



JUNIOR FOOTBALL UMPIRING PROGRAM

CLUB APPOINTED UMPIRE HANDBOOK 2015



**Proudly Supporting
AFL Brisbane Juniors**

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Club Umpire Coordinator (CUC)

CUC Name:

CUC Mobile Number:

CUC Email Address:

AFL Brisbane Juniors

Pierce Field

AFLBJ Competition Officer

07 3033 5439 (Office) or 0405 297 347 (Mobile)

pierce@afbj.com

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

AFL Brisbane Juniors believes that education of our club umpires is crucial to our positive match day environments. As a part of the Junior Football Umpire Program, club umpires are required to attend the following training sessions:

Training Content

Training Block 1

All club umpires regardless of experience are required to attend training block one.

- Gives umpires basic understand of their role and understanding of the modified rules as per the Junior Football Match Guide
- Provides basic understanding of communication
- Provides basic understanding of positioning in general play
- Basic understanding of positioning at a set kick
- 2nd Year + Umpires revisit the above for revision and provide guidance to 1st years

Training Block Two

1st Year Umpires

- Revisits modified rules
- Revisit set kick control to review skills
- Centre bounce positioning
- Advanced general play positioning
- Game sense drill (if time permits)

2nd Year + Umpires

- Train with AFLBJ Umpires
- Advanced skill development
- Introduction to next level of umpiring

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING BLOCK ONE AND TRAINING BLOCK TWO IS
COMPULSORY**

Training Dates and Venues

Training Block One

All Club Umpires To Attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Tue 17 Mar	Mayne JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 17 Mar	Park Ridge JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Wed 18 Mar	Morningside JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 19 Mar	Sandgate JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 19 Mar	Jindalee JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 24 Mar	Kenmore JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 24 Mar	Collingwood Park JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Wed 25 Mar	Alexandra Hills JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thur 26 Mar	Caboolture JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm

Training Block Two

1st Year Umpires

All First Year Umpires to attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Wed 27 May	Wynnum JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 28 May	Coorparoo JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 28 May	Jindalee JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Mon 2 June	Wilston Grange JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 3 June	Narangba JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 5 June	Logan JAFC	6:00pm - 7:30pm

2nd Year and Above Umpires

All Second Year and above umpires to attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Mon 15 June	West's Juniors	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Mon 22 June	Zillmere/Calamvale/Wynnum	6:30pm – 8:00pm

Training Block Three (Optional)

In order to engage our club umpires further, AFLBJ offer all club umpires the opportunity to officiate as Boundary Umpires during the U12s-U17s Finals Series.

This is also a great way for our new club umpires to get a taste of **umpiring at the next level**.

In order for club umpires to participate, they must complete a boundary umpire training session at one of the venues and dates below:

Date	Venue	Time
Mon 3 August	West Juniors	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Mon 10 August	Calamvale, Wynnum, Zillmere	6:30pm - 8:00pm

Additional Education

Club Umpires in the Junior Football Umpiring Program will have the opportunity in 2015 to further develop their skills by attending any AFLBJ League Umpire Training Session. These sessions are encouraged but **not compulsory**.

The venue details are listed below. The AFLBJ Training Calendar is available at the link below, to identify which training venue/s is/are in operation on which fortnight.

http://www.foxsportspulse.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=1-3928-0-0-0&SID=342020

Central Training Base - Wests Juniors AFC

When: Monday Nights, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

How Often: Fortnightly

Where: Oakman Park, Union St, Toowong (near Brisbane Boys College)

Satellite Training Base – North – Zillmere AFC

When: Monday Nights, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

How Often: Fortnightly (alternate fortnight to Wests)

Where: O’Callaghan Park, 340 Zillmere Road, Zillmere

Satellite Training Base – South – Calamvale J AFC

When: Monday Nights, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

How Often: Fortnightly (alternate fortnight to Wests)

Where: Calamvale Community College, Beaudesert Road, Calamvale

APPOINTMENTS & AVAILABILITY

Appointments will be coordinated by your individual club. Please ensure you comply with your Club Umpire Coordinator's availability process.

Informing your Club Umpire Coordinator of your unavailability as early as possible is very important.

MATCH PAYMENTS

Match payments are at the discretion of each individual clubs.

UNIFORM & APPEARANCE

Appearance is an important part of umpiring, and AFL Brisbane Juniors recognises that for our umpires to gain respect in the wider football community we must present ourselves in a professional manner. Therefore, we have adopted the following uniform guidelines for club umpires:

On Field Uniform (During Matches)

- White AFLBJ Umpiring Shirt (tucked in)
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Socks (pulled up)
- White/Black Runners or Football Boots
- Umpiring Cap

MATCH DAY

Pre Match

- Arrive no later than 20 minutes before the start of the match
- Inform Club Umpire Coordinator or Ground Marshall that you have arrived
- 10 minutes before match – introduce yourself to both teams and coaches
 - o Ensure you introduce yourself to coach: ‘ Hi, my name is John, I’m your umpire today
 - o Check the team’s fingernails and boots. Check for any sharp nails or sharp studs
- 5 minutes before start time – walk onto the field, and call captains in for coin toss
- Ensure field is clear of spectators before starting the game

During the Match

- Umpire the game to the best of your ability by
 - o Ensuring you are in the best position
 - o Blowing your whistle loudly
 - o Signalling clearly
 - o Maintaining a positive attitude
- Ensure coaches do not interfere in play or are using abusive language or disputing decisions
 - o If they are, free kick. If it’s persistent talk to Ground Marshall at break

After the Match

- Stay on ground to shake hands with players and coaches
- Any issues report to Ground Marshall straight away.

AFL Brisbane Juniors has a strict ‘Zero Tolerance’ policy to abuse from coaches, spectators and team officials. Please report any instances to ground Marshall on match day.

Alternatively, please send email report to AFLBJ Competition Officer, Pierce Field – pierce@aflbj.com

AFL JUNIOR MATCH POLICY

The club appointed umpire has two major roles on match day:

- Ensure that all participants are playing in a safe environment
- Apply the modified rules according to the AFL Junior Football Match Guide

What is the AFL Junior Football Match Guide?

The AFL Junior Football Match Guide is a policy developed by the AFL regarding the modified rules of junior football.

AFL Brisbane Juniors, through our state body AFL Queensland, have adopted the Junior Match Policy to:

Ensure that children play AFL in an environment that is safe, allows them to learn and develop the skills of our game, whilst most important, having fun

AFLBJ Modified Rules – U8, U9 and U10 Law Matrix

	U6	U8	U9/U10
Phase	Introductory		Development
Players	6 a side	9 a side	12 a side
Max Ground Size / Use of Zones	50m x 45m 3 equal zones	80m x 60m 3 equal zones	100m x 80m 3 equal zones
Match Length	Training + 3 x 10 min	4 x 10 min	4 x 10 min
Competition details	No scores, ladders or finals permitted No recording of Best Players & Goal Kickers permitted No representative teams		No scores, ladders or finals permitted No recording of Best Players & Goal Kickers permitted No representative teams

Contact	No tackle / No Bump There is absolutely no contact or spoiling except when accidental in nature	Modified Tackle / No Bump Players cannot bump/push an opponent, knock/steal the ball out of their hands or smother an opponent's kick
The ball	Synthetic size 1	Synthetic size 2
Umpiring	1 field, 2 goal umpires Parents/Coaches	1 field, 2 goal umpires Club/Association
Coaching position	On Field	On Field
Bounces	1 bounce	1 bounce
Marking	A mark is awarded, irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled, to any player who catches it or makes a reasonable attempt to mark it.	A mark is awarded irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled to any player who catches it or shows control.
Out of Bounds	From a kick, a free is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball. From hands, or if there is doubt the umpire shall call a ball up 10m in from the boundary	From a kick, a free is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball. From hands, or if there is doubt the umpire shall call a ball up 10m in from the boundary
Kick off the ground	Not permitted unless accidental	Not permitted unless accidental
Stealing, Smothering, Shepherding, Barging	No stealing, smothering, shepherding or barging	No stealing, smothering, shepherding or barging
Penalties	No distance penalty applies Players can be ordered off at the umpire's discretion	10m penalty can be applied at the umpire's discretion if they feel a player has been hindered in any way Players can be ordered off at the umpire's discretion

U8s – Modified Rules Explanations

Zones

12 players per side, 4 players per zone. Backs must stay in back zone, centres must stay in centre zone and forwards must play in forward zone.

Transition of Ball

The ball cannot travel from the back zone to the forward zone without being touched by a player in the mid zone. Failure for this to occur will result in a free kick awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered their forward zone.

Scoring

Only forwards may score

The Possession Rule

The ball is possessed by the act of controlling it by:

- Catching it
- Grabbing it
- Laying two hands on it when it is on the ground

Once the ball is possessed, all other players **must back off to the side of the player in possession**, so that the player may kick or handball uncontested. **There is to be no blocking or standing in the path of the player.**

Ball Ups

Ball up is to be contested by two players of equal height

Player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a team mate or ground, and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hits the ground. The player cannot grab the ball out of the ruck.

Scrimmages and Field Ball Ups

When a scrum develops and a free kick cannot be awarded, the umpire shall:

- Stop play and send players back to their zones
- Conduct a ball up

Players cannot dive on the ball. If a player dives on the ball, they are to be penalised with a free kick.

Contact/Tackling

There is **no contact or spoiling**, except for accidental and light 'shoulder to shoulder' contact when contesting for the ball. Players cannot:

- Hold an opponent with their hands
- Steal or knock the ball out of an opponent's hands
- Push, bump, or barge another player
- Smother an opponent's kick
- Make contact with an opponent's head.
- Shepherd.

If any of the above is breached, a free kick is to be awarded to the player with the ball.

Coaches

The coach is allowed on the field, however they may not comment on the umpire or umpiring decisions.

U9 and U10 Modified Rule Explanations

Zones

12 players per side, 4 players per zone. Backs must stay in back zone, centres must stay in centre zone and forwards must play in forward zone.

Transition Of Ball

The ball cannot travel from the back zone to the forward zone without being touched by a player in the mid zone. Failure for this to occur will result in a free kick awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered their forward zone.

Scoring

Only forwards may score

Ball Ups

Ball up is to be contested by two players of equal height

Player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a team mate or ground, and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hits the ground. The player cannot grab the ball out of the ruck.

Contact/Tackling

Players can perform a modified tackle:

- A player in possession of the ball may be tackled by an opponent wrapping both arms around the area below the top of the shoulders and on/above the knees. The tackle may be from either side or from behind, providing the tackle from behind does not thrust forward the player with the ball (i.e push the player in the back).
- If the player in possession of the ball is taken to the ground in the act of tackling, they will receive a free kick. If the umpire feels the player drops to the ground deliberately in order to receive a free kick, they will be penalised for holding the ball.
- A player in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent applying a modified tackle, should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or by handball, or by attempting to kick or handball, otherwise a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- The field umpire shall conduct a ball-up when the player with the ball has the ball held to the body by an opponent, unless the player has had a reasonable time to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, in which case a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- The field umpire shall allow play to continue if the ball is accidentally knocked out of a player's hands by an opponent.

Tackling continued next page

- A player not in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent, shall be awarded a free kick.
- There is strictly no bumping, slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player in possession of the ball to the ground.

Players cannot:

- Knock the ball out of an opponent's hands.
- Push the player in the side.
- Steal the ball from another player.
- Smother an opponent's kick.
- Shepherd an opponent.

Coaches

The coach is allowed on the field, however they may not comment on the umpire or umpiring decisions, or interfere with play.

THE NEXT STEP – UMPIRING WITH AFLBJ

After spending one to two years, and being a minimum of 13 years of age at the start of the season, we strongly encourage you to join the AFLBJ Umpiring Group as a League Appointed Umpire.

Some features of umpiring as a League Appointed Umpire are:

- Officiate in U11s, U12s, U13s, U14s, U15 Youth Girls and U16 matches
- Appointed to matches by AFL Brisbane Juniors
- Earn minimum \$30 per game
- Training provided weekly
- Attendance at training only compulsory **once a month**
- Able to balance football and umpiring commitments
- Access to specialised coaches who can help develop your umpiring
- All brand new umpires have access to one on one mentoring
- Access to the AFL Queensland Talented Umpire Pathway, including the AFLQ State Umpire Academy.
- Minimum age is 13 years old, turning 14 in the same calendar year. Male or female.

Contact

If you have any queries contact

Pierce Field (AFLBJ Competition Officer)

Ph: (07) 3033 5439, Fax: (07) 3846 7381, Mob: 0405 297 347 Email: pierce@aflbj.com