

Information on Permits

All of the following information is covered in the AFL Victoria Country handbook in section 2 (the white section) from page 41.

Below is the basic set of rules surrounding permits that clubs must keep in mind when considering to apply:

Permit to a Major League:

Any player of a District or Junior league may apply for a permit to play with a Major league club provided the player resides within the radius of such Major league club, without clearance, for not more than eight (8) matches in any one season. Before each match, that player must have approval from both the District or Junior club and District League they are coming from and the Major league they are wishing to compete in. Unless this approval has been sought and granted by all parties involved prior to 5pm on the last business day before the match, the permit will not be granted.

Eight Matches:

Players seeking to play with a Major League club on permit are limited to playing eight (8) matches in any season without having to apply for a clearance. Unless stated in an area agreement between leagues or in the league's By-Laws, finals matches are permitted under these permits however all finals eligibility criteria must be met. Once a player has played in eight (8) matches with a club on permit and wishes to continue playing with that club, a clearance must be applied for. Clearance guidelines must be followed in this procedure. This rule does not apply to players playing with a club on an interchange agreement.

One Match Per Day:

A player shall not be permitted to play with a District or Junior league club on a one day match permit and a Major league club on the same weekend. Players must choose to play one or the other.

Finals:

In order for a player playing under such Area Permit to participate in a finals series in that season the player must compete in a minimum of five (5) matches in the team of the grade they wish to play finals for unless the By-Laws of the league they are playing in states something different and they must also meet any other additional league requirements as set out in the league's By-Laws. For players competing under an Interchange Agreement, please check the rules within the agreement to see whether finals matches are permitted under this agreement. In most cases, finals are not permitted.

No Appeal:

There is no right of appeal to the refusal of a match day permit.

Permits for Players of Opposing Teams:

Where a team in a Reserve or Underage competition cannot field a side, a day permit may be granted to players from the opposing team in order to even up the numbers. This does not apply to senior first XVIII football.

Deadline: All permits must have all paperwork submitted and approved by no later than 5pm on the last business day prior to the scheduled match. Fines may apply to clubs who breach this rule.

The only exception to this rule is for players who agree to top up numbers of an opposing side because they are short of players in a Reserve or Junior grade. These match day permits will be applied for by the league on the next business day.

Types of Permits:

Type 1: Match Day Permit: Allows for a permit at short notice to another club for a short period of time without requiring their online approval. This permit is to be submitted by the club requesting the permit and all relevant paperwork must be completed by 5pm on the last business day before the scheduled match takes place. Failure to do so will result in a fine from the league.

Form to complete: *Multiple Match Permit Form or AFL Goldfields & AFL Central Victoria Area Agreement.*

Type 2: Local Interchange Agreement: A written agreement between two leagues that permits players of a club in one league to compete with another club in another league. The agreement meets local conditions and requires online approval by both clubs and both leagues involved. Allows permitted player to play for both clubs for the duration of the permit (requires online approval). This permit only applies to competitions as outlined in the agreement. Fines apply to clubs who do not submit the relevant paperwork by 5pm on the last business day before the scheduled match or play an ineligible player under this agreement.

NOTE: Clubs won't need to use this type of permit when using the area agreement, type 1 permits used on a weekly basis will suffice.

Form to complete: *Local Interchange Agreement Form*

Type 3: Temporary Transfer: Allows a permit to another club for an agreed period of time (requires online approval). Once that agreed period of time has expired, the player will be automatically cleared back to his original club. Usually applied to players wishing to play a season of football in the Northern Territory who play their season over the summer.

Form to complete: *Temporary Interstate Transfer Form*

Please Note: Temporary transfers should be used where sufficient time exists for a club to grant a permit. Match Day permits are designed for a player to play one particular match.

Student Permit (To be entered as Type 2 Permit): A player residing away from his usual place of abode while attending secondary/TAFE college, institution or university on a full time or continuous basis and playing in any competition may, during registered school holidays and registered semester vacations, receive a permit to play with the club with which the player was previously registered with before being cleared to his current club without having to be cleared. Player must complete a Student Permit form and submit with approval from all parties involved by no later than 5pm on the last business day before the scheduled match. Must be entered by the League as a Type 2 permit and requires online approval from all parties.

Form to complete: *Student Permit Form*

Family Permit (To be entered as Type 2 Permit): Where a player under the age of 16 years as of the 1st of January is in a situation where the parents have separated and have special custody arrangements such players may be eligible to apply for a permit to play at a second or alternate club which is more than 150km away from his / her original club. A player eligible under this permit may only participate in one game per weekend and may be eligible for finals providing they have qualified under the local provisions however they may only play in one finals series per weekend. Permits will not be granted where a local Area Agreement can be applied. The ultimate verification and approval of this special Family Permit will rest with the Football Development Manager after lodgement of the Family Permit Form and proof of separation and residence of both parents. Family Permit cannot be applied for or approved after June 30th in each year and is only applicable for that year. AFL Victoria Country approval from the Football Development Manager for such a permit is required. Must be entered by the League as a Type 2 permit and requires online approval from all parties.

Form to complete: *Family Permit Form*

Special Circumstances – Drought/Recess (To be entered as Type 2 Permit): Temporary permits may be granted for players who are aligned with clubs whose season has been affected by drought conditions or whose club has gone into recess. A player may receive a

permit to play with another club if for some special reason their season has been delayed by drought or their club has gone into recess. AFL Victoria Country approval from the Football Development Manager for such a permit is required.

Form to complete: *Drought or Special Circumstances Permit Form*

Clubs MUST liaise with their league to ENSURE all approvals are obtained, and ALL necessary paperwork is completed, PRIOR to a player participating under a Permit Arrangement

Frequently Asked Questions:

I play for a District league club and I have been approached by a Major league club to play a trial match for them to see if I am up to playing at that standard. Can I apply for a permit to play with this club?

Yes you can as long as it is to play senior football only. These permits do not apply to players wishing to play reserve or junior football.

What if I wish to play to Reserve or Junior grade football on a permit?

This is not possible. The only way around this is if your league enters into a local interchange or area agreement with another league that allows the temporary transfer of players without a clearance. Interchange agreements exist between the Riddell District Football Netball League and all other Leagues in the following Regions:

- AFL Goldfields
- AFL Central Victoria

The club we played on the weekend were short of numbers and I played for them without seeking approval from the league and submitting the required paperwork. Am I allowed to this?

This is the only case in which a player can compete without first having to submit any paperwork to the league beforehand. All other instances require players to have submitted their paperwork and had approval granted by no later than 5pm on the last business day before the scheduled match. This is only an option for players from the Reserve competition down, this is not an option for Senior footballers. The club borrowing the player also needs to indicate on the team sheet that they are a PERMIT player.

I play junior football for a club in one competition but the senior arm of our club competes in a completely different league to ours, can I play for our senior arm in this competition?

Only if your league has a local interchange or area agreement with the league your senior club competes in. If they do, an interchange or area agreement form will be posted on your league's website and must be completed prior to you playing for your senior club. Remember to read the rules outlined in the agreement carefully before filling out the required paperwork, there may be certain restrictions you are unaware of.

I want to play a season of football in the Northern Territory over the summer but do not wish to be cleared from my home club in Victoria. Is there a way of making this happen?

Yes. Complete a Temporary Interstate Transfer Form and submit it to your league administrator in the Northern Territory. They should then submit it into the system as a Temporary Transfer (Type 3) with a date range for which you wish to be transferred for. Once the expiry date is reached, you should be automatically transferred back to your home club in Victoria.

My parents have recently split up and now live in two different towns. I spend an equal amount of time with each parent and I would very much like to continue playing football on a continuous basis however cannot as every second weekend I am out of town. Is there any way I can register with two clubs so I can play football each week?

AFL Victoria Country has introduced a special consideration/family permit for examples exactly like this. If a player under the age of 16 at the 1st of January can provide all relevant proof to AFL Victoria Country that explains the family's current living arrangements and provided all rules surrounding the permit are met (see above), then the player may be registered with his/her primary club and also be released to play at a second club on permit.

My competition has been delayed due to drought conditions forcing our league to postpone the start of the season by a couple of weeks. A neighbouring league has been able to start their season on time, is there a permit I can apply for to allow me to play with a club in this league?

Yes there is. AFL Victoria Country introduced this special circumstances permit after a number of leagues were affected by drought a few years ago. Simply complete the Special Circumstances for Drought/Recess Permit Form and submit it to your league administrator by no later than 5pm on the last business day before the scheduled match. This permit also applies to clubs who have forced into recess.

If you have a question that is not covered by the information above, please do not hesitate to contact your league administrator who will provide you with the required information.