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UMPIRES INFORMATION MANUAL 2021



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Introduction

Welcome to Season 2021 as an EDFL Umpire and congratulations on taking up the challenge. To our band of new umpires, we hope you enjoy the experience, whether you are in the goals, on the boundary or in the field. We also welcome all those umpires who are returning for another season and we hope you have had a good rest and ready for the next step in your umpiring experience.

An umpire must always act in a manner which places the umpire above reproach. You are expected to act with honesty, integrity, trust and respect, as you are representing the EDFL, the umpiring group and yourself

Umpiring will help build your confidence, teach you to make important decisions under pressure and improve your interpersonal and communication skills.

This Umpiring Manual has been designed as a resource for you, primarily to assist you in your role as an EDFL Umpire. As part of your role and responsibilities you should read this manual and become very familiar with its contents and you should also have it in your bag on match day as a quick reference guide.

We want you to enjoy your involvement in the game and show respect for officials, players and your colleagues

Our coaching panel is there to assist and develop each umpire to make their experience as enjoyable as possible

You are an equal part of a team during game day and you are a key member of our 500 strong EDFL Umpiring Team

Good luck with your umpiring in the 2021 season

Role of the Umpire

The role of the umpire is to apply the laws of the game consistently and ensure the game is played in a safe and fair manner. The laws of the game give the umpire the responsibility to manage the game on and off the ground. You need to appreciate the importance and significance of the role of an Umpire

Expectations of the Umpire

- ✓ **Honest and Impartial** – In all duties performed on and off the field
- ✓ **Responsible** – Be punctual, reliable & dependable game day, especially in relation to paperwork and Schedules
- ✓ **Knowledgeable** – Read and Understand the Laws of the game and EDFL By-Laws
- ✓ **Act with Integrity** – When representing the EDFL and the umpiring team

Umpire's Code of Conduct

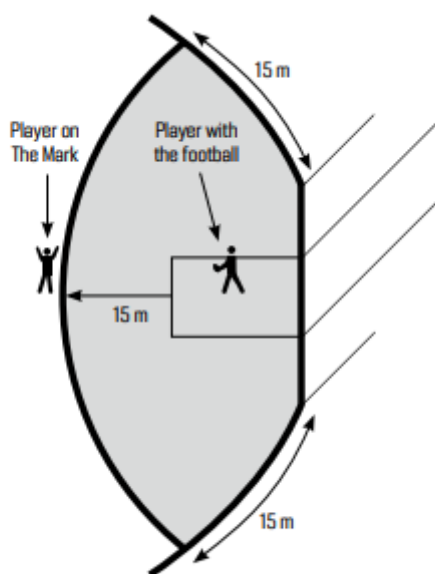
- All umpires agree to abide by the Essendon District Football League & the EDFL Umpires Association governing rules and any agreements that are in place
- All umpires are expected to wear their designated EDFL uniform in all matches they are appointed to and act with integrity and fairness in applying the Laws of the Game and the EDFL Rules

At all times we need to support and assist all our umpiring colleagues in the performance of their umpiring duties – We are ONE Team

Rule Changes (FOR SENIOR FOOTBALL ONLY)

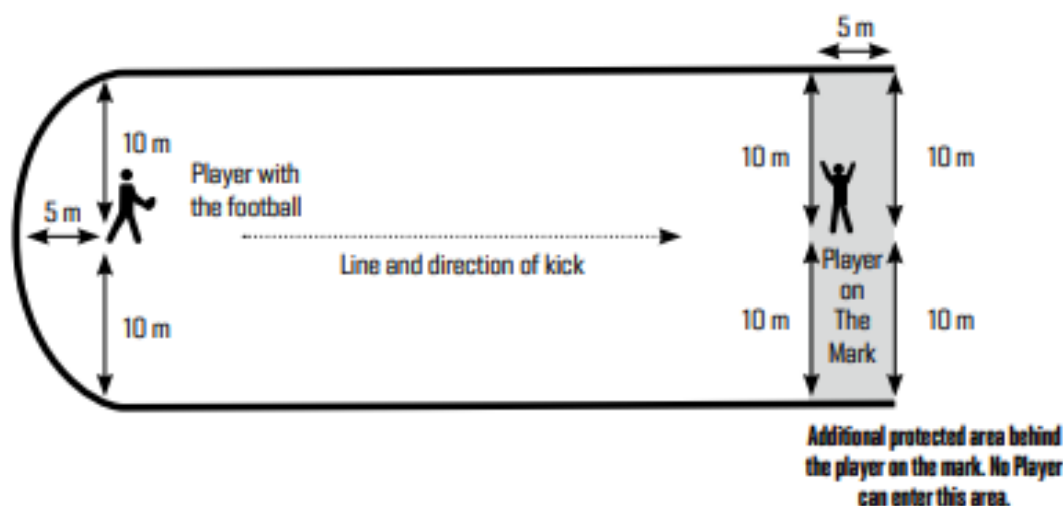
- **Location of The Mark at Kick Ins**

The Mark shall be set at 15 metres from the centre of the Kick-Off Line towards the centre of the ground at Kick Ins. This was previously set at 10 metres.



Protected area is the same as a protected area around the ground where the umpire will aim to clear the area and a defender is allowed to go in the area as long as they are within 2m of their opponent.

- **Player Standing The Mark**



- The protected area will be extended by 5m behind the player on the mark as shown in the diagram above. No attacking players can be in this area (i.e., shepherding is not allowed).
- If a player from the defensive team is in this area and they are told to stand by the umpire, then they cannot move except jumping up and down on the spot. This player cannot be swapped once stand has been called.
- This player must then remain stationary until the umpire calls play on.

Junior Field Umpire Coaching Panel Contact Details

Head Junior Coach - Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690 – michael.willcox@essendondfl.com.au

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| • Senior Assistant Coach | Troy McCarthy |
| • Academy Administrator | Patrick Moloney |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Lachlan Daly |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Matt O'Connor |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Michael Knight |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Olyvia Munro |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Laura Emerson |

Youth Training Centres

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| • Jacana Training Centre | Troy McCarthy – 0408 217 520 |
| • Delahey Training Centre | Lachlan Coyne – 0414 195 984 |
| • Craigieburn Training Centre | Steve Marrari – 0412 218 135 |
| • Sunbury Training Centre | Daniel Wardley – 0425 732 365 |
| • Moreland (Cole Reserve) Training Centre | Jack Hunter – 0438 734 018 |

School Academies

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • AIA College Coburg | Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690 |
| • St Bernard's College Niddrie | Matt O'Connor – 0422 210 170 |
| • Ilim College | Lachlan Daly - 0477 999 785 |

Senior Contact Details

Field Umpire Coaches

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| • Field Umpire Coach | Matthew Brown - 0438 046 249 |
|----------------------|------------------------------|

Boundary Umpire Coaches

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Boundary Umpire Coach | Shane Mallia – 0410 659 951 |
| • Boundary Umpire Development Coach | Lachlan Bezzina – 0481 107 731 |

Goal Umpire Coaches

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Goal Umpire Coach | Tom Ennis – 0406 754 897 |
| • Assistant Goal Umpire Coach | John Bladen – 0408 337 194 |

EDFL Contacts

Umpires Administrator Patrick Moloney 0438 572 144 patrick.m@essendondfl.com.au

Umpires Coordinator Michael Willcox 0434 689 690 michael.willcox@essendondfl.com.au

Enjoy the 2021 Season

- Support the EDFLUA by being involved in activities and social functions
- Regularly attend training and be an active member of the EDFL umpiring team
- Make yourself available every week during the season (*and advise the coach if you are unavailable*)
- Fitness is the key to good positioning and accurate decision making
- The aim is to make umpiring enjoyable for every member of our team

Umpire Education and Preparation

The AFL has a National Umpiring Accreditation Scheme which has **3** levels of competency for Field Umpires and two levels for Boundary & Goal umpires.

All Junior Umpires are expected to undertake Development Umpire Accreditation course after completion of their first season with the EDFL. When you have completed the program successfully you will receive a nationally recognised accreditation. When you receive that certificate, you should forward a copy of that Accreditation to Patrick for registration on SportsTG. This assists in re-accreditation in the future. Accreditation involves theory components and observation of your performance in a match - ask your coach

Training/Coaching session details

Just like any player, training is important for umpires to develop their fitness, umpiring skills and knowledge of the laws and their interpretations. It also provides the opportunity to get to know other umpires and make new friends.

Training & Coaching also forms part of your Development Umpire Accreditation, so it is important that you make the effort

First year umpires are encouraged to complete the online AFL Club Umpire program, which can be found on the AFL Community Club website (Click the link below)

<https://bit.ly/3rvl4yy> - This will give you some basic understanding of the role of an umpire

Training details for Junior Field Umpires (U10 to U16 Matches)

Windy Hill - Napier Street Essendon

- ✓ EDFL Junior field umpires will train **at Windy Hill from Tuesday 6th April** commencing at **5pm**
- ✓ Training will then be every Tuesday at 5pm

Youth umpiring training centres

Registered Junior Field, Boundary and Goal Umpires

****Training does not occur on any Public Holidays**

❖ <u>Delahey Umpiring Centre</u> Coach Lachlan Coyne	Every Mon at 5pm <i>Delahey Reserve (Copperfield Drive, Delahey)</i>
❖ <u>Jacana Umpiring Centre</u> Coach Troy McCarthy	Every Mon at 5pm <i>Jacana Reserve (cnr Lorraine Cres & Johnstone St Broadmeadows)</i>
❖ <u>Moreland Umpiring Centre</u> Coach Jack Hunter	Every Mon at 5pm <i>Cole Reserve (Cumberland Road, Pascoe Vale)</i>
❖ <u>Sunbury Umpiring Centre</u> Coach Daniel Wardley	Every Mon at 5.15 pm <i>John McMahon Reserve (155 Lancefield Rd Sunbury)</i>
❖ <u>Craigieburn Umpiring Centre</u> Coach Steve Marrari	Every Mon at 5pm <i>Highgate No 2 Oval (Grand Blvd, Craigieburn)</i>

School academies for students - *Only applicable to those enrolled with the particular school*

****Training does not occur on any School Holidays**

❖ <u>AIA College Coburg</u> Coach – Michael Willcox	Wednesday at the end of the school day for first term
❖ <u>St Bernard's College</u> Coach - Matt O'Connor	Wednesday at the end of the school day for terms 1 & 2
❖ <u>Ilim College Coburg</u> Coach – Lachlan Daly	Wednesday at the end of the school day for first term

Senior Umpire Training/Coaching session details

Field Umpires

- 1/ From **Wednesday 17 February** to the end of March, will train **Wednesday** only each week at Windy Hill at 6pm
- 2/ From **Wednesday 7 April** and for the remainder of the season training will be every **Wednesday** night at 6pm sharp

Boundary Umpires

- 1/ From **Monday 15 February** until the end of **March**, will train **Monday** only each week at Windy Hill at 6pm
- 2/ From **Tuesday 6 April** and for the remainder of the season training will be every **Tuesday** at 6pm sharp

Goal Umpires

- 1/ From **Wednesday 17 February** to the end of March, will train **Wednesday** only each week at Windy Hill at 6pm
- 2/ From **Thursday 8 April** and for the remainder of the season training will be every **Thursday** night at 6pm sharp
Please ensure that you bring a whistle, water bottle and appropriate training attire to every session

Appointments Process

1. Appointments are managed by the **Schedula online appointments system**, which requires all umpires to register via Sporting Pulse as an umpire before being provided with access to Scheduling.
2. Appointments will be advised each Monday evening at approximately 7pm. If you have been appointed to a match, then you will receive an email notifying you of an appointment. You are then required to login to Scheduling to confirm your appointment (www.schedula.com.au) **Appointments must be confirmed** as soon as possible, preferably before training Tuesday.
3. **When you do confirm your appointment print it off and put it in your folder for reference on match day when doing the Electronic Paperwork**
4. Appointments take a lot of time to organise so please be respectful to your Coach and our Umpire Administrator by following this process correctly
5. If your email / contact details change at any time please immediately inform our Umpire Administrator, Patrick Moloney (patrick.m@essendonfl.com.au)

*****Unavailability*****

It is your responsibility to inform your coach if you are unavailable to umpire on a particular game day, by recording it in Scheduling, email or phone. If you know well in advance your unavailability (especially during school holidays) please advise your coach as early as possible. It is recommended that you inform your relevant coach at least 2 weeks prior if you are going to be unavailable. If you know unavailability earlier, then please advise it as soon as you know.

Match Preparation

It is important that you arrive at least **45 minutes** before the match to ensure you are ready to start on time. Arriving late can cause delay and inconvenience for your fellow umpire and the teams involved.

Your Uniform

The appearance of the umpire communicates a great deal, even before the game has commenced and the first blow of the whistle. It is essential all umpires take pride in your official EDFLUA uniform. Shirts need to be tucked in and socks pulled up.

Footwear

Field Umpires	Runners and boots are to be white and clean, with <u>totally fluoro</u> runners not permitted
Goal Umpires	Predominately black footwear

Undergarments	Undergarments (lycra shorts/Skins) must be skin coloured or black to match our shorts. Full length undergarments are permitted
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Jewellery	All umpires must not wear any form of jewellery while umpiring in a match
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What You Need to Umpire

- Always check your appointment the night before to ensure you have the right day, time, match and ground
- It is a good idea to pack something to eat after the game and also bring some water with you to ensure you have something to drink and that you are well hydrated

Below is a list of recommended items in your umpiring bag

✓ Appointment Details	✓ Tracksuit / towel / drink bottle / sunscreen
✓ Laws Book	✓ Pen / Pencil / pocket note pad
✓ Umpires Handbook	✓ Blue / Yellow / Red Cards
✓ Uniform (Shirt, Shorts, Socks, Wristbands)	✓ Water to drink before and after the game
✓ Runners and boots	✓ Something to eat after the game
✓ 2 Whistles (one on the fingers, one spare in your whistle pocket of shorts)	✓ Tape to hold socks up

Nutrition for Umpiring Performance & Your Health

Nutrition and Performance - Poor nutrition & hydration directly impact on your umpiring performance -

- ***Decreased concentration and coordination***
- ***Fatigue and likely poor decision making***
- ***Decreased speed and endurance***
- ***Delayed reaction time***

It also potentially has an impact on your health, including poor dental health, obesity, diabetes and heart disease

For lifelong good health, focus daily on 2 fruits and 5 vegetables, 3 serves low fat dairy, wholegrain cereals and limit your intake of those high fat & sugar treats

The following will enhance good energy levels and your umpiring success!

Pre-game

- ✓ Breakfast is a must before a game i.e. cereal with milk & fruit OR toast with a yoghurt & fruit
- ✓ Also drink 1L of fluid to hydrate your body – can be a combination of water, sports drink, milk, fruit juice

During the game

- ✓ At half time, consume one of the following: Banana OR jam / honey sandwich
- ✓ Also drink 600ml of fluid – Pref Water or Sports Drink

After the game It is important to eat quality food after the game for optimal recovery. Take food with you from home

Recommended post game snack includes:

- ✓ Piece of fruit
- ✓ 600ml Sports drink or water
- ✓ 300-600ml Flavoured milk OR Chobani yoghurt pouch - 140g
- ✓ Bread Roll with protein (cheese / ham / tuna / egg) and salad
- ✓ Carmens' Muesli Bar / Handful of nuts / handful of dried fruit

Match Day Check List

Before the Game

- Arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the game. One-hour prior for Senior matches
- When Umpiring your dress requirements are black pants, EDFL polo shirt or EDFL jacket
- Go directly to the umpire's room and ensure your other umpire team members are in attendance and drop your bag
- Approximately 20 minutes prior to the start of the game visit the home team room first and then the visiting team
- Obtain two match balls from the Home Club Team Manager and ensure they are inflated correctly and are in reasonable condition - **In all senior games one of these balls must be brand new** and balls must be the official 'Sherrin' EDFL football with EDFL Logo
- Attend the Visitors rooms and introduce yourself to the coach, captain & team manager, then offer the *A w a y captain* a choice of footballs
- Ensure no jewellery is being worn by any player and if so then it must be removed before taking part in the game

- Check that each Club has a Goal & Boundary Umpire(s) before the match, where no EDFL umpires are appointed
- Ensure you have the team sheets from both clubs 15 minutes prior to the start of game
- If you are officiating in the first match of the day at that ground, you must receive a completed **“Match Day Checklist”** (Ground Inspection Form) 15 minutes prior to the match commencing, signed by an Official from both competing clubs, **who have been notified that Match Day Checklists must be completed prior to starting the first match of the day.** This may also be completed electronically and checked by the umpire
- Enter the field 7 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled start of game OR once the previous game has concluded
- Make sure the teams are on the ground soon after you are. If not, make a note to report late arrival on match report
- Call captains to toss in the centre of the ground > Away team call the toss > Players move into position to start game

At the End of the 1st and 3rd Quarters

- Go to centre or a dry spot near the centre and discuss the game with the other EDFL umpires, mentor or coach
- Only the umpire escorts should be in the vicinity
- Take notes of best players at the end of each quarter
- Only your mentor, coach, an EDFL official or team Captain can approach umpires during the breaks
- Ensure you have a drink at every break to stay hydrated – if none offered then ask the Home Escort

After the Game

When the final siren sounds, and you have signalled the end of play:

- Collect the ball if it is nearby, otherwise leave it to be collected by the clubs. Start walking directly from the ground towards your change room, meeting both Umpires’ Escorts on the way.
- Go directly into your change rooms and close the door. The only people who are allowed in your area will be
 - Other Officiating EDFL Umpires
 - EDFL Coaches, Mentors and Board Members/Officials
 - Club Team Managers

****NEVER LEAVE VALUABLES IN UMPIRING CHANGEROOMS AT TRAINING OR ON MATCH DAYS ****

Electronic Match Day Paperwork

The EDFL uses an electronic system to capture all game day information and paperwork such as signed ground inspection form, team sheets, time keeper record forms, **will be kept by the clubs** in case they are required by the EDFL at a later date.

All match day information will be recorded electronically including reports *[Please refer to training video on EDFL website]*

Umpires Match Report – to be done Electronically

This report can only be done on an **iPad, Tablet, Smartphone or iPhone**

To start your umpire’s report, click on “Umpire’s Match Report”

- Select which type of competition you are umpiring
- Then click on “Open Report”
- Enter the Access Code (Which the umpires will be informed of) Then click “Next”
- Date is automatically set at the day you are umpiring [and Finals Game or not is selected for you]
- Select the Home Team > Select the Away Team
- Select which division the teams are in (be specific)
- Enter the score of Home Team > Enter the score of Away Team
- Select the Field Umpires names from the drop-down list
- Select the Boundary Umpires from the drop-down list
- Select the Goal Umpires from the drop-down list
- If there are no Boundary or Goal Umpires appointed, you put *N/A from the drop-down list
- If all umpires are entered click No
- If there any Umpires that are not on the drop-down list click on Yes and enter > Select type and put either Emergency or ‘Not listed EDFL’ > Select the umpire’s role (Field, Boundary or Goal) then type their name. If there are more than one umpire not in the drop-down list, click on +Add another umpire and repeat the previous steps

- You click on the Open/Close Best and Fairest Votes
This is where you give your votes for the best players for the game
- Select the club, type in the player's name and number
- You type in the name of the player/s **EXACTLY AS ON THE TEAM SHEET**
- You give the 3, 2, 1 votes
- **After you select the box of Home team**
- This section is where you enter any fines > Click which box you require 'Yes' or 'No'
- If you select yes, this will drop down the box with all the fines you require
- You proceed to click the box appropriate of fine/s, also any comments relating to the fine/s
- Home Team Blue cards > if you select "yes" enter the players name, number and the reason he was given a blue card. Add more players as required
- Then you enter your ratings of the home club for each item. If you enter 2 or less, you must explain why you gave that rating
- Enter the Home Team Representative's name (normally Team Manager) from the Team Sheet then click if the Representative was present or not
- Click on "choose file" and take photo of Home Team Sheet (one photo only with all information clearly visible)
- **After you select the box of Away team**
- Go through the same process as with the Home Team
- Enter the Away Team Manager's name from the Team Sheet then click if the Representative was present or not
- Click on "choose file" and take photo of Away Team Sheet (one photo only with all information clearly visible)
- Timekeepers Record click on "choose file" and take a photo of the Timekeepers Sheet
- If you have a report of a player click on Yes and then press Submit Match Report and the program will go into Player Report Sheet, otherwise wait until the Match Report has gone through and it will say Thank You > Then close the browser.
- If the club does not supply any Electronic Device or Mobile Phone, you may use your mobile phone, failing which you take the team sheets, Timekeepers Sheet and Goal Cards with you and do the report at home on your device.
Note - **You cannot do these reports on your computer because you must use the camera on your device**

****If you have to manually take paperwork then call Patrick after the game to arrange for him to get the paperwork**

******ANY PROBLEMS PLEASE RING PATRICK MOLONEY - 0438 572 144**

Electronic Report Form (Reporting a Player or Official)

Below is the correct procedure in filling out the electronic report forms – **Double Check all Details**

- Make sure correct player(s) name(s) and number(s) are listed on the form
- Make sure correct reportable offence ticked and stated on the electronic report form
- Make sure **both** Team Managers sign the report form

An email with all the details of the report will be sent to both clubs when submitted

- If you need to report a player/official, you will enter all information into the system. This information is immediately emailed to Michael Willcox, Patrick Moloney & Ken Waters (EDFL Football Operations)
- Patrick will then send a copy of the report by email to the reporting umpire for reference and once you submit a reportable offence it is also emailed to the clubs
- Set Penalties schedule is set out at the back of this manual > Please take a copy of this schedule to all matches

Reporting Of Club Officials

Any club official who is named on the team sheet - coach, team manager, runner, umpires escort, time keeper, trainer, boundary umpire, goal umpire or water person) who commits a reportable offence either before, during or after the match, must be reported on the normal umpire's report sheet > the charge is then referred to the EDFL Tribunal

If the offence takes place after all the electronic paperwork has been finalised and signed off by the team managers, the umpire must lodge a letter or email of complaint to EDFL CEO Ian Kyte, EDFL Head Office, 78 Napier Street Essendon 3040, by 6:00 p.m. Monday after the game. Umpires must also advise Michael Willcox on 0434 689 690 or Patrick Moloney on 0438 572 144 the same night the incident occurred.

Club Officials and Responsibilities

Junior Coach - Red Bib

Coaches must conduct themselves at all times in the best interest of Junior Football and to adhere to the EDFL Code of Conduct and focus on developing fair play and respect and the skills of Australian Rules Football. They must lead by example and are not to get involved in any altercation with opposition Officials or Players, Umpires, Spectators or Board Members.

Match Day Official - Yellow Bib

Each junior team will nominate a *Match Day Official* who will wear a yellow EDFL bib. Both MDOs' will deal with any "unsavoury behaviour" by any non-playing persons during the course of the match

Runner - Fluro Yellow Bib

The Runners' sole duty is to deliver the coaches message to a player(s) and then take the most direct route back to the coach immediately after delivering the message. The runner must not speak to or abuse an umpire, opposition player or official.

Trainers - Black Bib

The Trainer's sole duty is to attend to injured players and immediately leave the ground. They are not to carry coach's messages and are not to speak to the field umpire/s or opposition players. They must be dressed in white pants and a black bib, with their club name clearly identifiable.

Water Persons - Green Bib

Water persons are to conduct themselves the same way as Trainers. They must NOT to act as a second runner. Water Persons when not out on the ground must position themselves outside the boundary line and adjacent to the 50 metre arc line (If the team's coaches boxes are within 30 metres of one of the 50 metre arc lines, then they must be either at the other end or opposite side of the ground to their teams' coach's box). Water persons must only enter the field after a goal has been scored.

There should not be water persons for the under 13 competition or below. For all other competitions, there should be no more than 2 water persons per match per team

Umpires Escort - Blue Bib

The Umpires Escort will escort the umpires to and from the field and will stand with them at quarter and three quarter time. When escorting the umpires from the ground they are to ensure the umpires get safely inside the door of the umpire's rooms. The escorts are not to question umpires' decisions or abuse them in any way.

Goal and Boundary Umpires - White Bib

The Goal Umpire can wear white coat or the white bib with 'Goal Umpire' on it and the Boundary Umpire must wear the white bib with 'Boundary Umpire' on it

Team Manager - Red Bib

Team Manager will issue all paperwork to the respective club officials and umpires and also instruct all their own club officials what their duties and responsibilities are and ensure they are correctly dressed

Team Sheets are to be handed to Field Umpire 15 minutes prior to the start of the game by the Team Manager

Summary of Rules for Underage Girls, Boys & Mixed Teams

Please refer to table at the rear of the manual in relation to the modified laws in relation to each age teams

Applicable to all Underage Matches

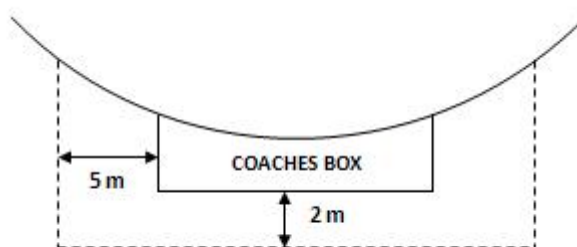
"TIME ON" **SHALL** only be applied when -

- ❖ a stretcher has entered the playing field
- ❖ a player count has been called

Junior Games Only - Exclusion Zone Around each Coaches Box

An "Exclusion Zone" around both Coaches Boxes will be erected by the host club. Bollards and yellow/black hazard tape should be used.

The following dimensions are illustrated below:



***Under 10, 12, 14, and 16**

All team officials in the Coaches box must wear a red I/D bib with their club name clearly identifiable. Even though a Team Manager may not be on the bench they are also required to wear a red bib. (Must be EDFL approved issue)

Player's Uniforms and Equipment

Jumpers and Shorts

All players will wear a numbered Club Jumper / Guernsey > The number must be a one or two figure number (between 1 and 99) and no two players in the same team shall wear the same number

Players will wear -

- Black shorts or Team coloured shorts for home games
- White shorts for away games
- Team coloured socks for all matches

All Club garments shall be as prescribed by the EDFL including relevant sponsors

Gloves

In all junior competitions, a player must obtain advice and approval from a medical practitioner before wearing gloves. A list of permissible gloves can be obtained from the EDFL website. The player proposing to wear the gloves must bring it into the EDFL Offices along with the Medical Authorisation/Certificate which must outline the players name, club, league, nature of the condition and the period the medical advisor believes the player is required to wear the gloves. This then must be viewed and approved by the Football Operations Manager. This approval must be available on game day to be viewed by the umpire (if requested) to allow the player to participate in the match

Undergarments (such as Skins)

Player's undergarments (lycra shorts) must be skin coloured (neutral or club-coloured) or the same colour as their team's shorts. Junior players are permitted to wear club coloured long sleeve jumpers or compression garments under their jumpers. These must be tight fitting > umpires may request the removal of undergarment if it is deemed to be dangerous

Full length undergarments are permitted in certain circumstances

Mouth Guards

Mouth Guards are recommended and preferred to be worn for all players at any level of football > The EDFL mandates the use of mouth guards in all Youth Girls matches

Process for non-compliance in Youth Girls -

- Umpire stops play and issues Yellow Card to player and that player leaves the field
- Play recommences when the replacement player takes the field
- Free kick to opposition team

Protective Equipment

A player must have written approval from the EDFL to wear any protective equipment in a match. Before game day the player must first bring it into the EDFL Offices at Windy Hill and have it approved by the Football Operations Manager. This

approval must be available for viewing by the umpire on match to allow the player to participate in the match. The exception is a player's helmet which can be worn in all grades.

Hair

If a player (male or female) has their hair braided, and it swings free from their head when the head is moving, it may cause harm to another player if struck by the braid. Due to potential injury that may be caused, players are not permitted on the field with free braids in their hair. This includes plaited ponytails.

Players with plaited ponytails will be instructed by the Umpire to either roll the plait into a bun or remove the plait and play with a loose ponytail (as long as the ponytail does not hide the player's number).

Jewellery

Players [and Umpires] are not permitted to wear jewellery of any kind whilst playing. Umpires will remove players from the field who are wearing Jewellery > **Covering a piece of Jewellery with tape is NOT permitted**

Nails

Players' nails must be short and smooth and not a hazard in any way

Boots

Football boots must be of an acceptable safety standard > No metal studs allowed

Hijab (full head scarf) – Youth Girls

The EDFL supports the wearing of hijabs, long sleeve jumpers and full skins to encourage active involvement of Youth Girls participants under religious or cultural constraints

Forfeit and Non-Completion of Matches

Club Minimum Numbers

Rule 6.1 of the EDFL By-Laws states "An Affiliated Club not fielding at least 14 players (12 in Girls/Women) 20 minutes after the scheduled starting time of the match shall forfeit the match. If, during the course of a match a team is reduced to less than 14 players (12 for Girls/Women) the match shall be forfeited and the Team sheets shall immediately be signed and endorsed on the ground in the presence of the field umpire, then forwarded in the usual manner to the CEO. An Affiliated Club forfeiting the match shall pay all umpire fees in full"

In the event of an Affiliated Club commencing a game without eighteen Players, any additional players entitled to play may take the field, after the captain of the relevant Affiliated Club has notified the field umpire of such intention. A player who has not signed the Team Sheet shall not be permitted to participate in a match after the Team Sheet has been lodged with the field umpire.

'Spirit of Fair Play' Policy (Juniors Only)

Umpires need to be familiar with this policy

Where one team cannot list 18 players on the team sheet, a policy to equalise the numbers competing for each team applies -

- Firstly, clubs are encouraged to take advantage of the Special Permit system, refer below, which allows teams with lesser numbers to borrow players from an opposition team who have greater numbers to allow both teams to take the field with an even number of players
- If for any reason it is not possible to borrow players from another team, then the team with the greater numbers shall field no more than one (1) additional player on the field, to that of the team with the lesser numbers. (i.e., if team X only has 15 players, then team Y is restricted to 16 players on the field)
- Where there is a reduction in players on the field, the bench can be extended to allow 24 players to compete in the game. (i.e.: where 16 players are on the ground, the team with the greater number of players may have up to 8 on the bench (allowing 24 players to be named on the team sheet)
- Where a player is sent from the ground under the send-off rule, the opposition team is not required to reduce their numbers on the field to accommodate the reduction in player numbers
- Where a player is sent from the ground under the send-off rule and that team falls **below 14** [or 12 participants for Youth Girls matches], Rule 6.1 of the EDFL By-Laws shall apply and the game is then forfeited

- Where an injury has occurred that has reduced the number of players on the field, the opposition team with the greater numbers shall, upon reasonable request from the opposing Team Manager, reduce the number of players on the field by one
- Where a player is injured and cannot return to the field and that team falls **below 14 players**, Rule 6.1 of the EDFL By-Laws shall apply and the game is forfeited
- Where a team has more players on the field than this policy allows, the team shall be considered to have too many players on the playing field. The EDFL will deal with this indiscretion as it sees fit.

Special Permits

If a team is unable to field 14 players, they may borrow players from the opposition, provided they fill in the Special Permit Form which allows a player to play with the opposition for that game only. This applies to the U10, U12, U14 and U16 age groups only. A Special Match Transfer Form allows a player to play up to four (4) games from the date of issue

Melee Rule

For Seniors, Reserves, Under 18 [Men & Women], Women's and Thirds Competitions

A melee is an incident which occurs prior to, during or following the completion of an EDFL match, (including the quarter time, half time and three-quarter time intervals) and -

- Is an incident deemed by the umpire and/or an EDFL Board Member and/or League CEO is likely to:
 - (i) Prejudice the interests or reputation of the EDFL or
 - (ii) Prejudice the interests or reputation of the EDFL competition or
 - (iii) Bring the game of football into disrepute
- Involves **EIGHT** or more players and/or officials of the opposing teams who -
 - Are aggressively or forcefully engaging in grappling, pushing, shoving, tripping, wrestling or other like acts which would potentially constitute a Reportable Offence by a player or official of either team
- It occurs over a sustained period of time where such incident has the effect of preventing or hindering the start or continuation of the game

Umpires are to report [on the official match report sheet] any melee (as above) that occurs on the ground and Clubs will be fined **\$100.00** for the first offence in a game, **\$200.00** for a second offence in that game and **\$300.00** for each additional offence in that game. Depending on the circumstances of the incident(s) it is up to the Umpire's discretion whether to impose a fine on either club or both clubs as per the above definition.

In using this discretion, the Umpires shall have regard to the following factors -

- (a) The team whose player/s and/or officials instigated, provoked and/or prolonged the incident that led to the melee and
- (b) Whether the number of player/s and officials from one team involved in the melee were significantly greater than the number of players and/or officials from the opposing team

Nothing in this Rule precludes an Umpire from reporting a player for a reportable offence committed during a melee

Order Off Rule - Blue, Yellow & Red Card ** *With all 3 cards players can be replaced immediately*

A/ Blue Card (Cooling Off No Report)

Blue Card is used to rest and settle down a player who is aggressive or creating potential trouble on the field

Where a Field Umpire deems that a player is behaving in an unduly aggressive and unruly manner or in any manner that would bring the game into disrepute, that player will be -

- (i) Shown a Blue Card
- (ii) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately
- (iii) Not be eligible to return to the playing surface until 15 minutes playing time has elapsed from the time the player left the ground following the Blue Card, (not including any quarter breaks that occur)

**The player can be replaced immediately by another player of his team*

B/ Yellow Card

Yellow Card is for reports which the player would be offered a set penalty [****Refer Set Penalty Reference Sheet**]

Where the reporting umpire deems a player has offended and breached the Laws of Australian Football [Law 21] that player will be reported and after the game would entitle the player to take a set penalty. That player will be -

- (i) Shown a Yellow Card
- (ii) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately
- (iii) Not be eligible to return to the playing surface until 15 minutes playing time has elapsed from the time the player left the ground following the Yellow Card, (not including any quarter breaks that occur)

**The player can be replaced immediately by another player of his team*

C/ Red Card

Red Card is used for a reportable incident that would go directly to the tribunal and the reported player would not be offered a set penalty [Refer Umpire Report Sheet]

Where the reporting umpire deems the player's, conduct is of such a serious nature that the player should not participate any further in the game, that player shall be reported and will be -

- i) Shown a Red Card
- ii) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately
- iii) Not eligible to participate at all for the remainder of that match

**The player can be replaced by another player of his team*

Issuing a Send Off Card

Where a Field Umpire proposes to issue a Red, Yellow or Blue Card to a player, the Umpire shall -

1. Show the player either a Red, Yellow or Blue Card by holding the Card above the umpire's head for a period of five (5) seconds
2. Inform the player that they are to leave the field immediately
3. Again, hold that Card above the umpire's head for a further period of five (5) seconds in the direction/s of the interchange bench of the offending team and also in the direction of the timekeepers
4. Ensure the player(s) that have been shown a Blue, Yellow or Red card have left the playing surface before recommencing play
5. The Timekeepers shall determine when the 15-minute time period has elapsed

Tribunal Hearings

Are held at **EDFL Headquarters - Level 1, 78A Napier Street Essendon (Windy Hill) - Tuesday nights at 7.00pm**

Umpires are required to attend the tribunal if they have player reports, as part of their normal umpiring responsibilities.

If you are unable to attend the tribunal, please notify Michael Willcox or Patrick Moloney so that alternative arrangements can be made.

It would only be in very extreme circumstances that an umpire would be excused from attending the tribunal

An umpire advocate will be organised to attend the tribunal with all junior umpires and senior umpires as required

Umpires attending the EDFL tribunal will be dressed in an appropriate manner - black pants, a shirt or EDFL polo shirt, jumper or jacket that reflects some form of EDFL apparel > All clothing to be clean and respectable

***** Remember that you are representing all umpires when you attend a tribunal hearing***

Investigations

- Umpires who report a team official not listed on Team Sheet, must lodge a letter or email of complaint to the **CEO, Mr Ian Kyte, EDFL HO, 78A Napier Street Essendon 3040, by 6.00 pm Monday** following the game
- Umpires must also advise their coach of this action by phone or email after their game
- EDFL Executive members will then investigate the complaint/charges on a date to be advised. The umpire/s will likely be required to attend a hearing

Finals Selection

Primary consideration for finals selection is -

- regular attendance and attitude at training, [including school academies]
- game day umpiring performance
- a positive attitude to umpiring
- reliability and availability to umpire

Umpires Match Payments

- As your employer, the EDFL pays you a fee for your work as an umpire. Match fees are calculated on a scale according to the age group of the match
- Payment into your bank account will be made by the EDFL weekly [and for finals at the end of the series]
- EDFLUA has arranged with the EDFL for automatic deduction from match fees of social levy and uniform costs

Social Media Policy

The EDFL and EDFLUA acknowledge that Social Media has increasing prevalence in both your professional and private life. These may include social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, forums/discussion boards etc. All umpires and coaches should recognise the direct and indirect risk and damage that may be caused by being part of and engaging in Social Media

**Using discriminatory, defamatory, abusive or objectionable language on any form of social media will not be tolerated*

Please ensure any comments are respectful and don't show signs of discrimination, harassment or bullying. Any inappropriate comments will not be tolerated and both the EDFL and EDFLUA will take action against anyone found to be not adhering to the Social Media Policy

Working With Children Check (WWCC)

It is **COMPULSORY** for all EDFL umpires over the age of eighteen (18) and all Umpire Coaches actively involved in the EDFL to have and retain a current **Working With Children Check (WWCC)** to undertake your role.

Only umpires, coaches and officials who are exempt from providing a **WWCC** under current legislation exemptions do not need to apply for the check as they already are eligible as a requirement of their normal employment. However, the exemptions accepted by the EDFL are limited to (along with the conditions covering the following professions in the relevant legislation) - **Current registered Teachers & Victorian or Australian Federal Police Officers**

- Please go to the EDFL website *Umpiring>Umpire Information* for information on the WWCC

Injury Management Procedure

- a) Immediately report any injury you sustain at training or in a game to your coach who will record the details
- b) Also immediately notify Umpire Administrator **Patrick Moloney - 0438 572 144** – to record injury in the Register
- c) It is then **imperative** that you again contact Patrick on the first working day after your injury to discuss appropriate procedures and he will advise you of the requirements and necessary paperwork to complete
- d) Should you require treatment prior to completion of the necessary paperwork, please keep receipts of expenses

Injury Claims Process

1. Umpire to obtain a Claim Form from Patrick Moloney > to be filled out factually, including witness details
2. Obtain a Certificate of Capacity (Medical Certificate) from doctor/physiotherapist/medical practitioner
3. Return the fully completed claim form with medical certificates to Patrick as soon as possible
4. All paperwork (certificates, invoices, referrals) to also be sent to Patrick at the EDFL office
5. Obtain a final medical certificate release form from the doctor/physiotherapist, ending treatment for the injury and forward that to Patrick. This would be a **Return to Work** advice that allows you to recommence training & games.

****An injured Umpire will only be appointed to a game when a 'Return to Work' form (clearance) is provided to Patrick**

Designated and Authorised Practitioner for umpire injuries is



Coburg Physiotherapy Centre

173 Bell Street, Coburg 3058

9354 9181

(F: 9354 2018)

(Postal Address: PO Box 213, Coburg 3058)

Note - At Coburg Physiotherapy Centre please make sure you specify EDFL umpire's account

Please keep your Coach and Patrick informed of your injury progress and issues related to Workcover

Note for Junior Umpires – How can I get involved in umpiring Senior Football?

As a junior umpire there are opportunities to get involved in senior EDFL football as a Field, Boundary or Goal umpire. The EDFL welcomes the chance to promote junior umpires and this can be discussed with Michael

Boundary or Goal Umpires

Junior Umpires may train as a Boundary or Goal Umpire for senior football. If you are interested, please contact the relevant coach below about available opportunities. It may include attending senior training occasionally.

* **Boundary Umpire Coach - Shane Mallia – 0410 659 951**

* **Goal Umpire Coach - Tom Ennis – 0406 754 897**

Field Umpires

- The EDFL will encourage and assist you to make the transition from junior field umpiring to senior field umpiring by providing a development pathway to help you get you experience to transition to higher grades
- EDFL umpires who show promise in juniors and then senior football will be supported to be selected to join the AFLVIC Pathway Program. The EDFL can be the start of an exciting career as an elite a Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire
- When you are ready please talk to Umpire Coordinator - **Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690**



EDFL Umpires Association

The EDFL Umpires Association (UA) *Committee* is duly elected by its members (of which you are one) and is independent of the Essendon District Football League. The Umpires Association represents all Umpires as well coordinating social events and promoting comradeship amongst members

EDFLUA Social Levy

All umpires are members of the EDFLUA and pay a social levy of **\$60** for seniors and **\$40** for junior umpires under the age of 18 as of 1st January 2021 and who are attending school. This social levy is deducted directly from match payments and contributes towards funding functions and you attending functions throughout the season, (a number of which are free), awards presented to umpires and assists in the wellbeing of the umpire.

Contact

- **President** **Brendan Dye** **0423 307 871**
- **Secretary** **David Peers** **0416 739 654** E davidpeers1@hotmail.com

If you have any questions regarding the EDFLUA please call the Secretary David Peers

***Facebook:** 'Essendon District Football League Umpires Association' (NB: you need to request access)

***Instagram:** @edflua

***Twitter:** @edfl_umpires

Reportable Offences

Set Penalty can be offered for:

1	Intentionally or carelessly striking another person	2 Matches
2	Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language	2 Matches
3	Dispute a decision of an umpire	2 Matches
4	Tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg	2 Matches
5	Charging another person	2 Matches
6	Engaging in rough conduct against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable	2 Matches
7	Attempting to kick another person	2 Matches
8	Any act of misconduct (MINOR)	2 Matches
9	Bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that Player has their head down and over the ball	2 Matches
10	Use of obscene gesture	1 Match
11	Engages on time wasting	1 Match
12	Attempting to strike another person	1 Match
13	Attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg	1 Match
14	Engaging in a melee, except where a Player's sole intention to remove a teammate from the incident	1 Match
15	Intentionally shaking a goal post when a player is kicking or has kicked for goal	1 Match
16	Wrestling another person	1 Match
17	Wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9	1 Match

To be heard by Tribunal (No Set Penalty)

1	Striking another person (Tribunal)	N/A
2	Kicking another person	N/A
3	Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an umpire	N/A
4	Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire	N/A
5	Attempting to make contact or strike an umpire	N/A
6	Intentionally, recklessly or negligently makes contact with or striking an umpire	N/A
7	Failing to leave the Playing Arena when directed to do so by a field umpire	N/A
8	Any act of Misconduct (MAJOR) i.e., Head butting, eye gouging, kneeing, stomping, makes contact with injured player, scratching, spitting at a player or umpire, staging, instigating a melee, pinching	N/A

EDFL UMPIRES PAYMENTS 2021									
DIVISION	FIELD UMPIRE			BOUNDARY UMPIRE			GOAL UMPIRE		
	Home & Away	Semi/Prelim	Grand Final	Home&Away	Semi/Prelim	Grand Final	Home&Away	Semi/Prelim	Grand Final
PREMIER	\$146	\$157	\$189	\$82	\$88	\$121	\$74	\$83	\$111
PREMIER RES	\$99	\$104	\$120	\$61	\$65	\$83	\$51	\$56	\$75
DIVISION 1	\$119	\$135	\$159	\$72	\$78	\$102	\$64	\$72	\$92
DIVISION 1 RES	\$83	\$92	\$107	\$50	\$56	\$75	\$47	\$50	\$70
DIVISION 2	\$116	\$131	\$154	\$70	\$76	\$99	\$62	\$70	\$91
DIVISION 2 RES	\$83	\$92	\$107	\$50	\$56	\$75	\$47	\$50	\$70
THIRDS	\$83	\$92	\$107	\$50	\$56	\$75	\$47	\$50	\$70
UNDER 18.5 MEN	\$83	\$92	\$107	\$50	\$56	\$75	\$47	\$50	\$70
WOMEN	\$73	\$77	\$86	\$45	\$52	\$73	\$41	\$48	\$69
UNDER 18.5 WOMEN	\$70	\$77	\$85	\$45	\$50	\$55	\$41	\$46	\$55
UNDER 16	\$70	\$77	\$85		\$50	\$55		\$46	\$55
UNDER 14	\$60	\$66	\$77		\$46	\$53		\$41	\$53
UNDER 12	\$55	\$61	\$75		\$42	\$52		\$39	\$52
UNDER 10	\$48	\$54	\$59		\$35	\$44		\$32	\$44
Additional payment made to those required to officiate the game as a single umpire									
SENIOR MATCHES	\$53								
U18.5M, THIRDS, WOMEN AND RES	\$40								
U18.5W & U16	\$27								
U14 & U12	\$18								
U10	N/A								

ENJOY YOUR UMPIRING