



Competition Bylaws 2016

Version 1, 1 June 2016

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Spirit of junior football

The Laws of Australian Football seek to attain the following objectives...

- (a) to ensure that the game of Australian Football is played in a fair manner and a spirit of true sportsmanship; and
- (b) to prevent injuries to Players participating in a Match so far as this objective can be reasonably achieved in circumstances where Australian Football is a body contact sport.

Source: AFL Laws of Australian Football, Part A, section D 'Purpose of laws'.

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

- **Not focus on winning at all cost** and understand that the role of Junior Football is to foster the development of Junior Players, Volunteers, Umpires, Coaches and Officials. Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant but must remain secondary to the primary focus of junior player development.
- Maximise the enjoyment and development of junior footballers.
- Provide our children with a game environment that is safe, fun and fair.
- Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.
- Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, Laws, Codes, Policies and Spirit of the game.
- Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our games environments (Coaching, Playing, Volunteering, Spectating and Umpiring).
- Adhere to any directive issued by the games controlling bodies in the best interests of achieving the above.

Source: WAFC Global Competition Bylaws, Bylaw 1 'Spirit of Junior Football in WA'.

Any individual, team or organisation that does not uphold these values as being fundamental to and the primary focus of junior football, has no part or place in junior football.

1. Introduction

These bylaws of the Association may be referred to as the *Competition Bylaws 2016*.

They apply to the current season and repeal any previous versions of or variations to the Competition Bylaws.

These bylaws are to be read with the Constitution and the Global Competition Bylaws.

2. Definitions and interpretation

2.1 Definitions

Several of the following definitions refer to terms used in the Global Competition Bylaws and the Laws of Australian Football. Where this is the case, the following definitions are intended to provide further meaning or clarity.

In these bylaws, unless the contrary intention appears:

Association or the Association means the BDJFA;

BDJFA means the Busselton District Junior Football Association Incorporated;

BFC means the Busselton Football and Sportmen’s Club;

Constitution or the Constitution means the BDJFA Constitution 2014;

Competition Committee means the Management Committee; unless the Management Committee has established a Competition Committee as a sub-committee of the Association,

Competition Coordinator means the officer appointed by the Management Committee to fulfil the role of Competition Coordinator;

Competition Registrar means the officer appointed by the Management Committee to fulfil the role of Competition Registrar;

controlling body means the BDJFA, as a body endorsed by the WAFC to manage junior football within the region;

current season or the current season means the 2016 season;

District Football Development Council or DFDC may mean the BDJFA or the SWRFDC, depending on context;

Global Competition Bylaws means the Global Competition 2016 Bylaws as endorsed and published by the WAFC;

Junior Competition Committee or JCC means the Management Committee;

junior grades means the grades of competition from Year 3 to Year 6;

JCC Executive means the Competition Committee;

Laws of Australian Football means the most current compiled version of the Laws of Australian Football as published by the AFL;

Management Committee means the BDJFA committee of management as described in the Constitution, and is responsible for managing the affairs of the Association;

Member Club means a club of the BDJFA;

play down means a player approved to play in a year group lower (than the one they would ordinarily be assigned) in accordance with the Global Competition Bylaws (refer to Bylaws 13 ‘physical size and development criteria’ and 14 ‘disability’) and these bylaws;

play up means a player playing in an year group higher than the one they would ordinarily be assigned to, subject to the Global Competition Bylaws (refer to Bylaw 32 ‘player eligibility’) and these bylaws;

national registration system means the Fox Sports Pulse national membership registration and competition management system for AFL, also known as Footyweb, Sportingpulse and FSP;

Regional Football Development Council or **RFDC** may mean the BDJFA or the SWRFDC, depending on context;

spirit of junior football means Global Competition Bylaws clause 1, ‘Spirit of junior football in WA’;

SWFL means the South West Football League;

SWJFL means the South West Junior Football League;

SWRFDC means the South West Regional Football Development Council;

Umpires’ Coach means the officer appointed by the Management Committee to fulfil the role of Umpires’ Coach;

Umpiring Coordinator means the officer appointed by the Management Committee to fulfil the role of Umpiring Coordinator for the appointment of umpires to matches;

WAFC means the Western Australian Football Commission;

WAFC approved registration system means the national registration system;

WAFL means the Western Australian Football League;

youth grades means the grades of competition from Year 7 and higher.

2.2 Interpretation

These bylaws should be consistent with the Constitution and the Global Competition Bylaws.

Where these bylaws are inconsistent with the Global Competition Bylaws, these bylaws prevail.

Where any bylaws are inconsistent with the Constitution, the Constitution must prevail.

Where there is any doubt about the interpretation of these bylaws, the Management Committee may make a ruling, generally after consulting with the WAFC.

3. Adoption of the Global Competition Bylaws

The Global Competition Bylaws are adopted as part of these bylaws.

In accordance with the Global Competition Bylaws, any exemptions or variations to the Global Competition Bylaws requires the approval of the JCC *and* of the WAFC. Approved exemptions and variations to the Global Competition Bylaws are listed under Schedule 1.

4. Year Groups and grades of competition

4.1 Year Groups

A player’s Year Group is determined by the player’s school year¹. Year Groups are as listed in Schedule 2.

¹ This is a change from previous seasons where birth date determined a player’s Year Group.

Where a player does not attend a school (e.g. on apprenticeship or traineeship or home schooled), the player's birth date will determine a player's Year Group. Birth date ranges for each Year Group are listed in Schedule 2.

The Competition Committee may require a player to provide, within a reasonable time, a statement from the player's school on school letterhead confirming the player's school year. Should the player not produce a statement or sufficient other evidence confirming a player's school year; the Competition Committee may, at its discretion, make a determination of the player's Year Group based on the player's birth date.

4.2 Grades of competition

Grades of competition for the current season are as listed in Schedule 2.

4.3 Year 3s as a grade of competition

4.3.1 Transition to Auskick Super 8s

From 2017, the Year 3s grade is to be run as an Auskick Super 8s programme². This 2016 season is a transition season.

4.3.2 Registration and play ups (not permitted)

As per these bylaws, all Year 3s players must be registered in the national registration system with their chosen Club under the Association database (and not to the Auskick database).

Year Group 2 players are not permitted *at any time* to play up to the Y3s grade of competition. Team and Club penalties may apply for any Year 2, found to be participating in the Year 3s, and the breach may be reported in following seasons.

4.3.3 Year 3s match rules

The rules that apply to the Year 3s matches are the Auskick Super 8s rules.

4.3.4 Coaches

Coaches must be accredited as per these bylaws. Coaches are permitted on the field of Year 3s matches to coach (without interfering with the role of the umpire, by, for example, using an over enthusiastic voice that makes it difficult for players to hear instructions from the umpire).

4.3.5 Umpiring

Ordinarily, the Competition Committee would not assign an umpire to the grade although it is an option.

One only umpire is required for Year 3s. The home team should assign the umpire.

The umpire must be either:

- (a) a parent, of a player of either team; who is knowledgeable of the rules; or
- (b) an AFL Level 1 Umpire Accredited, registered in the national registration system as an umpire with the BDJFA.

² Year Group 3s is the first step towards a transition from Auskick to the junior and modified rules grades and later the open rules youth grades of competition football. Research shows that Year 3 players are more likely to remain in junior football if they participate in the programme specifically designed for the Year Group rather than in a competition grade.

4.3.6 Players on the field

Each team may have a maximum of 12 players on the field, and the even up rule applies (noting no play ups to Y3s).

On match day, should player numbers across both teams and ground space allow, a second game with 6 or 9-a-side should be set up³.

4.3.7 Game day environment

Clubs and Team Management have a duty to ensure the game day environment at all matches of all grades is acceptable.

For the Year 3s the game day environment must be maintained to the highest of standards and seen to be the epitome of true sportsmanship between players, teams and Clubs. Coaches and team officials of Year 3s teams must maximise the importance of skills and player development in a highly cooperative manner between team officials of all teams and Clubs.

Players are to be encouraged to win the ball in a fair contest. Apart from that, there must be no emphasis on winning in the Year 3s grade.

Clubs and team management have a duty to ensure the highest level of commitment by everyone involved to the spirit of junior football and the codes of conduct; and are responsible for ensuring all involved (including parents and spectators) are conversant with the codes of conduct and demonstrate exemplary behaviour at *all* times. For example, parents and spectators should applaud good effort from players of both teams. Any form of jeering towards anyone is unacceptable.

Where appointed by the Management Committee, stewards may be assigned by the Competition Committee to monitor behaviour at Year 3s matches. The Competition Committee may impose the heaviest of penalties for breaches of the Competition Bylaws including the codes of conduct.

4.3.8 Team sheets and match documentation

Team sheets and match documentation for the Year 3s must be completed and submitted in accordance with these bylaws.

4.3.9 Pre-match training

Before a match, both Year 3s teams are encouraged to warm up and train together in a cooperative spirit. Coaches should cooperate and work on a particular skill during the training session that the players may then carry over into the match with the support of the on-field coaches.

5. Registration, play ups, play downs, transfers and permits

5.1 Registration of players, coaches and other team officials

Before a player or coach may take part in any match, the player or coach must be registered correctly with their Club in the national registration system and marked as an active player or coach for the current season.

A player's registration must be completed for the current season by the player's parent or legal guardian using the online registration form of the national registration system. The player's first name and last name must be recorded in the national registration system *exactly* as per their birth certificate (i.e. no abbreviated, nicknames or alternate names).

A player's registration is only complete when a Club Official has witnessed the player's birth certificate and confirmed with the Club Registrar that the player's name, date of birth and birth registration number is as recorded in the national registration system, as per the birth certificate.

³ 18 players (i.e. 9-a-side) competing for one football is better than 24 players competing for a football.

Unless the player or coach is registered correctly as just described, they must not take part in any match. This includes players waiting for a clearance to transfer from another club.

It is highly recommended that for each team:

- more than one coach, such as assistant coaches, are able to coach the team and are registered correctly;
- more than one runner is registered correctly;
- team managers and water carriers are also registered.

Club Registrars must:

- apply the highest standards with player registrations into the national registration system;
- make best effort to ensure player registration details are true and accurate and completed in accordance with these bylaws, and
- ensure the integrity of the data recorded in the national registration system.

Should the Competition Committee find a player's registration details are misleading, the Competition Committee may impose the maximum fines permitted against the Club and may impose suspensions and fines against the player's parents responsible for completing the registration form. This is irrespective of the Year Group that the player is currently playing. Penalties may be applied retrospectively (i.e. for prior seasons).

5.2 Coaching accreditation

In accordance with the Global Competition Bylaws, *all* coaches must possess a current AFL Coach Level 1 (or higher) Accreditation appropriate to the grade of competition, or be actively working towards accreditation before June 30 of the current season.

As a minimum, before taking part in any match, Coaches must have completed the online component of the coaching accreditation programme and forwarded the completion certificate to the Competition Registrar.

Where a coach does not achieve AFL Coach Level 1 Accreditation before June 30, the Competition Committee may consider penalties including stripping premiership points for all matches of the current season from any team that the coach has coached.

It is highly recommended that Clubs assign at least two people (e.g. a coach and an assistant coach) per team with AFL Coach Level 1 (or higher) Accreditation.

5.3 Adding eligible players as team members

In the national registration system, it is highly recommended that Club Registrars add all of the players that are eligible to play with a team (and only eligible players) as members of the team. This includes players who have been permitted a play down by the Competition Committee.

Should a player become ineligible to play for a team, that player must be removed as a team member.

This should then simplify the adding of players to the match day team sheet, as team managers should only add players that are team members.

5.4 Play downs

5.4.1 Permit required

Before a player is permitted to play down in a grade of competition other than the one appropriate to their Year Group, the player must attain a permit from the Competition Committee.

5.4.2 Application for a permit to play down

Applications for a permit to play up or play down *must*:

- be on the correct application form;
- be made in accordance with these bylaws (including the Global Competition Bylaws);
- include all supporting documentation (including medical documentation) as required by these bylaws (including the Global Competition Bylaws); and
- be submitted to the Competition Registrar.

Applications that do not comply with these requirements may be rejected by the Competition Registrar without consideration by the Competition Committee.

At the discretion of the Competition Committee, additional information may be required before an application will be given further consideration. This might include watching the player at training or in a match.

After considering the application⁴, the Competition Committee may decide to approve or not approve the permit. Should the permit be approved, the Competition Registrar will forward a permit to the player and the player's Club Registrar. Otherwise the Competition Registrar will notify the player and player's Club of the decision.

5.4.3 Play down assessment

The assessment of a player's height and weight may be undertaken by a suitably qualified person as appointed by the Management Committee; and the Competition Committee may accept that assessment as part of an application to play down based on a player's physical size and development criteria, in lieu of a written authority from a sports physician or doctor.

5.5 Play ups

5.5.1 Play ups generally

Clubs should not rely on play ups to fill a team. Play ups should be seen as an opportunity for player development by challenging the player at a higher grade of competition.

Should a team be short of players, the Club should actively recruit new players of a Year Group appropriate for the grade.

Clubs and Team Officials are responsible for ensuring a player is capable of playing up a grade and for managing a player's workload over the course of each week.

Clubs should note that where one team is short of players on match days, the even up rule applies.

Players do not need to apply to the Competition Committee for a play up.

5.5.2 Year Group 2 not permitted to play up

Year 2s players are not permitted to play up to the Year 3s grade of competition.

5.5.3 Play ups limited to one year above the player's Year Group

A player may play up to a grade of competition that is one year only above their Year Group. This means that a Year Group 8 player *may* apply for a play up to the Y9/10s, but a Year Group 7 player *may not* apply to play up to the Y9/10s.

⁴ Assessment of a play down application may take some time. It is not an automatic approval and the Competition Committee may wish to watch the player train or play a game before making a decision.

5.5.4 Recording play ups on the team sheet

Each player that plays up a grade must have their correct first name and last name recorded on each team sheet. A handwritten entry is acceptable.

The letters 'PU' must be recorded against the player's name to indicate that the player is a play up.

5.6 Transfers

5.6.1 Request for a clearance to transfer

A player who would like to play for a new Club, but is registered with a different club (including other regions and interstate), must make a transfer request to the new Club. The transfer request must be in writing⁵, forwarded to the Club Registrar, and include the following details:

- Player's full name (as per the player's birth registration certificate)
- Player's date of birth
- Names of parents or legal guardians
- Contact details for the player's parents including an email address
- Names of *all* previous clubs and competitions that the player has participated in

Should the Club accept the transfer request, the Club Registrar must submit a transfer request for the player in the national registration system, after confirming that the player's details match those in the system.

The clearance for transfer is only complete when the transfer has been approved by all levels, the player has completed the online registration form, *and* a Club official has confirmed the player birth registration details with the Club Registrar as per 5.1.

5.6.2 Clubs to ensure players are cleared out of their previous clubs

The Club Registrar must ensure that *all* players registered for the current season are transferred and cleared out of *all* previous clubs that the player may have been registered with⁶. Penalties including forfeits may apply for players found to have played in different clubs or competitions other than what is permitted under the bylaws.

5.7 Permit to register in the SWJFL, SWFL or WAFL

5.7.1 'Local Interchange' Type 2 Permits

Before a player registered with a Member Club is permitted to also play in the SWJFL, SWFL or WAFL; the player must first attain a 'Local Interchange' Type 2 Permit through the national registration system.

Type 2 Permit requests that do not comply with these bylaws will be rejected by the Competition Registrar.

5.7.2 Type 2 Permits to or from the SWJFL

A Type 2 Permit request for the SWJFL must be to or from the same Member Club (but also registered with the SWJFL) or, to or from a junior football team that is managed by the BDJFA or the BFC.

⁵ An email is acceptable as a form of writing provided it is using an email address of a parent or legal guardian of the player.

⁶ To check, the Club Registrar should request an online transfer in the national registration system for each player registered with the Club for the current season.

5.8 'Match Day' Type 1 Permits

Clubs should only consider a Type 1 'Match Day' Permit for a player for extremely exceptional circumstances. Unless the Type 1 Permit is for extremely exceptional circumstances, it is highly likely that the JCC will reject the permit⁷.

6. Match related rules

6.1 Team sheets

Before a player or coach may take part in a particular match, the player or coach must:

- be correctly assigned as a member of the team in the national registration system; and
- be listed in printed form (and not handwritten form) on a team sheet as printed from national registration system for the particular match (thereby ensuring that the player or coach is correctly registered in the national registration system).

Should a player or coach not be listed on the team sheet as just described, they are not eligible to take part in a match.

The names of the runner, Team Manager, sports trainer (first aid) and water carriers must also be listed on the team sheet, ideally in printed form although hand written is acceptable. The Team Manager is to be listed as a steward (as there is not place on the team sheet specifically for Team Manager).

It is recommended that all eligible players (including those that have been granted a play down or indicated that they're not available) are listed on the printed team sheet. *Three (3) copies* of the team sheet must be printed for each match. On each team sheet, a *single line*⁸ must be ruled through the name of each player that does not show for the start of the match.

At least 5-minutes before the start of play, one copy of the team sheet is to be handed to the Field Umpire and one copy is to be handed to the team manager of the opposition team. The third copy is to be retained for Club records.

Should a player that has been ruled out shows up to the match during the first or second quarter, this is to be written on each team sheet during the quarter time or half time breaks.

No player (including those that arrive late) may enter the field until they are listed correctly on each copy of the team sheet.

Within 24 hours of the match, the Team Manager must update the national registration system and remove any players that did not participate in the match (i.e. those ruled out on the team sheet); and add any play ups.

6.2 Modified rules for the Auskick and junior grades

The AFL modified rules flow chart applies to the Auskick and junior grades as listed in Schedule 2.

Where there is any inconsistency between the AFL modified rules flow chart and the Competition Bylaws, the Competition Bylaws shall apply.

Open rules apply to the youth grades (Y7/8s and older).

⁷ Refer to Global Competition Bylaws relating to Match Day Permits. Through the national registration system, they allow a player to be listed with a team, bypassing the club and association approvals. But this does not mean that the permit is legitimate and made in accordance with the Competition Bylaws. Clubs and Registrars are warned that the bylaws still apply.

⁸ A single line only to as to not block out the player's name entirely. The name should still be readable as they may show up later. Do not rule a line through the player's identification number.

6.3 Match balls

The type and size of match balls for each grade are as listed in Schedule 2.

Match balls shall be coloured red, unless the match is played under lights in which case the ball shall be coloured yellow. Where the BDJFA has provided sponsored match balls those balls shall be used, unless in the opinion of the Field Umpire the ball is unsuitable for play.

The home team shall provide a suitably pressured match ball for the start of play, except for night matches and Grand Finals in which case the BDJFA is responsible for providing match balls. The away team shall keep a suitably pressured match ball on standby should the Field Umpire require an alternate match ball during the game.

Any team providing an inferior match ball to what is specified in Schedule 2 may be penalised.

6.4 Playing time

The duration of each quarter and breaks for each grade are as listed in Schedule 2.

For youth grades, time keepers should give a 2-minute (2 horn blast) warning before the scheduled start time for each quarter. For all grades, a 1-minute (1 horn blast) warning should be given before the scheduled start time for each quarter^{9 10}.

6.5 Protective mouthguards

Players shall wear a protective mouthguard at all times during play, unless, before the start of each game, they show the Field Umpire a mouthguard exemption certificate from the Competition Committee.

Any player, without an exemption, that does not have or is not prepared to wear a protective mouthguard during play, must leave the field as directed by a Field Umpire.

A player may apply to the Competition Committee for an exemption from wearing a protective mouthguard by submitting a medical certificate signed by medical practitioner or a registered dentist (and not a dental technician) stating that for medical reasons, the player must not wear a protective mouthguard. Should the Competition Committee grant an exemption, the Competition Registrar may issue the player with a mouthguard exemption certificate.

6.6 Footwear and compression undergarments

Players shall wear studded football boots at all times during play. Running shoes or similar are not permitted.

Not permitted on players' boots are metal studs, studs with sharp edges and exposed metal.

Players may wear compression undergarments that are black, white, skin-toned or coloured to match the predominant colour of the player's team shorts. Compression garments with other colours or multiple colours are not permitted¹¹.

Any player whose boots or compression undergarments do not comply with these bylaws must leave the field as directed by a Field Umpire.

⁹ Matches need to start and finish on time so that following matches are not delayed and so that people such as umpires are able to make other football commitments. This is more important given additional grades and teams are entering the competition placing pressure on available grounds and fixtures.

¹⁰ Field Umpires may award a free kick against the team that is not ready to start play within a reasonable time. Field Umpires may consider reporting a coach for time wasting should they cause any undue delay to the start of a quarter.

¹¹ Refer also to the Global Competition Bylaws for bylaws regarding compression undergarments.

6.7 Identification of Team Officials

All Team Officials must wear a club shirt or a club cap or some other form attire that clearly identifies them to a particular Club.

Coaches must identify themselves to the Field Umpires before the start of play as per the umpire handshake policy.

Y3s and Y4s coaches must wear a high visibility pink vest or shirt, marked with the word 'COACH' in lettering at least 60mm high across the back.

Team Runners must wear a high visibility yellow vest or shirt, marked with the word 'RUNNER' in lettering at least 60mm high across the back.

Water Carriers must wear a high visibility orange vest or shirt, marked with the word 'WATER' in lettering at least 60mm high across the back.

First Aiders and Sports Trainers must wear a high visibility orange vest or shirt, marked with the word 'TRAINER' at least 60mm high across the back.

Team Managers must wear a shirt or badge marked with the words "TEAM MANAGER".

6.8 Match documentation

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that match documentation is posted to the Competition Coordinator *on the day of the match*.

The Management Committee is assessing a system where match documentation is lodged electronically and online. Where this system is implemented and available, and the Field Umpire is satisfied that the match documentation has been successfully lodged online, there will be no need for the Team Manager to post the match documentation.

7. Umpiring

7.1 Field Umpires

Field Umpires must register in the national registration system under the Association's umpires' database.

Field Umpires must possess a current AFL Umpire Level 1 (or higher) Accreditation certificate or must be actively working towards accreditation. The onus is on the umpire to provide the Competition Registrar with a copy of their certificate.

As a minimum, field umpires must successfully complete the online component of the accreditation course before Field Umpiring.

From the pool of registered and available umpires, the Umpiring Coordinator may roster Field Umpires to matches, except Year Group 3s where the home team may assign a Field Umpire.

Two Field Umpires should be rostered per game (except Year 3s), although one accredited umpire may be sufficient for the junior grades.

Where there is a shortage of Field Umpires, the Competition Coordinator should notify the affected Clubs directly prior to match day. The onus is then on the Clubs to find an umpire for the match and have that person register as an umpire with the Association. Otherwise, should no Field Umpire be available for a match, the Competition Committee may cause a forfeit of the match for both teams. Club appointed Field Umpires may umpire two matches, after which time they must have completed the online component of the accreditation course before field umpiring again.

Should a rostered umpire not show within 5 minutes before the start of the match, the Team Managers must organise a Field Umpire for the match, contact the Umpiring Coordinator to advise and make a note on the team sheets of the Field Umpire or Field Umpires for the match. Should the

rostered umpire show later during the first quarter, that umpire should take over at a convenient time and a note recorded on the team sheets.

7.2 Goal and boundary umpires

Unless goal and boundary umpires are rostered to a match by the Umpiring Coordinator, each team must provide:

- a competent goal umpire for each match and
- a competent boundary umpire or boundary umpires for each youth grade match.

A competent boundary umpire means one that is capable of: (a) keeping up with the play, (b) adjudicating on out of bounds and centre square decisions, and (c) throwing the ball in at least 10m and to a suitable height ¹².

Should a Club not be able to provide a competent boundary umpire, yet can provide an umpire capable of (a) and (b) above, the following procedure may apply for boundary throw ins at the discretion of the Field Umpire:

- One player from each team is to stand together at the boundary line for the throw in.
- One of those players may throw the ball in as directed by the Field Umpire.
- On the throw in, both players may immediately participate in the play.

Boundary umpires must wear official umpiring attire or a high visibility green vest or shirt.

8. Codes of conduct and policies

8.1 Codes of conduct

The codes of conduct are as written in Schedule 3 'Codes of conduct' and as adopted from the WAFC Codes of Conduct for junior football.

All administrators, volunteers, coaches, parents, spectators, players, runners, water carriers and umpires must abide by the codes of conduct and the spirit of junior football.

8.2 Policies

The following WAFC junior football policies are adopted as policies of the Association:

- Member protection policy
- Social media policy
- Sponsorship policy
- Equal opportunity policy
- Alcohol policy
- Inclement weather policy
- Smoke free environment policy
- Pregnancy policy
- Player rotation policy – Equal opportunity
- Vilification policy
- Prohibited persons declaration form (PPD) policy
- Working with children legislation policy
- Privacy policy
- Photos and video policy
- Risk management policy

¹² Competing for boundary throw ins is an important skill to learn, but learning the skill depends on the quality of the throw in.

- Infectious diseases policy
- Insurance policy
- Ball size
- Protective equipment policy
- Spectacles policy
- Concussion policy
- Football trainers policy
- ~~E-Point~~
- Umpires handshake policy

All involved with junior football (including parents and spectators) are expected to adhere to these policies or give good reason why they are unable to adhere to these policies or why the policies do not apply.

9. Sub-committees and roles

In accordance with the Constitution, the Management Committee may delegate functions and duties to a sub-committee. To establish a sub-committee, the Management Committee must determine a written terms of reference and appoint members to the sub-committee ¹³.

The Management Committee may also appoint persons to certain roles as defined by a role description.

These bylaws call for the following sub-committees to be established and roles to be appointed:

- Competition Committee
- Fixtures Committee
- The Tribunal
- Investigations Panel (also known as the Protests and Disputes Panel, Protests and Protests Board, Protests and Disputes Tribunal and Special Panel)
- Tribunal Chairperson
- Competition Registration
- Umpiring Coordinator
- Umpires' Coach

When the sub-committees are established by the Management Committee, the Competition Committee may instigate or convene the other sub-committees as required.

10. Breaches of the bylaws and penalties

The Competition Committee and the Tribunal may impose penalties for breaches of the Competition Bylaws.

The maximum fine that may be imposed are as per the Constitution:

- \$100 for natural persons;
- \$200 for junior football teams; and
- \$500 for clubs or body corporates.

Where a penalty is imposed on a parent, and the parent does not serve the penalty or continues to breach the Competition Bylaws; the Competition Committee may impose the penalty on the child or children of the parent that are also registered players. This means that the child-player will need to serve any suspension or will become liable for any fine imposed on the parent. A player who is non-financial or is under suspension will be refused any request to transfer to a different club.

¹³ According to the Constitution, the power of delegation cannot be delegated.

Clubs are otherwise liable for unpaid fines imposed on their members or spectators.

11. Document record

Date	Version	Description	By
1-Jun-2016	1	Changes to play ups and Year 3s umpiring. Few changes for further clarification	AS
22-Feb-16	Draft 4	Fourth draft with a few changes to play downs and umpiring	AS
28-Jan-2016	Draft 3	Third draft. Y3s, Umpiring, Subcommittees and other changes throughout	AS
22-Jan-2016	Draft 2	Second draft for comment	AS
17-Jan-2016	Draft 1	First draft for comment	AS

Schedules

Schedule 1 – Exemptions and variations to the Global Competition Bylaws

Clause	Text of Global Competition Bylaw	Exemption or variation	Reason
7.5	Where a coach has been found to have breached this by-law the team will lose premiership points, and other teams in that junior club may also not be eligible to receive any premiership points at the discretion of the JCC. Any team (modified or youth) that plays in a game will be fined \$250 for every game that they do not have an accredited coach. Subsequent breaches may result in the JCC enforcing further sanctions/fines.	Where a coach has been found to have breached this by-law the team will lose premiership points, and other teams in that junior club may also not be eligible to receive any premiership points at the discretion of the JCC. Any team (modified or youth) that plays in a game will be fined \$250 \$200 for every game that they do not have an accredited coach. Subsequent breaches may result in the JCC enforcing further sanctions/fines.	The Constitution limits the maximum fine on a team to \$200.
8.1.6	Neutral grounds for Grand Finals.	All Grand Finals to be played at Sir Stewart Bovell Park Main Oval unless the venue is not available in which case the JCC Executive shall determine a suitable venue.	Sir Stewart Bovell Park is the home of football for the Busselton district.
12	Year Group: Auskick Year 3 Notes: Auskick rules flowchart	Year Group: Auskick Year 3 Notes: Auskick rules flowchart. Fixtures must not be published.	The Management Committee has decided that the Year 3s to be run as a competition again this season with emphasis to the Clubs that Year 3s should be run as a Supa Rulz programme.
12.2	On application to the JCC a player may be eligible to play up a MAXIMUM of one year group only.	A player may be eligible to play up a MAXIMUM of one year group only.	The onus is on clubs to ensure a player is capable of playing up a grade. Match documentation must show any play ups, and the number of matches played can be monitored.

BDJFA – Competition Bylaws 2016

Clause	Text of Global Competition Bylaw	Exemption or variation	Reason
13.1	Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by the sports physician(s) or doctor(s) that is specified by the District and addresses that the participant falls below the fifth (5 th) percentile for height or weight.	Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by the sports physician(s) or doctor(s) that is specified by the District JCC and addresses that the participant falls below: (a) the fifth (5 th) percentile for height or weight for participants in grades of a single Year Group, or (b) the tenth (10 th) percentile for height and weight for participants in grades of competition with two Year Groups. An exception to this rule is for players who have accelerated their schooling and are in an advanced school year. This being the case, the player may apply for a play down based on their date of birth falling within the 'normal' birth date range for the Year Group; and approval may be granted by the JCC Executive.	For grades with two Year Groups, e.g. Y7/8s, when height and weight is averaged across the grade, the smaller younger aged players at the more extreme end of the bell curve. Basing the percentile limit should be broadened due to the broadened range of ages.
16	The Club Registrar shall be responsible for the notification to the JCC Registrar of any changes to the personal details of any players registered with that Club in accordance with the WAFC approved registration system.	The Club Registrar shall be responsible for the notification to the JCC Registrar of any changes to correct the personal details name or date of birth of any players registered with that Club in accordance with the WAFC approved registration system; and shall provide a statement to the JCC Registrar that the player's registered name and date of birth is as per the player's birth certificate as witnessed by a Club official.	The BDJFA uses FoxSportsPulse membership database for player registrations and player details can be updated by the player any time. Asking Club Registrars to notify the JCC Registrar of <i>any</i> changes is impractical.
18.4	Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Club and / or one District / Region.	Players are not permitted to be registered and play in more than one Club and / or one District / Region. An exception is for players that have approval to play up a grade into a team of the South West Junior Football League or the South West Football League, provided the player has the consent of their Member Club.	Players from the Busselton district may also participate in the South West Junior Football League or South West League, but only in a higher grade.

BDJFA – Competition Bylaws 2016

Clause	Text of Global Competition Bylaw	Exemption or variation	Reason
18.7	The player requesting a transfer must first approach the club he is seeking to be transferred from to obtain a signature from a club representative on an approved transfer request form. The normal transfer processes then ensue once this initial step has been completed. This allows clubs to better understand the reasons as to why a player has transferred from their club.	The player requesting a transfer must first approach the club he is seeking to be transferred from to obtain a signature from a club representative on an approved transfer request form. The normal transfer processes then ensue once this initial step has been completed. This allows clubs to better understand the reasons as to why a player has transferred from their club.	This paperwork shuffling places an impost on the player, particularly when they are transferring from a club not within the Busselton district (such as Broome). Should a club wish to better understand the reasons for the transfer, they should contact the player's parents to discuss.
20.3	Score cards: 2 for goal umpires and 1 for interchange steward / independent scorer in Year 7's Competitions and upwards.	Score cards: 2 for goal umpires and 1 for interchange steward / independent scorer in Year 7's Competitions and upwards.	The BDJFA does not use interchange stewards or independent scorers.
20.4	Goal umpires and interchange steward / independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter and otherwise carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL laws of the game.	Goal umpires and interchange steward / independent scorer shall enter all goals and behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter and otherwise carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL laws of the game.	The BDJFA does not use interchange stewards or independent scorers.
21.3	The DFDC/JCC shall adopt the codes of conducts/policies as defined by the WAFC Football Affairs COMMITTEE/ DFDC/JCC and all Club, team and game officials shall agree to abide by such code.	The DFDC/JCC shall should adopt the codes of conducts/policies as defined by the WAFC Football Affairs COMMITTEE/ DFDC/JCC and all Club, team and game officials shall agree to abide by such code.	This bylaw may conflict with the Constitution as only the Management Committee can make rules of the Association, and it is not good practice to have a bylaw that adopts a set of bylaws to adopt another set of bylaws. Best left to a separate decision of the Management Committee.
22.1	Each competing team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game.	The home team shall supply a Timekeeper for each game, unless the JCC Executive has assigned a Timekeeper to the game (such as the Grand Final).	Seems superfluous for both teams to supply a timekeeper.

BDJFA – Competition Bylaws 2016

Clause	Text of Global Competition Bylaw	Exemption or variation	Reason
22.5.1	The goal umpires in the Youth competition will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with interchange Stewards at all major breaks.	The goal umpires in the Youth competition will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare scorecards with interchange Stewards at all major breaks.	The BDJFA does not use interchange stewards or independent scorers.
22.6	It shall be the responsibility of the Home team to provide an interchange steward (youth only). In the event an Interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of send-off details and make notes of any issue that would usually be the responsibility of an Interchange Steward.	It shall be the responsibility of the Home team to provide an interchange steward (youth only). In the event an Interchange steward is not in attendance the appointed timekeeper/s will be responsible for the recording of send-off details and make notes of any issue that would usually be the responsibility of an Interchange Steward.	The BDJFA does not use interchange stewards. This is another resource to be found by clubs that are struggling for personnel.
26.1	In Year 7's upward each qualifying round match, four premiership points shall be awarded to the winning team and two points shall be awarded to each team in a drawn match. In addition to this E-Points will be applied as per the E-Point Base Model bylaw.	In Year 7's upward each qualifying round match, four premiership points shall be awarded to the winning team and two points shall be awarded to each team in a drawn match. In addition to this E-Points will be applied as per the E-Point Base Model bylaw.	BDJFA prefers parent/spectator behaviour policy to E-Points which only applies to Youth Grades. Most issues with spectator behaviour seem to relate to the younger grades.
26.5	In terms of equal opportunity (Player Rotation) Players must play at least 50% of all matches including Home & Away games and Finals. A consequence of not adhering to this By-Law is at the discretion of the JCC.	In terms of equal opportunity (Player Rotation) Players must play at least 50% of all matches including Home & Away games and Finals. A consequence of not adhering to this By-Law is at the discretion of the JCC.	The BDJFA does not use interchange stewards to keep a record of player time on the field. This issue may be dealt with at a club level after informing players and parents.
27.	E-POINT BASE MODEL Each District must adopt a Base Model that will be applied as a 1 point system. Each team will be automatically awarded a bonus E-point at the commencement of each game. Final consideration of the E-Point is at the discretion of the JCC Executive...	Delete entire Bylaw 27.	BDJFA prefers parent/spectator behaviour policy to E-Points which only applies to Youth Grades. Most issues with spectator behaviour seem to relate to the younger grades.

BDJFA – Competition Bylaws 2016

Clause	Text of Global Competition Bylaw	Exemption or variation	Reason
32.1	If a player plays 5 or more games in an older age group / competition then they shall be deemed to be a part of that older age group/competition for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger age group / competition. This does not include players playing WAFL football.	If a player plays 5 or more games in an older age group / competition then they shall be deemed to be a part of that older age group/competition for the remainder of the season (including finals). They will not be eligible to play any further regular season games or finals in the younger age group / competition. This does not include players playing WAFL, <u>SWFL</u> or <u>SWJFL</u> football.	Exemption should apply to SWFL colts and SWJFL.
32.4	Any colts player (WAFL, WAAFL, PFL or any other WAFC affiliated competition) who has played in excess of 50% game time in the colts fixture will be ineligible for Junior Football on that same weekend. If a club allows an unregistered or ineligible player to play in any team in any game the team will be disqualified and the game awarded to the opposing team. In the event both teams play an unregistered or ineligible player the JCC Executive may penalise both teams and award the fixture to the next placed participants	Any colts player (WAFL, WAAFL, PFL, <u>SWFL</u> or any other WAFC affiliated competition) who has played in excess of 50% game time in the colts fixture will be ineligible for Junior Football on that same weekend. If a club allows an unregistered or ineligible player to play in any team in any game the team will be disqualified and the game awarded to the opposing team. In the event both teams play an unregistered or ineligible player the JCC Executive may penalise both teams and award the fixture to the next placed participants.	So there is no confusion that the SWFL colts applies.
45.9	Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match. The JCC Executive and DFDC Chairman are also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.	Only the Captain, Team Manager or Team Runner from either team can approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match; and only if their names and roles are listed on the Team Sheet. The JCC Executive, Stewards and Umpires' Coach/Coordinator/Mentor are also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.	Sometimes better for the Team Runner to discuss rule interpretation with the Umpires as they generally have a better understanding of the game. Also members of the JCC Executive (Competition Committee) and Umpires Coaches and Mentors should be able to approach the umpires.
51	The JCC Executive may appoint a steward or stewards who shall have the same power and duty of reporting for each game in each age group, with full powers to report players or officials for breaches of the laws of the game or the rules or By-laws of the JCC .	The JCC Executive may appoint a steward or stewards who shall have the same power and duty of reporting for each game in each age group, with full powers to report players or officials for breaches of the laws of the game or the rules or By-laws of the JCC .	The Constitution does not allow the power of appointment (delegation) to be delegated. Management Committee appoints. Competition Committee may schedule or roster.

Schedule 2 – Year Groups, grades, rules, match balls and match duration

Year Group / School Year	Birth date range <small>See Notes</small>	Grade	Rules	Match ball	Quarter duration	¼ and ¾ time breaks	½ time break	Total duration
PP	1-Jul-2010 to 30-Jun-2011	Auskick	Auskick					
1	1-Jul-2009 to 30-Jun-2010	Auskick	Auskick					
2	1-Jul-2008 to 30-Jun-2009	Auskick	Auskick					
3	1-Jul-2007 to 30-Jun-2008	Y3s	Auskick Super 8s	Burley Attack Size 1	12min (see notes)	3min	6min	60min
4	1-Jul-2006 to 30-Jun-2007	Y4s	Junior Rules Y4/5	Burley Premier Size 2 or Burley Attack Size 2 at the discretion of field umpire for wet conditions	12min	3min	6min	60min
5	1-Jul-2005 to 30-Jun-2006	Y5s	Junior Rules Y4/5	Burley Premier Size 2	15min	3min	6min	72min
6	1-Jul-2004 to 30-Jun-2005	Y6s	Junior Rules Y6/7	Burley Premier Size 3	15min	3min	6min	72min
7	1-Jul-2003 to 30-Jun-2004	Y7/8s	Open rules	Burley Premier Size 4	15min	5min	10min	80min
8	1-Jul-2002 to 30-Jun-2003							
9	1-Jul-2001 to 30-Jun-2002	Y9/10s	Open rules	Burley Premier Size 4	20min	5min	10min	100min
10	1-Jul-2000 to 30-Jun-2001							

NOTES:

1. A player's School Year determines a player's Year Group.
2. Birth date range is *only applicable* if the player *does not attend school*.
3. A pre match training session is encouraged, but Y3s must finish within the 60min time allotted to allow coaches, parents, siblings, etc. may attend other games.

Schedule 3 – Codes of conduct

Administrators and volunteers

- Understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.
- Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.
- Actively promote Positive Game Day Environments with Junior Football and the importance of E-Point structures to the game.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating children.
- Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
- Remember that children 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, trainers and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play.
- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children 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 children.
- Ensure promotion, well-being and safety of umpires and encourage good sportsmanship before, during and after matches.
- Ensure positive player/umpire relationships are continually developed.

Coaches

It is imperative that coaches understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.

As a coach, I understand that as an integral component of my accreditation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the game and the players/staff in my care.

In representing myself in an honest manner, and without bringing the coaching profession or the Game into disrepute, I will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of my ability:

1. I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
2. I will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of my Club, District and League/Association.
3. I will be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the players in my care, having due consideration for their health and well-being.
4. I will be supportive at all times and I will refrain from any form of personal abuse or unnecessary physical contact with the players in my care.
5. I will have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of my players when designing practice schedule, practice activities and involvement in competition.
6. I will avoid overplaying the talented players aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability. Where I am responsible for players in the 5-18 year old age group, I will strive to ensure that all players gain equal playing time.
7. I will stress and monitor safety always.

8. In recognising the significance of injury and sickness, I will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the return of injured or ill players to training.
9. I will endeavour to keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of my players.
10. I will at all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practise fair play.
11. I will display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.
12. I will ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
13. I reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy.

NOTE: This "Coaches Code of Conduct" is to be signed and conformed to as part of the accreditation requirements of the AFL. Coaches should be aware that, in addition to this Code, they may be obliged to sign a further Code of Conduct/Ethnics with their Club and/or League or State Sports Association (WAFC).

Parents and spectators

- Understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.
- Encourage children to participate, if they are interested.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children 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 judgment and honesty in public.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches, managers and helpers
- Remember that children play organized sports for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of 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 umpire's decisions.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches, umpires or volunteers.

Players

- Understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach or teacher after the game.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
- Work equally hard for yourself and for your team. Your team's performance will benefit so will you
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are by 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.
- Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would no competition.
- Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
- Avoid using derogatory language.
- Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.

Runners and water carriers

- Understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.
- The runner SHOULD BE A MATURE PERSON.
- The runner must be clearly identified.
- The runner's name must be entered in both team books.
- No abusive language or swearing.
- Support the decision of the umpires at all times and never question decisions.

Umpires

- Understand and adhere to BYLAW #1 'The Spirit of Junior Football'.
- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
- Compliment all participants on their efforts.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all infractions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Ensure that the "spirit of the game" for children is not lost by using common sense and not over emphasizing errors.
- 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. Actions speak louder than words.
- Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
- Avoid use of derogatory language based on gender.