

# M.S.J.F.L. Club Bulletin



Welcome to the first edition of the MSJFL Club Bulletin which has been produced as an information publication to assist the league communicates with Clubs and their teams. It is envisaged that the Bulletin will be circulated at the Delegates meeting and emailed to Club Presidents and Secretaries for distribution to team officials.

## Trainers

In recent times there has been some confusion over the necessity for individual teams to have a suitable qualified trainer. It is a MSJFL and insurance requirement that every team have an appropriate qualified trainer at their matches. The level of training required is as follows:

- Sideline Helpers Course & Lvl 1 First Aid for those trainers working with under 12's and below
- Level One Sports Medicine Australia Sports Trainer Course for those trainers working with under 13's upwards.
- Medically Trained Emergency Doctors, Nurses and Ambulance Personnel

Home teams wishing to utilise an appropriate Club appointed trainer located on site may do so, but this does not negate the requirement for them to have a trainer when they are away or playing off site.

## Umpire Escorts

Each Team is required to provide an umpire escort who is required to wear the MSJFL blue and white bibs. The role of an umpire escort is as follows:

- Prior to the commencement of the game meet umpire at change room and escort on to the ground.
- At quarter and three quarter time when the siren sounds umpire escorts are required to go and stand with the umpire on the oval. As umpires do not leave the oval it is advisable for the home team escort to offer the umpire a drink.
- At half time the umpire escort is required to go onto the oval and escort the umpire back to the rooms. Again ask if he / she would like a drink. Escorts are required to remain near the umpires change room and at the end of the half time break escort them back onto the ground.
- At the end of the game when the siren sounds escorts walk out onto the ground and escort the umpire back to the rooms.

***Umpire Escorts are reminded that they are not allowed to pass comment or talk to the Umpires about their performance otherwise the Club could be fined.***

## Authority of League Officials

***Please note***, members of the MSJFL Executive Committee and Umpire Officials act as Stewards and have the same authority as Umpires to report players, clubs or officials and/or suspend play for on or off field offences.

## **Runners**

The league has recently received complaints that Runners and Trainers are remaining on field for extended periods providing coaching instructions to players. With the exception of under 9s during the beginning of the season, Runners are only permitted to deliver a message to a maximum of two players before leaving the playing field. Runners are not permitted to stay on the playing field and must not obstruct or interfere with play(er).

Trainers and Team Boundary Umpires are not permitted to coach or deliver messages to players in the course of their duties.

Teams whose Runners, Trainers and Boundary Umpires breach these requirements may be penalised.

## **Under 9 Officials on Ground**

Under 9 teams please note that for the remainder of the season the nominated Official is no longer able to remain on the ground for coaching purposes.

## **Water Persons**

Teams up to and including under 12s are permitted one water person, whereas under 13 and above are permitted two. A water person may operate and enter the field from any position providing they do not interfere with play and are a minimum of 30 metres from a coach's bench. Water persons are to wear an MSJFL approved lime green bib.

The water person is not permitted to communicate with the team bench nor pass messages or instructions on to a player. Any umpire may order a water person from the field and/or fine the club for a breach of these requirements.

## **Bench Officials**

A maximum of 4 Bench Officials may be within the perimeter of the oval during play; these officials must be wearing the correct MSJFL approved bibs for the tasks that they are performing, arm bands are no longer acceptable. If a team has a Coach and an Assistant Coach both must be wearing a coach's bib and it may therefore be necessary for the Team Manager to be behind the boundary in order to comply with the 4 Bench Official rule. Clubs may be fined for a breach.

Bench Officials are reminded that as officials they are not permitted to make derogatory comments about players and or umpiring decisions. Where a bench official is detected making inappropriate or derogatory comments umpires are permitted to award a free to the opposition. A free of this nature is to be paid where play is, or adjacent to the Bench whichever is the greater advantage plus an additional 25 metres. The club can also be fined \$200 for unacceptable behaviour by a Bench Official.

## **Umpire Concerns or Complaints About the Conduct of the Opposition**

Team Managers are the only member of the Team Officials who are able to approach an umpire to discuss a decision, the conduct of the opposition or a player's conduct. Any approach by a team manager *can* be made at  $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$  time breaks and/or at the completion of the game and **must** be in a professional and courteous manner.

Complaints concerning the conduct of the opposition's Bench, Players and or spectators are best discussed civilly between Team Managers as the first point of resolution and if it is unable to be resolved then the issue should be raised with the umpire. If the Team Manager is still aggrieved they may make comment on the umpires report and/or refer the matter to the Club Executive who may bring the matter to the MSJFL attention.