

Geez this grew in size.



## The Update – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### AGENDA

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- West End Compliance
- Elizabeth Football Club
- New Era
- There's always someone watching or listening
- Bad Parent
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- JWITIHIA
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- Frequently Asked Questions
- Archived Updates
- Key Dates

# LEAGUE CONTACTS

Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 4:30pm

Friday 9:00am to 1:30pm

## **Football Operations**

**Aaron Jones** - All Football Operations including APPS, TPPS, Womens and Men's Footy, Fixtures, Registration & Transfers, Play HQ:

[Aaron@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:Aaron@adelaidefooty.com.au)

**Nick Pietraroia** - All Football Operations including APPS, TPPS, Womens and Men's Footy, Fixtures, Registration & Transfers, Play HQ:

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(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

**Forfeits** – [forfeits@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:forfeits@adelaidefooty.com.au)

## **Administration**

**Giannina Taeger** – Administration, Rules & Regulations, Policy, Accounts: [Giannina@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:Giannina@adelaidefooty.com.au)

(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

**Ivana Lombardi** – Administration, Accounts: [accounts@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:accounts@adelaidefooty.com.au)

## **Sponsorship / Media / Social Media**

**Dee Shepard** - Marketing, Communication, Social Media, Sponsorship: [dee@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:dee@adelaidefooty.com.au)

## **Umpiring Manager**

**Colin Rowston** – Umpiring: [colin@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:colin@adelaidefooty.com.au)

**Peter Angel** – Umpiring Coordinator: Late Forfeits [peter@adelaidefooty.com.au](mailto:peter@adelaidefooty.com.au)

## West End Compliance

This is not to say you aren't, but the following clubs are still listed as not compliant to West End and in turn as finals hosts.

Contact **Tim Moffat** to get yourself off the list or at least be aware of what's at stake if you're not (off the list)

**SA Sponsorship & Events Leader**

**0419 032 328 | [Tim.Moffat@lionco.com](mailto:Tim.Moffat@lionco.com)**

CENTRAL UNITED
FLINDERS UNIVERSITY
GLENUNGA
GOLDEN GROVE
HECTORVILLE
HENLEY
HOPE VALLEY
INGLE FARM
MAWSON LAKES
MITCHAM
MITCHELL PARK
NORTH HAVEN
OSULLIVANS BEACH LONSDALE
PARA HILLS
PEMBROKE OS
PULTENEY
ROSTREVOR OC
SALISBURY
SEATON RAMBLERS
TEA TREE GULLY
TRINITY OLD SCHOLARS
WESTMINSTERS OC

## Elizabeth Football Club / B Grade

For transparency

The following has been discussed with and advised to all Division 6 Clubs.

Even if your only interest in this is the last sentence in the letter i.e. *The ongoing management of this issue is unprecedented. If nothing else this will serve as an excellent Agenda item to allow all clubs the opportunity to offer input how we avoid similar again.*

Because this is exactly the type of agenda item we rely on Club input on.

Bcc: AdFL Division 6 Clubs, AdFL Executive, AdFL Staff, AdFL Umpires Association

Dear all. The Elizabeth Football Club (EFC) have requested the opportunity to field a Reserve grade. The League's position is it is a requirement they must field a minimum of 2 teams in 2025 and it would be counterproductive to deny them a pathway to meet that requirement if we were to deny them their request, as would be The League's right, given they have already forfeited three times if only as a technicality.

But we do not live in a technical world, we live in one that is facilitated by volunteers, and we accept the nuances that come with that, albeit within reason.

Unless a club can readily identify a reason to deny EFC by COB Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> May, we very much plan to accede to their request. As it is, EFC are currently being charged and paying the relative call fess for two (2) teams in any event and we believe it to be a far more productive experience to have a traditional day of football where they can i.e. B and A grade in traditional time slots.

However, we need to ensure all clubs, EFC included are aware of our position should this resurgence have a short life span as well as offer some guidance as to how we will address some should as we anticipate, it proves to be a long-term success.

We will refer to 41.7 to balance the Division 6 Reserves Ladder at the completion of Round 9.

41.7 In the event a team forfeits a match of The League the Member Club in which the team is affiliated with may be advised a further forfeit of the team may result in the team also forfeiting with the result of two (2) Premiership Points and the average winning margin against the forfeiting team to the team/s receiving the forfeit.

However, should Elizabeth 6 Reserves forfeit, we will reserve the right to withdraw that team and consider the Division 6 and 6 Reserves Competition has been unsettled beyond anything reasonable in 2024 and EFC can then look to how they prepare in earnest for season 2025. Though as with the correspondence dated Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, all Division 6 clubs would be afforded the opportunity to play a key role in any further deliberations The League may need to consider.

The ongoing management of this issue is unprecedented. If nothing else this will serve as an excellent Agenda item to allow all clubs the opportunity to offer input how we avoid similar again.

## New Era

The evolution of the wider community standards let alone football are moving and growing.

We've talked before about AFL & Friday Night Football being symbolic of what we come to navigate at Community footy level. But they have pretty much been confined to the nuances of playing a game on an odd shaped field with an odd shaped ball with 32 (W) or 36 (M) odd people.

But the recent suspensions of AFL players for what was in another era described as banter, irreverence, sledging or gamesmanship is now inappropriate and is the valid basis of a complaint or report and suspension worthy on the field and sanction worthy off the field to a club.

At the start of the year, we clearly identified a League focus of

- Concussion Policy
- Vilification of any form
- Umpire Abuse
- Striking (And other violent offences)
- Spectator behaviour
- Behavioural Rating System

Vilification, Umpire Abuse and Spectator behaviour are for all intents and purposes in the same bucket of focus.

From 2014 to 2024, we have enough reference points to suggest that whilst we generally have a handle on non-football related incidents even on the field and we have all adapted to the needs and wants of playing participants, make no mistake, the not so new but one complaint with an increase in volume this year alone is that of any form of vilification and what is now morphing into general complaints of anti-social behaviour.

We have recently been required to investigate a complaint with respect to a what in isolation has been addressed or at least is being monitored but it is a sign of things to come.

Of great concern as we unpacked the allegations is what spectators, players officials and umpires are enduring from what is a relative minority leave little doubt why some people just don't come again. More worrying if not just sad or bewildering was some clubs have become institutionalised and have just accepted it as their lot to put up with.

But just as you have in the main come along for the ride with Striking, Umpire Abuse and Dangerous tackles to name a few, before it hits all like a sledgehammer, because it will, we all need to get in front of a broad subject of vilification of any form.

In 2023 and 2024, we have formed what we are referring to as a Tri-State Collaboration between VAFA, Perth Footy League and ourselves. The principle and purpose of the Tri-State collaboration will evolve but one aspect of that is the sharing of information that we identify as common and then establishing best practice to deal with it based on 35000 players, 230 clubs, 700+ teams 2000 umpires and everything in between.

But the expectations of this League with respect to its Code of Conduct are not new. The same Code of Conduct which is only a reflection of the wider community's expectations should not need an Umpire or even me to explain its merits. More poignantly, The Code of Conduct should also speak to what environment a club is presenting to their own members and spectators and their experiences on a weekly basis let alone for the opposition who they see twice a year and League umpires on a roster basis.

What is vilification: <https://antidiscrimination.nsw.gov.au/anti-discrimination-nsw/discrimination/vilification.html/1000#:~:text=Vilification%20is%20a%20public%20act,religion>

The Code of Conduct here: [Appendix 6 – Code of Behaviour](#)

## There's always someone watching or listening.

*[See \(listen\) attached from an AdFL match on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May.](#)*

Indirectly related to above, last week The Update made some references to players learning there is always a camera or smart phone recording so they should wise up and in the main, to be fair, they are.

Almost scripted, we received a complaint on Monday this week and in an effort to get to the bottom of the complaint that in any case ended up on the cutting room floor, the complaining club now has the attached audio on their file which also speaks to an old saying we use of be careful pointing the finger that 3 aren't pointing back but in 2024, brushing it under the carpet doesn't wash either.

We've edited it from the visual footage to just audio if for no other reason than its embarrassing at every level. It should be made clear that this audio was taken from a random holder of a smart phone. There's no need to embarrass anyone from the club, they're horrified as it is. And aside from the fact the spectator was pretty much talking out of his derriere, the umpire had legitimately sent a player from the field.

Note the reference to the Happy Chappy comparing this decision in what I can tell you was the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of A grade to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of C grade, some 3 hours before - Long Day but we'd love to see his face today if he could hear himself.

## Bad Parent

I saw something with my own eyes recently and has prompted me to flag this again.

Again, the principle of it talks to why kids don't come back that directly affects senior footy and our own club's viability.

We can comfortably suggest most senior clubs have a greater level of input to their own junior clubs most of the time, but these are always a good to put in front of people on your own social media or newsletter platforms and there is a litany of these examples to share.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VWE7B7Ds1gI>

# Tribunal Report – From the Gavel

Ironically, Umpire Appreciation Round is normally a weekend of no action.

By Week By Division - 11th May / Round 5										
Match Date	GRADE	CLUB	NAME	OFFENCE	CONDUCT	CONTACT	IMPACT	RESULT	MATCHES	PLUS # matches suspended
<b>Division M1, 1R &amp; C1</b>										
<b>Division M2, 2R &amp; C2</b>										
11-May	C2	Flinders Park	WEBB, Joshua	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	High	MRP	4	1
11-May	C2	PHOS Camden	LEWIS, Cooper	Abuse of Umpire	Intentional	N/A	N/A	MRP	4	
<b>Division M3, 3R &amp; C3</b>										
11-May	M3	Lockleys	POOLE, Angus	Rough Conduct	Intentional	Body	Low	MRP	3	
<b>Division M4, 4R &amp; C4</b>										
<b>Division M5, 5R &amp; C5</b>										
<b>Division M6, 6R &amp; C6</b>										
11-May	M6	Salisbury	DUNCAN, Nathan	Striking	Intentional	Body	Low	MRP	2	1
11-May	C6	St Pauls OS	WOHLFART, Andrew	Striking	Intentional	High	Medium	MRP	3	1
<b>Division M7, 7R</b>										
<b>Division C7</b>										
<b>Division W1 &amp; W1R</b>										
11-May	W1	Golden Grove	LOVELL, KATE	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	High	MRP	3	1
<b>Division W2 &amp; W2R</b>										
<b>Division W3</b>										

Division W4										
Division W5										
Division W6										
<b>By Division by Club YTD</b>										
Match Date	GRADE	CLUB	NAME	OFFENCE	CONDUCT	CONTACT	IMPACT	RESULT	MATCHES	PLUS # matches suspended
Division M1, 1R & C1										
25-Apr	M1	Broadview	ANYANG, Chol	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	High	MRP	3	1
4-May	M1R	Golden Grove	BUCK, Joshua	Striking	Intentional	High	Low	MRP	3	1
27-Apr	C1	St Peters OC	KIDMAN, Charles	Umpire Abuse	Intentional	-	-	MRP	4	
Division M2, 2R & C2										
20-Apr	M2	Edwardstown	NORMAN, Carter	Rough Conduct	Careless	Body	Medium	MRP	3	1
11-May	C2	Flinders Park	WEBB, Joshua	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	High	MRP	4	1
11-May	C2	PHOS Camden	LEWIS, Cooper	Abuse of Umpire	Intentional	N/A	N/A	MRP	4	
Division M3, 3R & C3										
11-May	M3	Lockleys	POOLE, Angus	Rough Conduct	Intentional	Body	Low	MRP	3	
4-May	M3R	North Haven	SGORI, Tyrell	Striking	Intentional	High	Medium	MRP	4	
Division M4, 4R & C4										
4-May	C4	Kilburn	SCHULTZ, Robert	Abuse of Umpire	N/A	N/A	N/A	MRP	3	1
Division M5, 5R & C5										
Division M6, 6R & C6										
27-Apr	M6	Adelaide Lutheran	WHITFORD, Matt	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	Severe	MRP	5	1
27-Apr	M6	Eastern Park	KARPANY, Kalvyn	Rough Conduct	Careless	High	High	MRP	4	1
11-May	M6	Salisbury	DUNCAN, Nathan	Striking	Intentional	Body	Low	MRP	2	1



20-Apr	M6	Salisbury	GUPTA, Zac	Striking	Intentional	High	High	Tribunal	7	
11-May	C6	St Pauls OS	WOHLFART, Andrew	Striking	Intentional	High	Medium	MRP	3	1
<b>Division M7, 7R</b>										
<b>Division C7</b>										
<b>Division W1 &amp; W1R</b>										
13-Apr	W1R	SMOSH	MITTON, Lucy	Abuse of Umpire	N/A	N/A	N/A	MRP	4	1
<b>Division W2 &amp; W2R</b>										
<b>Division W3</b>										
20-Apr	W3	Eastern Park	SHELLEY, Isabella	Kicking	Intentional	Body	Low	MRP	2	1
<b>Division W4</b>										
<b>Division W5</b>										
<b>Division W6</b>										

## Benchmarking

As an extension of last week

### At the 5<sup>th</sup> Round 2023

31 Reports and 110 Matches worth of holidays

### At the 5<sup>th</sup> Round 2024

16 Reports and 58 matches worth of holidays

## Rule of the Week # 1

That time of year where clubs are seeking approval for celebration Guernseys which seems to fall at the hands of creative types within a club before they're forwarded to the relevant supplier for delivery. The Supplier is still required to seek approval from the League. The standards for playing Uniforms are still relevant whether they're a one off or season approval.

Please work to this link [On Field Apparel Guidelines](#) at a minimum.

Please keep in mind it is not a great practice to design an all-white type get up. Besides the fact the new regulations allow a visiting club to use their discretion to wear an Away Guernsey even if not a designated clash, shorts for the visiting team are still white.

## JWITIHIA

Who says umpires don't have a sense of humour ?

On a Sunday recently, an AdFL umpire took a phone call from his builder who is an AdFL Coach to talk about some decisions another set of umpires had paid the day before.

So on Saturday just gone, the umpire who had been appointed to old mate's match took the chance at ½ time to seek out the club coach to ask him about some technical aspects and time to complete the renovation.

After originally being indignant offended at the question or the timing of it, the Coach quickly got the point and had a laugh.

## Key Links

AFL Concussion Policy - [AFL Concussion Guidelines](#)

AdFL Rules and Regulations - [https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc\\_7809a934dddf431789b3e28c373b7555.pdf](https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc_7809a934dddf431789b3e28c373b7555.pdf)

AdFL Division Specifications - [https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc\\_7679895828fa420aa028326ab996ff81.pdf](https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc_7679895828fa420aa028326ab996ff81.pdf)

CFL Regs - <https://sanfl.com.au/communityfootball/community-football-rules-regulations/>

Laws of Australian Football - <https://play.afl/learning-resource/laws-game#article-0>

AdFL Umpire Fees - [https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc\\_5c3a8e968b894637a7e8ee13f39caeb1.pdf](https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/files/ugd/7209dc_5c3a8e968b894637a7e8ee13f39caeb1.pdf)

## Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/faq-s>

## Archived Updates

For anyone, particularly newer Delegates or club officials, please see below.

<https://www.adelaidefooty.com.au/the-update>

## KEY DATES

<u>2024</u>		
	11 <sup>th</sup> May	Umpire Appreciation Round
	18 <sup>th</sup> May	Breakthrough Round
	8 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Jun	King's Birthday Weekend - BYE ALL TEAMS
	5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Women's Medal Count – Digital (TBC)
	17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Women's Grand Finals Division 3, 4 , 5 & 6
	24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Women's Grand Finals - Division 1, 1R, 2 & 2R
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Men's Medal Count – Digital (TBC)
	7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Men's Grand Finals - Division 7, 7R
	14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Men's Grand Finals - Division 2-6, C2-C8
	21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Men's Grand Finals - Division 1, 1R & C1