

Strathmore
Community Bank Branch

B Bendigo Bank



UMPIRES INFORMATION MANUAL 2023



Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| EDFL Umpiring Child Safety..... | 1 |
| Introduction..... | 2 |
| Role of the Umpire | 2 |
| Junior Field Umpire Coaching Panel Contact Details | 3 |
| Senior Contact Details..... | 3 |
| Training/Coaching session details..... | 4 |
| Senior Umpire Training/Coaching session details | 4 |
| Appointments Process..... | 5 |
| Unavailability | 5 |
| Match Preparation..... | 5 |
| Match Day Check List..... | 6 |
| Electronic Match Day Paperwork..... | 7 |
| Umpires Match Report – to be done Electronically..... | 7 |
| Electronic Report Form (Reporting a Player or Official)..... | 7 |
| Reporting Of Club Officials | 8 |
| Investigations | 8 |
| Incident Reports | 8 |
| Tribunal Hearings | 8 |
| Club Officials and Responsibilities | 9 |
| Summary of Rules..... | 10 |
| Off Field | 13 |
| Team App..... | 13 |
| Finals Selection | 14 |
| Working With Children Check (WWCC) | 14 |
| Injury Management Procedure..... | 14 |
| 2023 EDFL Rule Adjustments..... | 15 |
| Reportable Offences..... | 16 |
| Junior Modified Rules | 17 |
| EDFL Umpire Payments | 18 |

EDFL Umpiring Child Safety

We want all umpires (especially children and young people) who participate in football to be safe, feel safe and umpire safe. Umpires and officials across AFL programs and community clubs are required to follow safeguarding policies, procedures and codes of conduct and should make themselves familiar with those relevant to their roles.

Changerooms

Change facilities in grounds that are appropriate for any gender and ensure shared facilities offer some privacy for young people to change/shower.

What this looks like:

- All umpires will need to change in privacy at training and at matches. This means changing in an appropriate toilet/cubicle if available. Otherwise, umpires will need to leave the changerooms if other umpires want to get changed. Umpires may need to turn up to training or matches earlier to allow enough time for all umpires to change in privacy.
- If showering, you will need to take your clothes and towel with you to get changed into before going back to the shared space.
- When umpires are getting changed, there is to be no phone use in the changerooms.

Communication

Communicate and encourage others to use, respectful and inclusive language.

What this looks like:

- Guidance that is positive, helpful, and focused on the child or young person's football/umpiring skills and game, not them as a person.
- Language that is clear and encouraging and that can be easily understood.
- Language that is welcoming, inclusive and appropriate for the use within the entire umpiring group.
- Online communication must be available to a parent or carer and include all appropriate umpires.
- Ensuring that all online communication with other umpires is appropriate.

Boundaries

Establishing appropriate boundaries to ensure that all umpires feel safe, welcomed, and included.

What this looks like:

- Do not share information or take photos of other umpires (especially children and young people) without their permission and their parents or carers permission.
- Always behave appropriately when around children and young people.

Introduction

Welcome to Season 2023 as an EDFL Umpire and congratulations on taking up the challenge! To our group 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. We hope you have had a good rest and are 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 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 2023 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

Junior Field Umpire Coaching Panel Contact Details

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Junior Appointments | Michael Willcox |
| • Windy Hill Training Coordinator | Ethan McCall |
| • Windy Hill Training Coordinator | Lachlan Daly |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Matt O'Connor |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Matthew Mason |
| • Assistant Junior Coach | Michael Knight |

Youth Training Centres

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| • Jacana Training Centre | Gavin Dovey | 0490 022 209 |
| • Delahey Training Centre | Ethan McCall | 0481 242 326 |
| • Craigieburn Training Centre | Steve Marrari | 0412 218 135 |
| • Sunbury Training Centre | Daniel Wardley | 0425 732 365 |
| • Cole Reserve Training Centre | Lachlan Daly | 0477 999 785 |

School Academies

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| • AIA College Coburg | Lachlan Daly | 0477 999 785 |
| • Ilim College | Lachlan Daly | 0477 999 785 |

Senior Contact Details

Field Umpire Coaches

| | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| • Head Umpire Coach | Brett Pallini | 0418 371 386 |
| ◦ brett.pallini@essendonfl.com.au | | |
| • Field Umpire Assistant Coach | Alex Turner | |

Boundary Umpire Coaches

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| • Boundary Umpire Coach | Shane Mallia | 0410 659 951 |
| • Boundary Umpire Development Coach | Howard Campey | |
| • Boundary Umpire Development Coach | Angus Drenen | |

Goal Umpire Coaches

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

EDFL Contacts

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------|
| • Umpires Coordinator | Michael Willcox | 0434 689 690 |
| ◦ michael.willcox@essendonfl.com.au | | |
| • Senior Football Operations Manager | Adem Saricaoglu | 0439 509 851 |
| • Junior Football Operations Manager | Patrick Moloney | 0438 572 144 |
| • Football Operations | Ken Waters | 0418 146 953 |

Enjoy the 2023 Season

- 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)
- The aim is to make umpiring enjoyable for every member of our team

Training/Coaching session details

- **Training details for Youth Training Centre**

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

| | |
|--|--|
| Windy Hill (Field Only): | Every Tuesday at 5pm (Preseason on Mondays) 78 Napier Street, Essendon |
| Delahey Umpiring Centre: <i>Coach: Ethan McCall</i> | Every Monday at 5pm <i>Delahey Reserve (Copperfield Drive, Delahey)</i> |
| Jacana Umpiring Centre: <i>Coach: Gavin Dovey</i> | Every Monday at 5pm <i>Jacana Reserve (cnr Lorraine Cres & Johnstone St Broadmeadows)</i> |
| Moreland Umpiring Centre: <i>Coach: Lachlan Daly</i> | Every Monday at 5pm <i>Cole Reserve (Cumberland Road, Pascoe Vale)</i> |
| Sunbury Umpiring Centre: <i>Coach: Daniel Wardley</i> | Every Monday at 5:15pm <i>John McMahon Reserve (155 Lancefield Rd Sunbury)</i> |
| Craigieburn Umpiring Centre: <i>Coach: Steve Marrari</i> | Every Monday at 5pm <i>Highgate No 2 Oval (Grand Blvd, Craigieburn)</i> |

- **School Academies** – Only applicable to students enrolled with the particular school

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

| | |
|---|--|
| AIA Academy Coburg: <i>Coach: Lachlan Daly</i> | Mondays at the end of the school day for first term |
| ILIM College Coburg: <i>Coach: Lachlan Daly</i> | Tuesdays at the end of the school day for first term |

Senior Umpire Training/Coaching session details

Senior Field Umpires, Boundary & Goal Umpires

1. From Monday 13 February to the end of March, will train Monday & Wednesdays each week at Windy Hill at 6pm
2. From Tuesday 4 April and for the remainder of the season training will be every Tuesday & Thursday night at 6:15pm sharp.

Please ensure that you bring a whistle, water bottle and appropriate training attire to every session

Appointments Process

1. If you have been appointed to a match, you will receive an email notification. You are then required to login to Schedula to confirm your appointment (www.schedula.com.au)
Appointments must be confirmed as soon as possible.
2. If your email / contact details change at any time please immediately inform our Umpires Coordinator, Michael Willcox (michael.willcox@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 Schedula, 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 EDFL uniform. Shirts need to be tucked in and socks pulled up.

Footwear

Field & Boundary Umpires: Runners and boots are to be predominately white and clean
Goal Umpires: Predominately black footwear

Undergarments: Undergarments (lycra shorts/Skins) must be skin coloured or black to match our shorts.

Jewellery Umpires may wear a watch under their wristbands, but other jewellery is not permitted

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 Suggestions

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

- 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
- For senior umpires, 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 30 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 Away 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
- 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 coach, an EDFL official, team manager 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 umpire coaches 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, timekeeper record forms. This paperwork **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.

Umpires Match Report – to be done Electronically

Link: <https://essendondfl.com.au/electronic-paperwork/>

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 competition you are umpiring
- Enter the access code
- Enter the team information
- Enter all umpire's information correctly
- Ensure you enter the B&F votes accurately using the information as on the team sheet
- Enter any fines
- Enter information about any blue cards
- Enter the ratings and information for the home team. Please enter the ratings accurately so that the EDFL can chase up any poorly behaving teams
- Take a photo of the home team sheet. Please ensure the photo can be read and the entire sheet is visible.
- Complete the same process with the away team
- Take a photo of the signed timekeeper's card. Please ensure the photo can be read.
- Fill in any player report forms from the match
- The home club should provide you with an iPad to complete the paperwork
- If there is a problem completing the electronic paperwork, please keep the physical copy of all paperwork.

****If you have to manually take paperwork then call Michael or Ken after the game to arrange for the paperwork to be collected.**

*****ANY PROBLEMS PLEASE RING Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690 or Ken Waters 0418 146 953**

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)
- Michael 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, timekeeper, 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, 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 the same night the incident occurred.

Investigations

- Umpires who report a team official not listed on Team Sheet, must lodge a letter or email of complaint to the CEO, 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

Incident Reports

Link: <https://forms.gle/VbLLdkY7k4knQpKUA>

- Umpires can enter an incident report form that will be sent through to the EDFL Umpiring Department.
- This form can be used for serious incidents that occur during matches as well as for serious incidents that get reported to umpires that were not seen on the day of the match.
- This form does not replace the report form. If an umpire sees a reportable offence on the day, they **MUST** report it.

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 so that alternative arrangements can be made.

An umpire advocate will be organised by the EDFLUA 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. A tribunal guide has been uploaded to Team App with information to help prepare umpires for the tribunal.

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

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 12 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 Umpires **White Bib**

The Goal Umpire can wear white coat or the white bib with 'Goal 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

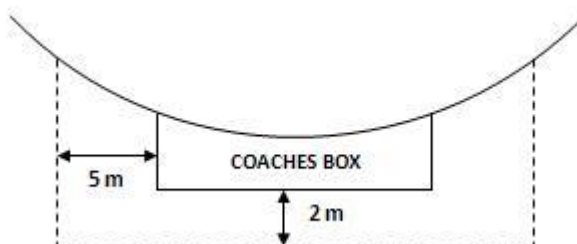
Summary of Rules

- 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)

Time on

“TIME ON” **SHALL** only be applied when:

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

Player's Uniforms and Equipment (All Games)

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)

Junior players are permitted to wear 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 must be approved by the EDFL football operations department.

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 Department. 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) – Female Football

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

Last Disposal (Between the Arcs)

A free kick will be paid against a player who disposes (kicks or handballs) of the ball over the boundary line between the 50m arcs, without it being touched by another player. If the ball goes out of bounds within the 50m arcs the ball will be thrown in (if there are boundary umpires) or brought in 15m and balled up.

Juniors

In junior competitions, clubs will no longer need to provide volunteer boundary umpires. If the ball comes off hands, or the umpire is unsure as to who disposed of the ball last, then the umpire will bring the ball in 15m and ball the ball up.

Womens and Thirds

In womens and thirds competitions, if the ball comes off hands, or the umpire is unsure as to who disposed of the ball last, then the following will happen:

- if there is an EDFL boundary umpire allocated, then they will throw the ball in from where the ball went out;
- if no EDFL boundary umpire is allocated, then the field umpire will bring the ball in 15m from where the ball went out and ball the ball up.

Process

In games in which there is a boundary umpire, the boundary umpire will signal that the ball has gone out of bounds and then indicate to the field umpire which team is receiving the free kick by signalling in the same way as a field umpire would. The field umpire will pay the free kick by signalling the same way as if it was out on the full.

Melee Rule

For all senior competitions, U14s and U16s

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:
 - a) Prejudice the interests or reputation of the EDFL or
 - b) Prejudice the interests or reputation of the EDFL competition or
 - c) 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**

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:

- 1) Shown a Blue Card
- 2) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately

- 3) 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)

Blue Card (Coaches)

- An expansion of the blue card system will be introduced into the EDFL in season 2023. A coach will be shown a blue card and a free kick will be paid if behaviour from, or close to their coaching box, is deemed to be abusive or bringing the game into disrepute.
- If this behaviour continues, the coach will be shown a second blue card and a free kick and 50m penalty will be paid against the team.
- If a further infringement occurs, the coach will be shown a red card and will not be able to continue coaching for the remainder of the match. They will need to leave their team's coaching box and will not be able to address their team during quarter breaks. A free kick and 50m penalty will also be awarded.

****A reminder that it is the coach and/or team manager's responsibility to control behaviour from, or close to their coaching box.**

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 22.2) that player will be reported and after the game would entitle the player to take a set penalty. That player will be:

- 1) Shown a Yellow Card
- 2) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately
- 3) 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)

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:

- 1) Shown a Red Card
- 2) Asked to leave the playing surface immediately
- 3) Not eligible to participate at all for the remainder of that match

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 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

Off Field

Team App

Team App will be used throughout the season to pass on information to umpires. Resources, documents, updates, and links will be posted on Team App throughout the year to keep umpires up to

date. To access the Team App download it on your platform or search for it on the internet and then search for EDFL Umpires

Finals Selection

Primary consideration for finals selection is:

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

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

- 1) Immediately notify Umpires Coordinator Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690 when the injury occurs.
- 2) Complete a notice of injury form which is available at training or via the EDFL Umpires Team App This should be given in person or emailed to Michael Willcox (michael.willcox@essendondfl.com.au) within one month of the injury occurring and must include witness(es).
- 3) Should you require treatment prior to completion of the necessary paperwork, please keep receipts of expenses
- 4) After the register of injury form has been received by Michael a work cover form can be obtained if needed.

Injury Claims Process

- 1) Umpire to obtain a Claim Form from Michael Willcox > 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 Michael as soon as possible
- 4) All paperwork (certificates, invoices, referrals) to also be sent to Michael 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 Michael. 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 Michael****

Designated and Authorised Practitioner for umpire injuries is:



Melbourne Centre For Athletic Performance
975 Mt Alexander Rd, Essendon VIC 3040
Phone Number: 1300 116 227

Note - At MCAP please make sure you specify EDFL umpire's account

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

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. When you are ready, please talk to Umpire Coordinator - Michael Willcox – 0434 689 690.

2023 EDFL Rule Adjustments

Standing the Mark (Senior Competitions only)

Player in protected area

A player who is in the marking contest (already in the protected area) must make the decision to either:

- a) Stand the mark or
- b) Immediately retreat “outside 5m”

Player not in the protected area

A player who is not in the protected area must make the decision to either:

- a) Enter the protected area and stand the mark or
- b) Stay “outside 5m”

For a set shot on goal, the player must stand on the exact mark or be “outside 5m”.

Play on after set kick / disposal from behind the mark

“If a Player attempts to dispose of the football other than in a direct line over The Mark, the field Umpire shall call ‘Play On’, and the football shall immediately be in play.” When a player feigns to handball or kick, the umpire will call “play on” regardless of leg or hand movement.

Fifty metre penalty implementations (Senior Competitions only)

Players who have been awarded a 50m penalty will be permitted to play on in any direction at any time as the umpire is advancing the mark. The player can still elect to take their 50m penalty, not play on, and have the new mark set.

Reportable Offences

| Yellow Card Offence – A set penalty can be offered for: | | |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Law | Offence | Set Penalty |
| 22.2.2 (a) (i) | Intentionally or carelessly striking another person (minor) | 2 matches |
| 22.2.2 (a) (iv) | Intentionally or carelessly charging an opponent | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (a) (v) | Intentionally or carelessly engaging in rough conduct against an opponent | 2 matches |
| 22.2.2 (a) (vii) | Intentionally or carelessly bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front on | 2 matches |
| 22.2.2 (a) (xi) | Intentionally or carelessly tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (m) | Attempting to strike another person | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (n) | Attempting to kick another person | 2 matches |
| 22.2.2 (o) | Attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (q) | Engaging in a melee, except where a player's sole intention is to remove a teammate from the incident | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (s) | Wrestling another person | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (v) | Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to another player or official | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (w) | Use of obscene gesture | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (z) | Intentionally shaking, climbing or otherwise interfering with a goal or behind post | 1 match |
| 22.2.2 (cc) | Any act of misconduct (minor) | 2 matches |
| Red Card Offence – A set penalty cannot be offered for: | | |
| Law | Offence | Set Penalty |
| 22.2.2 (a) (i) | Intentionally or carelessly striking another person (major) | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (a) (ii) | Intentionally or carelessly kicking another person | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (d) | Intentionally or carelessly makes contact with or striking an umpire | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (e) | Attempting to make contact or strike an umpire | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (g) | Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (h) | Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an umpire | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (aa) | Failing to leave the playing area when directed to do so by a field umpire | Tribunal |
| 22.2.2 (cc) | Any act of misconduct (major) - e.g. headbutting, eye gouging, kneeling, stomping, making contact with an injured player, scratching, pinching, spitting | Tribunal |

Junior Modified Rules

| 2023 MODIFIED RULES AFL JUNIOR LAWS OF THE GAME | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| JUNIOR GIRLS AND BOYS | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Under 8 Mixed | Under 10 Mixed | Under 12 Mixed | Under 14 Mixed | Under 16 Boys | Under 8 Girls | Under 10 Girls | Under 12 Girls | Under 14 Girls | Under 16 Girls |
| ADMINISTRATION | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ground size | 100m x 80m (recommended max.) and divided into 3 equal zones (thirds) | 120m x 80m (recommended max.) | Standard | Standard | Standard | 100m x 80m (recommended max.) and divided into 3 equal zones (thirds) | 120m x 80m (recommended max.) | Standard | Standard | Standard |
| Zones | ✓ | * | * | * | * | ✓ | * | * | * | * |
| Min. players for game | 8 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| # players on ground | 12 to 15 a side | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 12 to 15 a side | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| # players on interchange | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Ball type | Syn Only | Syn Only | Syn Only | Leather | Leather | Syn Only | Syn Only | Syn Only | Syn Only | Leather |
| Ball size | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Quarter duration (mins) | 10 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 15 |
| Break length 1/4 - 1/2 - 3/4 time | 5-5-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-5-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 | 5-10-5 |
| UMPIRES | | | | | | | | | | |
| # field umpires | Club - 1 | 1 or 2 | 1 or 2 | 2 | 2 | Club - 1 | 1 or 2 | 1 or 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Boundary umpires | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| LAWS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tackling | Modified | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Modified | Modified | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Bumping | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Stealing the ball | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Barging | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Smothering | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Fending off | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Shepherding | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Bouncing the ball | 1 max | 1 max | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1 max | 1 max | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Kicking off the ground | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ |
| Ball ups | Nominated players of equal size | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Nominated players of equal size | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Throw-ins | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Distance over which marks are paid | 0m | 10m | 15m | 15m | 15m | 0m | 5m | 10m | 15m | 15m |
| Distance penalty | * | 25m | 25m | 50m | 50m | * | 25m | 25m | 25m | 25m |
| Deliberate out of bounds | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ |
| Deliberately rushed behind | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | * | ✓ | ✓ |
| COMPETITION DETAILS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Complete Team Sheet | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Premierships ladders/Finals | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Scores kept | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Record best players/goal kickers | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| League representative team selected | * | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | * | * | ✓ | * |
| Coach allowed on-field | ✓ | * | * | * | * | ✓ | * | * | * | * |
| Runner | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | * | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Water Person | * | * | * | 2 max | 2 max | * | * | * | 2 max | 2 max |

EDFL Umpire Payments

Pay is completed weekly and will most likely come through on a Thursday or Friday. On weeks where there is a public holiday the pay may take longer to come through so don't stress. Please make sure to keep your pay information correct and up to date on Schedule so that your pay comes through. If you have any issues with your pay, please contact Michael.

| EDFL UMPIRES PAYMENTS 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 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 | \$168 | \$185 | \$210 | \$102 | \$112 | \$127 | \$89 | \$98 | \$111 |
| PREMIER RES | \$114 | \$126 | \$143 | \$72 | \$80 | \$90 | \$60 | \$67 | \$76 |
| DIVISION 1 | \$140 | \$154 | \$175 | \$88 | \$97 | \$110 | \$76 | \$84 | \$95 |
| DIVISION 1 RES | \$98 | \$108 | \$123 | \$62 | \$68 | \$77 | \$55 | \$60 | \$69 |
| DIVISION 2 | \$134 | \$148 | \$168 | \$84 | \$93 | \$105 | \$73 | \$80 | \$91 |
| DIVISION 2 RES | \$98 | \$108 | \$123 | \$62 | \$68 | \$77 | \$55 | \$60 | \$69 |
| THIRDS | \$96 | \$106 | \$120 | \$60 | \$66 | \$75 | \$54 | \$59 | \$67 |
| UNDER 18.5 MEN | \$96 | \$106 | \$120 | \$60 | \$66 | \$75 | \$54 | \$59 | \$67 |
| WOMEN | \$100 | \$110 | \$125 | \$63 | \$69 | \$79 | \$56 | \$62 | \$70 |
| UNDER 18.5 WOMEN | \$96 | \$106 | \$120 | \$60 | \$66 | \$75 | \$54 | \$59 | \$67 |
| UNDER 16 | \$82 | \$90 | \$103 | | \$60 | \$69 | | \$51 | \$60 |
| UNDER 14 | \$70 | \$77 | \$88 | | \$52 | \$59 | | \$45 | \$54 |
| UNDER 12 | \$64 | \$70 | \$80 | | \$48 | \$57 | | \$42 | \$52 |
| UNDER 10 | \$57 | \$62 | \$71 | | \$42 | \$49 | | \$36 | \$45 |

ENJOY YOUR UMPIRING