



**AFL QUEENSLAND
REPRESENTATIVE
UNDER AGE CODE
OF CONDUCT**

AFL Queensland

Representative Football

Code of Conduct

This code of conduct applies to representative regional and State team players participating in State and national championships.

Player Code of Conduct

The AFL has an expectation that all States have a strict code of conduct in place for players attending national championships.

AFL Queensland also places high importance on the discipline and general acceptable behaviour of all players, coaches and team support staff participating in intra and inter State championships.

AFL Queensland has a zero tolerance policy in relation to a lack of self-discipline by any player participating in representative championships.

Players must act within the spirit of the game and accept the following guidelines for the benefit of not only creating a better environment for personal development but also for encouraging others to participate in the game.

Player Behaviour Guidelines

Know and play by the Laws of Australian Football.

Control your temper. The verbal and physical abuse of any other players, officials, umpires and the general public will not be tolerated.

Treat all players as you would like to be treated, do not bully or take unfair advantage of another player.

Accept any decisions made by umpires and respect the role that they play.

Co-operate with your coaches, support staff and team mates at all times.

If taken from the ground for a rest, rotation or for an undisciplined act, respond in a positive manner and quickly leave the ground through the interchange area when requested to do so by any team official or umpire and remain in the designated bench area for your team.

Be aware of the 'Send Off' rule and the consequences of undisciplined behaviour.

Be a good sport before and after games, despite the result of the game, by shaking the hand of your direct opponent.

Consequences

Players who are reported and subsequently found guilty and suspended, either at club level or during State championships; will not be considered for State selection, or be allowed to participate in any football games or activities involving the regional team, or be allowed to participate in any other AFL Queensland sanctioned competitions, during the time period of the suspension. At the completion of the suspension the player will be eligible for talented player program activities and participation in AFL Queensland sanctioned competitions.

If during championship games the Talent Manager or a designated representative determines that a player has acted in an undisciplined manner, and the player has not been disciplined by the coach, then the Talent Manager will request the coach remove the player from the ground for a 'cooling off' period.

Coaches and Support Staff Code of Conduct

The appointment to a coaching or support role in the AFL Queensland 'Talented Player Pathway' program requires an agreement from the coach to uphold the values set out in the AFL Coaches Code of Conduct.

There are many different roles in the make-up of the 'Talented Player Pathway' program. On occasions support staff, coaches and AFL Queensland development staff are required to perform more than one role within or across age groups.

Whatever the role, the principles set out in the 'Coaches Code of Conduct' are the bench mark for acceptable behavioural standards for all coaches and all other staff.

All staff of regional and State teams are required to read the 'Code of Conduct' booklet and fully understand that appointed staff, whom are not operating within the spirit of what is regarded to be in the best interest of the game and player development, will be in breach of the 'Code of Conduct'.

Procedures for managing breaches of the 'Code of Conduct' are also included in the booklet. Please read this information and be aware of the process and consequences that result from a

serious breach of the 'Code of Conduct'.

Player discipline

Ultimately the accountability and education of the players in relation to discipline, on and off the field is, in the first instance while the player is in the team environment, the responsibility of the Head Coach of the team. However in all cases, if mediation is required, it is the responsibility of the Area Development Manager.

Coaches are required to discourage players from being involved in on-field melees and any displays of a lack of discipline.

Match day management

The management and general behaviour of coaches, support staff and players in the designated team bench area on match days is the responsibility of the Area Development Manager or, if the Area Development Manager is not in attendance, an appointed representative.

If the Area Development Manager is not in attendance at a game the Championship Manager must be advised of the replacement representative.

AFL Queensland greatly appreciates the support of all volunteers in ensuring that everyone associated with the game takes responsibility for acceptable standards of behaviour.

Send Off Rule

36. Player Send Off Rules

As Per Brisbane Juniors Rules and Regulations.

This rule applies to, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18.

Only Central Umpires, officially appointed to control matches, shall have the power to order a player(s) from the field.

Yellow card – player is sent from the ground for the remainder of the current quarter and all of the next quarter, no report.

Red card – player is sent from the ground for the remainder of the match, automatic report. The player is not permitted to enter the playing arena including coaches box/interchange bench.

Players sent from the ground with a yellow or red card may be replaced.

If a player receives three (3) yellow cards in one season an automatic one (1) match suspension will apply. Subsequently if a player receives a further three (3) yellow cards in the same season, the player will be sent to the Tribunal on a charge of "Misconduct".

Players can receive two (2) yellow cards in one match without being reported. However the two (2) yellow cards do count towards eligibility for Rule 25 (b).

The authority of a field umpire to send off players includes all times when players are on the field of play. If a player is sent off before the commencement of the game, in-between the first and second quarters or between the third and fourth quarters, the player must remain 'off the field' for the next quarter and can be replaced.

The field umpire will signal that a player has been sent off by pointing to the boundary line with an outstretched arm and holding up either a yellow card for a cooling off period (15 minutes of playing time) or red card which means the player has been reported and cannot return to the field for the remainder of the game. The player must leave the field immediately via the interchange area and report to the interchange steward.

When a 'Send Off' occurs the game must be stopped, as soon as practical by the central umpire and time added while the player leaves the field. The central umpire must ensure that the player goes through the interchange area and must not restart play until that occurs.

The player must remain off the field for whatever period of time that the umpire has decided by showing either the yellow (15 minutes) or red card (remainder of the match) when the 'Send Off' occurred. **Replacement is allowed** for the player whilst the penalty is in operation. For the purpose of this rule 'off the field' means outside the boundary line. Players who have been sent off **must not cross the boundary line until their 'Send Off' period has expired.**

5. A player not leaving the field as quickly as possible can be reported for deliberately wasting time.
6. A player, who has been sent off and **does not** report through the interchange area when leaving the field, **will not be allowed back on the field of play and cannot be replaced.**
7. When the sent off player or the replacement returns to the field of play, as per point '4' above, they must report through the interchange area
8. The Interchange Steward must indicate clearly on the Interchange Form, the time and name and number of the player sent off and they must indicate when the player, or the replacement, goes back on to the field as per point '4' above.
9. Reported players are to be sent off for the remainder of the match.
10. In situations where a sent off player or the replacement goes back on the field before the penalty time has expired, and a count of players has been called which results in a team having the incorrect number on the field, then, at the discretion of the Management Committee, the team may be penalized by way of reverse of match results, annulment of score or part thereof, fine and/or censure.