



Mount Helena Junior Football Club

P.O. Box 12 Mount Helena WA 6082

Umpire Support Procedures

This document is based primarily on Bylaw #1 "The Spirit of Junior Football" (stated in full, below). It is the intention of this document to serve as a guide for members of the Mount Helena Junior Football Club (club) regarding the duties of an umpire. This document also outlines the club's responsibilities regarding the umpire's welfare. This document is both educative and instructive to the reader. Should the reader require further information they should direct themselves to the current Junior Competition Council Bylaw document.

BYLAW #1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN WA

Every participant understands that Junior Football in Western Australia is delivered to the Community with the Spirit of the Game in mind. It is incumbent on every participant irrespective of their place in the game, to ensure that they will:

- Not focus on winning at all cost and understand that the role of Junior Football is to foster the development of Junior Players, Volunteers, Umpires, Coaches and Officials.
- Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant but must remain secondary to the primary focus of junior player development.
- Maximise the enjoyment and development of junior footballers.
- Provide our children with a game environment that is safe, fun and fair.
- Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our game, which include fairness, equality, respect and teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.
- Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, Laws, Codes, Policies and Spirit of the game.
- Not accept poor behaviours around our game and deter practices that undermine our games environments (Coaching, Playing, Volunteering, Spectating and Umpiring).
- Adhere to any directive issued by the games controlling bodies in the best interests of achieving the above.

Umpire Role and Definition

The JCC bylaw document defines the role and definition of an umpire under the heading, "WA Football Tribunal Protocols and Guidelines", Bylaw #49, page 43, section 2.2, "Expectations", and section 3, "Definitions".

Umpires are expected to adjudicate a game of Football with integrity, apply the Laws and interpretations in conjunction with the Spirit of the Laws and attend to the administrative requirements associated with the game.

Umpire means all Field, Boundary, Goal and Emergency Umpires officiating in or at a match.

Umpire Support Bylaws

Mt. Helena Junior Football Club (the club) supports JCC Bylaw #40 "Umpires" in its entirety.

Given that the club primarily uses volunteer umpires the club would state in this document that it fully adheres to the clauses that apply to umpire welfare and in particular volunteer umpires. The clauses are shown below.

40.3 WA Football supports a ZERO TOLERANCE stance against any form of umpiring or officials abuse. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and sanctions directed at the person responsible, the team and possibly the club.

40.4 Should a field umpire not be available to officiate at any match the opposing coaches or team officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any umpire appointed by the Umpires Coach, including the awarding of fairest and best votes.

40.9 Only the Captain or Team Manager from either team can approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match. The JCC Executive and DFDC Chairman are also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.

40.11 The Home Team Manager is responsible for the welfare of the umpires on match day.



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Game-Day Support for Umpires at MHJFC

Match Procedures

- An umpire shall be appointed at the earliest opportunity prior to all games.
- Volunteer umpires will be supplied with the necessary equipment to enable them to carry out their duties.
- Umpires shall be greeted upon their arrival to the game venue by club officials and will be shown the necessary facilities.
- Umpires will be introduced to the home team coach and also to the visiting team coach and manager.
- Umpires will be informed of any special details regarding players and playing conditions that are relevant on that day.
- Umpires will be given the game ball prior to pre-game briefing of both teams on field.
- Umpires will be supplied with drinking water by the home team during the game.
- The home team manager will liaise with the umpire during the game breaks as is required and will include the opposition manager where necessary in these meetings.
- The home team manager will ensure that only they, and the opposition manager, converse with the umpire during the game. All other persons will be instructed to convey comments through their own club officials.
- At the conclusion of the game, the umpire will assemble the players for a post-game briefing and players will shake hands with one another when dismissed.
- The umpire will be asked to complete any official paperwork and payment will be made as necessary according to the current match day fees table.
- The umpire will be escorted to the club rooms, and club officials shall ensure the umpire's wellbeing until he/she departs the premises.

Spectators

- Any spectator (including club officials) who breaches the Parent/Spectator code of conduct in relation to behavior toward umpires shall be approached by a club official and shall be made aware that such behavior is inappropriate.
- Repetitive behavior will result in the person being shown a copy of the applicable code of conduct document and the club official will repeat the previous warning and will outline the potential consequences of their actions if they continue. Such behavior can result in club suspension or expulsion of the player related to the person (friend or relative).
- All managers at all games will hold a letter that is pre-signed by the club president. These letters may be served in these circumstances.
- Where such a letter is served the incident will be referred to the club executive and the players family will receive a warning from the club.
- Where the person is an opposition spectator, the opposition manager will be asked to approach the person with the MHJFC club official. The opposition manager will inform the person of their responsibilities.
- Serious breaches will be referred to Swan Districts FC and may be passed on to the JCC executive.
- Where the club is fined, the club will seek financial reparation from the offender. If the fine payment is not reimbursed to the club, the club may consider that the related player is no longer a financial member of the club.

Players

- Where a player is cautioned or penalised by an umpire for umpire abuse the club shall outline the player code of conduct document to that player.
- When a player is cautioned or penalised more than once, the player shall be given a copy of the player code of conduct and will be required to familiarise themselves with the document.
- Players may also be served a letter signed by the club president reminding them of their responsibilities towards umpires. The letter will also outline possible consequences such as suspension and expulsion from the club.
- Where an umpire wishes to report a player the umpire will be supplied with the appropriate report form.