

# ONTARIO AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Affiliated with AFL Canada



(Established 1989)

34 King St. E., 9th Floor, Toronto, ON, M5C 2X8

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## **By-laws Definition:**

**In these By-Laws unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter: "OAFL" means Ontario Australian Football League.**

**The appendices and schedules attached (pages 40 - 59) should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of the Ontario Australian Football League.**

## **BYLAWS**

### Bylaws Definition:

In these bylaws unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter: "OAFL" means Ontario Australian Football League.

The appendices and schedules attached should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of the Ontario Australian Football League.

- 1.0 a) Changes to Bylaws can only be implemented at an OAFL General Meeting where a quorum of OAFL member clubs and the League Executive are present.
  - b) Clubs wishing to propose changes to the Bylaws, must submit all proposals through a single club representative.
  - c) Proposed Bylaw changes must be presented to any member of the OAFL League Executive two (2) weeks prior to the OAFL General Meeting. Following discussion, the OAFL League Executive has the discretion to decide whether the proposed Bylaws changes will be voted upon. If so, the OAFL League Executive must present such proposals to all OAFL member clubs one (1) week prior to the OAFL General Meeting.
  - d) The OAFL General Meeting where Bylaw changes are planned can only occur two (2) times per calendar year. The first meeting must occur prior to the start of the season (preferably in March). The second meeting must occur after the conclusion of the entire OAFL season (preferably in November). Any proposed Bylaw changes that are approved for implementation by the OAFL member clubs and League Executive at these meetings, can be applied to the forthcoming OAFL season. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) may be held on the same day as the second General Meeting, if the OAFL Executive decides it is of benefit to the clubs. The following definitions apply:

Quorum: a group of OAFL Senior member club representatives and League Executive officials in attendance at an OAFL General Meeting (either in person, or by video/internet/teleconference) whereby a minimum of 70% of OAFL Senior member clubs are accounted for.
  - e) Changes to the Bylaws will be deemed accepted and approved for implementation upon a simple majority vote where each OAFL member clubs has one (1) vote and the OAFL League Executive has two (2) or three (3) votes. The number of votes accrued to the OAFL League Executive is dependent on the total number of OAFL member clubs present in order to assure that the final vote tally will always be an odd number,

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ensuring that no tie will occur. The O AFL League Executive may vote en block or individually, at the discretion of the O AFL League Executive.

Junior affiliated clubs shall be organised into junior competitions by the Executive Committee after consultation with and recommendation from the junior committee.

- 1.1. Where possible, the senior affiliated clubs in good standing shall be organised into competitions. Where this is not practical, the allocation of senior affiliated clubs into appropriate divisions shall be determined by the executive committee.
- 1.2. Subject to clauses 1.4 and 1.5, a club shall be entitled to participate in the division in which it participated in the previous season, PROVIDED THAT the club whose first 18 teams were premiers in second, third and fourth divisions in the previous season shall be promoted to the next highest division and the club whose first 18 team finished bottom in each of first, second and third divisions, shall be relegated to the next lowest division.
- 1.3. The Executive Committee may otherwise promote, relegate, refuse to promote or admit any club into the O AFL in the event that:
  - (a) the club cannot field a full compliment of teams for the forthcoming season;
  - (b) playing facilities of the club are not of a sufficient standard for the division in which the team is to compete in the next season;
  - (c) there are any other circumstances which, in the opinion of the executive committee, require a club to be promoted, relegated or refused promotion.
- 1.4. All clubs have the option of fielding a senior, reserves and under 18 team each season in the O AFL. Where possible, there will be three divisions of under 18s, that is first division, second division and combined division comprising ten clubs. Where this is not possible, the allocation of clubs into appropriate divisions shall be determined by the executive committee. Nomination dates to field an under 18 team will be advised on a yearly basis.
- 1.5. If any club's senior, reserves or under 18 team defaults for more than three consecutive games or four (4) games after the commencement of the season, then the club shall be liable to a penalty at the discretion of the executive, PROVIDED THAT
  - (a) A penalty not exceeding \$500 for any one game forfeited may be imposed in accordance with by-law 6.8.
  - (b) In addition to any financial penalty, the executive may, at its discretion, withhold match points for the senior teams(s) of the club for each subsequent game in which the under 18 team forfeits.

and may be disbanded at the discretion of the League Executive.

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- (a) To ensure that Under 18 players are afforded the best opportunity of playing on a regular basis, final Under 18 lists shall be limited to a maximum of thirty (30) players.
    - i. No later than 31 January each year, clubs shall advise the O AFL of all inactive Under 18 players then currently registered. Such players must be formally deregistered.
    - ii. No later than the end of the first week in March each year, all first and second division clubs and all third and fourth division clubs intending to field an Under 18 team shall provide to the O AFL a minimum list of eighteen (18) players the names, addresses, contact telephone numbers and birth dates of Under 18 players (both registered and yet to be registered) then available to the club for the forthcoming season. No later than the second week in March each year, all clubs intending to field an Under 18 team shall provide to the O AFL a list of eighteen (18) registered players. This list will be used to satisfy the Executive Committee of the club's ability to field an Under 18 team.
      - i. Clubs shall advise the O AFL no later than the end of the second week in March of each year the names, addresses, contact telephone numbers and birth dates of Under 18 players available to play but not included in the list of thirty (30). The executive shall advise all clubs of the list of available, unregistered players.
- 1.6. A club wishing to gain entry to the O AFL must meet the following criteria before applying for entry.
- (a) Have a club executive of no less than four (4) people.
  - (b) Have no less than 12 registered players at the time of application.
  - (c) Have a permit for a training ground.
  - (d) Have a jumper design, club colours and logo ready for league approval.
  - (e) Provide the O AFL with 50% of the league fees for the year.
  - (f) Non Toronto clubs must have a home ground secured.
  - (g) To enable the Executive Committee to ascertain the most appropriate division structure for the O AFL, all Affiliated Senior Clubs and Affiliated Junior Clubs shall advise the executive no later than the date nominated each year by the Executive Committee the number of teams it intends to field in the following season in the appropriate Division.
- 1.7. No junior grade team is permitted to have more than 30 players registered in each competitive age group (under 12/13/14/15/16) in each season. Block lists may be amended throughout the season via approval of the League's executive committee.
- 2.1. Each club shall provide an oval and changing room facilities to be approved by the Executive Committee for each season. Each oval and changing facilities must have the following:

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- (a) for Senior competitions, playing areas with a distance of not less than 135 metres and not more than 185 metres in length; and not less than 110 metres and not more than 155 metres in width;
- (b) two goal posts 6.4 metres apart and not less than 6 metres in height shall be placed at each end of the playing ground;
- (c) two behind posts shall be placed at a distance of 6.4 metres apart from each goal post and in a straight line with them, the minimum height of the behind posts shall be 3 metres;
- (d) the top 3 metres of goal posts and the whole of the behind posts painted white;
- (e) between ground level and 2 metres, goal and behind posts suitably padded;
- (f) permanent goal posts must be fitted with two flag holders on the goal umpire's right hand post and one flag holder on the goal umpire's left hand post;
- (g) all areas behind the goal and behind posts to be fenced;
- (h) a scoreboard which shall be operational for each game with numbers for scores at least 15 centimetres high;
- (i) playing surfaces satisfactory to the Executive Committee;
- (j) change rooms of not less than 40 square metres net useable floor space area for each competing club with separate showers and toilets serving each change room;
- (k) umpires' rooms which shall not be less than 20 square metres in area, containing a shower area separate from the players' area;
- (l) floors in the change rooms of solid construction such as concrete or timber;
- (m) a suitable stretcher on the boundary at the interchange area at all times during matches being played;
- (n) a properly marked playing oval as defined by the rules of the AFL;
- (o) two (2) Coaches Boxes. No more than four (4) officials plus the approved number of interchange players shall be allowed in each Coaches Box at any one time.
- (p) a suitable bell or siren to indicate to the players and umpires the commencement and conclusion of each quarter of a match;
- (q) four (4) goal flags in good condition;

Fine: One Penalty unit for any of the above infractions.

- 3.1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of matches in each Division by preparing fixtures for each team in each Division for each season.

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- 3.2. Unless other arrangements have been approved by the Executive Committee all matches shall start per the official O AFL fixture:

Saturday:	SENIORS:	2:10 pm, all divisions
	RESERVES	11:55 am, all divisions
	UNDER 18s	9:45 am, all divisions
Sunday:	UNDER 16s	2:15 pm, all divisions
	UNDER 15s	2:15 pm, all divisions
	UNDER 14s	12:20 pm, all divisions
	UNDER 13s	12:20 pm, all divisions
	UNDER 12s	10:50 am, all divisions
	UNDER 11s	10:50 am, all divisions
	UNDER 10s	9:30 am, all divisions
	UNDER 9s	9:30 am, all divisions

Any first round reserve grade game shall finish no later than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the senior game and any first round Under 18s game shall finish no later than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the reserve grade game. Once these times have been reached, the siren will be rung regardless of the state of play. Any Under 9 (or Under 10) grade game shall finish no later than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the Under 11s (or Under 12s). Any Under 11 (or Under 12) grade game shall finish no later than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the Under 13s (or Under 14s). Any Under 13 (or Under 14) grade game shall finish no later than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the Under 15s (or Under 16s). Once these times have been reached, the siren will be rung regardless of the state of play.

- 3.3. Teams not ready to start at appointed time shall render its club liable to a fine, if not ready to start within the first five (5) minutes. Fine: Ten (10) penalty units. A further one (1) penalty unit shall apply for each additional minute late after five minutes.
- 3.4. Any team not ready to commence within 20 minutes of the scheduled starting time shall forfeit the match unless by 5.00 p.m. on the Monday following the match the Executive Committee is satisfied that the reason for the delay was excusable.
- 3.5. If the specified half time allowance in accordance with by-law 3.8 is exceeded by five (5) minutes or more by any team, a penalty unit per minute in excess of the specified time shall apply.
- 3.6. All clubs are to supply a timekeeper, but only one timekeeping card as supplied by the O AFL shall be used at each venue. The home club shall supply the timecard. Both timekeepers from each club shall sign the timekeeper's card on completion of the game clearly showing the appropriate details and their names and their clubs. No person shall be permitted to act as a timekeeper unless they have attained the age of 18 years. Fine: One (1) penalty units.

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- 3.7. In all senior finals games, two (2) independent timekeepers shall be selected by the Executive Committee and shall be paid a fee for their services, if deemed appropriate, by the league executive.
- 3.8. Games will be timed as follows:
- (a) All senior regular season games and second round matches shall be of a duration of 4x20 minute quarters with no time on, unless for an extraordinary amount of stoppage in time due to an injury.
  - (b) There will be a five (5) minute break at the completion of the first and third quarters and a ten (10) minute break between the second and third quarters. In addition, the timekeepers shall stop the time clock running during each quarter at the direction of the field umpire when the goal umpire signals a goal or behind is scored or when the boundary umpire signals the ball is out of bounds so as to ensure that there is exactly the specified minutes of playing time in each quarter.
  - (c) Each reserve, under 18 game shall comprise of four 12 minute quarters with three (3) minute breaks at the completion of the first and third quarters and a 6 minute break between the second and third quarters. In addition, the timekeepers shall stop the time clock running during the third and fourth quarters only at the direction of the field umpire when the goal umpire signals a goal or behind is scored or when the boundary umpire signals the ball is out of bounds so as to ensure that there is exactly 20 minutes of playing time in each quarter.
  - (d) Each under 13, under 14, under 15 and under 16 game shall comprise of four 20 minute quarters (no time on) with five (5) minute breaks at the completion of the first and third quarters and a ten (10) minute break between the second and third quarters.
  - (e) Each under 11 and under 12 game shall comprise of four 15 minute quarters with five (5) minute breaks at the completion of the first and third quarters. Each under 11 and under 12 game shall have a ten (10) minute break between the second and third quarters.
  - (f) Each under 9 and under 10 game shall comprise of four 12 minute quarters with five (5) minute breaks at the completion of the first and third quarters. Each under 9 and under 10 game shall have a ten (10) minute break between the second and third quarters.
- 3.9. Footballs:
- (a) The O AFL will, prior to the commencement of each Senior grade match, provide the field umpires with one (1) new full size football in accordance with by-law 3.9 (b). In reserve, Under 18 grade matches, the home club will provide the field umpires with one new full size football and one full size football in good condition in accordance by-law 3.9 (b).
  - (b) The Executive Committee shall, from time to time, specify approved footballs to be used in authorised matches of the O AFL. No footballs may be used in any O AFL authorised match that does not comply with the specifications as set down by the Executive Committee.
  - (c) At the commencement of each Under 12 to Under 16 grade match (inclusive) the home club will provide the field umpire(s) with two approved footballs in good condition. At least one of the two balls supplied must be a leather football.

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- (d) At the commencement of each Under 9 to Under 11 grade match (inclusive) the home club will provide the field umpire(s) with two approved footballs in good condition.
- (e) Size 2 (9 - 11) approved footballs shall be used in all Under 9, Under 10 and Under 11 official O AFL matches.
- (f) Size 3 (12 - 13) approved footballs shall be used in all Under 12 and Under 13 official O AFL matches.
- (g) Size 4 (14 - 15) approved footballs shall be used in all Under 14 and Under 15 official O AFL matches.
- (h) Full size approved footballs shall be used in all Under 16 official O AFL matches.

Fine: Five penalty units.

- 3.10. Prior to the commencement of each match, each team of a Club shall complete a "team sheet" of all players, on-field officials, runners, selectors, drink carriers and trainers, who are actively involved with the team on that day. All players are to be in an alphabetical order and have signed prior to half time. This list must contain an accurate statement of the players and their numbers allotted for that day. No two players are permitted to play in the same team wearing the same number. Each person on the team list must sign their usual signature beside their name. Any player who plays and does not sign the team sheet will be considered an unregistered player. The team list shall be completed on the official form provided by the O AFL.
- 3.11. At the completion of each match, team managers must hand to the field umpire of the match the original copies of their team lists. The home club team manager must then exchange with the away club team manager the duplicate copies of the team lists at the same time. Failure to comply: One penalty unit.
- 3.12. At the completion of the match the goal umpires will lodge with the field umpires the goal umpires' score cards, the timekeeper's card and all vote cards. Failure to comply: One penalty unit.
- 3.13. All clubs must lodge with the league executive a Report on the Field Umpire form as supplied by the O AFL for all official matches played by senior and junior grades of that club by no later than 5.00 pm on Tuesday following the weekend in which the match was played. Failure to comply: Two penalty units.
- 3.14. Player uniforms:
  - (a) All teams in the Under 12 to Senior grades (inclusive), shall wear their registered club coloured guernseys, shorts and socks incorporating the side webbing at all games.
    - i. All teams visiting as the away team are required to wear white shorts, incorporating the side webbing.
    - ii. All guerneys, shorts and socks shall be approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.

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Fine: Player must leave the field.

- (a) All teams in the Under 9 to Under 11 grades (inclusive), shall wear their registered club coloured shorts, incorporating the side webbing in all games. All guerneys, shorts and socks shall be approved by the Executive Committee from time to time. Fine: One penalty unit for each infringement.
- (b) If two clubs compete in the same division and those clubs' colours are the same or similar and are drawn to compete against one another, the away club must change its jumper upon instruction from the league executive.
- (c) In the event of teams whose colours are the same or similar meeting in finals, the club first admitted to the league will retain its jumper. In the event that both clubs were admitted to the league in the same year, the club finishing higher on the ladder at the completion of the home and away season will retain its jumper. Fine: One penalty unit for each infringement.
- (d) No player will be permitted to compete in any official OAFL match without a number on the back of the playing guernsey. No two players on the one team shall have the same number. Each number shall be a whole number greater than zero (0) with a maximum of two digits. Except with the prior permission of the OAFL, clubs fielding seniors and reserves teams are to have one set of guerneys for both teams numbered in whole numbers greater than zero (0) with a maximum of two digits.
- (e) Clubs may apply to the Executive Committee for approval to incorporate sponsors' logos on their uniform. Such logos shall be located:
  - i. On the back of the Guernsey, a minimum of two (2) centimetres either above or below the player number and have a maximum height of 10 cm; and/or
  - i. On the front of the Guernsey on the breast opposite the approved OAFL logo and of a maximum size of eight (8) centimetres; and/or
  - ii. On the front of the playing shorts, a maximum of 8 square centimetres in size.

Fine: One penalty unit for each infringement.

- (a) No player will be permitted to compete in any official OAFL match with any form of underwear showing below the official OAFL shorts. Any infringement will result in the removal of the player from the field until such time as the infringing underwear is removed from the player.
- (b) Players who wear bicycle or lycra shorts extending on the legs below the line of the approved official OAFL uniform shorts must wear such shorts which match their approved club shorts. In the event that the above is impractical, then the clubs are to ensure that the shorts must be of a natural or neutral (i.e. Black or Blue) colour.

3.15. Trainers:

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- (a) Trainers appointed by clubs to officiate in matches shall wear white trousers, white overalls, white tops (or their club's windcheater/tracksuit top) and the OAFL Trainers' Association cap. Fine: One (1) penalty units for each infringement.
- (b) Each club must provide at least one accredited trainer at all OAFL official games. A minimum of Sports Medicine Australia Level One accreditation is required to comply with this by-law.
- (c) No person shall be permitted by any club to perform the duties of trainer in any official OAFL games unless such trainer has a current accreditation. Each team is permitted to have a maximum of three (3) trainers in any one match.

### 3.16. Drink carriers:

- (a) Each team shall be permitted a maximum of three (3) persons to perform the duty of "drink carriers". In all Senior, Reserve and Under 18 grade games, drink carriers must be a minimum of fifteen (15) years of age. In all junior grades, drink carriers must be a minimum of twelve (12) years of age.
- (b) The activities of "drink carriers" must be limited strictly to the delivery to players of drinks. The time spent by "drink carriers" on the playing arena must be kept to the minimum essential for the actual delivery of drinks to players. "Drink carriers" must not perform the activities normally performed by runners or trainers, must keep clear of play at all times and must immediately obey any instruction from an official field, boundary or goal umpire.
- (c) Drink carriers officiating in matches shall wear white trousers or shorts and a uniform bib as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.

Fine: One penalty units for each infringement.

### 3.17. Runners:

- (a) All club runners shall during any match wear an OAFL approved runner's uniform consisting of red track pants or red shorts and a red T-shirt clearly designated as the club's runner whilst inside the boundary fence and during the match. Fine: One (1) Penalty unit.
- (b) No person shall act as a club runner unless they have attained the age of 18 years.

### 3.18. Clubs desiring to conduct Senior, Reserve, under 18 or junior grade matches on a day or time other than that published by the league in the official fixture may do so providing the following requirements have been satisfied:

- (a) that all appropriate licences and permissions to conduct the game have been received and copies forwarded to the OAFL prior to the game.
- (b) that fourteen days notice be forwarded to the OAFL indicating times of commencement of all games and any alterations of venues to the published fixture.

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- (c) that fourteen days notice in writing requesting approval from the Executive Committee that the fixture be altered be forwarded to the O AFL from each club.
  - (d) that an advertisement be taken in the O AFL weekly record at least one week prior to the scheduled match advertising the change to the published fixture.
- 3.19. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary specified in the Australian Football League's "Laws of Australian Football":
- (a) All Under 9 to Under 11 (inclusive) teams shall be permitted to use a maximum of eight (8) interchange players in any game.
  - (b) All Under 12 to Under 16 (inclusive) teams shall be permitted to use a maximum of six (6) interchange players in any game.
  - (c) All Under 18 teams shall be permitted to use a maximum of six (6) interchange players in any game.
  - (d) All reserve grade teams shall be permitted to use a maximum of four (4) interchange players in any game.
  - (e) All senior grade teams shall be permitted to use a maximum of eight (8) interchange players if playing 16 a side and six (6) if playing 18 a side.
- 3.20. The wearing of gloves by players in all grades of competition of the O AFL shall be approved by the umpire prior to the commencement of the game.
- 3.21. Any players wearing metal or metal tipped cleats must either notify or, if asked, inform the umpire before the start of the game so that they can be inspected for sharp edges. The umpire has the power to ask that the cleats be removed or replaced.
- 3.22. A 50 metre penalty will apply in all official matches of the O AFL.
- 3.23. The Executive Committee may select any players registered with the O AFL from time to time to participate in inter-league or international matches to represent the O AFL.
- 3.24. Any player selected to participate in inter-league matches must play for the O AFL and any failure to do so shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee as they see fit.
- 3.25. All games shall be played in strict accordance with the "Laws of Australian Football" as determined by the AFL, unless otherwise advised by the O AFL.
- 3.26. Reported players and officials shall advise the reporting umpire of their names immediately upon request.
- 3.27. Clubs which play clubs from other competitions who supply umpires must in the event of their player or official being reported by those umpires, appear before that reporting umpire's League Independent Investigation Tribunal for investigation.

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- 3.28. In all grades except Under 9, 10, 11 both clubs must supply an interchange steward. Fine: One Penalty Unit.
- 3.29. There will be two lines, 15 metres apart, marked across the boundary line at which players can be **interchanged**. The steward will be stationed near to the fence between the two marked lines which will be situated in a central position of each ground. The steward shall note all interchanges that occur during the game. Fine: Three penalty units.
- 3.30. Once the match has started, no interchange of players will be permitted without the steward being advised of the numbers of the players being changed.
- 3.31. Players shall leave and enter the playing ground through the interchange area during the match unless the player is assisted from the playing arena through injury, in which case he may be taken from the playing ground at any point. His replacement shall enter the playing ground through the interchange area and the interchange steward notified of the injured player's name and number. The replaced player may return to the playing arena by way of normal interchange.
- 3.32. A player who is not injured in accordance with bylaw 3.31 and who does not leave the playing ground through the approved interchange shall not be permitted to take further part in the match.
- 3.33. In any senior official O AFL match, any player can be ordered from the ground by the Field Umpire/s if they have breached the AFL rules of football or the O AFL player's code of conduct. A player who receives a yellow card can be replaced. Any player who receives a 2nd yellow card or a red card cannot be replaced.
- (a) Where a player, at the sole discretion of the Field Umpire, is deemed to be in breach of the 2007 AFL "Laws of Australian Football" for offence(s) listed under by-laws or O AFL Player's Code of Conduct, as published from time to time, (refer Schedule One) the offending player may be ordered off the ground and can not be replaced. The field umpire/s shall signal to the Interchange the player's first order off under this By-Law by holding up a yellow card. A player given a yellow card may be replaced.
  - (b) Where a player, at the sole discretion of the Field Umpire, is deemed to be in breach of the 2007 AFL "Laws of Australian Football" for offence(s) listed in the by-laws or the O AFL Player's Code of Conduct, for a second yellow card in the same match, or for a red card offence the offending player will be ordered off the ground for the remainder of the match and cannot be replaced. The field umpire shall signal to the Interchange the player's second order off by holding up a red card.
  - (c) The field umpire shall submit the names of any players ordered from the ground to the O AFL on the umpire's match report.
  - (d) If any player has been sent off more than three (3) times in the season the player will automatically receive a one (1) game suspension. Upon the player's return from suspension the send off count will resume. The O AFL shall maintain a register of all players ordered from the ground and shall notify the Secretary of the club of the suspension of any player who has been ordered from the field on three (3) or more occasions in the same season.

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- (e) Any junior grade player (under 9 to under 16) ordered from the ground twice in one match or twice in one season will incur an automatic one week suspension in addition to any other penalty imposed by the independent tribunal or prescribed set penalties.
  - (f) Any junior grade player (under 9 to under 16) ordered off a third time in the same season will incur an automatic two week suspension in addition to any other penalty imposed by the Independent Tribunal or prescribed set penalties. The automatic penalty will then double for each subsequent order off in the same season. Any junior grade player (under 9 to under 16) reported under this rule will be dealt with in accordance with bylaw 10.4 (b).
  - (g) Any club who believes a junior player has been sent off unfairly has the right to appeal to the Independent Tribunal. Any such appeal must be lodged in writing to the O AFL by no later than 5:00 pm on the Monday immediately following the game together with a \$100 bond.
    - i. If the appellant is subsequently found not guilty by the Independent Tribunal the bond shall be refunded in full and the record of the order off in question struck from the register.
    - ii. If the appellant is subsequently found guilty at the Independent Tribunal the bond will be forfeited, the record of the order off will be retained on the register and the Independent Tribunal shall have the unfettered discretion to deal with the player in any way they see fit.
  - (h) Any player ordered from the ground by the Field Umpire will move quickly to the nearest boundary line (not necessarily to the Interchange line), depart the playing arena, and report to the Interchange Steward/Area, or if no Interchange Steward is in attendance, to his Coach.
    - i. An ordered-off player's penalty time will commence from when he reports to the Interchange Steward/Area, or Team Coach.
    - ii. An ordered-off player is not required to report to the Field Umpire prior to resuming play at the expiry of his penalty time. However, when returning to the field, the player must return through the interchange area.
    - iii. Failure of an ordered-off player to depart the playing arena as quickly as possible may be interpreted by the Umpire as deliberate waste of time. In such cases, the Umpire may award a free kick to the opposing team.
  - (i) Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. All cases of foul or abusive language will result in an automatic order-off without prior warning (and report if necessary). This ruling applies to players and officials alike.
- 3.34. Teams interchanging players during the intervals must advise the steward of such changes before the match recommences.
- 3.35. Should the steward observe the teams being lined up for the purpose of count under AFL "Laws of Australian Football", he should assist the field umpire if requested.
- 3.36. Breaches of any of these instructions must be noted in the Special Comments on the Control Sheet as supplied by the O AFL.

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- 3.37. After the match, the steward is to lodge his Control Sheet as supplied with the O.A.F.L. with the field umpire in the Umpires' Room for dispatch to the O.A.F.L. office.
- 3.38. At all games the consumption of alcohol at grounds shall not be permitted unless in accordance with local municipal bylaws. In no case shall alcohol be permitted other than in licensed club rooms before, during, or after junior matches. Clubs shall be responsible for the conduct of their own members, supporters and followers. Breaches of this bylaw will be considered serious and may attract monetary fines and other penalties at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 3.39. Any player who is aware or becomes aware or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that he/she has an infectious disease shall immediately report the fact of infection or that he suspects that he may be infected, to the Executive Committee.
- (a) A player shall, if requested by the Executive Committee, provide a medical report for blood borne infections in accordance with any directions given by the Executive Committee.
  - (b) The Executive Committee shall ensure so far as is practicable that the request that the player provide a medical report and the results of such testing remain confidential.
  - (c) A player shall immediately, upon request by the Executive Committee, be vaccinated for Hepatitis A/B and/or provide evidence of Hepatitis A/B vaccination.
  - (d) No Club shall allow any player to participate in any O.A.F.L. match or continue to participate in any O.A.F.L. match for so long as such player:
    - i. is bleeding; or
    - ii. has blood on any part of his person or uniform as per the umpire's discretion.
  - (e) Without limiting the generality of paragraphs (d) and (e) hereof, a player shall immediately, upon direction by a field umpire or an O.A.F.L. Umpires Association registered boundary umpire, goal umpire or emergency umpire, leave the playing arena where such umpire is of the opinion that the player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his person or uniform. Upon being directed to leave the playing arena, a player shall not return or 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 visible blood shall emanate there from;
    - iii. any blood stained article of uniform has been removed and replaced; and;
    - iv. any blood on any part of a player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed. Where a player is directed by an umpire to leave the field under this Rule the umpire shall wait a reasonable period to allow the replacement player to take up position before recommencing play. If a replacement player does not enter the field at the same time as the directed player leaves the field, the umpire shall recommence play immediately. On observing that a player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the player is otherwise covered in blood, the umpire shall cause the resumption of play to be delayed after the first break in play

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following detection of such injury or blood, so that the player can leave the field. A player who refuses to promptly obey

- v. a direction of an umpire given in accordance with this paragraph shall be reported by the umpire and such refusal shall be deemed to constitute a reportable offence under the "Laws of Australian Football". Such player shall be dealt with by the Independent Tribunal as the Tribunal, in its absolute discretion, deems fit.
- (f) Each club shall ensure that any bloodied item of uniform or clothing of a Player is placed as soon as possible in a hygienic sealed container and laundered to ensure the removal of all blood.
- (g) Each club shall ensure that all towels, wipes, bandages, dressings and other materials used in the treatment of bleeding players shall be placed in a hygienic sealed container and discarded or destroyed in accordance with directions given from time to time by the League executive.
- (h) Each club shall ensure that all dressing rooms and other areas occupied by the teams of the Club prior to, in the course of, or immediately following the completion of any match are kept clean and that no blood shall remain on any surface, equipment and areas shall be cleansed and disinfected immediately after contact with blood.
- (i) Each club shall ensure that players do not spit or urinate (other than in a receptacle provided for the purpose or a toilet) in or about any dressing rooms and other areas occupied by the teams of the club prior to, in the course of, or immediately following the completion of any match.
- (j) Each club shall ensure that all players provide individual towels, razors, face washers and drink containers and that players shall not share any of those items in the course of their preparation for, participation in, and following the completion of any match.
- (k) Each club shall ensure that all trainers and other personnel having the responsibility for the treatment of players shall report any cut, abrasion, or other injury involving the discharge of blood, to the Club Medical Officer immediately on becoming aware of such cut, abrasion, or injury.
- (l) In the event that an umpire observes a player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of his person or uniform, the umpire shall take action as follows:
  - i. Field Umpire in Control of Play: At the next stoppage of play (score, field bounce, out of bounds, free kick or mark) blow time on, signal (straight arms crossed above the head) and direct the player to leave the field. The replacement player is to be given a reasonable time to take up his position prior to play recommencing.
  - ii. Field Umpire Not in Control of Play/Boundary Umpires/Emergency Umpires registered with the O.A.F.L.: At the next stoppage in play, attract the attention of the controlling field umpire (blow the whistle if necessary) and indicate verbally or visually, ensure the controlling field umpire acknowledges by verbal or visual indication (as above) then run to the player and direct him to leave the field.
  - iii. Goal Umpires registered with the O.A.F.L.: At the next stoppage in play (except for a score) attract the attention of the nearest field umpire who shall respond in accordance with either (i)

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or (ii), whichever is appropriate. When the next stoppage is a score, the above action must be implemented after the score indication has been given and prior to waving the score. If the player leaves the field on the initiative of the Club, play is allowed to continue. The resumption of play is only to be detained when an umpire directs a player to leave the field.

- iv. Any player failing or refusing to leave the ground when ordered to do so will be reported under the provisions of this bylaw for "misconduct in that he refused to promptly leave the field when directed".
- 4.1. Score reporting:
- (a) The home club in each division (One to Four inclusive) match shall be responsible to lodge with the OAFL by facsimile (or other means), prior to the following Monday of each match the scores, goalkickers and best players for both the home and away teams of the senior grade match played that day.
  - (b) The home club in each junior grade from Under 12 to Under 16 (inclusive) match shall be responsible to telephone or otherwise deliver to the OAFL between the hours of 4:30 pm and 5:00 pm on the day of each match the scores of each match played by the club that day.
  - (c) All clubs must comply with the requirements for notifying scores to the OAFL by the appropriate time. Prior to any scores being communicated to the OAFL, the club shall check the scores obtained from both goal umpires officiating in the matches played that day. Failure to comply with 4 (a), (b) or (c): Five penalty units.
- 5.1. Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, the AFL "Laws of Australian Football" shall apply in all games. Where discretion is available under the AFL "Laws of Australian Football" for controlling bodies to nominate rule variations, the Executive Committee shall notify each club of the "Laws of Australian Rules Football" applicable to the OAFL in each season.
- 6.1. In each season, the clubs in each Division shall play games consisting of two rounds. The first round shall consist of home and away matches between the teams in each Division according to the fixture.
- 6.2. The second round shall comprise the finals series, which at the discretion of the Executive Committee, will be between the top six (6) teams in each division. The finals series shall consist of a first semi-final, second semi-final, Preliminary Final and Grand Final. The OAFL Grand Final shall be played on the first Saturday following the AFL Grand Final.
- 6.3. The fixture will be prepared by the Executive Committee for each season and sent to all member clubs no later four (4) weeks prior to the first scheduled match. Clubs requesting or needing specific dates/times must submit a list by February 1st of the year of the season.

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- 6.4. In the event of a draw in any finals series game, including the Grand Final, two further periods of ten minutes each shall be played to achieve a result. There shall be no break for team instructions either between the completion of normal match time and the start of the first additional ten minute period, nor between additional ten minute periods. Teams will exchange scoring ends of the field following the first additional ten minute period. In the event that scores remain tied at the end of the second additional ten minute period, the game will continue without signal from the timekeepers until the next score is achieved by one team, whereon the timekeepers will immediately signal the completion of play.
- 6.5. In the first round matches, four points will be allotted for a win, four points for a team in whose favour a forfeit or walkover is ruled, two points for a draw and zero points for a loss. Where an affiliated Senior Club or affiliated Junior Club is deemed to be not in good standing and competes in a home and away match, four points will be awarded to the opposition club in accordance with bylaw 13.3.
- 6.6. The Executive Committee shall prepare a weekly ladder for each division and in addition to awarding points for each win, forfeit, walkover, draw or loss it shall also prepare a percentage table comparing the total points scored by each team against the total points scored against each team and in the event that selection for the finals series is between teams with the same number of points, the team with the highest percentage points will be entitled to participate in the finals series ahead of a team with lower percentage points. All decisions of the Executive Committee in respect of the calculation of the points and percentages shall be final and binding unless there is evidence of obvious error.
- 6.7. The scores used by the O AFL to calculate the points and percentages for each Divisional ladder shall be based upon the scores contained in the goal umpires cards.
- 6.8. Failure by any club to play an arranged match as set out in the fixture of the O AFL shall render the club liable to a fine to be fixed by the Executive Committee unless a satisfactory reason is received by 5:00 pm on the Monday following the failure to play the arranged match.
- 6.9. In the event of a game being forfeited, the defaulting team shall not include the game in club playing records. A match is considered forfeited due to the failure of a club to field the minimum number of necessary players, due to the participation of an unregistered player, or as the result of a protest after the conclusion of the game. The team against whom the forfeiting team was to play shall be awarded match points in accordance with bylaw 6.5 and shall be entitled to include the game in the records of its players. The 2002 AFL Rules of Australian Football Rule 10.7.2 shall be used to determine the percentages for both teams. In the event that two (2) competing teams are both in a forfeit situation, the teams may agree to play the match with the number of players available, including any adopted players as allowed, and the match will consider to be one played in accordance with the provisions of the bylaws.
- 6.10. Any points won against a club that disbands during the season shall not be counted in the final ladder calculations.
- 6.11. Player adoption:
  - (a) A club in the position to forfeit a match may accept the playing services of registered players from other clubs. Such players are considered adopted players if:
    - i. The club in position to forfeit has twelve (12) players present.

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- ii. The adopted player's own club does not object to the adoption.
- iii. The opposing team's coach gives consent to the adopted player.

The adopted players must sign the teamsheet of the adopting club and are considered registered players of said club for the duration of the game.

- (a) A club adopting may not:
    - i. Field more than four (4) adopted players during a match.
    - ii. Adopt no more than two (2) "Non-Canadians".
    - iii. Adopt the same player more than three (3) times during the season.
    - iv. Put an adopted player on the field in place of one of their own available players.
- 6.12. If any match which has been started and cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the affiliated Senior or affiliated Junior Club or Clubs, or where a match has been cancelled at the direction of the officiating umpire, the following procedures shall apply:
- (a) If a game is concluded prior to half time and the match cannot proceed within the scheduled time, the teams shall depart the arena and the match shall be rescheduled.
  - (b) If a game has progressed beyond half time and is unable to proceed with the scheduled time for the match, the teams will depart the ground and the scores of the clubs at the time the match was interrupted shall be deemed to be final scores of the match and shall be used to calculate percentages. The team with the highest score will be declared the winner and awarded four premiership points.
  - (c) If a match has been started and cannot be completed within the time scheduled for reasons within the control of any club, such club will be dealt with by the Executive Committee at its absolute discretion in any way it sees fit.
- 7.1. Registration:
- (a) All senior clubs shall forward to the O AFL at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the first competition match in each season, one list for each of senior, reserve and under 18 grades accurately stating all the club registered players' christian names, surnames and jumper numbers for inclusion in the record for the first game. In addition, all clubs must complete and forward to the O AFL at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the first competition match in each season, an official "Team List Alteration" Form as supplied by the O AFL, indicating clearly, all additions, deletions or other alterations to the team list published in the weekly record of the O AFL for the season immediately prior. The club shall update this list as required using the official Team List Alteration Form to include any changes or additions to the original list supplied. Failure: Five Penalty Units.

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- (b) All senior clubs shall forward to the OAFL by no later than 5:00 pm on the Monday immediately before a scheduled game the club notes for publishing in the record. Failure: Five Penalty Units.
  
- 7.2. All clubs fielding teams in any grade of the Finals series, must lodge with the league a list as accurate as possible showing the number, name, age, height and weight of all permitted players likely to participate in the finals match for inclusion in the record at least five (5) days prior to the playing of the first finals series game. Failure to comply shall render the club liable to a fine. Fine: Ten penalty units.
  
- 7.3. Records shall be allocated to home clubs for distribution at all first round games on the following:
  - (a) First Division – 150
  - (b) Second Division – 100
  - (c) Third & Fourth Divisions – 50
  
- 7.4. All records shall be collected by home club from the League executive between 3.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. on the Friday prior to each match.
  
- 8.1. The Executive Committee shall exercise full control in relation to the arrangement of the times and places of the playing of all second round matches.
  
- 8.2. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the fixing and collection of all entrances fees at all finals series matches. The Executive Committee may delegate its authority for the collection of entrance fees from time to time.
  
- 8.3. The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall wear their registered jumper and home (coloured) shorts unless this is varied by the Executive Committee or its appointee. The team placed higher in ranking in a finals match shall have the option of playing that finals game at their home ground if available. This is not the case for the OAFL Grand Final which shall played at venue deemed fit by the OAFL Executive.
  
- 8.4. The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall use the home team rooms unless this is varied by the Executive Committee or its appointee.
  
- 8.5. Clubs participating in finals series matches in each division shall receive, as a bonus, the following:
  - (a) First 18 - Five percent of gross takings for each match participated in.
  - (b) Reserves -Two and a half percent of gross takings for each match participated in.
  - (c) Under 18's - One and a half percent of gross takings of each match participated in.
  
- 8.6. Players' qualification:

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- (a) Players must play at least five (5) matches with their Affiliated Senior Club in the first round matches to qualify to play in the finals series.
  - (b) Players must play at least 4 matches with their Affiliated Junior Club in the division and grade in which he/she competes in the first round matches to qualify to play in the finals series.
- 8.7. Any player playing more than nine (9) matches with a club's first 18 in the home and away matches is ineligible to play with that club's second 18 team in the finals series unless prior exception is granted by the Permit Committee. Provided that such exception shall be presumed where any club fields a first 18 and a second 18 in a finals series match on the same day, or the same weekend.
- 8.8. Any player eligible to play in the Under 16 or Under 18 competitions organised or authorised by the OAFL who plays with senior teams may only play in the finals series of the Under 16 or Under 18 matches provided that the player concerned has played 6 games in the appropriate age group in the first round matches.
- 9.1. Any club official, umpire or member of the Umpires Board with a grievance involving the result of a match or involving any other club, player or official may have that grievance dealt with by the League Executive.
- 9.2. Grievance claims made to the League Executive by clubs, League Executive members, League administrative staff, Tribunal members and the Umpire's Board shall be heard in accordance with Appendix 3.
- 9.3. The person or club with the grievance shall give written notice of the grievance and must have all correspondence relating to the grievance in the hands of the League Executive by no later than 5:00 pm on the Tuesday following the incident giving rise to the grievance. No grievance in relation to that issue will be accepted after this time.
- 9.4. Clubs and officials who make such a grievance shall lodge a \$250.00 bond at the time of lodging the grievance notice. The bond is not applicable to complaints lodged by League Executive members, administration staff, Tribunal and Umpires' Board members. Such bond shall be retained by the OAFL pending the hearing and shall be returned to the club at the completion of the hearing except in cases where the grievance is considered frivolous, in which case the League Executive may, at their discretion, retain the whole or part of the bond.
- (a) A fee of five penalty units will be withheld from the bond if the grievance has been referred by the League Executive to the Investigations Officer and he/she recommends that:
    - i. no action be taken, or
    - ii. the player(s) are referred to the Independent Tribunal and are subsequently found not guilty.
  - (b) Where the League Executive refer a dispute, complaint or protest to the Independent Tribunal as a result of a recommendation by the Investigations Officer and that player(s), official(s) is

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subsequently found guilty by the Independent Tribunal, the club to which the guilty party(s) belongs will be charged a fee of five penalty units.

- 9.5. When a grievance notice has been lodged, the League Executive must conduct a hearing. Once the grievance notice has been lodged it cannot be withdrawn.
- 9.6. Upon lodging of a grievance notice, the League Executive shall convene a hearing into the matter by the League Executive, such hearing to take place at the date, time and place notified by the League Executive not later than ten (10) working days after the lodgement and the League Executive shall notify all parties of the time and place of the hearing and provide a copy of the grievance notice to the respondent.
- 9.7. The League Executive shall proceed in accordance with the Grievance Committee Procedure set out in the Annexure to these bylaws.
- 9.8. The League Executive may:
  - (a) impose a fine on any player, club or official, the subject of the grievance, up to \$500 for each matter complained of; and/or
  - (b) suspend any player, club or official from participating in matters organised by the League; and/or
  - (c) recommend that any player, club or official be expelled from the League.
- 9.9. The League Executive may, at any time it deems fit, refer any matter to the Investigation Committee comprising such persons it thinks appropriate.
- 9.10. The League Executive of the O AFL shall from time to time appoint an independent Investigations Officer to assist the Investigation Committee. The term of the appointment shall be at the sole discretion of the League Executive.
- 9.11. The Investigations Officer shall have the full authority of the Executive Committee to investigate the circumstances of any matter referred to him/her by the Executive Committee.
- 9.12. Any club official or player must make available any information or person(s) upon receipt of a referral from the League Executive, the Investigations Officer shall contact any club(s) involved and shall arrange a mutually convenient time to interview any official, member or player of any club(s).
- 9.13. Any person(s) interviewed by the Investigations Officer may have a witness present during such interview.
- 9.14. Upon the completion of the matter referred, the Investigations Officer shall compile all records of interview and make a recommendation to the Investigation Committee as to his findings. Copies of an individual's record of interview will be made available upon request by that individual, however, the recommendations and composite report shall at all times remain confidential to the League Executive.
- 9.15. After consideration of the Investigations Officer report, the League Executive may convene a hearing of the full Investigations Committee or refer the matter to the Independent Tribunal or deal with the matter in any way it thinks fit.

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- 9.16. Any player suspended from playing for his club by his club may appeal to the League Executive to have the decision reviewed. The review will be conducted as nearly as possible in accordance with the procedures in respect of disputes, protests or charges, in bylaw 9 except a \$250.00 bond shall not be required.
- 10.1. A reportable incident in these bylaws is:
- (a) any reportable incident identified in the 2007 AFL "Laws of Australian Football"; or
  - (b) any alleged breach of these bylaws relating to the conduct of matches in the O AFL; or
  - (c) any alleged breach of the codes of conduct published in the bylaws by the League Executive from time to time.
- 10.2. In the event of any reportable offence taking place during the progress of any official match or on the day of the match, the field umpire in all sections and all official O AFL goal and boundary umpires shall have the power to report players or officials in respect of the offence to the league executive through the O AFL umpire match report.
- 10.3. At the time of making any such report of any player or club official, the field umpire and the appropriate goal and boundary umpires shall take down the numbers of the players reported and the victim (if any) of the incident.
- 10.4. The reporting umpire shall ensure all details of the incident are contained in the authorised report sheet. It is the responsibility of the reporting umpire to forward the report sheet to the League Executive.
- 10.5. In the event of a reportable incident:
- (a) Both club delegates shall meet the umpire(s) within twenty minutes after the conclusion of the game. The field umpire(s) has the option, but is not required to inform one or both delegates of the nature of the reportable incident. The umpire must document any reportable incident on the O AFL umpire match report and submit it to the League Executive no later than 36 hours following the conclusion of the match in which the reportable incident occurred.
  - (b) If the player/official has been reported for an offence under the 2007 Australian Football Leagues' "Laws of Australian Football" rules qualifies, as a greater than "Level 5" offence the case will automatically be heard by the independent Tribunal.
  - (c) For all other offences, if offered by the O AFL League Executive/Disciplinary Committee, the player has the choice of applying to accept the prescribed penalties specified in the 2007 AFL "laws of Australian Football". The "Disciplinary Committee" shall consist of at least two (2) members of the O AFL League Executive who have no affiliations with the O AFL member clubs competing in the match where the reportable incident occurred.
  - (d) Where the player has the option of choosing to accept the prescribed penalty, the club delegate (s), after receiving a copy of the report will then have twenty-four (24) hours in which to decide whether

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the player/club will accept the prescribed penalty or wish the report to be heard by the Tribunal. At the end of the twenty-four (24) hours, the delegate (s) will contact the O AFL League Executive/Disciplinary committee. If the player/club accepts the prescribed penalty the delegate (s) representing the reported player and the O AFL League Executive/Disciplinary committee will then sign the report form where indicated or the delegate(s) will submit a written document (email or otherwise) indicating their acceptance of the prescribes penalty.

- (e) Should any party not accept the prescribed penalty, as prescribed by the O AFL League Executive/Disciplinary committee, the report will be referred to the Independent Tribunal. The Tribunal has the unfettered discretion to impose a penalty in excess of the prescribed penalty.
  - (f) Where a player/club is offered and accepts a prescribed penalty, the suspension will apply from the next official O AFL match of that grade in which the club plays unless notification is received by the club that the prescribed penalty has not been accepted and the report will be referred to the Independent Tribunal.
  - (g) Where a player/club is reported and subsequently suspended by the Independent Tribunal, the suspension will apply from the next official O AFL match of that grade in which the club plays.
  - (h) The League Executive or his appointee may refer any report to the Independent Tribunal.
- 10.6. Where a player/official is reported, offered a set penalty by the umpire and applies to accept a prescribed penalty for the following offences under the Australian Football League's "Laws of Australian Football":
- (a) a one match suspension may apply in the grade in which the report occurred: 19.2.2 (e), (f) (iv) (vi), (j), (l), (m), (n) Fine: Ten (10) Penalty Units.
  - (b) a two match suspension may apply in the grade in which the report occurred: 19.2.2 (c), (d), (f) (ii) (iii) (v) (vii), (h),(i), (o) Fine: One Penalty Unit.
- 10.7. Where a player is reported and is subsequently found guilty of an offence by the Independent Tribunal: Fine: Thirty (30) penalty units.
- 10.8. Each club shall be responsible for the attendance and representation of any reported player or official or witness to any incident involved in any report.
- 10.9. All reported players, umpires and advocates or officials or any victim of any report in any O AFL match, shall attend the Tribunal before the next O AFL Round as determined by the Executive Committee. Failure to attend: Five (5) Penalty Units. All club reported players, victims, officials and umpires are required to contact the O AFL no later than 5:00 pm on the Tuesday after the game in which the report occurred to receive advice of the time of the hearing. Failure: Fifty (50) Penalty Units.
- 10.10. All players, officials and witnesses appearing before the Independent Investigation Tribunal are required to be accompanied by a Club advocate, who shall not be a qualified legal practitioner.
- 10.11. Upon the completion of each hearing, the Tribunal shall issue to the reported player and/or official a penalty notification form detailing the penalty (if any) resulting from that hearing. Each club must comply with all penalties (if any) imposed by the Tribunal upon any player or official in respect of any report.

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- 11.1. No person may play in any matches authorised or conducted by the O AFL, other than practice matches, unless that person has:
- (a) lodged an application for registration, the signed O AFL waiver and playing permit with the O AFL for an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club; and
  - (b) received from the League Executive notice that he is permitted to play for the nominated Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club.
  - (c) attained the age of eighteen years during that person's first year of registration with the O AFL with the affiliated senior club. The League Executive has the authority to allow exemptions for players who are seventeen (17) years of age if a club official has witnessed the consent of the player's parent or guardian.
  - (d) Females are permitted to play in matches authorised or conducted by the O AFL in the Under 9, Under 10, Under 11 and Under 12 grades only and provided that person has lodged an application for registration and playing permit with the O AFL in accordance with bylaw 11.1 (a).
- 11.2. All applications for registration and playing permit shall be on the forms supplied by the O AFL. Each club shall register all players each season. The forms duly signed by an executive member of the club are to be returned with the first instalment of the annual league fees. If it is intended that an applicant play in the first game of any season, the application form for that player must be lodged with the League Executive or league approved official preceding the match.
- 11.3. When registering, a player must declare his nationality: "Canadian" or "Non-Canadian". For the purpose of registration, players who are eligible to represent Canada under the AFL rules and guidelines for international play shall be considered Canadian. The AFL rules and guidelines stipulate that a Canadian is deemed to be someone that holds Canadian citizenship and has not lived in Australia between the ages of 10-16 years of age. All other players will be deemed "Non-Canadian", regardless of their birth, citizenship or residency status. A player unsure of his status should contact the League Executive through their club representative. Any player falsely stating their nationality will be suspended for the duration of the season. In the event of a dispute the onus is on the player to prove his nationality. All players must complete a Physical Activity Readiness questionnaire and take appropriate action as directed on said form.
- 11.4. The maximum number of "Non-Canadians" fielded in a match by a club shall not exceed eight (8), of which no more than six (6) will be permitted on the field per team at any given time.
- 11.5. In all senior matches, no more than twenty-four (24) players will dress per team. All teams must play eighteen players per side (18) for the duration of the match unless agreed to by the captain/coach of both team to play sixteen (16) a side.
- 11.6. The minimum number of players that a club can field to constitute a team shall be twelve (12).
- 11.7. No permit to play will be dealt with prior to 1st February in each season; and no permit to play will be granted to any player for any season for a nominated Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club

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unless a valid application for registration and playing permit is lodged with the League Executive prior to the Friday preceding the last scheduled home and away match of the season.

- 11.8. The League Executive has the final approval of any registration.
- 11.9. Any player registered with the O AFL and permitted to play with an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club wishing to play with another Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club must apply for a clearance from the O AFL.
- (a) A player who has been deregistered and can satisfy the O AFL that he has not played competitive football since that deregistration, can apply for a permit to play with another O AFL club provided it is before the completion of fifty percent (50%) of the regular season as it deems proper. The said player must be in good standing with their former club for approval to take place. All players are still required to qualify under bylaw 8.6 for finals.
  - (b) All such clearance application forms shall be on the form supplied by the O AFL.
  - (c) Upon receipt of a Clearance Application Form, the League Executive shall notify the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club with whom the player is currently permitted to play of the application for a clearance by forwarding the Clearance application form to the appropriate club.
  - (d) The Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club receiving notice of its player seeking a clearance to another Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club shall within ten (10) business days of forwarding such Clearance by the League Executive, return it to the League Executive specifying whether the Clearance is consented to or objected to and shall specify the reasons therefore.
  - (e) In the event that an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club objects to a clearance application by a player, the League executive shall notify the player of the objection and, if requested to do so by the player, shall refer the application to the Permit Committee to be dealt with under that Committee's procedures.
  - (f) In the event the concerned Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club fails to return the Clearance Application form to the League Executive within the ten (10) business days, the League Executive shall grant the application.
  - (g) In the event that the Permit Committee refuses a clearance application, no further application may be considered by the Permit Committee in the same season.
  - (h) In the event that the Permit Committee or the concerned Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club refuses or objects to a clearance application by a player, the Executive Committee shall grant a clearance to the player concerned if that player satisfies the Executive Committee that for a continuous period of twelve (12) months after the date of the refusal or objection to his clearance application the player did not play competitive football with any club, whether affiliated with the O AFL or not.
- 11.10. Any player registered with the O AFL and permitted to play for an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club wishing to play with another club in another League affiliated with AFL Canada shall lodge a clearance application form with the League Executive.

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- (a) Upon receipt of such a clearance application form, the League Executive shall notify the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club with whom the player is currently permitted to play of the application for a clearance by forwarding the clearance application form to the appropriate club.
  - (b) The Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club receiving notice of its player seeking a clearance to another club or league affiliated with AFL Canada shall, within fourteen (14) days of receiving the clearance application form, return it to the League Executive specifying whether the clearance is consented to or objected to and shall specify the reason therefore.
  - (c) In the event that the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club does not respond with the fourteen (14) days, the League Executive shall grant the application.
- 11.11. Any player registered to play with another club in a League affiliated with AFL Canada wishing to obtain permit to play with an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club shall comply with the rules of AFL Canada applicable from time to time.
- 11.12. Any player registered to play with a club in a League not affiliated with the AFL Canada wishing to play for an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club shall apply to his previous club for a clearance and in the event it is not granted shall apply to the Permit Committee for a permit to play.
- 11.13. In the event that a player registered with the O AFL and permitted to play with an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club who (or whose supporting parent) has been in service of an employer for three (3) consecutive months is residentially transferred for his employment, the player may at any time during a season apply for a clearance approval to another club not being an Affiliated Senior Club or an Affiliated Junior Club. The procedures shall be in accordance with the appropriate Affiliated or Non-affiliated League Clearance rules.
- 11.14. Any registered junior player with an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club who residence is transferred may apply at any time during the season for a clearance approval to play with another club not being an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club.
- 11.15. Any player previously registered with the O AFL and has been permitted to play within the last 24 months for an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club who has transferred to a club in another League, wishing to again play in the O AFL but with a different Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club must, in addition to any other clearance requirements, seek a clearance in accordance with the Inter-Club Clearance Rules from the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club for whom he was last permitted to play.
- 11.16. Any player who is granted a clearance from any Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club to any other Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club and who subsequently seeks clearance to any further Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club during the same playing season must, in addition to any other clearance requirements, seek a clearance in accordance with the Inter-Club Clearance Rules from the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club for whom he was first permitted to play in that season.
- 11.17. In the O AFL junior competition (under 9 to under16) clubs are only permitted to gain a maximum of three players from one particular O AFL junior club team to another, unless the club from which the players are transferring from allows more than three.

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11.18. Coaches:

- (a) No person may coach (playing or non-playing) in any matches authorised or conducted by the O AFL, other than practice matches, unless that person has:
  - i. a current accreditation certificate with the Australian Coaching Council of Level One standard or higher;
  - ii. lodged an application for registration and coaching permit with the O AFL for an affiliated Senior Club or an affiliated Junior Club; and
  - iii. received from the League Executive notice that he is permitted to coach for the nominated affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club.
- (b) A non-playing coach does not require a clearance application to coach any affiliated Senior or affiliated Junior Club.
- (c) Any coach of a junior grade team (Under 9 to Under 16 inclusive) must wear an armband as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time while coaching in all O AFL matches.

11.19. Any player drafted by an AFL club, placed on an AFL supplementary or rookie list or included on an official VFL list can, provided he has qualified under the Rules, return to play with the O AFL in the finals, in the Seniors only.

11.20. Any team manager of a junior grade team (Under 9 to Under 16 inclusive) must wear an armband as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time while officiating in all O AFL matches.

11.21. Any Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club that allows a player to play in any home and away games or finals series where that player is:

- (a) not registered with the O AFL; or
- (b) not permitted to play with that Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club; or
- (c) is under suspension;

shall be liable to:

- i. a fine not exceeding \$500; and/or
- ii. disqualification from the competition; and/or
- iii. loss of all premiership points obtained in matches in which the player played and the awarding of those points to the appropriate opposing teams; as the Executive Committee thinks fit.

The Executive Committee may also deal with the player concerned as it thinks fit.

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## 11.22. Block Registration:

- (a) On or before the 1st April in each season, the League registrar shall furnish to each Affiliated Senior and Affiliated Junior Club a list of players registered with the O AFL as being permitted to play with the respective club in the previous season;
- (b) Each Affiliated Senior Club and Affiliated Junior Club shall advise the League Executive by no later than 30 April in each year detailing all players change of addresses and those players whose permits to play are no longer required: Penalty: Five penalty units.
- (c) Any player whose name is removed from the permitted players list shall not be entitled to play with the Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club or any other club without first:
  - i. re-applying for a permit to play; or
  - ii. where appropriate, applying for a clearance approval.

11.23. Each Affiliated Senior Club and Affiliated Junior Club shall pay to the O AFL \$80.00 for each current senior player and each current junior player permit as at 1st July, in each season.

11.24. Any player or club representative that fields an unregistered player and/or who makes any misstatement or misrepresentation in applying for registration or a clearance approval may be dealt with as the Executive Committee by way of:

- (a) a fine not exceeding \$500; and/or
- (b) disqualification from the competition; and/or
- (c) loss of all premiership points obtained in matches in which the player played and the awarding of those points to the appropriate opposing teams.

## 12.1. Goal and boundary umpires:

- (a) Each Affiliated Senior Club and Affiliated Junior Club shall provide a one (1) goal umpire and one (1) boundary umpire for all matches unless otherwise advised by the League executive. Specifically, on days where back to back O AFL matches are scheduled (Scenario 1) teams must provide one (1) goal and one (1) boundary umpire. (eg games at Humber North) In venues where only a single O AFL match is scheduled (Scenario 2) (eg Hamilton, Guelph, Humber South) Senior clubs must provide, a minimum of one (1) goal umpire. Where the boundary umpire is not provided in the case of scenario 2 the field umpire will determine when the ball has travelled beyond the boundary line. The game will recommence with a player from each team standing on the boundary line (with their backs turned to the field) with one(1) of these players throwing the ball back into play in the standard fashion. The League Executive shall provide a schedule of all required Goal umpire and boundary umpire duties prior to the start of the season. Fine: Within ninety-six (96) hours of completion of the match in question, the presence of one (1) member of the offending club, two (2) League Executive members will select at random one (1) player of the offending club from that club's team sheet. The

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randomly selected player will be suspended for the offending clubs next scheduled OAFL match. The suspension shall not be held against said player in terms of other disciplinary action that may arise in the future. The suspended player may not count the suspended match towards qualification of the finals. The same player can not be suspended in this manner more than once during the OAFL season including the finals.

- (b) Goal umpires provided by the respective Affiliated Senior Clubs and Affiliated Junior Clubs must be over 15 years of age and must be attired in a white uniform. Such umpires shall not have the power to report players or officials. Fine: Five (5) Penalty Units.
  - (c) Any club appointed goal umpires are to, at the completion of each game, check their scores with each other. The goal umpires are required to give the score cards to the field umpire within 15 minutes of the completion of the match.
  - (d) Boundary umpires provided by the respective Affiliated Senior Clubs must be over 15 years of age and must be attired in a white uniform. Boundary umpires provided by the respective Affiliated Junior Clubs must be at least the same age as the grade in which they are officiating and must be attired in a white uniform. Such umpires shall not have the power to report players or officials. Fine: One (1) Penalty Unit.
- 12.2. Clubs are to provide a Scoreboard attendant who is to be competent in the discharge of that duty. Fine: One penalty unit.
- 12.3. All umpires appointed by the Umpires Board shall have the power to report players, clubs and officials in accordance with such of the AFL "Laws of Australian Football" adopted by the OAFL and for any breach of these bylaws.
- 12.4. The field umpire shall officiate the tossing of the coin for the choice of ends before the start of any match. The field umpire shall call both captains of each team together. The field umpire shall toss the coin. The visiting team captain shall call and the umpire shall determine the result of the toss. The umpire shall then ensure that the team that wins the toss will have the choice of ends.
- 12.5. Official OAFL field umpires shall lodge one set of 3-2-1 Best and Fairest votes in official OAFL regular season match in all under 12, under 13, under 14, under 15, under 16, under 18, reserve and senior grades. Where two OAFL field umpires are officiating in a match, one set of Best and Fairest votes will be lodged on behalf of both umpires.
- 12.6. Any player who has been found guilty of a reportable offence in a regular season match and subsequently served a suspension in the course of the same season will be ineligible to win a Best and Fairest award.
- 12.7. The League Executive will, at the end of each season, make presentation of the following awards:
- (a) League Best and Fairest
  - (b) Leading Goalkicker
  - (c) Rookie of the Year

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(d) O AFL All-Star Team

In the case of a tie between two (2) or more players, there shall be no countback and all players will be recognized as dual winners of the said award.

12.8. Each season clubs, trainers' association, umpires' association, coaches' association and League Executive are able to nominate people for O AFL recognition of service awards. No more than three awards are to be issued each year. Nominations will be considered by the League Executive. O AFL Life Members and 150 Game Player Life Members are ineligible for this award. Nominees should have completed a minimum of five (5) years service to the club/league in a non-playing capacity. Awards are not retrospective and may only be bestowed upon individuals who are actively involved in the year of nomination.

12.9. At all Senior, Reserve, Under 18 and all junior grade (Under 9 to Under 16) matches, both competing clubs shall supply an Escort for umpires who shall:

- (a) Escort the umpires from the ground at half time and at the completion of the game.
- (b) Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter.
- (c) Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three quarter time breaks.
- (d) Show courtesy at all times.
- (e) Be over the age of 18 years.
- (f) Wear approved O AFL Umpires Escort Bib at all times whilst officiating as an umpires escort.

Fine: One penalty units.

12.10. In the event of a player or club official of any Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club being found guilty on a charge of assaulting any umpire appointed to officiate by the Umpires Board, the club to which he/they belong may be dealt with by the Executive Committee by way of:

- (a) a fine not exceeding \$500; and/or
- (b) disqualification from the competition; and/or
- (c) loss of all premiership points obtained in matches in which the player/official played or attended and the awarding of those points to the appropriate opposing teams.

12.11. All affiliated Senior Clubs shall be allotted tickets for the O AFL Senior Presentation Day/Night in each season and shall be billed for those tickets at the prices prevailing. The number of tickets allotted to each club shall be determined by the distance the club is from the venue. The club allocations are as follows:

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- (a) 15 tickets per club for all clubs within 60 kilometres of the venue. (For Toronto venues this will apply to Broadview Hawks, Central Blues, Etobicoke Kangaroos, High Park Demons, Toronto Downtown Dingos, and Toronto Eagles, and Toronto Rebels.)
  - (b) 12 tickets per club for all clubs within 150 kilometres of the venue. (For Toronto venues this will apply to Guelph Gargoyles and Hamilton Wildcats.)
  - (c) Eight (8) tickets per club for all clubs within 250 kilometres of the venue. (For Toronto venues this will apply to London.)
  - (d) Six (6) tickets per club for all clubs within 400 kilometres of the venue. (For Toronto venues this will apply to Windsor and Ottawa Swans.)
- 13.1. Each Affiliated Senior Club and Affiliated Junior Club shall pay as an annual fee of the sum prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- (a) Fifty percent (50%) of the annual fee is payable by May 1st and the remaining fifty percent (50%) payable prior to July 1st of the same year.
  - (b) All other monies due to be paid to the O AFL by affiliated Senior Clubs and affiliated Junior Clubs shall be payable in full no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the statement issued by the O AFL unless contrary arrangements are specifically authorised by the Executive Committee.
  - (c) In the case of clubs failing to make such payments, no team of that club will be eligible for match points until the account is remitted in full. Percentages for any game played while ineligible for match points will be calculated on final scores submitted for each game and awarded as per bylaw 6.6.
  - (d) In the absence of contrary arrangements specifically authorised by the Executive Committee, clubs shall be charged interest on amounts outstanding for more than thirty (30) days, as at the last day of each calendar month. Monthly interest shall be calculated by applying to the total amount outstanding for more than thirty (30) days one-twelfth of the annual interest rate then payable by the O AFL for ordinary bank overdraft facility.
  - (e) No appeals against fines by an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club shall be heard until the fines have been paid.
- 13.2. All Affiliated Senior Clubs and Affiliated Junior Clubs participating in final series matches must be in good financial standing with the O AFL before the conclusion of the home and away matches. In the event that a participating club is not financial, the O AFL may, at its discretion, remove all or any of its teams from their position in the final series matches and promote the next entitled financial teams in their place to participate in the finals series.
- 13.3. All Affiliated Senior Clubs and Affiliated Junior Clubs shall forward to the League Executive no later than 31st December each year, one copy of their Annual Reports. Penalty for non-compliance - Five penalty units.

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- 13.4. All Affiliated Senior Clubs and Affiliated Junior Clubs shall forward to the League Executive no later than 31st December a Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet on an official "Performa" supplied by the O AFL for the immediate past year . Penalty for non-compliance - Five penalty units.
- 13.5. The Executive Committee shall determine from time to time the admission fees for all home and away matches and all club gatekeepers shall collect those fees for each match. Visiting players and officials of all senior and reserve grade teams shall pay admission charges but players and officials in relation to junior matches shall enter grounds without payment. No admission charges are to be collected prior to 10:00 am on the day of play.
- 14.1. The Executive Committee may convene compulsory meetings for officials as stipulated by the Executive Committee from time to time. These meetings shall include but are not limited to: Club Administrator Courses, Senior and Junior Coaches Forums, Junior Meeting, general meeting and Finals Participants Meetings. Failure: Five (5) penalty units.
- 14.2. Unless otherwise specified, all Annual, General and Special Meetings of the O AFL shall commence at 7:30 pm and no new business will be introduced after 9:30 pm.
- 14.3. Representatives of clubs must attend all Annual, General and Special Meetings of the O AFL. Such representatives shall be the President and/or Secretary and/or one other executive committee member of the club. Failure: Five penalty units.
- 14.4. Representatives may, with the prior approval of the League Executive, appoint another person to attend Annual, General and Special Meetings in their place.
- 14.5. Any club calling a meeting of other clubs other than in accordance with the Rules of the O AFL without the prior authority of the Executive Committee shall be liable to:
- (a) a fine at the discretion of the Executive Committee;
  - (b) suspension from the O AFL;
  - (c) be expelled from the O AFL in accordance with the Rules of the O AFL.
- 15.1. No club shall permit any of its officers or members to make any statement to the media (including radio, television and all newspapers) in connection with any policies or acts of the Executive Committee (or Junior Committee) without the prior approval of the Executive Committee (or Junior Committee). To do so shall render the club concerned liable to:
- (a) a fine at the discretion of the O AFL;
  - (b) suspension from the O AFL;
  - (c) expulsion from the O AFL in accordance with the Rules of the O AFL.

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- 15.2. No club shall make any monetary compensation to players registered with the club. Any players receiving such inducements shall be suspended for the balance of the season. Any club official or player found making such inducements will immediately be suspended from taking any further part in any way with the league for the duration of the season. The offending club will lose all premiership points and percentage earned from games in which the offending player participated.
- 16.1. Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, any infringement of a bylaw shall, as a rule, be subject to a penalty of one unit. However, the actual fine, unless otherwise specified, shall at all times be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 16.2. The nominal value of each penalty unit shall be determined by the Executive Committee from time to time and may be adjusted by the Executive Committee at any time.
- 16.3. The nominal value of one penalty unit applicable from 1 January 2003 until otherwise directed by the Executive Committee shall be \$1.00.
- 16.4. Any dollar amounts referred to in the by laws will be subject to GST.
- 16.5. Before the commencement of each season an executive representative from each club, preferably the club's President, will sign an acknowledgement form indicating that he/she has received and agrees to abide by these bylaws.
- 17.1. All players and officials at all OAFL matches shall be subject to the Racial and Religious Vilification rules as issued by the Executive Committee from time to time (refer to Schedule Four).
- 18.1. In accordance with Rule 9.6 (f), the Junior Committee shall have the power to manage and control the day to day running of the Junior Competition in accordance with Executive Committee policy. The Junior Committee shall have the power to amend bylaws affecting the Junior Competition, such amendments shall not be effected unless ratified by the Executive Committee.
- 18.2. Any two Junior Affiliated Club Members may nominate any eligible person to stand for the position of a Junior Committee member.
- 18.3. Each nomination for the Junior Committee shall be in the form supplied by the OAFL and signed by or on behalf of each of the nominee clubs (through their appropriate representatives) and on that form the nominee shall:
- (a) acknowledge his/her willingness to stand for the position of which he/she is being nominated; and
  - (b) specify the basis of his/her eligibility to stand for election.

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- 18.4. The nominating members shall cause the nomination to be lodged with the League Executive or his nominee at least twenty-eight (28) days before the meeting at which the election is to take place.
- 18.5. The League Executive or his nominee shall inform all members of the meeting at which an election is to take place of the candidates for any position on the Junior Committee by posting to each of the members of the League the list of candidates' names in alphabetical order in respect of each position to be filled at the meeting at least 14 days prior to the meeting at which the election is to take place.
- 18.6. All elections of Junior Committee Members shall be by ballot unless there are not be sufficient numbers of candidates to require election, in which case the nominee shall be deemed to be elected to the vacant office.
- 18.7. The office of a member of the Junior Committee shall become vacant if a member of the Junior Committee:
- (a) submits his or her resignation in writing to the League Executive or his nominee; or
  - (b) is subject to a removal resolution, upon the passing of the resolution by a majority of members present at a Junior Meeting of the League; or
  - (c) dies or becomes physically or mentally incapacitated to an extent which interferes with the performance of his/her duties as an Junior Committee Member; or
  - (d) is absent without approval from meetings of the Junior Committee for more than 3 consecutive months; or
  - (e) holds any office of the League for pecuniary reward.
- 18.8. In the event of a casual vacancy in any office of the Junior Committee, the Junior Committee shall seek nominations to fill such vacancy or vacancies. In the event that no nominations are received, the Junior committee shall be empowered to fill such casual vacancy or vacancies with a person or persons qualifying in accordance with bylaw 18.10, and such person(s) so appointed shall serve in that office until the next Junior Meeting.
- 18.9. The Junior Committee of the League shall comprise: one (1) Chairman, one (1) Deputy Chairman, eight (8) Ordinary Members.
- 18.10. No person shall be eligible for election as a member of the Junior Committee:
- (a) unless within one month of being elected, that person undertakes to and does cease to hold any official position of any Affiliated Senior Club Member or Affiliated Junior Club Member or any other Australian Rules Football Club or League;
  - (b) unless the person nominated was a representative of an Affiliated Senior Club Member or Affiliated Junior Club Member or was a member of the Junior Committee during the season preceding the nomination for election;

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- (c) if the election of the person would result in an Affiliated Junior Club Member of the League having more than two previous representatives sitting on the Junior Committee at the same time.
- 18.11. Each Junior Committee Member shall hold office for three (3) years and shall be eligible for re-election upon the expiration of his/her term.
- 18.12. Any retiring Junior Committee Member shall remain a Junior Committee Member and be eligible to vote and speak at all Junior Special Meetings until the conclusion of the meeting at which he or she is replaced.
- 18.13. Junior Meetings:
  - (a) At the discretion of the Junior Committee "Junior Meetings" shall be convened from time to time.
  - (b) Each Junior Club shall be represented at all Junior Meetings by two people who shall be the president or secretary of the club and one other committee person.
  - (c) The voting at all Junior Meetings of the League shall be as follows:
    - i. every Junior Club Member shall be entitled to attend and debate every resolution or amendment thereof, and shall be entitled to two votes on every resolution or amendment thereof PROVIDED THAT its right to vote is conditional upon it having paid all monies due to the League prior to each respective Junior Meeting;
    - ii. every individual Junior Committee member shall be entitled to attend and debate every resolution or amendment thereof and shall be entitled to one vote on every resolution or amendment thereof.
- 18.14. All under 9 teams will comprise of 15 players per side, with no rucks/ruck-rovers and rovers. Centre players will contest all centre bounces.
- 18.15. All under 9 matches will be played across the ground or up to a maximum of three quarter length of a full size ground.
- 18.16. In all under 9 matches a player may not take full possession of the ball at a centre ball up. The ball must go to another player or touch the ground before the player winning the knockout can take possession of the ball. A centre ball up will occur after each score.
- 18.17. In all under 9 matches field ball ups will be contested by two opponents of approximately the same height as selected by the umpire. The players selected do not have to be the closest or the tallest players. As with the centre ball ups, full possession is not allowed.
- 18.18. If the ball goes out of bounds in all under 9 and under 10 matches a free kick is awarded against the team who last touched the ball either by foot or by hand. The free kick is to be taken by the nearest opponent. If there is any doubt as to which team last touched the ball, a free kick is awarded to the nearest player of the defending team.
- 18.19. In all under 9 matches, players cannot tackle an opponent, hold an opponent, push an opponent on the side or knock the ball out of an opponent's hands. A restrained bump in which the force of the contact is

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insufficient to knock the opposing player over is permitted. If a player is fairly bumped the ball must be disposed of by hand or foot.

- 18.20. No player is allowed to shepherd or push an opponent not in possession of the ball in any under 9 match.
- 18.21. In all under 9 matches a mark will be paid to a player who catches the ball from a kick regardless of the distance of the ball has travelled, provided the ball is not touched in transit.
- 18.22. In all under 9 and under 10 matches a player is allowed a maximum of one bounce before disposing of the ball by hand or by foot. After disposal that player cannot touch the ball until another player has made contact with the ball.
- 18.23. No player is allowed to deliberately kick the ball off the ground in any under 9, under 10 or under 11 match.
- 18.24. A player who has been awarded a mark or free kick cannot play on in any under 9 or under 10 match. A mark or free kick must be taken from behind the mark and the ball must be disposed of by either kick or handball. The advantage rule after a free kick will not be applied.
- 18.25. In all under 10 matches a mark will be paid to a player who catches the ball from a kick provided that the ball has travelled a minimum of five metres and, provided the ball is not touched in transit.
- 18.26. In all under 9 and under 10 matches the coach of each team is permitted onto the ground during the match.
- 18.27. No runners, boundary umpires or interchange stewards are permitted in under 9 and under 10 matches.
- 18.28. Each club in all under 10 matches shall provide one goal umpire. Goal umpires are not required in any under 9 match.
- 18.29. Age groups:
  - (a) All players in the under 9 to under 16 grades (inclusive) may play out of their registered age group. However, no player may:
    - i. play more than three (3) games out of his/her registered age group in any one season;
    - ii. play more than two years (grades) above his/her registered age group.
  - (b) Should a player play more than three games above his/her registered age group that player may not return to play in his/her registered age group in that year.
- 18.30. At all under 9 to under 16 grade games, no person acting in an official capacity, either playing or non playing, is permitted to smoke while inside the playing arena during a match or inside the change rooms while a match is in progress. Fine: Five penalty units.

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(Established 1989)

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## SCHEDULE ONE

### CODES OF CONDUCT

#### CODES OF CONDUCT - COACHES

- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.*
- Avoid over-playing the talented players, the "just average" players need and deserve equal time.*
- Remember that players participate for fun and enjoyment.*
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.*
- Take into consideration the maturity level of the players, when scheduling and determining the length of practice times and competition.*
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.*
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.*
- Keep yourself informed of the sound coaching principles and the principles of growth and development of players.*
- Create opportunities to teach appropriate sports behaviour as well basic skills.*
- Ensure that skill learning and appropriate sports behaviour have priority over highly structured competitions for young players.*
- Help players understand the responsibilities and implications of their freedom to choose between fair and unfair play. "A child's self-esteem is delicate and easily damaged, particularly by parents attempting to act out their own lives through the youngsters on the sports field. Participation in sports events must be something for children to enjoy. They should not be saddled with win-at-all costs attitudes at any early age" Daily Telegraph editorial.

#### CODES OF CONDUCT - ADMINISTRATORS/OFFICIALS

- Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all players, regardless of ability, size, shape, sex, age, disability or ethnic origin.*
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating players.*

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- Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.*
- Remember that players participate for enjoyment and play down the importance of rewards.*
- Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate behaviour and skill technique.*
- Ensure that parents, coaches, sponsors, physicians and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.*
- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of players and their needs.*
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.*
- Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.*
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behaviour.*
- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of players.*

## CODES OF CONDUCT - PARENTS/SPECTATORS

- Encourage players to participate, if they are interested.*
- Encourage players to always participate according to the rules.*
- Never ridicule or yell at a player for making a mistake or losing the game.*
- Remember that players learn best from example. Applaud good plays by all teams.*
- If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgement and honesty in public.*
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.*
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches.*
- Remember that people play organised sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment to spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.*
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.*
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials' decisions.*

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- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials.*

## CODES OF CONDUCT - PLAYERS

- Play by the rules.*
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach.*
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.*
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or for your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.*
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they be on your team, opponent or the other team.*
- Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.*
- Co-operate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.*
- Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.*
- Avoid using derogatory language.*

*Note: Codes of Conduct are part of the National Football Policy provided by Australian Football League.*

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## SCHEDULE TWO

### BEST CONDUCTED SENIOR OR JUNIOR CLUB

#### JUNIOR ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD "BEST CONDUCTED CLUB AWARD"

At the end of each season, the O.A.F.L. Junior Committee presents the Junior Encouragement Award for the Best Conducted Junior Club. Awards are also presented to the best conducted Clubs in each Division of the Junior Competition.

Points are allocated by the umpire at the end of each game and entered on the Umpire's Match Report on the basis of the following categories:-

- Attitude of Spectators/Officials Maximum 5 points
- Player Uniforms/appearance Maximum 5 points
- Discipline/attitude of players Maximum 5 points
- Maximum possible - 15 points

The umpires have been instructed to take into account the number of Send-Offs or Player Reports when determining the points for Player discipline/attitude.

The Club with the highest aggregate of points will be awarded the trophy, subject to the approval of the Junior Committee who will take into account other matters of conduct that may have occurred during the season.

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## SCHEDULE THREE

### ONTARIO AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

#### ONE MATCH INTERCHANGE RULES & FORM

Under 9 to 18 One Match Interchange Form

This form is to be completed and given to the field umpire with team sheet at half time of the match. Age group of players listed below

Player Name Player Signature Registered Club Interchange Club

Summary of Interchange Rules: C An official O AFL Interchange form must be completed and given to the field with team sheet at half time of the match. C Any interchanged player(s) must be listed and sign the team sheet of the interchange club (ie the club to which they have been interchanged to). C No player may be interchanged on more than three (3) occasions in any one season. C No player may be interchanged during the finals series. C Should a player be reported while on interchange, his registered club shall represent him at any subsequent Tribunal hearing. C No player may be interchanged if their registered club is having a bye in their particular age group. C This form must be signed below by an official of the players registered club. Print name:

Signature:

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## SCHEDULE FOUR

### RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS VILIFICATION POLICY

Ontario Australian Football League

Racial and Religious Vilification Policy

The O AFL acknowledges that clubs - including their Managers, officials and supporters, umpires, Leagues investigation committee and Executive Committee, need to be aware of what constitutes unacceptable conduct in relation to racial and religious abuse and therefore has deemed it necessary to document the following policy.

#### Racial and Religious Vilification Policy

- (a) No Player in his capacity as a Player of a Club or, in the course of carrying out his duties or functions as or incidental to a Player of a Club or any director, officer, servant or agent of a Club (including without limitation any coach, assistant, coach, trainer, medical officer, runner or person entitled to enter the arena during the course of or prior to or during any break in play in any match) shall act towards or speak to any other person in a manner, or engage in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person ("the person vilified") on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.
- (b) In the event that it is alleged that a person has contravened Rule (a) an umpire, Club or Player may be 5.00 pm on the first working day following the day which the contravention is alleged to have occurred, lodge a complaint in writing with the person appointed from time to time by the Executive Committee as the Complaints Officer for the purpose of this Rule.
- (c) The Complaints Officer Shall:- (i) Inform the person alleged to have contravened Rule (a) of the complaint and provide that person with an opportunity to respond to it. (ii) Arrange for the complaint to be conciliated and take all steps necessary for the complaint to be conciliated.
- (d) Where the Complaints Officer is of the opinion that the matter has not been resolved by conciliation, the Complaints Officer shall:- (i) In the case of a Player, refer the complaint to the Tribunal to be dealt with as a reportable offence under the Laws of Australian Football; or (ii) In the case of any other person, refer the complaint to the Executive Committee to be dealt with under By-Law 17.1.
- (e) Where a person alleged to have contravened Rule (a) has previously taken part in a conciliation (other than as a person vilified), the Complaints Officer may refer the complaint directly to the Independent Tribunal to be dealt with as a reportable offence under the "Laws of Australian Football" in the case of a Player, or directly to the Executive Committee to be dealt with under Rule 8.7 (e) of the O AFL Rules and Regulations in the case of any other person.
- (f) Any conciliation referred to in Rule (c) shall be conducted by the nominee of the President for the time being of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (Commonwealth) provided that if the President is unable or unwilling to nominate, the Executive Committee shall nominate a person to conciliate.

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- (g) In the event that a complaint is referred to the Tribunal or the Executive Committee under Rule (d), no evidence shall be given to or accepted by the Tribunal or the Executive Committee relating to anything said or done in any conciliation carried out pursuant to Rule (c).
- (h) In the event that a Complaints Officer has not been appointed for the purposes of these Rules or if appointed is for any reason unavailable to act under these Rules the Complaints Officer for the purpose of these Rules shall be the League Manager.
- (a) The Complaints Officer shall ensure that conciliation of a complaint under Rule (c) is completed by 5.00 pm on the third working day following the day on which the incident is alleged to have occurred.
- (b) In any case where the Complaints Officer determines to refer the complaint to the Tribunal or the Executive Committee the complaint shall be referred in time for the Tribunal or the Executive Committee as the case may be to deal with it by no later than the seventh working day following the day on which the incident is alleged to have occurred.
- (c) Any time limit for the doing of anything referred to in this Rule may be extended by the Executive Committee if in the opinion of the Executive Committee it is just and equitable to do so.
- (d) In the event that a complaint under these Rules in respect of conduct engaged in by a person is found to have been proven by the Tribunal or where the Executive Committee determines that a person the subject of a complaint has been involved in conduct which is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of the O.A.F.L., the Club employing, engaging or otherwise associated with the person at the time of conduct shall be deemed to be vicariously liable for the conduct of the person and shall pay to the O.A.F.L. a penalty determined by the Executive Committee which is not to exceed fifty penalty units.
- (e) Rule (l) does not apply to a contravention by a person if in the opinion of the Executive Committee the Club took all reasonable steps to prevent persons employed, engaged or otherwise associated with the Club from engaging in the conduct, which contravened the vilification rules.

## PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH A COMPLAINT

### UNDER THE O.A.F.L. RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS VILIFICATION POLICY

*Offence reported to League Executive Conciliation Tribunal Complaint made by club and/or player to Complaints Officer Complaints Officer investigates and considers order of confidential compulsory mediation*

*If mediation successful, outcome may be confidential or public.*

*If mediation is unsuccessful complaint maybe withdrawn. If mediation not successful and complaint not withdrawn it is referred to an Independent Tribunal for determination.*

*Tribunal hears complaint, determines outcome and if necessary applies appropriate penalties and/or other action to be taken if required Umpire reports breach of rule to Complaints Officer Complaints Officer, seeks view of vilified party to ascertain preferred process, confidential conciliation or public tribunal.*

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*If conciliation is successful report ends here, does not proceed to hearing.*

*The outcome maybe confidential or public. If conciliation unsuccessful report referred to Tribunal for determination Tribunal hears offence reported by umpire and determines penalties if appropriate*

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## SCHEDULE FIVE

### OFFICIALS ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

#### Team Manager

DRESS - Armband (junior competition only)

**DUTIES** - *Although the responsibility of the Team Manager will vary from Club to Club, in general this position is responsible to see that all activities or League Rules associated with the actual playing of the game (other than coaching) are carried out or adhered to.*

**TEAM UNIFORM** - *Ensure that all players are correctly attired*

**OTHER OFFICIALS** - *Ensure that persons are designated for each of the following roles where required and that they are aware of all necessary dress requirements, age requirements and duties: - Trainer - Water carrier - Runner - Interchange steward - Timekeeper - Boundary Umpire - Goal Umpire - Umpires Escort.*

**UMPIRES COMFORT** - *Ensure that the umpires room is adequate in terms of cleanliness and security. - make sure that umpires are offered refreshments during quarter breaks.*

**SECURITY OF PLAYER BELONGINGS** - *This aspect should be considered prior to players taking the field. No home club can fully guarantee the safety of items that remain in change rooms during a game.*

**TEAM SHEETS** - *Fill out the team book in alphabetical order with correct jumper numbers, and ensure that all players and officials sign the book. - Team books have three copies: - Original to umpire at half time - Second copy to opposing team by half time - Third copy is retained in the book.*

**FOOTBALLS** - *Home team manager to present two footballs to the umpire before the game.*

**START TIMES** - *Be aware of the starting times of all quarters and ensure that the Coach has the players ready to start accordingly.*

**UMPIRES REPORT** - *The team manager and/or the Coach complete an Umpire's Performance Report following the game. Reports should be constructive including positives and negatives, and be completed every game regardless of result. Reports are to be placed in sealed envelopes and forwarded to the O AFL office, these may be sent via facsimile.*

**MATCH REPORTS** - *Match reports are completed by umpires after all games. The team manager must attend the umpires room after the game to collect the report. If the team manager does not attend the umpires are instructed to leave the report in umpires the room.*

**LIST OF MEDICAL PHONE NUMBERS** - *Compile a quick reference list of local phone numbers for ambulance, doctors, dentists and medical centres for use at all games. Ensure that these numbers are given to the 'away' teams should the situation arise.*

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***REPORTED PLAYERS - Ensure that all details of any reported players are handed to the appropriate club officials as soon as possible and that players involved are informed.***

## Trainer

DRESS - White trousers or white overalls, and O AFL Trainers Association Cap must be worn. A top in club colours is acceptable.

REQUIREMENTS - At least one, level one accredited trainer needs to be in attendance at all matches. All other trainers are required to complete a recognised senior first aid course (eg. Sports First Aid, St Johns or Red Cross). Details regarding the qualification of trainers can be obtained from the Ontario Australian Football League Trainers Association. - The minimum age for trainers is 15. - Each team is permitted to have three trainers.

DUTIES - Attend injured players on the ground. If any injury appears to be serious, qualified medical assistance should be obtained immediately. - Trainers are responsible for having a stretcher on the ground for each game. - It is also recommended that the phone numbers of each player's parents or guardian are available and that any relevant medical condition of players are known. - A trainer is not permitted to act as second runner.

## Water Carrier

DRESS - White trousers or white overalls, and a white top must be worn. All water carriers are to wear the league approved water carrier bib.

REQUIREMENTS - The minimum age for water carriers in the senior competition is 15. - The minimum age for water carriers in the junior competition is 12. - Each team is permitted to have three water carriers.

DUTIES - The job of the water carrier is to run water out to players when they require a drink and not stay out on the ground. - Water carriers are to be based in different parts of the ground, behind the boundary line and not at the coaches box. - Water carriers are not permitted to act as a second runner.

## Runner

DRESS - Red shirt, with the word "RUNNER" on the back and red tracksuit pants/shorts. REQUIREMENTS - A runner must be at least 18 years of age. - Only one runner per team is permitted. - In the under 9/10 competition no runners are permitted as the coaches are allowed on the ground during play.

DUTIES - In all matches it is their job to relay messages from coach to players. - Runners are only permitted on the ground when actually relaying a message. They must not remain on the ground continually. Umpires can order the runner from the ground if they feel the runner is on the ground too much.

## Interchange Steward

DRESS - Must wear the appropriate O AFL armband.

REQUIREMENTS - Each side must appoint an interchange steward at least 18 years of age.

DUTIES - There will be two lines, 15 metres apart, marked across the boundary line at which players can be interchanged. The steward will be stationed near to the fence between the two marked lines which will be situated in

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a central position of each ground. - The steward shall note all interchanges that occur during the game. - Players shall leave and enter the playing ground through the interchange area during the match unless the player is assisted from the playing arena through injury, in which case he may be taken from the playing ground at any point. His replacement shall enter the playing ground through the interchange area and the interchange steward notified of the injured player's name and number. The replaced player must return to the playing arena by way of normal interchange. - A player who does not leave the playing ground through the approved interchange shall not be permitted to take any further part in the match. - When a player has been, or appears to have been so seriously injured as to prevent his being removed immediately from the playing ground, the steward may approve his being replaced prior to the injured player leaving the ground, but if a replacement shall be made pursuant to such approval, the replaced player shall take no further part in the match. The official runner or captain shall immediately inform the field umpire that the player has been so replaced. - Players who are ordered from the field by the field umpire are to leave at the nearest possible point. Players are to report to the interchange steward for time notification. Interchange stewards are to note the time the player reported to the steward and not allow that player to resume playing until 15 minutes playing time has elapsed if applicable. - Teams interchanging players during the intervals must advise the steward of such changes before the match recommences. - Should the steward observe the teams being lined up for the purpose of count under the AFL "Laws of Australian Football", he should assist the field umpire if requested. - Breaches of any of these instructions must be noted at the bottom of the interchange form.

## Timekeeper

DRESS - No specific requirements.

REQUIREMENTS - A timekeeper must be at least 18 years of age.

DUTIES - Each side must appoint a timekeeper who is a minimum of 18 years of age. - To keep the time of each quarter on time cards. Timekeeper cards are not required for under 9s and 10s. - To keep a record of scores for use by the controlling body in the event of the goal umpires cards not agreeing. - To sound a bell or siren at the start and finish of each quarter. - No time on is added in any junior competition matches. - Refer to the timekeepers card for a detailed explanation of timekeeping procedures and guidelines.

## Boundary Umpire

**DRESS - White shorts or skirt and white T-shirt or plain white windcheater and white or black tracksuit pants (only on cold days in junior competition).**

**REQUIREMENTS - In all under 15 to senior grade matches boundary umpires must be at least the 15 years of age. In all under 11 to under 14 grade matches boundary umpires must be at least the same age as the grade in which they are officiating. - In both the under 9/10 competition boundary umpires are not required.**

**DUTIES - If the field umpire determines that a boundary umpire in any match is unable to perform his or her duties competently, the field umpire shall request a replacement boundary umpire. If a competent replacement boundary umpire cannot be found the field umpire shall direct a player from the offending club to throw the ball into play.**

## Goal Umpire

**DRESS - White coat and flags**

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***REQUIREMENTS - All goal umpires must be at least 15 years of age. - Goal umpires are not required in the under 9 competition.***

***DUTIES - Before the match ensure details of the match have been entered on the scorecard supplied by the O.A.F.L. - During the match stand behind goal line in line with the flight of the ball. Wait for the field umpire to give the all clear before giving decision. Both goal umpires must wave the flags for each score. Enter score on card and check scores with other goal umpire at the quarter breaks and after the match. The scorecard must be handed to the team manager after the match. - Club supplied umpires are not permitted to barrack or comment on play. If the field umpire is of the opinion that a club supplied goal umpire is making deliberately wrong or incompetent decisions he or she may demand the offending club to replace the goal umpire before re-commencing the match.***

## Umpire's Escort

DRESS - Must wear the official O.A.F.L. bib.

REQUIREMENTS - All umpires escorts must be at least 18 years of age.

DUTIES - To escort all umpires from the oval (where play ends) to the umpires room at half time and at the conclusion of the game. - Where the club is the home club, they should offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter. - Remain in the centre of the ground with umpires during quarter time and three quarter time break. - Umpires escort must not abuse or criticise umpires and must show courtesy at all times.

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## APPENDIX ONE:

### ONTARIO AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

#### PERMIT COMMITTEE APPEAL PROCEDURE

1. *In the event that an Affiliated Senior Club or Affiliated Junior Club objects to a clearance application by a player, the League Executive shall notify the player of the objections and if requested to do so by the player, shall refer the application to the Permit Committee to be dealt with under that Committee's procedures.*
2. *Every player, after having been refused a clearance to play with another club within the O AFL, may appeal to the Permit Committee. Any player may appeal once only in the season.*
3. *The appeal must be lodged within seven days of receipt of the refusal by the club to which the player seeks a clearance that such clearance has been refused. Failure to lodge an appeal within seven days will result in the player having to submit a further clearance and have such clearance refused before any appeal can be heard.*
4. *The appeal must be lodged by the player and NOT by the club to which he seeks a clearance. The player may indicate all his reasons for seeking a clearance to the club he wishes to compete with.*
5. *The player/club must lodge a bond of \$250.00 together with his appeal. The club refusing the clearance, if intending to defend the appeal, must also lodge a \$250.00 bond no later than 3 days before the appeal can proceed.*
6. *All bond monies will be repaid in whole or part at the completion of the hearing, unless the hearing is considered frivolous. Any club who fails to lodge the bond, the Committee may register the player with the club he seeks a clearance to.*
7. *The League Executive shall call all parties together for the purpose of conducting a hearing not later than ten days after all bond monies and appeals have been satisfactorily lodged with the League.*
8. *If the player or refusing club withdraws the appeal or objection within forty-eight hours of the hearing, the bond of the withdrawing party may be forfeited in whole or part at the discretion of the Permit Committee.*
9. *The League Executive shall inform all parties of the hearing date at which all parties shall present themselves for the appeal.*
10. *The player may be represented by a friend who shall not be a solicitor or barrister. The club may be represented by two members of its Committee.*

#### Procedure

*Any player said to be un-financial by the refusing club shall be ineligible to appeal unless the player intends challenging his financial status.*

1. *The League Executive shall invite all parties into the appeal room and shall introduce the following:*

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- (a) *The Permit Committee*
- (b) *The player*
- (c) *The club refusing the clearance*
- (d) *The club to which the player sought a clearance.*

2. *The League Executive shall acquaint all Permit Committee members with all relevant facts relating to the appeal:*

- (a) *Date of registration*
- (b) *Date of refusal*
- (c) *Date of lodgement of appeal*
- (d) *Date of lodgement of bonds.*

3. *The League Executive or his assistant shall read to all concerned any correspondence from the player to which the Permit Committee Chairman will invite the player to add any further comments.*

4. *If any player claims to derive the whole or part of his livelihood from playing football, he shall produce to the Permit Committee proof of all matter relevant to deriving his livelihood.*

5. *The Permit Committee Chairman may question the player and may, at his discretion, invite the Permit Committee members to question the player at their convenience.*

6. *The Permit Committee Chairman shall invite the club refusing the clearance to give reasons why registration should not be permitted. At this time, the club refusing the clearance may rebut any statements of the player.*

7. *The Permit Committee Chairman, at his discretion, may question the club refusing the clearance and may invite members of the Permit Committee to further question the club refusing the clearance. Points of clarification may, at this time, be invited by the Permit Committee Chairman and/or the player or the club refusing the clearance.*

8. *The club to which the player seeks a registration shall be invited to address the Appeal Committee at which time the Permit Committee Chairman, Committee, player and club refusing the clearance may ask questions of the club to which the player seeks a clearance.*

9. *The Permit Committee Chairman shall invite all parties to raise final points and final questions before asking the player to summarise his case thereby closing the appeal.*

10. *The Permit Committee Chairman shall direct all parties to retire while the Permit Committee considers the appeal.*

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11. *The League executive shall invite all parties to return and the Permit Committee Chairman shall make the following statement: "On the evidence presented here tonight, the decision of the Permit Committee has been to..." No discussions will take place after the appeal and all parties should leave quietly.*

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## APPENDIX TWO

### INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE

#### ONTARIO AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

##### INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE GUIDELINES:

1. *A player or an official who has been reported by an approved umpire of a match controlled or authorised by the O AFL, concerning the conduct of the player or an official before, during or after the match, must appear before the Independent Tribunal on the Tuesday night following the match, at the O AFL offices, The Transzac Club, 292 Brunswick Ave, Toronto at a nominated time.*
2. *All witnesses and infringed players notified of the report must also appear on the evening at the same time as nominated.*
3. *All reported players, officials and witnesses MUST be represented by an advocate who must be an official of the club, and shall not be a qualified solicitor or barrister.*
4. *The usage of, and production of video evidence at Tribunal Hearings and/or League Inquiries shall be permissible if such video evidence is forwarded to the League executive by no later than 5.00 pm on the Monday immediately following the game in question. The League executive, or his appointee, will determine whether such video evidence is permissible as evidence at the tribunal. The O AFL will retain all video evidence for future reference. Under no circumstances will any video be returned. All decisions by the League executive or his appointee are final and no correspondence, whether verbal or written, will be considered regarding these decisions. Any club given permission to use video evidence at the tribunal may be required to provide a television monitor and video cassette recorder (which has a slow motion facility) for the tribunal hearing.*

##### INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE AT HEARING:

1. *The Tribunal will call the following:*
  - (a) *The reported player's or official's name first and their advocate.*
  - (b) *Witnesses and advocate (if necessary)*
  - (c) *The umpire making the report and his advocate.*
1. *If an advocate intends calling any other witnesses during the hearing, then it is his responsibility to advise the Tribunal Chairman before the commencement of the case. Similarly, if an advocate intends challenging the validity of a report then it is his responsibility to also advise the Tribunal Chairman before the hearing commences.*
2. *A reported player or official will be asked to stand whilst the Tribunal Secretary reads the charge.*

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*The procedure is as follows:*

**TRIBUNAL SECRETARY:** *"Are you player .....?"*

**PLAYER:** *.....gives his reply.*

**TRIBUNAL SECRETARY:** *"On .....(date) you participated in the game .....?vs? ....., Division ...., Grade ...., Game .... and wore number .... guernsey for .....(team)?"*

**PLAYER:** *.....gives his reply.*

**TRIBUNAL SECRETARY:** *"You are charged with ? (charge is read). How do you plead?"*

**PLAYER:** *.....delivers his plea ? (Guilty / Not Guilty).*

**TRIBUNAL SECRETARY:** *.....advises the Tribunal of the player's or official's plea.*

*If video evidence has been approved in accordance with the guidelines, it will be viewed by the Tribunal prior to any evidence other being given. All parties shall remain while the video evidence is being viewed.*

- 1. At this time the witness is requested to leave whilst evidence is taken from the umpire and the player.*
- 2. The umpire, reported player, his advocate and the witness's advocate are present at all times.*
- 3. The umpire is asked to deliver his version of the incident and is questioned at length by the Tribunal.*
- 4. The advocates are then invited to question the umpire, if they desire.*
- 5. The reported player then gives his evidence in front of the umpire and may be questioned by the Tribunal and both advocates. The umpire may ask questions, at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairman.*
- 6. After the Tribunal Chairman has satisfied himself that all evidence from the reported player or official and the umpire has been collected, the witness will be recalled to the Tribunal Room. At this time no further evidence from either the umpire or the reported player or official will be accepted.*
- 7. The witness will be asked to give his version of the incident and will be questioned by the Tribunal . Both advocates will be entitled to question the witness.*
- 8. At this time any witnesses that the player or official may have for their defence should be called. After giving evidence and being questioned by the Tribunal they will be asked to retire and not speak to other witnesses.*
- 9. The Tribunal Chairman will then invite the advocate of the reported player or official to sum up the evidence and speak on the behalf of the player or official.*

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***10. The Tribunal will ask the parties to retire and when a decision has been reached the umpire, reported player or official and advocate will be invited back to the Tribunal and the decision advised. Thus: "After hearing all evidence, the Tribunal has found ....."***

***The result of the case will also be delivered in writing through a penalty notification form.***

***Note: If players or officials who do not attend the Tribunal when requested, the Tribunal may:?***

- (a) Suspend the player or official until he appears.***
- (b) Hear the case in their absence.***
- (c) Impose a fine and/or suspension.***

***The above applies also to witnesses who do not appear. Clubs who do not supply an advocate may be fined by the Tribunal. Players, who in the opinion of the Tribunal, have delivered unsatisfactory evidence to the hearing can, and will, be dealt with at the discretion of the Tribunal by fine and / or suspension.***

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## APPENDIX THREE

### GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

#### ONTARIO AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

#### GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

1. *The League Executive, on the night of the investigation, shall invite all parties into the committee room and shall:*
  - (a) *Introduce the Grievance Committee*
  - (b) *Introduce the complainant*
  - (c) *Introduce the respondent*
  - (d) *Introduce any other persons involved (ie: Umpires and witnesses).*
2. *The Chairman shall invite the complainant to state his/their grievance detailing all relevant information. The Chairman, at his discretion, may question the complainant and invite the Committee to do so.*
3. *The Chairman shall ask the respondent to state his/their case detailing all relevant information to the grievance and may rebut any allegations by the complainant. The Chairman, at his discretion, may question the respondent and may invite the Committee to do so.*
4. *After the complainant and respondent have stated their respective cases they may, if they wish, call any witnesses to appear before the Committee. In this regard, no hearsay evidence by witnesses will be accepted.*
5. *After evidence by all concerned has been delivered, the Chairman may open the hearing for general questions at which all parties may question the other or seek points of clarification. At all times questions must be directed through the Chairman, who may allow or disallow the questions.*
6. *After all questioning, in the opinion of the Chairman, has been satisfied the Chairman shall ask the parties to summarise their respective cases and invite all parties to retire at the convenience of the Committee.*
7. *Upon re-entering, the Grievance Committee Chairman will indicate the decision as determined by the Committee. "On the evidence presented to the Committee, the decision is as follows....." All parties must then leave quietly.*

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