

CONSTITUTION OF THE BENDIGO JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
(As amended Annual General Meeting 1976)

1. This body shall be called the Bendigo Junior Football League and hereinafter referred to as the League.
2. The objects of the League shall be:
  - (a) the promotion of Australian Rules Football;
  - (b) to conduct a Junior Football Competition;
  - (c) the choosing and management of teams to represent the League;
  - (d) to deal with matters that the League may deem to be in the best interest of the League.
3. The League shall consist of such bodies playing Australian Rules Football as shall affiliate with the League.
4. Conditions of affiliation shall be:
  - (a) that the body applying for affiliation agrees to abide by the Constitution of the League;
  - (b) each affiliated body shall pay an affiliation fee at the commencement of each season, payable on or before the first day of competition, such fee to be decided at the Annual Meeting.
  - (c) any affiliated body not complying with the conditions of the League shall have its affiliation cancelled.
5. Office Bearers shall consist of a President, up to four Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, nominations for which will be accepted at the Annual Meeting.
6. The Office Bearers to be the Executive Committee.
7. The Committee of the League to consist of the Executive Committee plus one delegate from each affiliated team. Each delegate to vote on matters concerning his own team and general League matters. Each team may elect a proxy delegate.
8. The Committee is to be responsible for the business of the League.
9. Each player in the League must be registered with the League each season prior to said player's first game in the League's competition.
10. Registration of each player to be recognised on the receipt of the prescribed form duly completed and appropriate fee being paid and lodged with the Secretary, or handed to the Central Umpire prior to the player's first game.
11. Any player who registers with a Club during the current season must obtain a clearance and permit to transfer to another Club in the League. All applications for clearances shall close on the first day of July. All clearance applications must be on the prescribed form and cleared through the League. In case of refusal or dispute the matter shall be heard by three of the Executive Committee.
12.
  - (a) Player's registration fees to be fixed at the Annual Meeting for each season.
  - (b) All players must provide the Secretary with an extract of birth certificate, or baptismal certificate, or headmaster's copy of school record within a month of his first game in the League competition.

13. Affiliated bodies playing such players as are deemed ineligible by the Committee may forfeit all match points in which their ineligible players participated.
14. Eligible players in the League can only play four (4) senior football matches during any one season.
15. Senior matches are those in which players who are sixteen years of age or over on the 1st of January prior to the season's commencement are accepted in that competition with the exception of inter-school competition.
16. The League shall consist of three divisions, namely Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16.
17. Players participating in League games must be under the maximum age for each division at the beginning of the calendar year.
18. All protests and/or appeals to the League must be in writing and lodged with the Secretary within 72 hours of the occasion for the protest or appeal.
19. To make himself eligible to play in the finals, a player must play in at least two home and away games with the team participating in the finals, Rule 20 excepted.
20. A Club who enters two or more teams in any one age group in any one season has the right to interchange players in their teams, said players playing at least four games with the one team in order to represent that team in the finals.
21. A Tribunal shall be appointed annually by the Committee. Its judgement is to be accepted by the League.
22. Affiliated Clubs from the previous year are to be notified at least ten days before the Annual Meeting. Rules of the Constitutions may be changed, altered or deleted at the Annual Meeting, provided notice of motion is lodged with the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting, and at least four-fifths of the Committee are present. Affiliated Clubs from the previous year are to be notified of the notices of motion and nominated office bearers three days before the Annual Meeting.
23. The relegation and promotion system is to be used should two or more grades be played in the competition, and if this system is approved at the Annual Meeting.
24. Life Members are permitted to vote on all matters pertaining to the conduct of the League.

BENDIGO JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE - Circular to Clubs 1976.

Club Officials are asked to take note of the following points:

1. AFFILIATION FEE. A fee of \$1.00 per team is to be paid to the Treasurer on or before the first day of competition. (Constitution, Article 4b).
2. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS. Each player must be registered prior to his first game. (Article 9). Registration cards are to be given to the Registrar, Mr. John Cook, together with a fee of 20c per player. A player can be registered on the day of his first match by having the central umpire sign and date the reverse of the card before the match, the card and fee being handed in at the next meeting. A player is not registered until the fee has been paid.
3. CONFIRMATION OF AGE OF PLAYERS. The age of players not registered the previous year is to be confirmed within one month of his first game. The confirmation can be in the form of an extract from birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or testimony of school principal (Article 12b).
4. UMPIRES' FEES. Each team will pay the League ~~\$3.00~~<sup>\$4.00</sup> per game. In the event of a forfeit on the day itself the fee is still payable (unless all games cancelled by the wet weather committee). Fees are to be paid regularly throughout the season.
5. WET WEATHER. The decision to play or not will be made by the respective coaches at the ground, unless all games have been cancelled by the Wet Weather Committee. Cancellation by the Wet Weather Committee will be made only under the most extreme conditions, and will be announced over 3BO between 8.00 and 8.15 a.m. on the day.
6. NUMBER OF PLAYERS. Each team shall consist of twenty two players, four of whom will be reserves. In the Under 12 divisions only, players who have been replaced during the match can return to the play.
7. ORDER OFF RULE. The Central Umpire can order off a player after giving him one warning. An ordered off player is suspended for the rest of the match. He can be replaced by another player.
8. TIMES OF PLAY. All Under 12 matches commence at 9.00 a.m. All Under 14 and Under 16 matches commence at 10.00 a.m. Under 12s play 4 x 10 min. quarters. Under 14s and Under 16s play 4 x 15 min. quarters. The breaks between quarters are as follows - 3, 8 and 5 mins. If there is a late start playing time must be shortened to avoid delaying a later game.
9. FOOTBALL SIZE. Full size footballs will be used by Under 16 and Under 14. In Under 12 games the football shall be between 10 inches and 11 inches in length.

10. MATCH OFFICIALS. Each team is to provide a suitable goal umpire, team keeper and boundary umpires. Goal umpires should confer at half time and three-quarter time.
11. COACHES DURING PLAY. Coaches are permitted inside the fence during play but must remain outside the boundary line.
12. SPECTATORS. Spectators must remain outside the fence during play and should stand clear of the goal umpire. On grounds where there is no fence they should stand well back from the boundary line.
13. MATCH SLIPS. Each team manager/coach is to fill out the team sheet before the match, and the result slip after the match. Christian names (or at least initial) should be given as well as surname.
14. HOME TEAM. The team first mentioned on the fixture is the "home team" and is responsible for the following:
  - (a) Preparing the ground and rooms.
  - (b) Cleaning out and securing rooms.
  - (c) Collecting all match slips (6 in all) and handing them in at the Canon Bar, Rifle Brigade Hotel before 1.30 p.m. on the day of play.
  - (d) Providing a football for the match.