



Umpiring Department

2022 Code of Conduct

The role of the umpire is to apply the laws of the game 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.

Umpiring presents umpires with an exciting challenge and can be incredibly rewarding. Taking on a demanding task and succeeding is a great feeling – one that umpires get from umpiring a game of football well.

I _____ hereby pledge to live up to my responsibility as an umpire in the South Metro Junior Football League (SMJFL).

Specifically, by signing this Code of Conduct, I pledge to:

1. Remember that junior sports provide an opportunity for children to learn and have fun and I will place their safety above all else;
2. Operate within the Rules and Spirit of the code; ensuring that I am knowledgeable of the laws of Australian Rules football, the By-Laws of the South Metro Junior Football League and the SMJFL Modified Rules Summary and apply those rules fairly to all participants, teams and coaches;
3. Adhere to all SMJFL & AFL Covid-19 safety measures and requirements;
4. Seek continual self-improvement by regularly attending, and actively participating in the available umpire training sessions;
5. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support of all players, coaches, fellow umpires and league administrators at all times;
6. Not make physical contact with any player unless it is to assist with first aid for an injured player;
7. Ensure all administrative tasks associated with umpiring in the SMJFL are completed accurately, fully and meet designated timelines;
8. Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes players, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents/caregivers and spectators;
9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion;
10. Take responsibility for all actions taken;
11. Not allow personal friendships and associations to influence my decisions during a contest;
12. Be a positive role model in terms of behaviour and personal appearance.
People expect umpires to be:
 - i. Trustworthy – honest and impartial
 - ii. Responsible – appreciate the importance of the role of the umpire
 - iii. Fit – physically prepared for the task
 - iv. Knowledgeable – know the rules.
 - v. Punctual – arrive at the ground a minimum of ½ hour before the scheduled commencement of the game
13. In aiming to fulfil those expectations, I am aware that first impressions are often lasting impressions and that, when wearing the SMJFL umpire uniform, I am representing the Umpiring Department and the League.

Signed: _____ Date _____

Club: _____ Age group & Division _____