

Hi All

What a great weekend for football. Slight wind, sun, excellent ground surfaces and the hint that finals are not far away as the intensity of our games develop.

This week we have a field umpires coaching session on Thursday. I am still in the process of up-loading the vision from Thursday nights coaching session, but I want to remind ALL umpires that when umpiring, YOUR safety comes first! In that, if any on field incident occurs at any break you are **NOT** to get involved, you are to run to the centre and meet as ONE TEAM and then exit the ground, as quickly as possible. If it is a quarter or three-quarter time break, remain in the centre.

The reason for this directive is because at the end of any quarter or game, spectators can enter the ground. You have no idea who is coming in behind you or your fellow umpires so the safest way to remove any concerns is to quickly get together and leave the ground or remain in the centre of the ground together. If any official wishes to raise the question around why you walked off the ground or did not involve yourself in the incident, then please inform them that you have been instructed you to do so, for your personal safety. Any further questions/concerns please direct them to me.

Following on, if any incident occurs on the ground during play DO NOT put yourself between players or physically handle players or officials, STAND BACK and take notes in relation to potential reportable offences. Then when the incident calms down, report your observations to the field umpire. Again, your safety is the primary focus, because you may think you are helping but a player may not recognise you as an umpire and potentially strike you.

Finally, if you are spoken to by ANY person, player, official or spectator, it does not matter if it is on the ground, off the ground, in the street or in a heated situation, you are to be respectful in every situation. We set the standard in which we relate with everyone in the WRFL community.

Please remember that with the Division 1, 2 and Senior women bye occurs in two weeks, if you are unavailable please make sure Schedules is up to date. However, if you would like to support the juniors in the last round for the season and have a run, that would be greatly appreciated, as the last round can always create issues for some games.

On Saturday night the WRFLUA held their mid-season dinner in which a number of awards were bestowed on past and current members: The following inductees were announced:

Hall of Fame Brett Carter

Legend

Harold Mason

Adrian O'Donnell

It is very rare when a running umpiring is declared a 'Legend' of the WRFLUA, but we are blessed to have a person such as Adrian O'Donnell to be still running with the current group and supporting everybody he runs with. He is truly a legend in our group, well done Adrian, Harold and Brett who have done so much for the WRFLUA over the many years of commitment to the WRFL and the WRFLUA.

I will discuss the changes to senior finals and appointment evenings next week (see below).

See you on the track
Mark

Week Commencing Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Weekend
12 July	No MacKillop Academy – Staff PD Day	Training	Training-Skills Field Umpires Coaching session	
19 July	MacKillop Academy for MacKillop students only 3.30-4.30pm	Training	Training-Skills Field Umpires Coaching session	No Div. 1, 2 or Women's ONLY Div. 3 Seniors and Reserves and Juniors. <i>Last round for juniors</i>
26 July	LAST SESSION FOR MACKILLOP ACADEMY	Training	Training-Junior Finals coaching session	Junior Finals Week 1
2 August		Training	Training Field Umpires Coaching session	Junior Finals Week 2
9 August		Training	Training- Junior GF and Awards Evening-Wednesday 11 June	Junior Finals GF and Prelim Finals Div.2 Senior finals commence
16 August		Training	Training	Junior Finals GF Senior Women's Finals Commence
23 August		Training	Training-	Senior Div. 1 and 3 Finals Commence
30 August		Training	Training Senior GF Appointments Evening	Senior Finals Div. 2 GF
6 September		Training	Training	Div. 3 and Senior Women GF
13 September		Training Div. 1 GF Final appointments evening	Training	Div. 1 GF