

Dwyers Toyota East Gippsland Junior Football League

Dwyers Toyota EGJFA Match Day Policy 2026

To be read in conjunction with the AFL Junior Football Match Policy

(Final as of 19th February 2026)

GUIDELINES

Clubs are to follow these guidelines in order to promote a healthy environment for their members:

- Clubs are encouraged to counsel or impose an “In Club” suspension on a player, administrator or parent for inappropriate behaviour.
- *Participation* at the Under11, Under 13 and Under 15 level is important and positive encouragement towards both teams by Club coaches is paramount.
- Each Club is responsible for the behaviour of its spectators, coaching staff, players and administration. Sledging of umpires and opposition clubs is not acceptable.
- All players should be made aware not to leave valuables in clubrooms whilst they are playing football. It is advisable that valuables not even be brought to the game or a property steward should be appointed at each club to look after these possessions.
- It is also important that Club Officials from both sides remain at the clubrooms until all players have left so that the players are not left unsupervised for any period of time, as Clubs will be held responsible for the behaviour of players before and after matches.

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MATCH RULES

East Gippsland Junior Football - Rules of the Game 2026

Phase	Under 11	Under 13	Under 15
	Development	Competition	Competition
Players per team	12, 15 or 18	18 Max on ground	18 Max on ground
Match Time	12 min	15 min	20 min
Player Match Time	Minimum game time of one full half or 30 minutes for every individual playing on the day	Minimum game time of one full half or 30 minutes for every individual playing on the day	Minimum game time of one full half or 30 minutes for every individual playing on the day
Ground Size	minimum 120 x 80m (oval) Can be extended on agreement.	Full	Full
Equalisation - Players	Yes	Yes	Yes
Equalisation - Points	30 pts	30 pts	50 pts
Cap - Town Clubs	28 To be strictly enforced	28 To be strictly enforced	24
Coaches Position	Coach on sidelines	Coach on sidelines	Coach on sidelines
Runners	Runner is allowed to give instruction on ground	Runner is allowed to give instruction on ground during home and away but not in Finals.	Runner – Must comply with AFL Laws of the Game regarding Duties of Club Runner.
Competition			
Finals	No	Yes	Yes
Best Players	No	Yes - Club only	Yes - Club only
Goals	No	Yes - Club only	Yes - Club only
Rep Teams	No	Yes	Yes
Ball Size	3	4 Synthetic / 4 Leather (dry)	5 Leather / 5 Synthetic (wet)
Out of Bounds	Free - last touch	Throw in	Throw in
Penalties	10m	25m	25m

Skills			
Tackling - No Sling	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bouncing	1	Unlimited	Unlimited
Kicking off Ground	No	Yes (per AFL Laws)	Yes (per AFL Laws)
Marking	10 m	15m	15m
Shepherding	Yes	Yes	Yes
Smothers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Steals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bumping /Barging	Yes - Umpire Discretion	Permitted (fairly)	Permitted (fairly)

(a) Percentage cap rule – Under 11 and Under 13 are set at 30 points and Under 15 is set at 50 points.

(b) All clubs, coaches and officials observe a sense of fair play in regard to a large differential in final scores between any two opposing teams. That 30/50 points be used as a guide where a sense of fair play has been breached. (See Appendix 1 for Implementation of 30 & 50-Point By-law.)

(c) If a club or the League believes that the opposition coach has not acted in a sense of fair play, then the club or League may lodge a letter with the League Administration Officer outlining their concerns. The League Administration Officer will refer the matter to the Independent Commissioners for their consideration. If a club is found guilty of failing to observe the 30/50-point rule then the following penalties will occur:

First Penalty – fine \$100 and loss of match points. Second Penalty – fine \$300 and loss of match points

2. Equal player numbers per side on the ground at all times (except for players sent off).

3. Any player sent off by the central or emergency umpire cannot be replaced during the period for which he is sent off. **N.b. A Red Card indicates the player is ordered off for the remainder of the match and is able to be replaced after 15 minutes of actual playing time. The player red carded can take no further part in the game.**

4. Minimum number of players to have a match is 12 for Under 11s and 14 for Under 13s and Under 15s. If a game is played with less players, coaches must sign score cards to agree to play for premiership points; otherwise the match is considered a forfeit. The League discourages forfeits as an option.

5. Extra numbers of players from both teams may be put on the ground provided player numbers are equal.

6. Players should be encouraged to play for opposing Clubs on match day if player numbers are unequal.

7. There are no points awarded, no ladder, no best players and no finals for the Under 11 competition.

8. Coaches on sidelines for all Grades. Trainers are permitted on the ground at any time to attend injured players. In the event of exceptional heat, with the agreement of both team's coach/officials and consultation with the umpires, up to 2 extra water carriers per team will be permitted.

9. No audible abusive language. A player using audible abusive language may be reported and sent off by the field umpire.

10. East Gippsland Umpires Association may appoint under 15 and under 13 umpires for each home and away game if numbers are available. Under 11 umpires are appointed by the home club. Club umpires should be made aware of EGJFA Modified Rules along with the send-off rules and notice.

Umpires should take the time to meet the coach and players of both teams prior to the start of the match and at the same time take this opportunity to instruct both players and coaches as to the nature of the modified rules.

11. Only four registered officials are to be in the vicinity of the coach's box during a game, unless a variation is approved by the League i.e. another trainer or interchange assistant for Under 11 and Under 13 if large number of players. The only officials who should cross the line drawn in front of the coach's box are the team runner or trainer. An exclusion zone for spectators of 10 metres shall be created around the coach's box.

12. Clubs must appoint an Advocate for each game played (this may be the same person for all games). Only the club advocate may approach the umpire at intervals to query decisions, player numbers, etc.

The club advocate must be an official of the club other than the team coach and must be named on the official team sheet.

13. All players must wear football shorts, jumpers and socks applicable to their club. No basketball shorts, boxers, etc. to be worn. Points may be deducted from teams who do not comply with the normal standards of dress, and the League Executive may impose a fine on the offending club.

14. Report of Umpire form (Notice of Charge form) to be the responsibility of the home team. The Umpire is to complete the form and sign it. Both club advocates are to attend the Umpires after the match to check to see if any reports have been made.

15. (e) Central Umpires for the East Gippsland Junior Football League shall be club umpires to be supplied as follows;

Under 11s: One central umpire supplied by the home club. The home club may supply two umpires at their discretion.

Under 13s: One central umpire supplied by the home club. The home club may supply two umpires at their discretion.

Under 15s: One central umpire supplied by EACH COMPETING CLUB. In the event that the visiting team is unable to supply a central umpire then the visiting club may request that the home club supply both central umpires with 'reasonable notice' given in the event that the visiting club cannot supply a central umpire.

The fine for non-compliance of this by-law is \$50 for the first breach, \$100 for the 2nd breach and \$200 for the 3rd and any subsequent breach.

The League may seek to appoint East Gippsland Umpires in accordance with the Rules laid down by the Memorandum of Understanding as per AFL Vic Guidelines. The EGUA may use the EGJFA Under 15s and Under 13s competition for the development of trainee central umpires.

16. Starting times for matches and duration of intervals.

Suggested starting times for Dwyers Toyota EGJFA Matches

Under 11s:

- 10:30** Start. 12-minute quarter with no time on.
- 10:42** Quarter time: 3 minutes.
- 10:45** Commencement of Second Quarter. 12-minute quarter with no time on.
- 10:57** Half time: 5 minutes.
- 11:02** Commencement of Third Quarter. 12-minute quarter with no time on.
- 11:14** Three Quarter Time: 3 minutes.
- 11:17** Commencement of Fourth Quarter. 12-minute quarter with no time on.
- 11:29** End of Match:

Under 13s:

- 11:30** Start. 15-minute quarter with no time on.
- 11:45** Quarter time: 3 minutes.
- 11:47** Commencement of Second Quarter. 15-minute quarter with no time on.
- 12:02** Half time: 10 minutes.
- 12:12** Commencement of Third Quarter. 15-minute quarter with no time on.
- 12:27** Three Quarter Time: 3 minutes.
- 12:30** Commencement of Fourth Quarter. 15-minute quarter with no time on.
- 12:45** End of Match:

Under 15s:

- 1:00** Start. 20-minute quarter with no time on.
- 1:20** Quarter time: 4 minutes.
- 1:24** Commencement of Second Quarter. 20-minute quarter with no time on.
- 1:44** Half time: 12 minutes.
- 1:56** Commencement of Third Quarter. 20-minute quarter with no time on.
- 2:16** Three Quarter Time: 4 minutes.
- 2:20** Commencement of Fourth Quarter. 20-minute quarter with no time on.
- 2:40** End of Match:

Times may vary following consultation between the two competing Clubs.

17. Interchange of Under 13 and Under 15 players may be made by having the runner accompany the player to be interchanged into the position and returning to the bench with the other player.

18. In accordance with the AFL Laws of Australian Football, permission has been granted to the AFL Vic requiring all affiliated Leagues to adhere to the Order Off rule: See 2026 AFL Vic Country Handbook for Rules.

Implementation

A Red Card indicates the player is ordered off for the remainder of the match and is able to be replaced after 15 minutes of actual playing time. The player red carded can take no further part in the game. For underage matches, field umpires may order a player off the ground for 15 minutes without reporting him.

Note: This would only apply when a player has not committed a reportable offence but has breached the law and given away a free kick in a deliberate or undisciplined manner or behaves in a manner detrimental to the image of the game.

Implementation: For EGJFA matches a 'Green Card' will be issued by the central umpire to indicate that the player has been ordered off the ground for 15 minutes without reporting him.

***All team sheets must include the names of the Team coach, Advocate, Goal Umpire, Boundary Umpire, Timekeeper, Runner and any other official.

ADMINISTRATION

19. A Club or team shall be eligible to participate in the Dwyers Toyota East Gippsland Junior Football Association only if they can field teams in each of the Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 age groups. This by-law may be varied at the discretion of the League.

20. All coaches shall attend an information evening prior to the commencement of the season.

21. All Clubs to pay affiliation fee set by the League before the commencement of the season; otherwise a fine of \$200 shall be imposed by the League for late payment. The amount of affiliation fee and any levies are to be set at a properly constituted meeting of the League.

22. The home Club is responsible for ensuring all required paperwork is returned to the League Administration Officer on match day. This includes the Match Day Reports by coaches, send-off notices (if any), team sheets (with goal-kickers and six best players) and goal umpire/timekeeper cards.

23. There is no League Fairest and Best Award for the Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 age groups.

24. No cash incentive shall be paid to any player.

25. All team officials entering the playing field will wear identifying clothing – either supplied by the League or the Club (must be endorsed by FNEG Commissioners).

Boundary umpires must wear white shirts.

26. A fine of \$50 is imposed for non-attendance by delegates and or coaches at League meetings, unless an adequate apology is given.

27. All monies levied by way of fines from the Clubs shall be paid to the League's general revenue account.

REGISTRATIONS

28. For registration for the 2026 season in the Under 11 competition a player must be under 11 years of age as at 31st December 2025. Under 13 competition a player must be under 13 years of age as at 31st December 2025. Under 15 players must be under 15 years of age as at 31st December 2025.

29. It is the club's responsibility that all players have registered on Play HQ. Registrations MUST be completed by a parent/guardian. Clubs must ensure that all players are playing in the correct age group. There are no excuses for playing over-age players. All players must re-register on Play HQ each season. Registration can only be held for one season.

All players must be properly cleared from previous club and league as per the AFL Vic Country clearance procedures. Breaches of these rules will attract the standard penalties as set out in the AFL Vic Country Handbook.

30. Any unintentional violation of the registration rules that have been brought to the attention of the offending club by a league official (e.g. League Administration Officer) that is not rectified before the unregistered player takes the field again, will be deemed an intentional violation of the registration rules.

31. 'Town' Clubs are only permitted to register 24 players in the Under 15 age group.

The exception to this rule being that a Club may register more players if they have all played at the Club in the previous year, or if ALL Clubs in the area already have 24 registered players. No Club is to register extra players without the approval of the League.

At Under 13 level the limit is 28 players.

At Under 11 level the limit is 28 players.

The same exemptions apply to this rule. Any Club that has enough players to form a team should not register any players under the age of 10 years, and Clubs should give older players preference over younger players when fielding their teams.

*32 and *33 have been deleted and replaced with the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy.

34. Interchange or Area Agreements may be negotiated each season with the East Gippsland Football Netball League, the Gippsland League, the Omeo District Football Netball League and the Sale and District Junior Football Association.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring that players comply with the terms of any such agreement.

35. (a) A player is permitted to play two (2) games with his own club on the one day.

(b) A player may play two (2) games on the same weekend but not on the same day under any Interchange or Area Agreement.

36. A player must play three (3) club games to be eligible for finals. Permit players must play five (5) permit games in the age group in which they wish to qualify to be eligible for finals in that age group.

INTER LEAGUE/JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT (AFL Gippsland has set up the All Stars competition to replace Interleague. As a consequence By-laws 37 to 40 no longer apply.)

37. Coaches – The League shall appoint appropriate coaches.

38. Each club is to nominate a number of players to represent their Club in interleague teams. The number of players to be nominated is to be determined by Club strength and set by the League Executive each year. If possible each Club is to be represented in the final squad.

39. Players may not be considered if they are deemed inappropriate to represent our League.

40. Team managers, trainers, runners, etc, are to be appointed by the League.

FINALS

41. The Finals venue will be set by the League each year.

42. Semi-finals will be played on the same day, but not necessarily at the same venue.

43. Each Club is to provide manpower at finals on a roster basis. Non-attendance will result in the standard fine of \$200.

44. Umpires for all Under 15s and Under 13s final's matches will be appointed by the East Gippsland Umpires Association at the direction of the League.

SAFETY ISSUES

45. Clubs are responsible for the safety of its players.

46. Safety padding on goal and point posts is mandatory.

47. The League recommends that all players wear an appropriate mouth guard.

48. Any injury must be notified to the AFL Vic Country Insurer (Marsh Sport) by completing Marsh Sport Injury Report form.

49. Regarding players who have been concussed, Clubs must follow the AFL Guidelines. The Management of Sport-Related Concussion in Australian Football (as amended from time to time) is adopted as part of this By-law and its terms are deemed terms of this By-law.

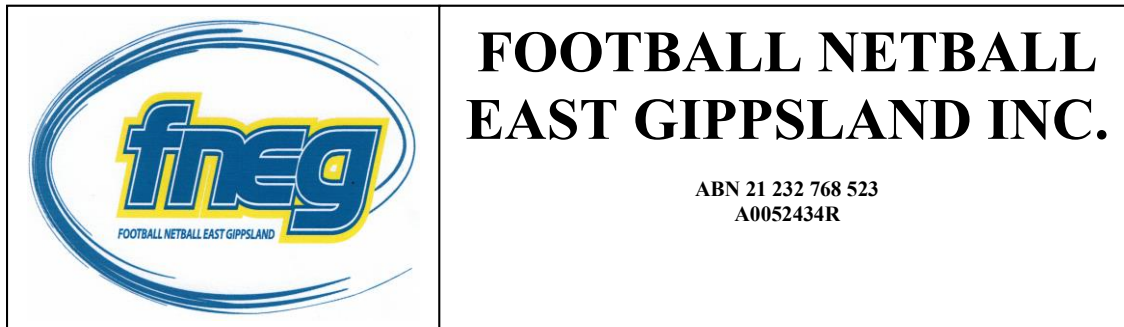
50. No alcohol is to be consumed at any game or function of the Dwyers Toyota East Gippsland Junior Football Association. No smoking/vaping is permitted.

TRIBUNAL

51. Persons to sit on the Tribunal shall be nominated by the Independent Commissioners.

52. A list of approved AFL Vic Investigations Officers shall be made available to the League each year.

53. Mediation. In the event that the League deems it appropriate a mediator may be appointed to resolve any matter in dispute. In the event that the matter in dispute cannot be resolved by mediation then the League has the power to refer the matter to the AFL Vic Investigation Officer or to take such action as it deems appropriate.



FOOTBALL NETBALL EAST GIPPSLAND **Child & Young Person Safeguarding Policy**

Our commitment to child & young person safety

Football Netball East Gippsland is committed to child safety.

We want children to be safe, happy and empowered.

We support and respect all children, as well as our Commissioners, staff and volunteers,

We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse. All allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our robust policies and procedures.

We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child's safety, which we follow rigorously.

Football Netball East Gippsland is committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early and removing and reducing these risks.

Football Netball East Gippsland has robust human resources and recruitment practices to reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing Commissioners, staff and volunteers.

Football Netball East Gippsland is committed to regularly training and educating our Commissioners, staff and volunteers on child abuse risks.

We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

We have specific policies and procedures in place that support our Commissioners, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments.

Our children

This policy is intended to empower children, who are vital and active participants in competitions played under Football Netball East Gippsland. We involve them when making decisions, especially about matters that directly affect them. We listen to their views and respect what they have to say.

We promote diversity and acceptance in Football Netball East Gippsland. People from all walks of life and cultural backgrounds are welcome. In particular, we:

- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- ensure that children with a disability are safe and can participate equally.

Our Commissioners, staff and volunteers

This policy guides our Commissioners, staff and volunteers on how to behave with children who participate in competitions played under Football Netball East Gippsland.

All of our Commissioners, staff and volunteers must agree to abide by our code of conduct which specifies the standards of conduct required when working with children. All our Commissioners, staff and volunteers, as well as children and their families, are given the opportunity to contribute to the development of the code of conduct.

Training and supervision

Training and education are important to ensure that everyone at Football Netball East Gippsland understands that child safety is everyone's responsibility.

Our organisational culture aims for all our Commissioners, staff and volunteers, families and children to feel confident and comfortable in discussing any allegations of child abuse or child safety concerns. We train our Commissioners, staff and volunteers to identify, assess and minimise risks of child abuse and to detect potential signs of child abuse.

We also support our Commissioners, staff and volunteers through ongoing supervision to develop their skills to protect children from abuse and promote the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, the cultural safety of children from linguistically and/or diverse backgrounds, and the safety of children with a disability.

New Commissioners, staff and volunteers will be supervised regularly to ensure they understand the commitment of Football Netball East Gippsland to child safety and that everyone has a role to play in protecting children from abuse. This will include checking that their behaviour towards children is safe and appropriate (please refer to the League's code of conduct for information about appropriate behaviour). Any inappropriate behaviour will be reported through appropriate channels, including the Department of Health and Human Services and Victoria Police, depending on the severity and urgency of the matter.

Recruitment

We take all reasonable steps to employ skilled people to work with children. We develop selection criteria and advertisements which clearly demonstrate our commitment to child safety and an awareness of our social and legal responsibilities. Football Netball East Gippsland understands that when recruiting Commissioners, staff and volunteers, we have ethical, as well as legislative, obligations.

We actively encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with a disability.

All people who are engaged in child-related work and who are not exempt, including volunteers, are required to hold a current Victorian Working with Children Check and to provide evidence of this check. For more information, please refer to the Service

Victoria Working with Children website which can be found at <https://www.service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children/>

We carry out reference checks and Working with Children's checks to ensure that we are recruiting the right people. If during the recruitment process a person's records indicate a criminal history, then the person will be given the opportunity to provide further information and context.

Fair procedures for Commissioners, staff and volunteers

The safety and wellbeing of children is our primary concern. We are also fair and reasonable to all Commissioners, staff and volunteers. The decisions we make when recruiting, assessing incidents and undertaking disciplinary action will always be thorough, transparent and based on evidence.

We record all allegations of abuse and safety concerns using our incident reporting form. All records are securely stored. If an allegation of abuse or a safety concern is raised, we provide updates to children and families on progress and actions we as an organisation take.

Privacy

All personal information considered or recorded will respect the privacy of the individuals involved, whether they be Commissioners, staff, volunteers, families or children, unless there is a risk to someone's safety. Everyone is entitled to know how this information is recorded, what will be done with it and who will have access to it. This is intended to protect persons who make reports and to ensure that all members of Football Netball East Gippsland are comfortable to disclose any allegations or concerns in relation to child safety without repercussions.

Legislative responsibilities

Football Netball East Gippsland takes its legal responsibilities seriously, including:

- **Failure to disclose:** All adults in Victoria who have a reasonable belief that an adult has committed a sexual offence against a child under 16 have an obligation to report that information to Victoria Police
- **Mandatory reporting:** Any Commissioners, staff, or volunteers who are mandatory reporters (doctors, nurses, midwives, teacher, principals and police officers) must comply with their duties
- **Failure to protect:** People of authority in our organisation will commit an offence if they know of a substantial risk of child sexual abuse and have the power or responsibility to reduce or remove the risk, but negligently fail to do so
- **Reportable conduct:** The League President must be made aware of any allegations of physical and sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, significant emotional or psychological harm or significant neglect by an employee or volunteer towards a child. We are also legally required to notify the Commission for Children and Young People of the allegation
- **Duty of care:** If a child is abused by an individual associated with our organisation, our organisation is presumed to have breached its duty of care unless it can prove that it took 'reasonable precautions' to prevent the abuse in question. For more information, please refer to the [new organisational duty of care to prevent child abuse page](https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/safer-communities/protecting-children-and-) <<https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/safer-communities/protecting-children-and->

families/betrayal-of-trust-fact-sheet-the-new> on the Department of Justice and Regulation's website.

Risk management

In Victoria, organisations are required to protect children when a risk is identified. In addition to general occupational health and safety risks, we proactively manage risks of abuse to our children.

We have risk management strategies in place to identify, assess and take steps to minimise child abuse risks which include risks posed by physical environments and online environments.

Allegations, concerns and complaints

Football Netball East Gippsland takes all allegations seriously and has practices in place to investigate thoroughly and quickly. Our Commissioners, staff and volunteers are trained to deal with allegations appropriately.

We work to ensure all children, families, Commissioners, staff and volunteers know what to do and who to tell if they observe abuse or are a victim, and if they notice inappropriate behaviour.

We all have a responsibility to report an allegation of abuse if we have a reasonable belief that an incident took place. If an adult has a reasonable belief that an incident has occurred then they must report the incident. Factors contributing to reasonable belief may include:

- a child states they or someone they know has been abused (noting that sometimes the child may in fact be referring to themselves)
- behaviour consistent with that of an abuse victim is observed
- someone else has raised a suspicion of abuse but is unwilling to report it
- observing suspicious behaviour.

Regular review

This policy will be reviewed every year and following significant incidents if they occur. We will ensure that families and children have the opportunity to contribute. Where possible we will do our best to work with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, culturally and/or linguistically diverse communities and people with a disability.

Written By: *Rod Twining*

Approved By: *Andrew Powell, Judy Anne Alexander, Linda Dillon, Eric Jamieson, Ian Forbes, Ryan Fraser, Jayden Pratt and Casey Dillon.*

Endorsed By: *The FNEG Commissioners on 18th February 2026*

Date for Review: *February 2027*

The Code

This Code of Conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour by adults towards children.

The Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. It also helps staff and volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations. This Code of Conduct applies to all people involved in the activities of Football Netball East Gippsland and includes coaches, officials, volunteers and parents.

All Football Netball East Gippsland Commissioners, staff and volunteers are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:

- **Adhering to our Child Safe Policy, this Code of Conduct and other policies of the AFL and AFL Victoria**
- **Taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse**
- **Treating everyone with respect, including listening to and valuing their ideas and opinions**
- **Welcoming all children and their families and carers and being inclusive**
- **Respecting cultural, religious and political differences and acting in a culturally sensitive way, particularly when interacting with children who are Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or otherwise culturally or linguistically diverse and those with a disability**
- **Modelling appropriate adult behaviour**
- **Listening to children and responding to them appropriately**
- **Reporting and acting on any breaches of this Code of Conduct, complaints or concerns appropriately and treat them seriously and with respect.**
- **Complying with our guidelines on physical contact with children**
- **Working with children in an open and transparent way – other adults should always know about the work you are doing with children**
- **Respecting the privacy of children and their families, and only disclosing information to people who have a need to know.**

Football Netball East Gippsland Commissioners, staff and volunteers MUST NOT:

- **Seek to use children in any way to meet the needs of adults**
- **Ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse**
- **Use prejudice, oppressive behaviour or language with children**
- **Engage in rough physical games**
- **Discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability or sexuality**
- **Initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or do things of a personal nature that children can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes**
- **Develop 'special' relationships with specific children or show favouritism through the provision of gifts or inappropriate attention**
- **Exchange personal contact details such as phone number, social networking site or email addresses with children**
- **Have unauthorised contact with children and young people online or by phone.**

By observing these standards you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the League Child Safeguarding Officers, Andrew Powell Phone: 0402384596, email andrew@chrisobrien.com.au; or League Child Safeguarding Officer, Linda Dillon Phone: 0411857135, email carl_linda@bigpond.com.

This Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Football Netball East Gippsland Commissioners annually.

I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it at all times.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Role: _____ Date: _____

Reporting a child safety concern or complaint

The League has appointed *Andrew Powell and Linda Dillon* as Child Safety Persons with the specific responsibility for responding to any complaints made by staff, volunteers, parents or children. Andrew can be contacted by Phone: 0402384596, or email andrew@chrisobrien.com.au; and Linda can be contacted by Phone: 0411857135, or email carl_linda@bigpond.com.

Social Media Use

Football Netball East Gippsland has adopted the AFL Victoria Social Media Guidelines for all communication with children within the League. These guidelines are in addition to the League's Cyber Safety Policy.

- a. No adult in a role working with children in an AFL Victoria Affiliate should engage in individual social friendships with children from the League/Club/Program/NAB Auskick Centre on personal social media sites.
- b. Multiple adults, including Club President, Senior Manager or Centre Coordinator, should be part of the contact list and included in any social media communication with children from, or on behalf of the Centre/Club, or regarding Centre/Club details.
- c. When setting up a social media platform connected with any league, club or individual team within the league/club, an administrator should be appointed as someone who will check on the status of posts and comments.
- d. Confidentiality is important, permission must be obtained from parents for any use of a child's name or photo to be used in any postings, this is particularly important in case of any custody issues or privacy required.

Risk Management

We recognise the importance of a risk management approach to minimising the potential for child abuse or harm to occur and use this to inform our policy, procedures and activity planning. In addition to general occupational health and safety risks, we proactively manage risks of abuse to our children. To reduce the risk of child abuse occurring, adults to whom this policy applies should avoid direct, unsupervised contact with children. For example, this should be a consideration when:

- using change room facilities;
- using accommodation or overnight stays;
- travel; or
- physical contact when coaching or managing children.

Reviewing this policy

This policy will be reviewed annually and we undertake to seek views, comments and suggestions from children, parents, carers, staff and volunteers involved in the League.

UNDER 15 PLAYERS PLAYING WITH AN EGFNL SENIOR CLUB

RULES:

- i) This agreement allows for 'TOP AGE' U/15 players to compete in the EGFNL U/17.5's only. That prior to each match played, the player shall apply for and have approved a Season Permit for the date of the match to be played on permit.
- ii) That a player from the EGJFA/SDJFA may play with one club only of the EGFNL during the season.

OTHER PROVISIONS

- 1) For the purpose of this Agreement each EGJFA/SDJFA Club will be aligned to the following EGFNL Club

EGJFA/SDJFA Clubs	East Gippsland Football Netball League
SDJFA Club	Player to nominate either BBFNC or Stratford FNC
Bairnsdale FNC (Junior Teams)	Player to nominate one EGFNL Club
Lakes Entrance FNC (Junior Teams)	Lakes Entrance FNC
Lindenow FNC (Junior Teams)	Lindenow FNC
Lucknow FNC (Junior Teams)	Lucknow FNC
Orbost Snowy Rovers JFC	Orbost Snowy Rovers FNC
Paynesville FNC (Junior Teams)	Paynesville FNC
Wy Yung JFC	Wy Yung FNC

- 2) An EGFNL registered player must be played before an EGJFA/SDJFA registered player. (Where there are 18 EGFNL Under 17.5 players they must start the game and any EGJFA/SDJFA player must start on the Interchange bench.) AFL Gippsland has set a local condition that should a permit player be selected then a maximum of 20 players can be listed on the team sheet.
- 3) Under 15 players will not be permitted to play in any EGFNL Inter-league/Representative matches.
- 4) An U/15 player can only play in one senior club Under 17.5 match per weekend. The qualifying requirement for EGFNL Under 17.5 finals will be five (5) EGFNL Under 17.5 games with the senior club.
- 5) An U/15 player is deemed to be a player who is under 15 years of age as of 31st December 2025.
- 6) An EGJFA/SDJFA club may only permit **4 players** per weekend to play with its aligned EGFNL Club. However, the player cannot play for an EGFNL club if his EGJFA/SDJFA club is participating in finals on the same weekend (weekend includes

Friday night).

- 7) The player cannot play with the EGFNL on the same weekend when he is selected to play in a Junior Inter league match. (weekend includes Friday night)
- 8) Under 15 players who are reported for a field offence shall have the charge heard by the Independent Tribunal. In the event of finding the player guilty, this Tribunal shall determine the penalty, the duration of which is to be served in the Under 15 team in which the player is registered. The suspended player is ineligible to play in either the senior or junior club during the term of his suspension.

FORM A FOR 'TOP AGE' UNDER 15 PLAYERS PLAYING WITH AN EGFNL UNDER 17.5s

FORM A

		M	
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First Name

Surname

Gender

Date of Birth

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Home Phone

Mobile / Work Phone

Email Address

DO HEREBY apply for permission to play with the _____ FNC for

Round: _____ to be played on the ____ / ____ /2026.

The player can only play in an EGFNL Under 17.5 Grade.

Are you presently under disqualification for a misdemeanour or financial reasons? _____
(Yes/No)

Player's Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Parent /Guardian Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

(Parents Signature is required)

CLUB (with which the Player is currently registered)

The Applicant is a registered player of the _____ Football Club

affiliated with the **EGJFA/SDJFA** and IS/IS NOT (*Circle*) under disqualification for any misdemeanour or financial reasons.

AND THIS CLUB hereby APPROVES this application.

EGJFA/SDJFA Club Coach's Signature: _____

EGJFA/SDJFA Club President's/Secretary's Signature: _____

_____ Date: _____

Failure to lodge in the Match Day Envelope will deem the player(s) as being ineligible.

Dwyers Toyota East Gippsland Junior Football Association & AFL Vic Country Codes of Behaviour.

CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

The AFL Vic Country is committed to a 'Fair Go' for all participants in football where individuals are treated with respect and dignity.

The AFL Vic Country is committed to providing an environment focused on the rights of young people to enjoy themselves and develop social and physical skills.

The AFL Vic Country is committed to a football environment, which is free of verbal and physical abuse.

The AFL Vic Country is committed to providing a supportive environment for administrators, coaches, officials, umpires and volunteers to enable them to do their jobs.

The AFL Vic Country is committed to establishing standards of behaviour expected of members and procedure for dealing with breaches of the Codes of Behaviour.

ADMINISTRATORS

Make your club environment more user friendly by providing equal opportunities for all to participate. Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive. Provide quality supervision and instruction for players and ensure volunteers are adequately trained. Distribute Codes of Behaviour to coaches, players, parents, spectators, officials and volunteers and encourage them to follow it.

Ensure that everyone emphasises fair play, not winning at all cost.

Direct coaches and officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.

Ensure that the equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of the players.

Create pathways for young people to participate in football not just as a player, e.g. as umpire, administrator, etc.

Adopt and implement relevant safety policies and practices.

Implement policies and practices in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance-enhancing drugs.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

COACHES

Keep up to date with coaching practices and qualifications and the principles of physical growth and development.

Operate within the rules and spirit of football and teach players to do the same.

Ensure that any physical contact with a young person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.

Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.

Give players the chance to try out different playing positions.

Create opportunities for participants to learn appropriate behaviour as well as basic skills.

Help young people understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.

Remember that the players involved play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it.

Emphasise the importance of the learning and development of skills and positive attitudes. Never ridicule or yell at your players for making mistakes or losing a competition.

Avoid over-playing talented players. The 'just average' players need and deserve equal time.

Never swear or use abusive language during the game or when addressing the players. Be mindful of the presence of young people and other spectators.

Treat umpires and opposition sides with respect.

All coaches are to have, as a minimum, a Level 1 Coach qualification prior to commencing coaching.

All coaches are to have a current Working with Children's Check.

PLAYERS

Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
Never argue with an official. If you need clarification, have your captain, coach or team manager approach the official during a break or after the game.
Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of coaches, officials, umpires, spectators or other players is not acceptable or permitted.
Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
Ensure that both on and off field behaviour is consistent with the principle of good sportsmanship.
Treat all participants as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another person.
Your involvement to play is for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of it.
Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like 'good luck', 'thanks for the game', 'thanks ump', three cheers for...).
Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

OFFICIALS

Apply rules and regulations to make participation more fun.
Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
Compliment and encourage all participants.
You are a role model and a source of a young person's confidence building.
Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
Be familiar with and know your role in safety policies and practices.
Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
Implement policies and practices in relation to responsible use of alcohol, to child protection issues and issues involving recreational and performance-enhancing drugs.
Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

PARENTS & SPECTATORS

Remember that people participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
Encourage players always to play according to the rules and settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
Never ridicule or yell at a player for making a mistake or not winning.
Applaud good performances and efforts from all individuals and teams. Congratulate all participants regardless of the game's outcome.
Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
Respect official's decisions and encourage players to do likewise.
Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials, administrators.
Support policies and practices in relation to responsible use of alcohol, child protection issues and issues involving recreational and performance-enhancing drugs.
Support involvement in modified rules games and other junior development programs.
Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

The Australian Sports Commission has generously permitted the reproduction of many of the codes from its National Codes of Behaviour resources.

Implementation of the 30 & 50-point By-law.

All clubs, coaches and officials observe a sense of fair play in regards to a large differential in final scores between any two opposing teams. That 30 & 50 points be used as a guide where a sense of fair play has been breached.

When a team reaches the 30-point margin (U/11s & U/13s) or 50-point (U/15s) if not sooner, then the following guidelines are to be implemented to observe a sense of fair play:

1. Better players to be moved from dominant positions.
2. Opposition to be allowed more players on the field than the dominant side.
3. Dominant side to offer better players to the opposition. Opposition is encouraged to accept these players.
4. Remove dominant players from the field (this should only be done as a last resort, as the League does not believe better players should be penalised)

It is the responsibility of the coaches and team managers to be conversing throughout the match to implement these guidelines.

By-law states

(c) If a club or the League believes that the opposition coach has not acted in a sense of fair play, then the club or League may lodge a letter with the League Administration Officer outlining their concerns. The League Administration Officer will refer the matter to the Independent Commissioners for their consideration. If a club is found guilty of failing to observe the 30/50 point rule then the following penalties will occur:-

First Penalty – fine \$100 and loss of match points

Second Penalty – fine \$300 and loss of match points

A form has been created for Clubs to use to report to the League on the implementation of the 30-point/50-point by-law.