

## AWJFL Equalisation Policy

These Equalisation Rules apply to all AWJFL home and away matches but not in the final's series. Some aspects of equalisation are compulsory, whilst others will be by agreement of both competing Clubs. The league expects all team officials to understand and adhere to the 'spirit' of this rule, which is, the team that has the greater number of players available shall lend as many players as possible to equalise numbers with the other team so that all players available to participate in that match shall have the opportunity to play in as much of that match as possible.

- 1) Fourteen (14) players to a team is the minimum number required to field a team.
  - 2) A team can borrow up to two players to make the 14.
  - 3) A game, which commences with the minimum number of 14 players per team, is considered legal for premiership points and best and fairest votes and goal kickers will be recorded as normal.
  - 4) If a team cannot field 14 players the game will be forfeited and four premiership points will be awarded to the team that does not forfeit. If a 'scratch match' is then played there will be no percentage, no best and fairest votes and no goal kickers recorded.
  - 5) If neither team can field 14 players, the game is a forfeit and no premiership points will be awarded.
  - 6) If either team has less than 18 players then there must be even numbers on the ground at the start of the match.
  - 7) Clubs are encouraged to discuss any player shortages and make decisions in the best interests of the players. This could include loaning players to have even numbers on both sides, both on the field and on the bench. If players are offered, but not accepted, then the team with the greater number of players is not required to reduce playing numbers, i.e the evening up rule does not apply.
  - 8) Daily loan of players - When players are loaned, the Team Manager of both teams shall note on the Team Sheet the players name with 'on loan' against their name. Players may be loaned on a quarter by quarter rotating basis or for the whole match as appropriate.
  - 9) Once a game commences, if the numbers of either team are reduced due to injury or "order-off" rule the game is to proceed.
  - 10) No interpretation of these rules should allow the team loaning players to be disadvantaged.
  - 11) Excess players (above the agreed starting number) will form an extended interchange bench.
  - 12) Equalisation Policy does not apply in finals.
  - 13) ***It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure all coaches have read and adhere to this policy.***
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