutes playing time. The offending player may not return to the field for the remainder of the match.
3b	The offending player will be penalised in line with the Junior Football Tribunal Guidelines.
3c	A player, club/team official or spectator who fails to leave the arena immediately when directed by the umpire shall be reported for misconduct, the match shall be terminated, and the offending person's team will forfeit the match.
3d	Any official who receives a red card (which is upheld) will also have the details of the incident entered on the WAFC Red Flag system.
3e	Once the leaving the playing arena, the participant's club should assist the person receiving the red card to remove themselves from the venue as soon as practically possible.
4. SWEARING	
4a	As per the AFL Laws of Australian Football, if a player swears during a game (and is overheard by an umpire) then a free kick, 50 metre penalty or a red/yellow card can be paid against the player as a means of positively addressing the game day environment with Junior Football.

WAFC POL.15F Match Operations Policy: Removal of Players from the Playing Field

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Removal of Players from the Playing Field
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15F
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	7 December 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

No Coach or Club/Team Official may remove a team from the playing field during play. If a Coach or any club/team official removes a team from the playing arena whilst a game is in progress, such person and a responsible official from the person's club shall be required to appear before the WAFC and show cause why a penalty should not be imposed on the club and/or person, for their actions.

WAFC POL.15G Match Operations Policy: Ground Encroachment

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Ground Encroachment
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15G
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 December 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy documents the rules and procedures that are to be adhered to following encroachment of the playing arena by an unauthorised person or persons. This policy applies to all Junior and Youth football matches controlled by the WAFC and is in place to ensure the safety of all community football participants and a means of positively addressing Game Day Environment.

RULES

GROUND ENCROACHMENT	
1	In the event of an encroachment of the area of play by unauthorised persons, or that play is prevented by any other means, the field umpire shall seek the assistance of fellow umpires and/or any member of the WAFC to clear the playing arena so that the match may be resumed. If the field umpire is unable to do this within a reasonable time, they shall terminate play at that time and report all circumstances to the WAFC. This body may award the result or declare the match abandoned, forfeited or call a replay at its discretion or in line with AFL Laws of the Game.
2	Any Club whose officials, players and club spectators are found to be responsible for the unauthorised encroachment of any playing arena (and any official, player and club spectators so responsible) shall be liable for penalty. Penalties can include but are not limited to, yellow or red cards, fines, e-points, match suspensions and deregistration.
3	The home club (or the team mentioned first in the fixture) is responsible for ground security on the match day.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC POL.15H Match Operations Policy: Match Balls

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Match Balls
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15H
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	10 February 2021

POLICY STATEMENT

Each team competing in a WAFC controlled match shall supply a football. The home team shall provide the match ball and the away team is to provide a suitable spare football.

All match footballs must be:

- Of an age appropriate size as per the WAFC Competition Rules
- Manufactured by a WAFC agreed sponsored brand (Burley Sekem).
- Display branding of the nominated WAFC Ball Sponsor (HealthWays 2 & 5)
- Yellow in colour

All Grand Final Match footballs shall be new.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC COMPRULES.3-4
WAFC COMPRULES.5-6
WAFC COMPRULES.7-8
WAFC COMPRULES.YG7-11
WAFC COMPRULES.9-10
WAFC COMPRULES.11-12

WAFC POL.15I Match Operations Policy: Stretchers

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Stretchers
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15I
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 December 2020

POLICY BACKGROUND

As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, a stretcher is required at all Junior and Youth matches under the control of the WAFC, including finals.

RULES

1. CALLING FOR A STRETCHER	
1a	Any player who in the opinion of the injured player's team officials requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended to by a suitably trained and certified medical officer trained in the use of a stretcher prior to removal of that player.
1b	Only authorised persons are permitted to enter the field of play and no team meetings or coaching is permitted during this time. Players must remain in their positions ready for recommencement of play.
1c	Should a coach enter the field of play during a stretcher call and in the opinion of the umpire was doing so to provide instruction, a free kick will be awarded to the opposing side in front of goal at the end of the 10-metre square. (This rule will not apply if the 10 minutes or quarter break becomes enforced).
1d	Should both teams' coaches enter the field of play for the purpose of giving instruction, play will resume as would be the case under the rules of the game and both teams will have a fine imposed at the discretion of the WAFC.
1e	Umpires will report all stretcher call outs and the outcomes on the match documentation.
2. REMOVAL OF A PLAYER	
2a	If the stretcher has been called for by an authorised person, then the player will be removed from the playing field via the most direct route for play to recommence and the injured player may be replaced through the interchange.
2b	If a player is removed from the field on a stretcher then that player will not take any further part in the game whatsoever.
2c	If a field umpire or team medical officer is of the opinion that a player cannot be moved from the field of play due to the severity of an injury, then play may be abandoned for the game at the discretion of a meeting between the two Team Managers and the Field Umpire and/or any league appointed official (i.e., match day steward). The WAFC shall be advised of any such abandonment for the purpose of either rescheduling the fixture or determining a result according to the progress score and point of the game at which the game was abandoned. For all final round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by the WAFC or their appointed officials.
3. TIMEKEEPING	
3a	The timekeeper shall stop the clock once the field umpire has called time after a stretcher has entered the field of play, and shall restart the clock at the time the field umpire recommences play and calls time.
3b	The timekeeper shall record the time out and the time of the quarter at which point the clock was stopped.
3c	If the time taken to attend to the injured player exceeds 10 minutes from the time out the following will apply:

	• If the quarter would have ended during the delay - time will be called for the quarter and play will recommence for the next quarter after the standard break. • If the final quarter is in progress and the stretcher is called for, the remaining time will be played out once play recommences.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC POL.15A

WAFC POL.J Match Operations Policy: Blood Rule

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Match Operations Policy: Blood Rule
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.15J
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	7 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

This document outlines the rules relating to player bleeding during matches and is in place to ensure the safety of participants with a purpose of minimising the risk of spreading blood born infections.

RULES

1. BLOOD RULE	
1a	No Club shall allow any player to participate in any match or continue to participate in any match for so long as such player: i. is bleeding ii. has blood on any part of their person or uniform.
1b	If an Umpire observes a player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of their person or uniform, the Umpire shall act as follows: i. On observing that a player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the player is covered in blood, the field umpire shall direct such player to leave the field immediately after a break in play arises (i.e. score, free kick, mark, field bounce, boundary throw in). ii. When a boundary, goal or emergency umpire observes the need for this rule to be implemented, at the first possible break in play they will alert the field umpire. iii. Only the field umpires can direct a player to leave the playing field, thereby ensuring the team is not disadvantaged by playing one team member short for any period of time. iv. Any player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field, however his replacement must enter through the interchange area. v. Field Umpire in control of play shall give the replacement player reasonable time to take up their position prior to play recommencing. vi. When the injured player wishes to resume playing, he must enter through the interchange area (i.e. their playing number may have changed). vii. A player, who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an umpire given in accordance with this policy, shall be reported by the umpire for misconduct in that they refused to leave the field.
1c	Where an umpire is of the opinion that the player is bleeding or has blood on any part of them, the player shall immediately leave the field of play upon direction of the umpire. The player shall not return to take any further part in any match until and unless: i. The cause of any such bleeding has been abated. ii. The injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood is visible. iii. Any bloodstained article of uniform has been removed and replaced. iv. Any blood on any part of a player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

WAFC POL.16: Infectious Diseases Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Infectious Disease Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.16
Adapted by:	JS.
Last Modified:	6 December 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission acknowledges its role in dealing with the issue of infectious diseases in Australian Football. Being in an environment where players are regularly in close contact with others can increase the risk of contracting common illnesses. The WAFC recommends following the below guidelines to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. HYGIENE	
1a	Each club or team must ensure that 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.
1b	Each club or team must ensure that each of its players observe a high standard of personal hygiene, avoid spitting and wash hands regularly.
1c	Each club or team must ensure that each of its players avoid sharing personal drink bottles.
2. BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS	
Please refer to WAFC POL.15J Blood Rule which outline the rules specific to bleeding and blood born infections during matches.	
3. CHANGEROOMS	
Each club or team must ensure that all change 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.	

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.15J

WAFC POL.17: Risk Management Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Risk Management Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.17
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	25 October 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission advises that clubs should define and document its policy for risk management. The risk management policy should be relevant to the club's strategic context and its goals, objectives and the nature of the business.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

For more risk management information, tips and free downloadable resources please visit AFL Community Club.

WAFC POL.18: Photo & Video Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Photo & Video Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.18
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	8th January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission recognises that photographing and filming children in Community Football is usually performed in an appropriate manner and for good reason, however the inappropriate photographing and filming of children can occur which puts children at risk.

Community Football clubs are expected to create and maintain safe environments that are fit for purpose, provide positive experiences and ensure the safety of children.

If a parent, guardian or club official needs to discuss images being recorded due to privacy concerns, the team managers must immediately meet and discuss to ensure the privacy and safety of all participants. Respect should be afforded to all requests to not publish any photos or videos on social media platforms.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Additional information and resources regarding taking images and video of children can be found below:

Play by the Rules – Taking images of children

Drone Usage

TRUE SPORT – CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Codes of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	29 October 2018

ABOUT TRUE SPORT

True Sport is an initiative by the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries that supports local sporting clubs and associations to use eight values to share the benefits of sport and recreation to our whole community. After consulting with members of the sporting industry, it is apparent that people believe that strong community values are an important part of having a positive sporting experience in our State.

True Sport is the sport we want. Good sport can make a huge difference to our community and it is important to help sports work together to share this message through using a common language that everyone understands.

True Sport's eight values should be part of everyday life both on and off the field. By embracing these values, teams, clubs, participants and officials can work together to create fun, fair and safe environments for one and all to participate in sporting activities.

The eight True Sport Values are:

- **Have Fun**
- **Be Safe**
- **Give Back**
- **Be Healthy**
- **Play Fair**
- **Bring Your Best**
- **Show Respect**
- **Include All**

For more information on please visit https://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/truesport

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

The West Australian Football Commission strongly advises that all persons involved be issued with copies of the appropriate True Sport code of conduct. WA Football supports acts of sportsmanship (e.g. handshaking) between players, coaches, administrators, umpires etc.

TRUE SPORT – CODE OF CONDUCT

The various True Sport Codes of Conduct have been divided up into the following sub-documents for ease of access and editing:

WAFC.POL.19:

- A – RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter
- B – True Sport Administrator & Volunteers Code of Conduct
- C – True Sport Coaches Code of Conduct
- D – True Sport Parent & Spectators Code of Conduct
- E – True Sport Players Code of Conduct
- F – True Sport Runner/Water Carriers Code of Conduct
- G – True Sport Umpires Code of Conduct

RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	RED FLAG – Game Environment Filter
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19A
Adapted by:	JS
Last Modified:	13 December 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

Protecting and enhancing our Game Environment will always be a strategic focus for Community Football with ongoing enhancement of a Game Environment Filter (RED FLAG). This will assist in monitoring all football segments, and the standard of the environment and the spirit in which they are played. To this end an online filter has been developed whereby key football stakeholders are able to identify and bring to the attention of governing bodies any undesirable behaviours and actions that may breach any of the True Sport Codes of Conduct or Rule 1 "The Spirit of Junior Football".

RULES

1. RED FLAG NOTIFICATION
The Red Flag notification is completed online with confidentiality assured within the process. Issues that are flagged that require official intervention will be overseen by the WAFC in consultation with the specific League Officials and WAFC District/Regional Staff. The Red Flag filter will apply to everyone involved in Football from coaches, spectators, and players to volunteers and club administrators.
2. RED FLAG ACCESS
Club Presidents, District Officials, Umpires and WAFC Game Development Staff will have authority to access the filter via a special password and link. Please contact the WAFC to secure your access.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.19B - True Sport Administrator & Volunteers Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.19C - True Sport Coaches Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.19D - True Sport Parent & Spectators Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.19E - True Sport Players Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.19F - True Sport Runner/Water Carriers Code of Conduct
WAFC POL.19G - True Sport Umpires Code of Conduct

TRUE SPORT – ADMINISTRATOR & VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Administrator & Volunteer Code of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19B
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	7 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL administrators and volunteers must understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Remember that children participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.
2b	Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
3b	Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
3c	Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.
3d	Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
4. #BEHEALTHY	
4a	Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.
6b	Actively promote Positive Game Day Environments with Junior Football and the importance of E-Point structures to the game.
6c	Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
6d	Ensure promotion, well-being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
6e	Ensure positive player/umpire relationships are continually developed.
7. #INCLUDEALL	
7a	Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Coaches Code of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19C
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	7 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

This True Sport Coaches Code of Conduct is to be signed and adhered to as part of the accreditation requirements of the AFL & WAFC. Coaches should be aware that, in addition to this Code, they may be obliged to sign a further Code of Conduct/Ethics with their Club and/or League or State Sports Association.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL coaches must understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Be supportive at all times and refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in your care.
3b	Stress and monitor safety always.
3c	In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, your will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the return of injured, concussed or ill players to training.
3d	Keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of your players.
4. #BEHEALTHLY	
4a	Be reasonable in the demands you make on the time commitments of the players in your care, having due consideration for their health and well-being.
4b	Have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of your players when designing practice schedule, practice activities and involvement in competition.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of your Club, District and League/Association.
5b	Display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour at all times, ensuring that players understand and practise fair play.
5c	Reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.

7. #INCLUDEALL	
7a	Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of your involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
7b	Avoid overplaying the talented players aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability. When responsible for players in the 5-18-year-old age group, strive to ensure that all players gain equal playing time.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – SPECTATORS & PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Parent & Spectators Code of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19D
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	19 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL parents and spectators must understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Encourage children to participate in sport and have fun. Although remember this is about their ambition, and not yours.
2b	Remember that children play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they mini adults. Let them have fun and enjoy their junior sport experience.
3. #GIVEBACK	
3a	Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and helpers. Put your hand up to volunteer yourself.
4. #BEHEALTHY	
4a	Encourage your child to play multiple sports – they do not need to specialise and play one sport all year round.
5. #PLAYFAIR	
5a	Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
5b	Encourage players to follow the rules and the umpire's decisions.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
6b	Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good plays by both teams.
6c	If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment and honesty in public.
6d	Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
6e	Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
6f	Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not swearing, using derogatory language, harassing players, coaches, umpires or volunteers.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Players Code of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19E
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	29 October 2018

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL players must understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
3. #PLAYFAIR	
3a	Play by the rules.
3b	Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by your team, opponent or the other team.
3c	Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.
4. #BRINGYOURBEST	
4a	Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit so will you.
5. #SHOWRESPECT	
5a	Never argue with an umpire or an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach or teacher after the game.
5b	Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
5c	Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another teammate or player.
5d	Avoid using derogatory language or swearing.
6. #INCLUDEALL	
6a	Cooperate with and support your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would no competition.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations

TRUE SPORT – UMPIRES CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	True Sport – Umpires Code of Conduct
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.19G
Adapted by:	TM
Last Modified:	19 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

The major objective of Junior & Youth Football is to provide an opportunity for all children to play Australian Football in a safe environment designed to maximise the acquisition of skill and provide enjoyment. The True Sport Codes of Conduct, if followed by all people involved in our game, should ensure the fulfilment of this important objective.

RULES

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL	
1a	ALL umpires must understand and adhere to **BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'**.
2. #HAVEFUN	
2a	Ensure that the "spirit of the game" for children is not lost by using common sense and not over emphasizing errors.
2b	Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
3. #BESAFE	
3a	Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
3b	Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
4. #PLAYFAIR	
4a	Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour. Actions speak louder than words.
5. #BRINGYOURBEST	
5a	Compliment all participants on their efforts.
6. #SHOWRESPECT	
6a	Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all infractions.
6b	Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
6c	Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC Junior & Youth Football Rules & Regulations
AFL Laws of Australian Football

WAFC POL.20: Year Group Summary

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year Group Summary
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.20
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	29 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

Junior and Youth Football in WA is aligned to school years with the primary purpose of this being so that kids can play football with the friends that they attend school with.

YEAR GROUP SUMMARY

YEAR GROUP	BIRTH DATE RANGE
Auskick Pre-Primary	01/07/2015 – 30/06/2016
Auskick Year 1	01/07/2014 – 30/06/2015
Auskick Year 2	01/07/2013 – 30/06/2014
Year 3	01/07/2012 – 30/06/2013
Year 4	01/07/2011 – 30/06/2012
Year 5	01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011
Year 6	01/07/2009 – 30/06/2010
Year 7	01/07/2008 – 30/06/2009
Year 8	01/07/2007 – 30/06/2008
Year 9	01/07/2006 – 30/06/2007
Year 10	01/07/2005 – 30/06/2006
Year 11	01/07/2004 – 30/06/2005
Year 12	01/07/2003 – 30/06/2004

WAFC POL.21: ROTATING PLAYER PERMIT POLICY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Rotating Player Permit Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.21
Adapted by:	TM.
Last Modified:	21 November 2019

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy has been created by the West Australian Football Commission with the aim of providing more players with the opportunity to participate and develop their skills of the game. In a situation where a club has a team with a large squad, excess players may be permitted to another club on a weekly roster to assist teams with limited numbers and increase overall game time for our junior footballers. This policy is only to be applied if a club wishes to share players with other teams to maximise the number of games played throughout the year.

RULES

1. ESTABLISHING A PERMIT ROSTER	
1a	Prior to fixtures being published, the source club must assign each player a rating between 1 - 4 (1 being the strongest) based on their size, speed and overall ability. As a guide: 1 – Player who is a member of WAFL Colts, Development Squad or Rogers Cup. 2 – Player with above average size, speed and/or skill. 3 – Player with average size, speed and/or skill. 4 – Player with below average size, speed and/or skill.
1b	Players are to be listed in a cycle of 1 through 4 (i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4 etc) to evenly distribute players among the proposed Type 2 Permit roster based on their rating.
1c	Players to be Type 2 Permitted are to be rotated through the list as per **Fig 1.**
1d	The proposed roster must be endorsed by both the source and destination club and submitted to the WAFC by the Thursday before Round 1 of the season.
1e	In the case of injuries, illness or absence, the roster will require amendment to ensure each player is rotated through the permit process.
2. SUBMITTING PERMITS	
2a	Only players in excess of the maximum players allowed for the competition, including the bench, may be permitted to an opposing club. The source club should always have the advantage of a full bench.
2b	Players will be Type 2 Permitted on a Type 2 Local Interchange Permit as per WAFC POL.10D Transfers & Permits.
2c	The Type 2 Permit must be lodged online via Footyweb by the destination club three days prior to match day.
2d	The end date for the Type 2 permit but not go beyond the Monday after the match in which the player is rostered to play for the destination club.
3. RESTRICTIONS	
3a	If the destination club has 5 or more WAFL Colts/Development Squad or Rogers Cup players, then no further WAFL Colts/Development Squad or Rogers Cup players will be permitted.
3b	Players are only allowed to play finals matches for their primary club and are prohibited from permitting to opposition clubs under this model.
3c	Players must not be Type 2 Permitted to teams within the same club under this model.

WAFC POL.21: ROTATING PLAYER PERMIT POLICY

4. PLAYER AGREEMENT	
4a	Any player Type 2 Permitted to an opposition club must agree to do so prior to the Type 2 Permit being lodged.
4b	Players must agree to play to the best of their ability when Type 2 Permitted to an opposition club as per WAFC POL.19E – True Sport Players Code of Conduct
4c	If a player does not agree to be Type 2 Permitted to an opposition team under this model, then that player will be unable to play for their primary club in the week that they are rostered to be Type 2 Permitted to ensure fairness and equality in the roster to continue.

Fig 1.

In this example, the team has a squad of 30 with 5 excess players being permitted to an opposition side of a weekly basis. In Round 1, Players 26 – 30 are permitted, in Round 2, Players 21 – 25, Round 3, Player 16 – Player 20 etc.

RULE	RATING	RND 1	RND 2	RND 3	RND 4	RND 5	RND 6
Player 1	1						Permit
Player 2	2						Permit
Player 3	3						Permit
Player 4	4						Permit
Player 5	1						Permit
Player 6	2					Permit	
Player 7	3					Permit	
Player 8	4					Permit	
Player 9	1					Permit	
Player 10	2					Permit	
Player 11	3				Permit		
Player 12	4				Permit		
Player 13	1				Permit		
Player 14	2				Permit		
Player 15	3				Permit		
Player 16	4			Permit			
Player 17	1			Permit			
Player 18	2			Permit			
Player 19	3			Permit			
Player 20	4			Permit			
Player 21	1		Permit				
Player 22	2		Permit				
Player 23	3		Permit				
Player 24	1		Permit				
Player 25	2		Permit				
Player 26	1	Permit					
Player 27	2	Permit					
Player 28	1	Permit					
Player 29	3	Permit					
Player 30	1	Permit					

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

WAFC POL.10D

WAFC POL.19E – True Sport Players Code of Conduct

WAFC POL.22: Primary Registration Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Primary Registration Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.22
Adapted by:	JH
Last Modified:	27 January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

This policy is developed to provide clubs with clarity over where players are to be primary registered with an overall goal to increase transparency and communication between Clubs across different competitions.

1	**WAFL Futures** All WAFL Futures listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club. Players can Type 2 permit back to their Community Club of Origin for the entirety of the Community Season.
2	**WAFL Colts** All WAFL Colts listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club. Players can Type 2 permit back to their Community Club of Origin for the entirety of the Community Season.
3	**WAFL Senior List** All WAFL Senior listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club.
4	**Rogers Cup** All WAFLW listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club. Players can Type 2 permit back to their Community Club of Origin for the entirety of the Community Season.
5	**WAFLW Reserves** All WAFLW listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club. Players can Type 2 permit back to their Community Club of Origin for the entirety of the Community Season.
6	**WAFLW League** All WAFLW listed players will be primary registered with their zoned WAFL Club. Players can Type 2 permit back to their Community Club of Origin for the entirety of the Community Season.
7	**Community Juniors** All players turning 18 after July 1 in the current season who are not listed in a category above are to be primary registered with a Junior Club. Players can be Type-2 permitted to Senior competitions as rules permit.
8	**Community Seniors** All players turning 18 before June 30 or older in the current season who are not listed in a category above are to be primary registered with a Senior Club.
9	**Club of Origin** Players transferring or permitting from a WAFL Club are to be permitted or transferred to the club in which they were registered with prior to transferring to the WAFL Club. If a player is no longer eligible to play for their Club of Origin (ie. Junior Club) the player shall choose their preferred club.
10	**Player Fees** In acknowledging players play between multiple competitions, clubs should work together to assess how fees can be paid equitably across two clubs based on the number of games played without costing the player any more than a player who plays for one club.

WAFC POL.23: Gender Diversity Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Gender Diversity Policy
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC POL.23
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	20th January 2021

POLICY BACKGROUND

The West Australian Football Commission recognises that football should be enjoyed by all members of our community, regardless of gender identification. As such the WAFC is committed to inclusion and will utilise the AFL's Gender Diversity Policy in instances where Trans, Non-Binary or other Gender Identity is raised.

The National Gender Diversity Policy outlines the WAFC and AFL's position in respect to the participation of transgender and non-binary people in Australian Football competitions. The WAFC and AFL recognise that Australian Football is not just a sporting game. Australian Football is a beloved game that plays an important role in bringing families and communities together.

The WAFC and AFL are committed to the inclusion of gender diverse people in our game. The WAFC and AFL intend that gender diverse players who are registered to play football are supported in doing so in a safe and inclusive environment. Harassment and discrimination of gender diverse players engaging in Australian Football at any level must not be tolerated and will be handled in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the WAFC Junior Football Rules and Regulations.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Additional information and resources can be found below:

AFL Gender Diversity Policy

AFL GDP FAQs

WAFC COMPRULES.3-4: Year 3 – Year 4 Competition Rules

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 3 – Year 4 Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.3-4
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 January 2021

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. The below modifications have been made to Year 3 – Year 4 competitions to assist junior players with skill development and an understanding of the game. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes for Year 3 – Year 4 competitions should be 80m – 100m (L) x 50m – 75m (W)
1b. Football	**Year 3:** Size 1 synthetic football **Male Year 4:** Size 2 synthetic football **Female Year 4:** Size 2 synthetic football
1c. Number of Players	**Year 3:** 12-15-a-side **Male Year 4:** 15-a-side **Female Year 4:** 12-a-side The below rules apply to both Male and Female 12 and 15-a-side formats: **i.** No ruck or rovers **ii.** Unlimited reserves **iii.** Numbers on the field should always be even. ***Year 2 aged children are not permitted to play in Year 3 competitions**
1d. Match Length	4x 15-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. Start of Play	**i.** Ball-up in the centre of the ground between 2 players, approximately of equal size. **ii.** Players are not permitted to take full possession out of a ruck contest. **iii.** Maximum of 3 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball up for 15-a-side matches. **iv.** Maximum of 2 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball for 12-a-side matches.
2b. Positions	Soft zone resets at each stoppage: **12-a-side:** 3 lines of 4 (i.e., 4 forwards, 4 midfielders & 4 defenders). 2 midfielders from each side must set up on the wing as per **2a iv.** **15-a-side:** 5 lines of 3 (i.e., FF, HF, C, HB, FB)
2c. After a Goal	After a goal, a ball-up should occur in the centre of the ground as per 2a. The umpire shall select different players to contest the centre ball-up each time.

2d. Out of Bounds	**Last Possession Rule:** **i.** From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **ii.** If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **iii.** If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. **iv.** If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2e. Scrimmage	Umpire to stop play and with the help of the coaches, instruct players to return to their positions as per 2b before throwing the ball up. This is to teach players the positions and reduce congestion.
2f. Marking	A mark is to be awarded for any reasonable attempt at catching the ball, regardless of distance covered.
2g. Bouncing	Players are only permitted to bounce (or touch the ball on the ground) once before disposing of the ball.
2h. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground. Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire will call play on.
2i. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2j. 50m Penalties	Due to the reduced size of the playing field, umpires may award a 25-metre penalty.
2k. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	**Modified Wrap Tackle Rule:** **i.** Player may wrap both arms around an opponent and hold feet. **ii.** Players must not drop to ground. **iii.** Strictly no slinging or bringing the opposition player to ground. **iv.** Grabbing the arm is not permitted. **v.** Once tackled legally, players have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball, or a free kick for 'holding the ball' will be awarded. **vi.** If the player being tackled deliberately goes to ground, a free kick for 'holding the ball' will be awarded to the tackling player.
3b. Bumping	Strictly no bumping
3c. Smothering	Strictly no smothering, stripping or stealing of the ball
3d. Shepherding	Players are not permitted to push, shoulder or block an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.
4. COMPETITION ROLES	
4a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any Year 3 - Year 4 competition or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: **i.** Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season. If this occurs, they will be judged as an ineligible player. Team lists are to remain constant unless the team is instructed by WAFC to re-allocate players. **ii.** Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.

4b. Competition	**i.** No match results. **ii.** No premiership points. **iii.** No ladders **iv.** No finals
4c. Awards	No awards (Best & Fairest etc) at this level.

MATCH DAY ROLES

5. COMPETITION ROLES	
5a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. **iii.** The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
5b. Boundary Umpires	Boundary Umpires are not required in Year 3 – Year 4 matches as the Last Possession Rule is applied. See 2d. Out of Bounds.
5c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **iii.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
5d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire and be deemed to be the official timekeeper.
6. TEAM ROLES	
6a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in all home and away matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games (refer to WAFC POL.04).

	Accreditation **iv.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **v.** All head coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **vi.** If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **vii.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** **viii.** All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. **ix.** Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner.* *This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.* **Year 3 Exemptions** The coach is permitted to be on the ground during any game and therefore may exit the Coaches Box. The coach is not permitted to carry water. The coach is not permitted to carry a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant.
6b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. **Coaches Box** **iii.** Team managers are permitted inside the coaches box.
6c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area.

	v. Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vi.** Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area. **vii.** Team runners should be an adult. **viii.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. **Coaches Box** **ix.** The team runner is permitted inside the coach's box. **Year 3 Exemptions** Year 3 teams are not permitted to have a runner.
6d. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **v.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coach's box.
6e. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **ii.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy

WAFC COMPRULES.5-6: Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.5-6
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 January 2021

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. The below modifications have been made to all Year 5 – Year 6 competitions to assist junior players with skill development and an understanding of the game. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 3 - Year 4 competitions to Year 5 – Year 6 competitions have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	Ground sizes increase as per WAFC POL.15A
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2f. Marking	Stricter interpretation on marking with a 10m minimum distance from a kick.
3. CONTACT	
3b. Bumping	Bumping permitted.
3c. Smothering	Smothering is permitted.
3d. Shepherding	Shepherding is permitted

WAFC COMPRULES.5-6: Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes for Year 5 – Year 6 competitions should be 90m – 110m (L) x 70m – 85m (W)
1b. Football	**Male Year 5:** Size 2 leather football **Female Year 5:** Size 2 synthetic football **Male Year 6:** Size 3 leather football **Female Year 6:** Size 2 synthetic football
1c. Number of Players	**Male:** 15-a-side **Female:** 12-a-side The below rules apply to both Male and Female 12 and 15-a-side formats: **i.** No ruck or rovers **ii.** Unlimited reserves **iii.** Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 15-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. Start of Play	**i.** Ball-up in the centre of the ground between 2 players, approximately of equal size. **ii.** Players are not permitted to take full possession out of a ruck contest. **iii.** Maximum of 3 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball up. **iv.** Maximum of 2 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball for 12-a-side matches
2b. Positions	Soft zone resets at each stoppage: **12-a-side:** 3 lines of 4 (i.e., 4 forwards, 4 midfielders & 4 defenders). 2 midfielders from each side must set up on the wing as per **2a iv.** **15-a-side:** 5 lines of 3 (i.e., FF, HF, C, HB, FB)
2c. After a Goal	After a goal, a ball-up should occur in the centre of the ground as per 2a. The umpire shall select different players to contest the centre ball-up each time.
2d. Out of Bounds	**Last Possession Rule:** **i.** From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **ii.** If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **iii.** If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. **iv.** If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2e. Scrimmage	Umpire to stop play before throwing the ball up. Coaches should instruct players to get into position as per 2b to teach players the positions and reduce congestion.
2f. Marking	A mark is to be awarded for any kick that travels a minimum of 10 metres
2g. Bouncing	Players are only permitted to bounce (or touch the ball on the ground) once before disposing of the ball.
2h. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground. Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire will call play on.
2i. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2j. 50m Penalties	Due to the reduced size of the playing field, umpires may award a 25-metre penalty.
2k. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.

WAFC COMPRULES.5-6: Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules

3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	**Modified Wrap Tackle Rule:** **i.** Player may wrap both arms around an opponent. **ii.** Players may take their opponent by dropping their weight. **iii.** Strictly no slinging or bringing the opposition player to ground in an aggressive manner. **iv.** Once tackled legally, players have 3 seconds to dispose of the ball, or a free kick for 'holding the ball' will be awarded.
3b. Bumping	Bumping is permitted as per AFL Laws of Australian Football.
3c. Smothering	Stealing or smothering the football whilst the opponent is in the process of kicking or has possession in general play is permitted.
3d. Shepherding	A player is permitted to block opponents and bump within 5 metres of the ball as per 3b.
4. COMPETITION ROLES	
4a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any Year 5 or Year 6 age group, or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: **i.** Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season, unless directed to do so by the WAFC under WAFC POL.10A 4b. **ii.** If a player does play for another team in the same Club and year group after Round One, they will be deemed an ineligible player. **iii.** Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.
4b. Competition	**i.** No match results. **ii.** No premiership points. **iii.** No ladders **iv.** No finals
4c. Awards	No awards (Best & Fairest etc) at this level.

WAFC COMPRULES.5-6: Year 5 – Year 6 Competition Rules

MATCH DAY ROLES

5. COMPETITION ROLES	
5a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. **iii.** The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
5b. Boundary Umpires	Boundary Umpires are not required in Year 5 – Year 6 matches as the Last Possession Rule is applied as per 2d. Out of Bounds.
5c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **iii.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
5d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire and be deemed to be the official timekeeper.
6. TEAM ROLES	
6a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in all home and away matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games (refer to WAFC POL.04 Equal Opportunity). **Accreditation** **iv.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **v.** All head coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match.

	vi. If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **vii.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** **viii.** All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. **i.** Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.*
6b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. **Coaches Box** **iii.** Team managers are permitted inside the coach's box.
6c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area. **v.** Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vi.** Team runners must always enter and exit the playing surface through the interchange area. **vii.** Team runners should be an adult. **viii.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. **Coaches Box** **ix.** The team runner is permitted inside the coach's box.

6e. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **v.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coach's box.
6f. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **ii.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy

WAFC COMPRULES.7-8: Year 7 – Year 8 Male Competition Rules

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 7 – Year 8 Male Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.7-8
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	15 January 2021

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. The below modifications have been made to all male Year 7 – Year 8 competitions to assist players with skill development and an understanding of the game. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 5 - Year 6 competitions to Year 7 – Year 8 competitions have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	Ground sizes increase as per WAFC POL.15A.
1c. Number of Players	Restrictions on the number of players allowed on the bench.
2. GENERAL MACTH RULES	
2b. Positions	Soft zone resets at centre bounces only.
2f. Marking	Increase of the minimum distance required for a mark.
2g. Bouncing	Maximum number of bounces increases.
2h. Kicking off the Ground	Players are permitted to kick the ball off the ground.
3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	Tackling permitted.
4. COMPETITION RULES	
4b. Competition	Scoring, match results, premiership points and ladders are all permitted. Finals matches are played.

WAFC COMPRULES.7-8: Year 7 – Year 8 Male Competition Rules

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes for Year 7 – Year 8 competitions should be set at 110m – 140m (L) x 70m – 110m (W).
1b. Football	**Year 7:** Size 3 leather footballs **Year 8:** Size 4 leather footballs
1c. Number of Players	**15-a-side:** **i.** Maximum of 7 players on the bench **ii.** Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 15-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. Start of Play	**i.** Ball-up in the centre of the ground between 2 players. **ii.** Players are not permitted to take full possession out of a ruck contest. **iii.** Maximum of 3 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball up.
2b. Positions	Soft zone resets at centre bounces: 5 forwards, 5 midfielders & 5 defenders
2c. After a Goal	After a goal, a ball-up should occur in the centre of the ground as per 2a. Start of Play.
2d. Out of Bounds	**Last Possession Rule:** **i.** From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **ii.** If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **iii.** If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. **iv.** If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2e. Scrimmage	Umpire to stop play before throwing the ball up. Coaches should instruct players to get into position as per 2b to teach players the positions and reduce congestion.
2f. Marking	A mark is to be awarded for any kick that travels a minimum of 15 metres
2g. Bouncing	Players are only permitted to bounce (or touch the ball on the ground) twice before disposing of the ball.
2h. Kicking off the Ground	Players are permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground.
2i. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2j. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	Tackling is permitted as per AFL Laws of the Game.
4. COMPETITION ROLES	
4a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any Year 7 or Year 8 competition or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: **i.** Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season, unless directed to do so by the WAFC under WAFC POL.10A 4b. **ii.** If a player does play for another team in the same Club and year group after Round One, they will be deemed an ineligible player. **iii.** Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.

4b. Competition	**i.** Scoring and match results are permitted. **ii.** Premiership points and ladders are permitted. **iii.** Finals are played
4c. Awards	**Year 7 & Year 8:** Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded at this level.
5. PLAYER ELIGIBITY	
5a. General	**i.** Once a player has played five games in an older year group within a junior competition, they shall be deemed to be a part of that older year group for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger year group. If a player has played in multiple teams in the older year group within a junior competition, they will become a member of the team they played the most matches for. **ii.** Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFC State Program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season. **iii.** Any Colts player who plays a match at WAFL level, is deemed ineligible to play Junior/Youth football on the same weekend.
5b. Finals Eligibility	**i.** To be eligible to take part in any finals match all non-WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of five matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season. **ii.** WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of seven matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season to be eligible for finals. **iii.** A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the WAFC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the WAFC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is six or more consecutive matches. **iv.** WAFL Colts players who have played at least three quarters of the total matches of the qualifying rounds of the WAFL Colts season are ineligible to play with a junior club/team during junior finals. **v.** Players may only compete in one finals series with the one team.

MATCH DAY ROLES

6. COMPETITION ROLES	
6a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. **iii.** The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
6b. Boundary Umpires	Boundary umpires are not required for any Year 7 – Year 8 15-a-side matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply as per 2d. Out of Bounds.
6c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with Interchange Stewards/independent scorer at all major breaks. **iii.** At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire. **iv.** The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **v.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
6d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire and be deemed to be the official timekeeper.
6e. Interchange Steward	Both the home and away teams are responsible for providing an Interchange Steward. **i.** Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. **ii.** In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.

6f. Independent Scorer	The Home Team shall provide and independent scorer. **i.** The Independent Scorer is permitted to be the same person as the Interchange Steward. **ii.** The Independent Scorer shall carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game **iii.** The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter. **iv.** Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.
7. TEAM ROLES	
7a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals (refer to WAFC POL.04) **Accreditation** **i.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **ii.** All head coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **iii.** If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **iv.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** i. All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. ii. Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.*
7b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.

	Coaches Box **iii.** Team managers are permitted inside the Coaches box.
7c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area. **v.** Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vi.** Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area. **vii.** Team runners should be an adult. **viii.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. **Coaches Box** **ix.** The team runner is permitted inside the coaches box.
7d. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **i.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the Coaches box.
7e. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **v.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy

WAFC COMPRULES.9-10: Year 9 – Year 10 Male Competition Rules

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 9 – Year 10 Male Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.9-10
Adapted by:	JS.
Last Modified:	6 December 2019

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. In addition to the AFL Laws of Australian Football, the below local rules apply to all Year 9 – Year 10 competitions to ensure fair and even competitions. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 7 - Year 8 competitions to Year 9 – Year 10 competitions have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	Ground sizes increase as per WAFC POL.15A
1b. Football	Size 4 leather footballs
1d. Number of Players	Match length increases.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. General	Rules as per AFL Laws of Australian Football with no restrictions on kicking the ball off the ground, number of bounces allowed etc.

WAFC COMPRULES.9-10: Year 9 – Year 10 Male Competition Rules

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes should be set as follows: **Year 9 - 15-a-side:** 120m – 150m (L) x 90 – 120m (W). **Year 10 15 a-side & 18-a-side:** 135m – 185m (L) x 110m – 155m (W).
1b. Football	Size 4 leather footballs
1c. Number of Players	**18-a-side:** **i.** Maximum of 7 players on the bench **15-a-side:** **ii.** Maximum of 7 players on the bench The below rule applies to both 15 and 18-a-side formats: **iii.** Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 20-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. General	Rules as per AFL Laws of Australian Football
2b. Positions	**15-a-side:** **i.** Soft zone resets at centre bounces: **ii.** 5 forwards, 5 midfielders & 5 defenders **18-a-side:** **iii.** As per AFL Laws of Australian Football
2c. Out of Bounds	**15-a-side & 18-a-side:** **Last Possession Rule:** **iv.** From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **v.** If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **vi.** If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. **vii.** If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2d. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2e. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. COMPETITION ROLES	
3a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single division in any Year 9 or Year 10 year group or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: **i.** Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season, unless directed to do so by the WAFC under WAFC POL.10A 4b. **ii.** If a player does play for another team in the same Club and year group after Round One, they will be deemed an ineligible player. This rule also applies for "Play Ups". **iii.** Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.
3b. Competition	**i.** Scoring and match results are permitted. **ii.** Premiership points and ladders are permitted. **iii.** Finals are played
3c. Awards	Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded at this level.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBITY	
4a. General	**i.** Once a player has played five games in an older year group within a junior competition, they shall be deemed to be a part of that older year group for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger year group. A player is not permitted to play in multiple teams in the older year group within a junior competition, as per 3.a.i **ii.** Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFC State Program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season. **iii.** Any Colts player who plays a match at WAFL level, is deemed ineligible to play Junior/Youth football on the same weekend.
4b. Finals Eligibility	**i.** To be eligible to take part in any finals match all non-WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of five matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season. **ii.** A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the WAFC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the WAFC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is six or more consecutive matches. **iii.** Players may only compete in one finals series with the one team. **WAFL Colts Players** **iv.** WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of seven matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season to be eligible for finals. **v.** WAFL Colts players who have played at least three quarters of the total matches of the qualifying rounds of the WAFL Colts season are ineligible to play with a junior club/team during junior finals.

MATCH DAY ROLES

5. COMPETITION ROLES	
5a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC.

	iii. The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
5b. Boundary Umpires	**i.** Each team competing in an 18-a-side competition from Year 9 and above shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **ii.** Boundary umpires are not required for any Year 9 15-a-side matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply as per 2c. Out of Bounds.
5c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with Interchange Stewards/independent scorer at all major breaks. **iii.** At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire. **iv.** The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **v.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
5d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire and be deemed to be the official timekeeper.
5e. Interchange Steward	Both the home and away teams are responsible for providing an Interchange Steward. **i.** Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. **ii.** In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.
5f. Independent Scorer	The Home Team shall provide and independent scorer. **i.** The Independent Scorer is permitted to be the same person as the Interchange Steward. **ii.** The Independent Scorer shall carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game **iii.** The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter. **iv.** Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.

6. TEAM ROLES	
6a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals (refer to WAFC POL.04) **Accreditation** **i.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **ii.** At minimum all head coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **iii.** If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **iv.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** i. All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. ii. Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* (see next page) • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.*
6b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. **Coaches Box** **iii.** Team managers are permitted inside the coaches box.

6c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area. **v.** Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vi.** Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area. **vii.** Team runners should be an adult. **viii.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. **Coaches Box** **ix.** The team runner is permitted inside the coaches box.
6e. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **i.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coaches box.
6f. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **v.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
WAFC POL.10A – Team Nominations
WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy

WAFC COMPRULES.11-12: Year 11 – Year 12 Male Competition Rule

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 11 – Year 12 Male Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.11-12
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	28th January 2021

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. In addition to the AFL Laws of Australian Football, the below local rules apply to all Year 11 – Year 12 competitions to ensure fair and even competitions. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 9 - Year 10 competitions to the Year 11-12 competition have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1b. Football	Size 5 leather footballs
1c. Number of players	18-a-side on the field
3. COMPETITION RULES	
3a. Team Nominations	Players are permitted to move between teams in the same club throughout the season.
5. COMPETITION RULES	
5b. Boundary Umpires	Boundary umpires are reintroduced for this age group.

WAFC COMPRULES.11-12: Year 11 – Year 12 Male Competition Rule

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes should be set as 135m – 185m (L) x 110m – 155m (W).
1b. Football	Size 5 leather footballs
1c. Number of Players	18-a-side **i.** Maximum of 7 players on the bench **ii.** Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 20-minute quarters.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. General	Rules as per AFL Laws of Australian Football
2b. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. COMPETITION RULES	
3a. Team Nominations	**i.** Players are permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club during the season. **ii.** Players are not permitted to play for multiple teams in the same year group in the same round. For all other general team nomination requirements, please refer to WAFC POL.10A.
3b. Competition	**i.** Scoring and match results are permitted. **ii.** Premiership points and ladders are permitted. **iii.** Finals are played
3c. Awards	Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded at this level.
4. PLAYER ELIGIBITY	
4a. General	**All Competitions** **i.** Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFC State Program will be credited for each match missed. The games will be allocated to the division where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season. **ii.** Any Colts player who plays a match at WAFL level, is deemed ineligible to play Youth football on the same weekend.
4b. Finals Eligibility	**i.** To be eligible to take part in any finals match all non-WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of five matches for that club in the qualifying rounds of that season for the Year 11–12 competition year group. The below is only applicable to Clubs with two teams entered in the Year 11-12 Year Group. **ii.** The division a player is permitted to play finals is as follows: **a)** A player is permitted to play in any higher division final. **b)** A player who plays in a finals match of a higher division is permitted to play in a lower division final (after the higher grade is eliminated) as long as the player has played five qualifying matches in that lower division. **c)** A player who has played less than five qualifying matches in a division is only permitted to play finals in the highest division in which he has played.

	d) Where a club has more than one team playing in a final on the same day a player from a higher division may play for the lower division, except those players stated in 4b(ii)(b) and 4b(ii)(c). **iii.** A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the WAFC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the WAFC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is six or more consecutive weeks in length. **WAFL Colts Players** **iv.** WAFL Colts players must have played a minimum of seven matches for that club in the qualifying rounds of that season for the Year 11-12 competition year group in order to be eligible for finals. **v.** WAFL Colts players who have played at least three quarters of the total matches of the qualifying rounds of the WAFL Colts season are ineligible to play with a junior club/team during junior finals.

MATCH DAY ROLES

5. COMPETITION ROLES	
5a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. **iii.** The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
5b. Boundary Umpires	**i.** Each team competing in an 18-a-side competition shall supply a boundary umpire who shall be correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **ii.** Boundary umpires are not required for any 15-a-side matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply.

5c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with Interchange Stewards/independent scorer at all major breaks. **iii.** At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire. **iv.** The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **v.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
5d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire, and be deemed to be the official timekeeper
5e. Interchange Steward	Both the home and away teams are responsible for providing an Interchange Steward. **i.** Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. **ii.** In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.
5f. Independent Scorer	The Home Team shall provide and independent scorer. **i.** The Independent Scorer is permitted to be the same person as the Interchange Steward. **ii.** The Independent Scorer shall carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game **iii.** The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter. **iv.** Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.

6. TEAM ROLES	
6a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals (refer to WAFC POL.04) **iv.** In case of finals matches, a coach must play all available and able players who have played a minimum of five matches for that division. **Accreditation** **v.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **vi.** All head coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **vii.** If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age-appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **viii.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age-appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** **ix.** All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. **x.** Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* (see next page) • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.*
6b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. **Coaches Box** **iii.** Team managers are permitted inside the coaches box.

6c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. **v.** Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area. **vi.** Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vii.** Team runners must always enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area. **viii.** Team runners should be an adult. **ix.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match. **Coaches Box** **x.** The team runner is permitted inside the coaches box.
6e. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **i.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coaches box.
6f. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **v.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- AFL Laws of Australian Football
- WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
- WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
- WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation
- WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy
- WAFC Player Welfare Document

WAFC COMPRULES.YG7-12: Year 7 – Year 12 Youth Girls

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	WAFC Community Football
Lead Procedure Title:	Year 7 – Year 12 Youth Girls Competition Rules
Procedure Reference Number:	WAFC COMPRULES.YG7-12
Adapted by:	JH.
Last Modified:	29 January 2021

BACKGROUND

All competitions managed by the West Australian Football Commission are played as per the AFL Laws of Australian Football. The below modifications have been made to all Youth Girls (Female Year 7 – Year 12) competitions to assist players with skill development and an understanding of the game. Coaches must endeavour to coach players within the spirit that these rules were intended (refer to WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations, Rule 1 – Spirit of Junior Football.)

Please note that where mixed year group competitions are played, the competition rules of the lower year group shall be applied.

KEY CHANGES

A summary of the key rule changes from Year 5 - Year 6 competitions to Year 7 – Year 12 Youth Girls competitions have been outlined below.

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	Ground sizes increase as per WAFC POL.15A
1b. Football	Increase in the size of footballs used
1c. Number of Players	Number of players increases from Year 9 and restrictions on the number of players permitted on the bench.
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2b. Positions	Soft zone resets at centre bounces only
2f. Marking	Increase of the minimum distance required for a mark.
2g. Bouncing	Maximum number of bounces is increased to 2.
3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	Tackling is permitted as per AFL Laws of the Game.
4. **COMPETITION RULES**	
4b. Competition	Scoring, premiership points, ladders and finals are permitted.
4c. Awards	Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded from Year 9 onwards.
5. **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**	
5a. General	
5b. Finals Eligibility	

WAFC COMPRULES.YG7-12: Year 7 – Year 12 Youth Girls

COMPETITION RULES

1. MATCH OPERATIONS	
1a. Ground Size	As per WAFC POL.15A – Ground Preparation, ground sizes should be set as follows: **Year 7 – Year 8:** 90m – 110m (L) x 70 – 85m (W). **Year 9 – Year 12:** 110m – 140m (L) x 70m – 110m (W)
1b. Football	**Year 7 – Year 8:** Size 3 leather footballs **Year 9 – Year 12:** Size 4 leather footballs
1c. Number of Players	**Year 7 – Year 8:** 12-a-side **Year 9 – Year 12:** 15-a-side The below rules apply to both 12 and 15-a-side formats: **i.** Maximum of 5 players on the bench **ii.** Numbers on the field should always be even
1d. Match Length	4x 15-minute quarters
2. GENERAL MATCH RULES	
2a. Start of Play	**i.** Ball-up in the centre of the ground between 2 players. **ii.** Payers are not permitted to take full possession out of a ruck contest. **iii.** Maximum of 3 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball up. **iv.** Maximum of 2 players from each team permitted within 20 metres of ball for 12-a-side matches.
2b. Positions	**12- a-side:** Soft zone resets at centre bounces: 4 forwards, 4 midfielders & 4 defenders. 2 midfielders from each side must set up on the wing as per **2a iv.** **15-a-side:** Soft zone resets at centre bounces: 5 forwards, 5 midfielders & 5 defenders.
2c. After a Goal	After a goal a ball-up should occur in the centre of the ground as per 2a.
2d. Out of Bounds	**Last Possession Rule** **i.** From a kick or handball, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **ii.** If a player runs the ball over the boundary line, a free kick is to be awarded to the nearest opponent. **iii.** If the ball is off hands or a player's body, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line. **iv.** If there is any doubt as to who's free kick it is, a ball-up is to occur 10 metres in from the boundary line.
2e. Scrimmage	Umpire to stop play before throwing the ball up. Coaches should instruct players to get into position as per 2b to teach players the positions and reduce congestion.
2f. Marking	A mark is to be awarded for any kick that travels a minimum of 15 metres
2g. Bouncing	Players are only permitted to bounce (or touch the ball on the ground) twice before disposing of the ball.
2h. Kicking off the Ground	Players are not permitted to deliberately kick the ball off the ground or use feet to control the ball whilst it is on the ground. Whereby the foot makes accidental contact to the ball, the umpire will call play on.
2i. Protected Area	The protected area at this level is 5 metres.
2j. Order-off Rule	To be applied as per the Red & Yellow card system.
3. CONTACT	
3a. Tackling	Tackling is permitted as per AFL Laws of the Game.

4. COMPETITION ROLES	
4a. Team Nominations	In addition to the general Team Nomination requirements in WAFC POL.10A, If a club enters more than one team in a single Youth Girls division in any Year 9 or Year 12 year group or has multiple teams in a year group, then the following is to apply: **i.** Players are not permitted to move from one team to another team in the same Club and year group after Round One of that season, unless directed to do so by the WAFC under WAFC POL.10A 4b. **ii.** If a player does play for another team in the same Club and year group after Round One, they will be deemed an ineligible player. **iii.** Each team is to be treated as a separate entity.
4b. Competition	**i.** Scoring and match results are permitted. **ii.** Premiership points and ladders are permitted. **iii.** Finals are played
4c. Awards	**Year 7 - 12:** Best players and goal kickers may be recorded and awarded.
5. PLAYER ELIGIBITY	
5a. General	**i.** Once a player has played five games in an older year group within a junior competition, they shall be deemed to be a part of that older year group for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger year group. If a player has played in multiple teams in the older year group within a junior competition, they will become a member of the team they played the most matches for. For the avoidance of doubt, this rule is only applied to female competitions. **ii.** Players who miss matches in the qualifying rounds of a season through participation in any WAFC State Program will be credited for each match missed. The grade of game allocated will be the grade where the player has played the majority of matches in the current season.
5b. Finals Eligibility	**i.** To be eligible to take part in any finals match, players must have played a minimum of five matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season. **ii.** A player who has suffered a long-term injury, and has subsequently not qualified for finals, may on application to the WAFC be deemed eligible given that they have provided supporting medical documentation. The final decision is at the sole discretion of the WAFC. A long-term injury refers to an injury where the recovery period is over six consecutive matches in length. **iii.** Players may only compete in one finals series with the one team.

	Rogers Cup Players **iv.** Maximum participation is 18 games across WA footy (State Talent Program Fixtures, Rogers Cup, WAFLW Reserves and Community Football). **v.** Must play 7 Junior Community games to qualify for finals. **vi.** Once a player has played more than 11 Rogers Cup or Reserves games, the player cannot participate in Junior Community finals. **vii.** If a player has played more than 11 Rogers Cup or Reserves games, that player can still participate in Junior Community qualifying rounds. **viii.** If a player participates in a 19th game of any season, they will be deemed an ineligible player, the game will be classed as a forfeit and the club may be fined. **ix.** If a player plays any WAFLW League match, that player cannot participate in any Junior Community Football games as a player for the remainder of that year. **x.** Any player that plays Reserves WAFLW matches may still fully participate in Junior Community Football. **xi.** For the intent of the policy – if a player is listed on a team sheet, that game will count towards the total of 18 games, regardless of time spent on the ground. **xii.** Preseason matches in either competition do not count towards the tally of 18 games.

MATCH DAY ROLES

6. COMPETITION ROLES	
6a. Field Umpires	The umpires' coach shall oversee a panel of umpires from which he will appoint a trained umpire(s) to officiate at each match played under the control of the WAFC. All umpires must comply with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations and any Competition variations adopted by the governing bodies. **i.** Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of Fairest and Best votes. An umpire appointed under this rule shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments. **ii.** All field umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by the WAFC. **iii.** The field umpire will report all stretcher callouts as per WAFC POL.15I – Stretcher Policy. **iv.** The collection of umpire related match documents is at the discretion of the WAFC. **v.** Any officially appointed emergency umpire will have the same powers as the central umpires.
6b. Boundary Umpires	Boundary umpires are not required for Year 7 – Year 12 Youth Girls matches as the Last Possession Rule will apply as per 2d. Out of Bounds.

6c. Goal Umpires	Each competing team shall supply a goal umpire who should be of sufficient knowledge and competency to carry out all responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Game. **i.** The Goal Umpires will wear the approved attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. **ii.** The goal umpire will be supplied with a scorecard. The goal umpire will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with Interchange Stewards/independent scorer at all major breaks. **iii.** At the conclusion of the game the Goal Umpire will date and sign the scorecards and hand them to the field umpire. **iv.** The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions (refer to WAFC POL.15) **v.** The goal umpire is not permitted to coach or encourage players.
6d. Timekeeper	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game. The Timekeeper will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire, and be deemed to be the official time keeper
6e. Interchange Steward	Both the home and away teams are responsible for providing an Interchange Steward. **i.** Only one steward per team is permitted inside the interchange area where they must remain for the duration of the match. **ii.** In the event an interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of the send-off details and make notes of any issues that would usually be the responsibility of the Interchange Steward.
6f. Independent Scorer	The Home Team shall provide and independent scorer. **i.** The Independent Scorer is permitted to be the same person as the Interchange Steward. **ii.** The Independent Scorer shall carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL Laws of the Game **iii.** The Goal umpires and the independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter. **iv.** Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal umpires then the scores will be clarified with the umpires and the independent scorer, with the scorecard of the independent scorer being deemed as the official score.
7. TEAM ROLES	
7a. Coaches	**General** **i.** A team for any match shall have a coach who is subject to the same investigations and penalties as a player, including suspensions, sanctions and fines. **ii.** Coaches must play all eligible and able players up to the maximum allowed in both home and away and finals matches. **iii.** Coaches must adhere to the Equal Opportunity Policy for all players in all games, including finals (refer to WAFC POL.04) **Accreditation** **iv.** Only accredited coaches will be able to be selected on a team sheet. **v.** All head coaches must at minimum be accredited as an age appropriate Foundation Coach via CoachAFL prior to coaching their first fixtured match.

	vi. If a coach is not a CoachAFL member and does not hold at minimum, an age appropriate Foundation Coach accreditation, they will not be permitted to coach. **vii.** All assistant coaches must be accredited as an age appropriate Foundation Coach prior to coaching their first fixtured match. **Coaches Box** **viii.** All coaching staff must remain within the Coaches Box. Only listed coaching staff can remain in the Coaches Box. Coaching staff may only exit the Coaches Box at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match. **ix.** Each team is permitted to have a maximum of five people inside the Coaches Box, performing the following roles: • Head Coach • Assistant Coach / Runner* (see next page) • Medical Trainer • Team Manager **Where the Assistant Coach is unable to perform the duties of Team Runner an additional volunteer may be appointed to perform the duties of Runner. This role MUST NOT carry out the duties of a 2nd Assistant Coach.*
7b. Team Manager	**General** **i.** Each team is required to have a team manager who will act as the primary point of contact for umpires, between competing teams and match officials. **ii.** The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day. **Coaches Box** Team managers are permitted inside the coaches box.
7c. Runners	**General** **i.** Teams are only permitted to have one runner. **ii.** Team runners shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved uniform. **iii.** Runners are not permitted to carry water. **iv.** Team runners are not permitted to remain on the playing surface. Team runners are to deliver one message from the coach to a player and return immediately to the Coaches Box via the interchange area. **v.** Team runners are not permitted to 'coach' whilst on the ground. **vi.** Team runners must enter and exit the playing field through the interchange area at all times. **vii.** Team runners should be an adult. **viii.** Team runners are not to carry out any other team official duties during a match **Coaches Box** **ix.** The team runner is permitted inside the coaches box.

7e. Medical Officer/Trainer	**i.** Each team shall provide a team medical officer/sports trainer with a current Provide First Aid – 1 Day Accreditation (previously known as Senior First Aid/Apply First Aid). **ii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved WAFC uniform. **iii.** The team medical officer/sports trainer must be able to prove, upon request by league officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured players on a stretcher. **iv.** Should a team fail to provide a qualified medical officer/sports trainer, then the opposing teams suitably trained medical officer/sports trainer may assume control of injured players for both teams. **Coaches Box** **v.** Only one Medical Officer/Trainer is permitted inside the coaches box.
7f. General	**i.** A team official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Game or the WAFC Rules & Regulations may not play or officiate in any game of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, WAFL, Country, School or Interstate competition. **ii.** Team Officials are not permitted to make intentional contact with opposition players under any circumstances.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

AFL Laws of Australian Football
WAFC Junior & Youth Rules & Regulations
WAFC POL.04 – Equal Opportunity
WAFC POL.10A – Team Nominations
WAFCPOL.15A – Ground Preparation