



JUNIOR FOOTBALL UMPIRING PROGRAM

CLUB APPOINTED UMPIRE HANDBOOK 2016



**Proudly Supporting
AFL Brisbane Juniors**

CONTENTS

IMPORTANT CONTACTS	3
DUTIES.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
TRAINING AND EDUCATION.....	4
Training Content	4
Training Dates and Venues	5
Additional Education.....	6
APPOINTMENTS & AVAILABILITY	7
MATCH PAYMENTS	7
UNIFORM & APPEARANCE	7
MATCH DAY.....	8
AFL JUNIOR MATCH POLICY	9
What is the AFL Junior Football Match Guide?.....	9
AFLBJ Modified Rules – U8, U9 and U10 Law Matrix.....	9
U8s – Modified Rules Explanations.....	11
U9 and U10 Modified Rule Explanations	13
THE NEXT STEP – UMPIRING WITH AFLBJ	14

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Club Umpire Coordinator (CUC)

CUC Name:

CUC Mobile Number:

CUC Email Address:

AFL Brisbane Juniors

Tim Menzies 07 3033 5444 (Office) or 0433 064 776 (Mobile)
AFLBJ Juniors Competition Coordinator tim.menzies@afl.com.au

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

AFL Brisbane Juniors believes that education of our club umpires is crucial to our positive match day environments. As a part of the Junior Football Umpire Program, club umpires are required to attend the following training sessions:

Training Content

Training Block 1

All club umpires regardless of experience are required to attend training block one.

- Gives umpires basic understand of their role and understanding of the modified rules as per the Junior Football Match Guide
- Provides basic understanding of communication
- Provides basic understanding of positioning in general play
- Basic understanding of positioning at a set kick
- 2nd Year + Umpires revisit the above for revision and provide guidance to 1st years

Training Block Two

1st Year Umpires

- Revisits modified rules
- Revisit set kick control to review skills
- Centre bounce positioning
- Advanced general play positioning
- Game sense drill (if time permits)

2nd Year + Umpires

- Train with AFLBJ Umpires
- Advanced skill development
- Introduction to next level of umpiring

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING BLOCK ONE AND TRAINING BLOCK TWO IS
COMPULSORY**

Training Dates and Venues

Training Block One

All Club Umpires To Attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Mon 14 Mar	Logan (Park Ridge J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 15 Mar	Inner North (Mayne J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Wed 16 Mar	South Central (Morningside J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 17 Mar	Moreton Bay South (Sandgate J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 17 Mar	Inner West (Jindalee J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 22 Mar	North West (Kenmore J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 22 Mar	Outer West (Collingwood Park J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Wed 23 Mar	South East (Wynnum J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tues 26 April	Central (West Juniors AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm

Training Block Two

1st Year Umpires

All First Year Umpires to attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Wed 25 May	South Central/South East (Wynnum J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 26 May	Inner West/Outer West (Jindalee J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Mon 30 May	Inner North/North West (Everton J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Tue 31 May	Moreton Bay North/South (Narangba J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Thu 2 June	Logan (South East Suns J AFC)	6:00pm - 7:30pm

2nd Year and Above Umpires

All Second Year and above umpires to attend. Please attend the most convenient venue to you.

Date	Venue	Time
Mon 13 June	Central (West Juniors AFC)	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Mon 20 June	North (Sandgate JAFc)	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Mon 20 June	South West (Calamvale JAFc)	6:30pm - 8:00pm

Training Block Three (Optional)

In order to engage our club umpires further, AFLBJ offer all club umpires the opportunity to officiate as Boundary Umpires during the U12s-U17s Finals Series.

This is also a great way for our new club umpires to get a taste of **umpiring at the next level**.

In order for club umpires to participate, they must complete a boundary umpire training session at one of the venues and dates below:

Date	Venue	Time
Mon 1 August	Central (West Juniors JAFc)	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Mon 8 August	North (Sandgate JAFc)	6:30pm - 8:00pm
Mon 8 August	South West (Calamvale JAFc)	6:30pm - 8:00pm

Additional Education

Club Umpires in the Junior Football Umpiring Program will have the opportunity in 2016 to further develop their skills by attending any AFLBJ League Umpire Training Session. These sessions are encouraged but **not compulsory**.

Central Training Base - West Juniors AFC

When: Monday Nights, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

How Often: Weekly

Where: Oakman Park, Union St, Toowong (near Brisbane Boys College)

APPOINTMENTS & AVAILABILITY

Appointments will be coordinated by your individual club. Please ensure you comply with your Club Umpire Coordinator's availability process.

Informing your Club Umpire Coordinator of your unavailability as early as possible is very important.

MATCH PAYMENTS

Match payments are at the discretion of each individual club.

UNIFORM & APPEARANCE

Appearance is an important part of umpiring, and AFL Brisbane Juniors recognises that for our umpires to gain respect in the wider football community we must present ourselves in a professional manner. Therefore, we have adopted the following uniform guidelines for club umpires:

On Field Uniform (During Matches)

- White AFLBJ Umpiring Shirt (tucked in)
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Socks (pulled up)
- White/Black Runners or Football Boots
- Umpiring Cap
- Sweat bands

MATCH DAY

Pre Match

- Arrive no later than 20 minutes before the start of the match
- Inform Club Umpire Coordinator or Ground Marshall that you have arrived
- 10 minutes before match – introduce yourself to both teams and coaches
 - o Ensure you introduce yourself to coach: ‘ Hi, my name is John, I’m your umpire today
 - o Check the team’s fingernails and boots. Check for any sharp nails or sharp studs
- 5 minutes before start time – walk onto the field, and call captains in for coin toss
- Ensure field is clear of spectators before starting the game

During the Match

- Umpire the game to the best of your ability by
 - o Ensuring you are in the best position
 - o Blowing your whistle loudly
 - o Signalling clearly
 - o Maintaining a positive attitude
- Ensure coaches do not interfere in play or are using abusive language or disputing decisions
 - o If they are, free kick. If it’s persistent talk to Ground Marshall at break

After the Match

- Stay on ground to shake hands with players and coaches
- Any issues report to Ground Marshall straight away.

AFL Brisbane Juniors has a strict ‘Zero Tolerance’ policy to abuse from coaches, spectators and team officials. Please report any instances to Ground Marshall on match day.

**Alternatively, please send email report to AFLBJ Juniors Competition Coordinator, Tim Menzies –
tim.menzies@aflq.com.au**

AFL JUNIOR MATCH POLICY

The club appointed umpire has two major roles on match day:

- Ensure that all participants are playing in a safe environment
- Apply the modified rules according to the AFL Junior Football Match Guide

What is the AFL Junior Football Match Guide?

The AFL Junior Football Match Guide is a policy developed by the AFL regarding the modified rules of junior football.

AFL Brisbane Juniors, through our state body AFL Queensland, have adopted the Junior Match Policy to:

Ensure that children play AFL in an environment that is safe, allows them to learn and develop the skills of our game, whilst most important, having fun

AFLBJ Modified Rules – U8, U9 and U10 Law Matrix

	U6	U8	U9/U10
Phase	Introductory		Development
Players	6 a side	9 a side	12 a side
Max Ground Size / Use of Zones	50m x 45m 3 equal zones	80m x 60m 3 equal zones	100m x 80m 3 equal zones
Match Length	Training + 3 x 10 min	4 x 10 min	4 x 10 min
Competition details	No scores, ladders or finals permitted No recording of Best Players & Goal Kickers permitted No representative teams		No scores, ladders or finals permitted No recording of Best Players & Goal Kickers permitted No representative teams

Contact	<p>No tackle / No Bump</p> <p>There is absolutely no contact or spoiling except when accidental in nature</p>	<p>Modified Tackle / No Bump</p> <p>Players cannot bump/push an opponent, knock/steal the ball out of their hands or smother an opponent's kick</p>
The ball	Synthetic size 1	Synthetic size 2
Umpiring	<p>1 field, 2 goal umpires</p> <p>Parents/Coaches</p>	<p>1 field, 2 goal umpires</p> <p>Club/Association</p>
Coaching position	On Field	On Field
Bounces	1 bounce	1 bounce
Marking	A mark is awarded, irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled, to any player who catches it or makes a reasonable attempt to mark it.	A mark is awarded irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled to any player who catches it or shows control.
Out of Bounds	<p>From a kick, a free is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball.</p> <p>From hands, or if there is doubt the umpire shall call a ball up 10m in from the boundary</p>	<p>From a kick, a free is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball.</p> <p>From hands, or if there is doubt the umpire shall call a ball up 10m in from the boundary</p>
Kick off the ground	Not permitted unless accidental	Not permitted unless accidental
Stealing, Smothering, Shepherding, Barging	No stealing, smothering, shepherding or barging	No stealing, smothering, shepherding or barging
Penalties	<p>No distance penalty applies</p> <p>Players can be ordered off at the umpire's discretion</p>	<p>10m penalty can be applied at the umpire's discretion if they feel a player has been hindered in any way</p> <p>Players can be ordered off at the umpire's discretion</p>

U8s – Modified Rules Explanations

Zones

12 players per side, 4 players per zone. Backs must stay in back zone, centres must stay in centre zone and forwards must play in forward zone.

Transition of Ball

The ball cannot travel from the back zone to the forward zone without being touched by a player in the mid zone. Failure for this to occur will result in a free kick awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered their forward zone.

Scoring

Only forwards may score

The Possession Rule

The ball is possessed by the act of controlling it by:

- Catching it
- Grabbing it
- Laying two hands on it when it is on the ground

Once the ball is possessed, all other players **must back off to the side of the player in possession**, so that the player may kick or handball uncontested. **There is to be no blocking or standing in the path of the player.**

Ball Ups

Ball up is to be contested by two players of equal height

Player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a team mate or ground, and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hits the ground. The player cannot grab the ball out of the ruck.

Scrimmages and Field Ball Ups

When a scrum develops and a free kick cannot be awarded, the umpire shall:

- Stop play and send players back to their zones
- Conduct a ball up

Players cannot dive on the ball. If a player dives on the ball, they are to be penalised with a free kick.

Contact/Tackling

There is **no contact or spoiling**, except for accidental and light 'shoulder to shoulder' contact when contesting for the ball. Players cannot:

- Hold an opponent with their hands
- Steal or knock the ball out of an opponent's hands
- Push, bump, or barge another player
- Smother an opponent's kick
- Make contact with an opponent's head.
- Shepherd.

If any of the above is breached, a free kick is to be awarded to the player with the ball.

Coaches

The coach is allowed on the field, however they may not comment on the umpire or umpiring decisions.

U9 and U10 Modified Rule Explanations

Zones

12 players per side, 4 players per zone. Backs must stay in back zone, centres must stay in centre zone and forwards must play in forward zone.

Transition of Ball

The ball cannot travel from the back zone to the forward zone without being touched by a player in the mid zone. Failure for this to occur will result in a free kick awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered their forward zone.

Scoring

Only forwards may score

Ball Ups

Ball up is to be contested by two players of equal height

Player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a team mate or ground, and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hits the ground. The player cannot grab the ball out of the ruck.

Contact/Tackling

Players can perform a modified tackle:

- A player in possession of the ball may be tackled by an opponent wrapping both arms around the area below the top of the shoulders and on/above the knees. The tackle may be from either side or from behind, providing the tackle from behind does not thrust forward the player with the ball (i.e push the player in the back).
- If the player in possession of the ball is taken to the ground in the act of tackling, they will receive a free kick. If the umpire feels the player drops to the ground deliberately in order to receive a free kick, they will be penalised for holding the ball.
- A player in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent applying a modified tackle, should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or by handball, or by attempting to kick or handball, otherwise a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- The field umpire shall conduct a ball-up when the player with the ball has the ball held to the body by an opponent, unless the player has had a reasonable time to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, in which case a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- The field umpire shall allow play to continue if the ball is accidentally knocked out of a player's hands by an opponent.

Tackling continued next page

- A player not in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent, shall be awarded a free kick.
- There is strictly no bumping, slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player in possession of the ball to the ground.

Players cannot:

- Knock the ball out of an opponent's hands.
- Push the player in the side.
- Steal the ball from another player.
- Smother an opponent's kick.
- Shepherd an opponent.

Coaches

The coach is allowed on the field, however they may not comment on the umpire or umpiring decisions, or interfere with play.

THE NEXT STEP – UMPIRING WITH AFLBJ

After spending one to two years, and being a minimum of 13 years of age at the start of the season, we strongly encourage you to join the AFLBJ Umpiring Group as a League Appointed Umpire.

Some features of umpiring as a League Appointed Umpire are:

- Officiate in U11s, U12s, U13s, U14s, U15 Youth Girls and U16 matches
- Appointed to matches by AFL Brisbane Juniors
- Earn minimum \$30 per game
- Training provided weekly
- Attendance at training only compulsory **once a month**
- Able to balance football and umpiring commitments
- Access to specialised coaches who can help develop your umpiring
- All brand new umpires have access to one on one mentoring
- Access to the AFL Queensland Talented Umpire Pathway, including the AFLQ State Umpire Academy.
- Minimum age is 13 years old, turning 14 in the same calendar year. Male or female.

Contact

If you have any queries contact

Tony Saunders (AFLBJ Competition Manager)

Ph: (07) 3033 5414, Mob: 0400 006 859 Email: tony.saunders@aflq.com.au