

# UMPIRE HANDBOOK 2025





## Table of Contents

Calendar of Events - 2025 .....	3
President – Mark Hamilton-Smith.....	4
Director of Umpiring – Glenn Emery .....	4
SFNLUA Committee .....	5
SFNL Umpiring Department - Coaching Panel .....	6
Our mission .....	7
Statement of purpose and values .....	7
Umpire Code of Conduct.....	8
Social Media and Online Engagement Policy.....	9
Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy .....	9
Membership fees.....	10
Umpire match fee payment .....	11
Umpire rates - 2025 .....	12
Uniform .....	13
Stack Team App .....	14
Officials HQ, appointments and availability .....	14
Appointments.....	15
Umpire accreditation .....	16
Umpiring In-season training venue .....	17
Umpires Weather Policy for Training .....	17
SFNL gradings - Season 2025 .....	18
Practice matches.....	19
Guidelines around practice matches .....	19
Inside the SFNL .....	21
SFNL Duty of Care Officer.....	21
Match Review Panel (MRP) .....	21
Umpire WorkCover insurance.....	22
WorkCover check list and procedures .....	22
Report flow chart.....	23
SFNL – Clubs, grounds and locations .....	24

## Calendar of Events - 2025

MONTH	DATE/TIME	EVENT
FEBRUARY	Monday, 3rd@6pm	First Preseason Training session – Chadwick Reserve, Dingley
MARCH	Wednesday, 18th @6pm	Continuing Preseason Training – Moorleigh Reserve, Bentleigh East
APRIL	Saturday, 12th @7pm	Dinner and Lawn Bowls, Cheltenham Bowling Club – \$15 per head
MAY	Saturday, 10th @7pm	Partially subsidised meal (Round 9, Melbourne v Hawthorn) – Dingley International or Sandbelt (tbc)
JUNE	Saturday, 14th @7.30pm	Trivia Night - Dingley Football Club
JULY	Saturday, 12th @7pm	Partially subsidised meal (Round 18, Essendon v Richmond) – Dingley International or Sandbelt (tbc)
AUGUST	Thursday, 21st @7.15pm	BBQ & Drinks (Last Round, Div. 1) – Moorleigh Reserve, Bentleigh East
SEPTEMBER	tba	PRESENTATION DINNER (TBC)
OCTOBER	tba	SFNLUA AGM (TBC)

*Keep an eye on our Facebook Group and Team App for up-to-date information relating to this year's social events.*

## President – Mark Hamilton-Smith



Welcome to the upcoming season in the Southern Football Netball League (SFNL) and to this updated Umpire Handbook.

All the information you need for the 2025 Season is contained in this easy-to-use handbook with quick reference headings and external links—accessible via your mobile—taking you directly to pages and sites of interest.

Whether new or returning to the Southern Football Netball League Umpires Association (SFNLUA), you are a highly valued member of our community. We are extremely fortunate to have such a diverse group of young and more experienced male and female umpires—and great camaraderie within our Association.

Over focus remains in working with the umpiring coaching panel and SFNL Executive to improve our umpiring skill sets and build greater rapport with all SFNL clubs.

This season will showcase an ever-expanding list of SFNL teams and skills levels with opportunities to umpire at all levels of football.

This is also an exciting year for the Association in that we will be wearing for the first time—to and from games—a specially designed SFNLUA tracksuit. The tracksuit—similar in design to those AFL umpires wear—will enhance our professionalism and sense of cohesion as a team.

The most important part of our umpiring—aside from making the right decisions—is to support and encourage each other. We are always foremost a united team.

Best wishes to everyone for the coming season and for every success in your umpiring career.

## Director of Umpiring – Glenn Emery



Following upon a successful 2024 Season—where two SFNLUA umpires from a combined list of ten umpires across Victoria were successful in taking the next step to VFL—there are significant opportunities for field, boundary or goal umpires to progress further in their umpiring careers.

We are thrilled to have all continuing and new umpires with us for the 2025 Season. There are currently 323 registered umpires, which reflects the strength and growing reputation of our Association. We look forward to yet another year of building on the STEPS set out last season—along with the UNITED TEAM philosophy incorporated into our group.

The SFNL Umpiring Department is always here to assist you in your endeavours to be the best community umpire you can possibly be.

## SFNLUA Committee

<b>President</b>	Mark Hamilton- Smith 0410 633 642		<b>Secretary</b>	Tane Abbott 0402 358 634	
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Borg 0421 547 895		<b>Goal Umpire Rep</b>	Bill Keilor 0447 985 327	
<b>Committee member</b>	David Cowell 0438 569 822		<b>Committee member</b>	Paul Creedon 0403 958 899	
<b>Committee member</b>	Thomas Grundy 0431 276 279		<b>Committee member</b>	Brent Landorf 0434 278 313	
<b>Committee member</b>	Kevin Mitchell 0403 925 051				

The SFNLUA is the representative body of all umpires (Australian Rules Football) in the Southern Football Netball League.

The objectives of the Association—and conditions of membership—are detailed in the Rules of the Association. A copy is available upon request.

All correspondence to the SFNLUA should be addressed to The Secretary.

### SFNLUA contact details

Postal address for all correspondence:

The Secretary  
P.O. Box 804  
Moorabbin VIC 3189

SFNLUA email address: [committee@sfnlumpires.com](mailto:committee@sfnlumpires.com)

SFNLUA website: [sfnlumpires.com](http://sfnlumpires.com)





## SFNL Umpiring Department - Coaching Panel

### ‘A UNITED TEAM’

*‘Live and train with a desire to improve but always commit to the understanding that while individually you may umpire well, the team’s performance on the day is the ultimate measure.’*

Director of Umpiring	Glenn Emery	0433 414 795
----------------------	-------------	--------------

Administration Manager	Adam Marrow	0410 985 576
------------------------	-------------	--------------

Field Umpire Coach	Sheldon Judd	0499 830 119
--------------------	--------------	--------------

Field Umpire Match Day Observer	David Smith	0438 328 759
Field Umpire Match Day Observer	Xavier Martin	0477 748 292

Co Boundary Umpire Coach	Anthony D’Amico	0409 372 834
Co Boundary Umpire Coach	Johnny Huang	0410 552 405

Goal Umpire Coach	Hannah Faulks	0433 085 242
-------------------	---------------	--------------

Goal Umpire Assistant Coach	Darren Holt	0421 120 849
-----------------------------	-------------	--------------

Fitness Co-ordinator	Pulse 8	
----------------------	---------	--

Fitness Trainer	Les Stuart	
-----------------	------------	--



## Our mission

*To promote and advance the Southern Football Netball League as the foremost community umpiring group in Victoria, through demonstrating excellence in the institutions of umpiring and a steadfast commitment to fostering core values of respect, integrity, fairness and trust.*

## Statement of purpose and values

The SFNLUA aims to provide an opportunity for all members to actively participate in officiating Australian Rules Football and enhance their positive wellbeing through organised sporting connection. The Association endeavours to provide a positive environment for all its members and officials.

These aims are achieved by promoting and developing the following values and objectives:

- A sense of social and community values
- An environment to nurture the physical and mental development of our group
- Respect for officials, players and supporters
- Fair and disciplined officiating
- Equal opportunities for everyone
- Support for umpire coaches and the Director of Umpiring

This is realised by providing as far as reasonable:

- Quality officiating through continuous improvement
- Accredited coaches and assistants
- Adequate facilities, amenities and equipment
- Active leadership and management of the Association
- Promoting a positive healthy lifestyle

All members, coaches, officials, parents, supporters and committee members always have a responsibility—when representing the SFNLUA—to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner consistent with these values.



## Umpire Code of Conduct

In registering to umpire within the SFNL, you are accepting to act in accordance with our mission and purpose—and commit to the following terms of our Code of Conduct:

- Umpire in accordance with the laws of the game by maintaining a working knowledge of the Laws of Australian Football and its Rules.
- Perform on our merits and officiate to the best of our ability at all times.
- Ensure the game is played in a fair manner and spirit of true sportsmanship.
- Where possible in a contact sport, prevent injuries to players participating in the match.
- Treat all participants, as they would reasonably like to be treated.
- Be prepared to be responsible for our actions.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants, regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Never engage in any type of violence either on or off the field
- Control our temper and verbal abuse—acting in a threatening manner towards players, officials, fellow umpires or spectators is not acceptable or permitted behaviours of an umpire.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul or abusive language—or harassing players, coaches or officials.
- Accept all match appointments in a positive and constructive manner.
- Advise coaches as soon as practicable should you be unable to officiate any match due to illness or injury.
- Agree to demonstrate alignment with our social media policy.
- Maintain a high reputation and not do anything calculated to, or otherwise, having the effect of prejudicing the reputation of the SFNL or Australian Football.
- Not contrive or attempt to contrive the result of any Match or any aspect of the Match in exchange for any bribe, benefit or reward.
- Not give or allow any person any record or interview for broadcast or write any article relating to Australian Football for publication, without first obtaining consent of the SFNLUA.
- Not discuss any aspect of any report made in accordance with the Rules or otherwise with any person without the prior consent of the League.

Breaches of our code of conduct will be subject to appropriate investigation and may result in disciplinary action. This can include suspension from games or revoking of membership rights.





## Social Media and Online Engagement Policy

### Membership behavioural standards and expectations

In accordance with the SFNLUA Statement of Purpose and Values and Constitution, SLNFUA members are expected to conduct themselves—both during and outside umpiring appointed duties—in a manner protecting the reputation of the SFNLUA and SFNL. This applies to member's use of personal social media sites.

In line with this, members are to apply the following when using social media in a personal capacity:

- Adhere to the Terms and Conditions of the relevant social media platform/website and any other applicable laws, including copyright, privacy, defamation, discrimination and harassment.
- Do not make any comment about the Director of Umpiring or staff appointed to the Umpiring Department SFNNL or SFLUA executive or administration.
- Do not post or endorse any obscene, violent, discriminatory, vilifying, defamatory, offensive, insulting, threatening, harassing words, images or sounds.
- Do not publish material that might otherwise cause damage to the reputation of the SFNL or SFNLUA.
- Ensure comments are respectful of the community in which members are interacting with online.

### Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

The SFNLUA and Umpiring Department have adopted the AFL Safeguarding Children and Young Children policy. All links can be located below.

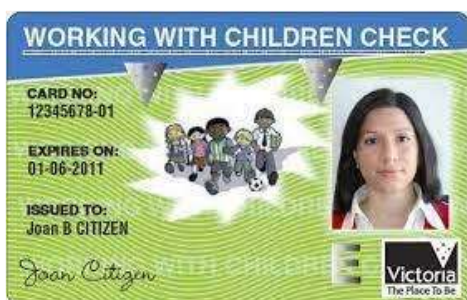
[Safeguarding Children Commitment Statement](#)

[Safeguarding Children Policy](#)

[Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct](#)

[Safeguarding Children Reporting Procedure](#)

Any umpire 18 years or over must have a valid Working with Children Check if they wish to umpire in the SFNL.



## Membership fees

The Association membership fees for the upcoming season are as follows:

- **\$95 (For all field and boundary umpires and first-year goal umpires)**
- **\$65 (For all returning goal umpires)**

***Both sets of fees include attendance/dinner at the annual SFNLUA Presentation Night***

Please note concessions are available for government health card holders and pensioners. If you hold one of these cards, notify John Borg.

Any SFNLUA member suffering hardship in relation to association subscription payment, should also contact John Borg (matters will be kept in strict confidence).



**Association membership fees will be deducted from your match payments in one instalment following the completion of Round 4.**

Additional benefits derived from Association member fees include:

- All trophies and awards presented to umpires at end-of-season.
- At-training BBQ's held during the season.
- Partial subsidising of activities/meals at social committee events.
- Free entry/prizes for participants in the SFNLUA SuperCoach AFL competition.
- Access to subsidised Project umpiring attire



## Umpire match fee payment

Match fees will be paid by the SFNL (not the SFNLUA)—by direct credit to a nominated bank account (via information contained in your OfficialsHQ account)—**in fortnightly instalments following the completion of Round 4 of the Season.**

Match payments will vary according to the:

- Division you officiate (Division 1,2,3,4, Open Grade, and Women's)
- Grade you umpire (Seniors, Reserves, U19s, and Women's)
- Type of umpire you are (field, boundary or goal)
- Games where there may be three field umpires appointed
- Games where there may be three or four boundary umpires appointed





## Umpire rates - 2025

Division	Grade	Role	# Umps	SFNL 2024	SFNL 2025	Increase
1	Senior	Bound		\$102.82	\$106.00	3.00%
1	Senior	Field	2	\$159.58	\$165.00	3.29%
1	Senior	Field	3	\$159.58	\$165.00	3.29%
1	Senior	Goal		\$87.82	\$91.50	4.02%
<b>Senior Average Payment</b>				<b>\$127.45</b>	<b>\$131.88</b>	<b>3.40%</b>
1	Reserve	Bound		\$79.25	\$81.50	2.76%
1	Reserve	Field	2	\$116.74	\$119.50	2.31%
1	Reserve	Goal		\$68.54	\$70.50	2.77%
<b>Reserves Average Payment</b>				<b>\$88.18</b>	<b>\$90.50</b>	<b>2.61%</b>
2	Senior	Bound		\$89.96	\$93.00	3.26%
2	Senior	Field	2	\$137.09	\$141.50	3.12%
2	Senior	Goal		\$79.25	\$83.00	4.51%
<b>Senior Average Payment</b>				<b>\$102.10</b>	<b>\$105.83</b>	<b>3.63%</b>
2	Reserve	Bound		\$74.97	\$75.00	0.04%
2	Reserve	Field	2	\$107.10	\$110.00	2.64%
2	Reserve	Goal		\$64.26	\$65.00	1.14%
<b>Reserves Average Payment</b>				<b>\$82.11</b>	<b>\$83.33</b>	<b>1.27%</b>
3	Senior	Bound		\$84.61	\$88.00	3.85%
3	Senior	Field	2	\$125.31	\$130.00	3.61%
3	Senior	Goal		\$74.97	\$77.00	2.64%
<b>Senior Average Payment</b>				<b>\$94.96</b>	<b>\$98.33</b>	<b>3.37%</b>
3	Reserve	Bound		\$72.83	\$74.00	1.58%
3	Reserve	Field	2	\$101.75	\$104.50	2.63%
3	Reserve	Goal		\$61.05	\$62.50	2.32%
<b>Reserves Average Payment</b>				<b>\$78.54</b>	<b>\$80.33</b>	<b>2.18%</b>
4	Senior	Bound		\$79.25	\$82.00	3.35%
4	Senior	Field	2	\$117.81	\$125.00	5.75%
4	Senior	Goal		\$69.62	\$71.50	2.64%
<b>Senior Average Payment</b>				<b>\$88.89</b>	<b>\$92.83</b>	<b>3.91%</b>
4	Reserve	Bound		\$67.47	\$69.00	2.21%
4	Reserve	Field	2	\$95.32	\$98.00	2.74%
4	Reserve	Goal		\$56.76	\$58.00	2.13%
<b>Reserves Average Payment</b>				<b>\$73.19</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>2.36%</b>
<b>Average Payment across all divisions</b>				<b>\$93.35</b>	<b>\$96.24</b>	<b>2.86%</b>

Womens	Field	2	\$96.39	\$103.00	6.42%
Womens	Bound		\$67.47	\$70.00	3.61%
Womens	Goal		\$58.91	\$60.00	1.83%
Thirds/ Open	Field	2	\$85.68	\$103.00	16.82%
Thirds/ Open	Bound		\$67.47	\$70.00	3.61%
Thirds/ Open	Goal		\$56.76	\$60.00	5.40%
U18/U19	Field	2	\$109.24	\$112.00	2.46%
U18/U19	Bound		\$74.97	\$76.00	1.36%
U18/U19	Goal		\$64.26	\$66.00	2.64%

## Uniform

### On-field uniform (during matches)

The SFNLUA on-field uniform provider is Project.

(Official supplier to AFL Umpires)

Visit the SFNL Custom Shop below for required gear.

*Please remember only Project provided attire may be worn **on-field** when carrying out your umpire duties.*



### Off-field uniform (to and from matches)

If you were umpiring in the SFNL last year, we expected all field, boundary and goal umpires to wear to and from games:

- Long black pants
- Black shoes
- **A SFNLUA/AFL UMPIRES Project Corporate Polo**
- **A SFNLUA/AFL UMPIRES Project Smooth Membrane Jacket**  
(this item can be purchased using a 2025 SFNL discount voucher or an SFNLUA Soft Shell Jacket if you have one)

As of Season 2025, we are providing all **returning** field and boundary umpires with a specially designed **SFNLUA tracksuit** as an alternative to the above.



Last year our training expectations included:

- **SFNLUA** training top or singlet or an **AFL UMPIRES Project Active Run Tee or Training Tank**
- **SFNLUA** Track Jacket or Hoody (these have been optional items that can still be worn in season 2025) or you might like to purchase an **AFL UMPIRES Project Unisex Hoodie**

As of this season, all **returning** field and boundary umpires, who have been provided with a **SFNLUA tracksuit**, may also wear this tracksuit as additional training gear.

Other optional items:

- **AFL UMPIRES Beanie**

#### SFNL CUSTOM SHOP

[\*\*PROJECT CLOTHING SFNL CUSTOM SHOP LINK\*\*](#)

#### ORDER ENQUIRIES

(03) 8652 5444 AND

[\*\*CUSTOMERSERVICE@PROJECTCLOTHING.COM.AU\*\*](mailto:CUSTOMERSERVICE@PROJECTCLOTHING.COM.AU)

Please begin your email with your **ORDER NO** or **SURNAME**

**OTHER UNIFORM QUERIES** can be directed to The Secretary, Tane Abbott  
**via a text message**



**PROJECT**



## Stack Team App

Both the SFNL Umpires Association and Umpiring Department use Team App as their main digital technology platform for sharing information with umpires.

Through Team App, all information you require (training times, coaching information, social events, CMR form, SFNL news, the purchasing of on-field/off-field uniforms) is easily accessed through this one source.

Please download [Team App](#) through your mobile device and search for SFNLUA.



## Officials HQ, appointments and availability

Each week, the Umpiring Department appoints 300 plus field, boundary and goal umpires to games occurring on a Friday night, all day Saturday, and Sunday afternoon.

All umpire appointments are managed in the **Officials HQ/AFL Play application**  
[OfficialsHQ registration](#)

In Officials HQ, you can update your details, put in bank details to get paid, confirm weekend games, set availability and unavailability for games, decline games and so forth.

Everyone who has registered for the 2025 Season should be able to access Officials HQ to familiarise yourself with its features.

YouTube has some great tutorials if you need help.



## Appointments

Appointments for weekend games are finalised on Sunday nights or as soon as practical after this time. When umpires receive their weekend game(s) via email, you must confirm or decline your game immediately upon registering this email.

As SFNL teams are geographically spread across the South of Melbourne, there may be occasions when you have to travel 20-30 minutes—or even more—to officiate a game.

Before declining a game, please consider the countless hours the Umpiring Department spends trying to manage everyone's availability and location to ensure all umpires receive a game.

When declining a game without a genuine reason, you are not only letting your coach down—in needing to find a replacement for you—but the entire umpiring team.

## Availability

It is essential umpires set their availability/unavailability for weekend games to assist the umpiring department in making appointments.

If you cannot umpire on an upcoming weekend (or for a period of time), contact your discipline coach as soon as possible—and set your unavailability on Officials HQ correctly.

The umpiring department understands sickness and family, school, sport or work commitments can occur from time-to-time.

However, it is your responsibility (like any other paid work) to communicate clearly when you are unavailable.



## Umpire accreditation

The AFL's National Umpiring Accreditation Scheme consists of two tiers for field, boundary and goal umpires. All SFNL umpires **must** be accredited to officiate games in the SFNL. It is also a compulsory requirement for umpires wanting to officiate at state level (TAC/VFL). To be nominated to trial, umpires must be 18 years of age and have an advanced accreditation.

### Tier 1 - Umpire Development Accreditation (can be achieved at junior or senior football level)

Any umpire in their first or second year with the SFNL is required to complete an online umpire development course to obtain Umpire Development Accreditation. The Umpire Development course can be accessed at [AFL Umpires Account](#).

#### Important notes

If you already have an account on the Umpire AFL portal, you can log in and go to 'My Courses'. If you do not have an existing account, you will need to create a new account using your email address (in lowercase) as your username. Once signed in, you will need to scroll down and select the Umpire Introductory Course. **Cost of the course will be \$15.**

When completed, you will receive a computer certificate, which needs to be either handed or emailed to Adam Marrow ([adam.marrow@mail.com](mailto:adam.marrow@mail.com)). If you officiate with another umpiring group, please let them know you have completed the course with the SFNL—or let your coach know you have already completed the course with another umpiring group. The accreditation administrator will notify you during the season (via email) if you need to complete this course

### Tier 2 - Umpire Advanced Accreditation (can only be achieved at senior football level)

For umpires in their third or more seasons with the SFNL or who have umpired for three seasons (one junior/two seniors) and...

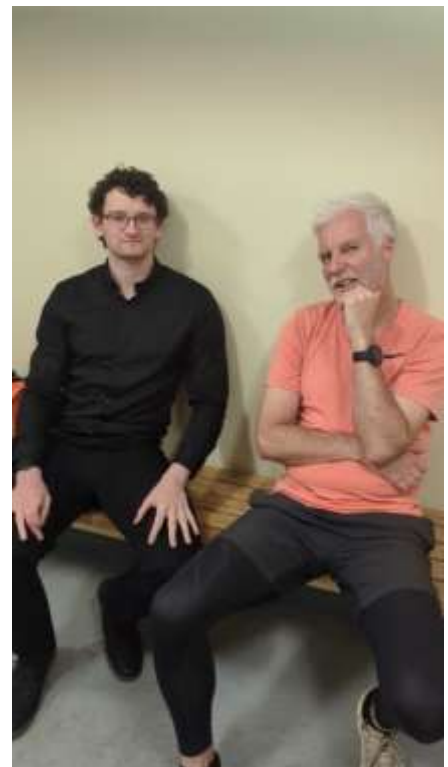
- Attend training
- Umpire more than 12 games of seniors/reserves a season
- Demonstrate coachability

...are eligible to receive their **advanced** accreditation for their chosen discipline (field, boundary, goal) by the accreditation administrator at the end of the season.

The accreditation administrator has an updated record of all umpires accreditation and can inform umpires of their current accreditation level. Umpire accreditation is current for four years and will be renewed by the accreditation administrator (if you are still umpiring), when it is about to expire.

All SFNL umpires **must** be accredited to officiate games in the SFNL.

It is a compulsory requirement that umpires wanting to officiate at state level (TAC/VFL) need to be 18 years of age—and have their advanced accreditation—before being nominated to trial.





## Umpiring In-season training venue

Duration: **Wednesday's @ 6:15pm** – concludes before 8pm

Frequency: **Once a Week**

Location: **Moorleigh Reserve, 90-92 Bignell Road, East Bentleigh**

Training dates: **March 2025 – late September 2025**

Attending training is an important part of an umpire's development, as it is where you hone and improve your umpiring skills—and practice them in a comfortable environment.

Training sessions incorporate both fitness and skill-based coaching.

If you cannot attend a training session, let the umpiring department know either through SMS, email or by calling them.



### Umpires Weather Policy for Training

The major responsibility of the Association and the Umpiring Department is the wellbeing of all umpires. Measures will be taken to ensure no one is placed at risk by participating in a training session during extreme weather or environmental conditions.

A decision to cancel on-field training is made by the Umpiring Director at least two hours before the event and conveyed to all umpires via Team App and email.

#### Hot weather

When the forecast maximum ambient temperature at a given location is determined by the BoM to be equal to or exceeding 34°C—or there have been consecutive days where the temperature has exceeded 30°C—training will be cancelled.

#### Extreme cold, heavy rain, persistent rain, thunderstorms, hail and lightning

On a training day, where the possibility of adverse conditions—extreme cold, heavy rain, persistent rain, thunderstorms, hail and lightning—could occur, on-field training will be cancelled and an indoor training session (when and where applicable) take place.



## SFNL gradings - Season 2025

FOR FULL FIXTURES REFER TO THE [SFNL WEBSITE](#)

DIVISION ONE	DIVISION TWO	DIVISION THREE	DIVISION FOUR
Bentleigh	Caulfield	Ashwood	Doveton Eagles
Cranbourne Eagles	Doveton Doves	Heatherton	Dandenong
Cheltenham	Hampton Park	St Kilda City	South Yarra
Murrumbeena	Keysborough	Hampton	Lyndale
Dingley	East Malvern	South Mornington	Narre South Saints
Port Melbourne Colts	Chelsea Heights	CPL	Hallam
Narre Warren	Endeavour Hills	Skye	Moorabbin
East Brighton	Highett	Lyndhurst	Clayton
St Pauls McKinnon	Frankston	Black Rock	
Springvale District	Mordialloc	Berwick Springs	

Women	Open
Casey Thunder	Cerberus
	Heatherhill

### SFNL game start time

Seniors: 2pm  
Reserves: 12pm  
U19s/Women's: 10am\* (may change from week to week)

### Arrival time to game

Seniors: 1 Hour before game commences.  
Reserves/U19s/Women's: 45 mins before game commences

### *Who do I contact on game day if I have a problem before, during and after game?*

On game day, if there are any problems regarding injury, illness or any other concerns, please message Glenn Emery (0433 414 795) and Adam Marrow (0410 985 576), immediately.





## Practice matches

During February and March, SFNL teams notify the league on whether they wish to have SFNL umpires officiate practice matches. In the past, teams usually requested only Field umpires, however, on occasions some SFNL teams do ask for a full complement of umpires.

When teams request umpires to officiate practice matches, a list of games is made available at pre-season training for umpires to select a game. If games cannot be filled, a list of these games is made available to all umpires via email and Team App.

This Season, payments were:

Field Umpire – \$20 per quarter

Boundary and Goal Umpire – \$15 per quarter

## Guidelines around practice matches

### Hot weather

Temperature equal to, or greater than 36°C at the scheduled commencement of the game:

- If the weather is 36 degrees or hotter at the scheduled commencement of the game, the match shall not commence.
- If the temperature has not dropped below 36°C within 30 minutes of the scheduled commencement time of the match, the match shall be cancelled.

Temperature between 32°C and below 36°C at the scheduled commencement of the game:

- All quarters are to be reduced to 18 minutes plus time on duration.
- Umpires may increase the length of the stoppage following a goal to allow additional player/umpire hydration.
- The half time break shall be increased to 25 minutes.
- If the temperature exceeds 36°C during the match, the match shall be halted.
- If the temperature does not drop below 36°C within 30 minutes of the game being halted, the match shall be discontinued.

### Lightning

In the event of lightning—or extreme hail being present in the immediate proximity of the venue during the course of a match—play shall be stopped, and all involved parties are to return to the pavilion.

If a match is postponed or halted for a period greater than 30 minutes, the match shall be deemed incomplete and called off

### Ground conditions

- Ensure cricket pitches are covered – Stop game around distressed area and ball it up
- All posts must be padded
- Dog droppings are picked up and holes covered
- Some form of ground marking is evident on the oval



## Pre-game checklist

- Check venue, time and confirm how many quarters or halves will be played
- Please arrive no later than 40 minutes before the game and advise home club of your arrival
- Don't leave your valuables in the rooms
- Ask coaches if there is anything they would be interested in trying (coach on ground, take 2, time out, last touch, etc)
- Collect some form of team sheets due to insurance issues and reportable offences- Duty of Care

## Commencement of game

- Ensure there is someone in goals and on the boundary (if not come 15 m off the line and ball up or play last touch)

## During game

Our focus is on positive relationships. Officiating practice matches—whether you are a field, boundary or goal umpire—is the perfect opportunity to develop respect with players, coaches, officials and spectators. Work on getting to know the teams you may be umpiring before the season kicks off.

## Reporting players in practice match

- If a player or players are not playing in the spirit of the game, send them off (15 mins) and allow a replacement.
- All major offences must be reported. If you make a report, after the game contact Glenn Emery (0433 414 795) and then send a text message to Josh Rhodes (0429 301 852), outlining the report and player(s) involved.

## Completion of game:

- You will be paid cash on the day and this should be paid 15 minutes after the conclusion of the practice match.
- Field Umpires \$20 per quarter, Boundary and Goal Umpires \$15 per quarter
- Please thank clubs for the day and where possible purchase something from the canteen or bar as it goes a long way to strengthening umpire and club relations for the season ahead



## Inside the SFNL



**SFNL Headquarters:** RSEA Park, Linton Street, Moorabbin VIC 3189

**Postal Address:** PO Box 1018 Moorabbin 3189

**Telephone:** 9553 5644

**Email:** [info@sfnl.com.au](mailto:info@sfnl.com.au)

**Chief Executive Officer** – Lee Hartman [Lee.Hartman@sfnl.com.au](mailto:Lee.Hartman@sfnl.com.au) (0417 715 774)

**General Manager - Operations** – Joshua Rhodes [Josh.Rhodes@sfnl.com.au](mailto:Josh.Rhodes@sfnl.com.au) (0429 301 852)

**Football & Administration Coordinator** – David Wilson [David.Wilson@sfnl.com.au](mailto:David.Wilson@sfnl.com.au) (0413 170 672)

**Commercial and Events Manager** – Wes Garth [Wes.Garth@sfnl.com.au](mailto:Wes.Garth@sfnl.com.au) (0447 590 814)

**Duty of Care Officer** (refer below for the role of Duty Care officer) – Joshua Rhodes

**Work Cover Officer** (work cover claim if injured information below) – Joshua Rhodes

### SFNL Duty of Care Officer

As part of the SFNL Occupational Health and Safety Program, **Joshua must be called immediately if any umpire feels they are placed in an unsafe situation, or if they suffer a serious injury.**

**Joshua Rhodes – 0429 301 852**

You should initially request the home club makes contact on your behalf, but if this is not possible—or if they refuse—you should make contact yourself.

Joshua will be able to assist with transportation for medical care, or in contacting family or parents.

**Under no circumstances should the game continue until the contacted Duty of Care Officer addresses your concern.**

### Match Review Panel (MRP)

All senior games in the SFNL are videoed by an independent company called Sportscast. [Sportscast Cloud](#) vision of games is accessible to all umpires. If during your game an incident takes place, which you believe needs to be viewed, it is your responsibility to let your coaches know as soon as possible. Accordingly, a decision can be made on whether the incident needs to be sent to the MRP for greater clarification.

It is important to inform your coaches: the quarter when the incident took place, duration during the quarter, what happened, and what was the outcome after the incident. All umpires have a duty of care to the players we umpire—*if we see something, we need to say something*. The MRP has been set up to support umpires. If a report or incident has been missed, we can go back and view what occurred and take appropriate action.

## Umpire WorkCover insurance

The SFNL provides all umpires—as employees of the League—with WorkCover insurance for injury occurring when performing duties as an umpire. All Association members should read and understand relevant procedures and responsibilities to ensure claims made are recognised and handled promptly.

An Umpire must notify Joshua Rhodes (0429 301 852) of any injury obtained during training or a match—or while travelling to or from a match or training—as soon as practicable after becoming aware of an injury (no later than 48 hours). Notice may be given verbally but must be followed in writing and sent via email to the SFNL General Manager – Operations, including details as per the umpire injury form.

If an injury appears minor and unlikely to need treatment, a later claim may not be accepted unless the original injury was promptly reported.

Umpires are advised any initial visit seeking treatment or assessment of an injury must be to a recognised Sports Medicine Centre—for a WorkCover claim to be recognised—unless the injury is so serious the umpire had to be taken to the nearest hospital. To confirm if a sports medicine centre is recognised by the League, please contact Joshua.

All WorkCover forms must be lodged with the SFNL General Manager - Operations in the event of an umpire sustaining a work-related injury. Umpires are reminded any intention to lodge a fraudulent claim will be contested as a legitimate WorkCover claim by the SFNL. **Umpires are not to forward any WorkCover claim on directly themselves.** These claims must all be directed to the SFNL General Manager – Operations.

All Umpires are reminded the above procedures are required by law to ensure they will be adequately covered in the event of a claim.

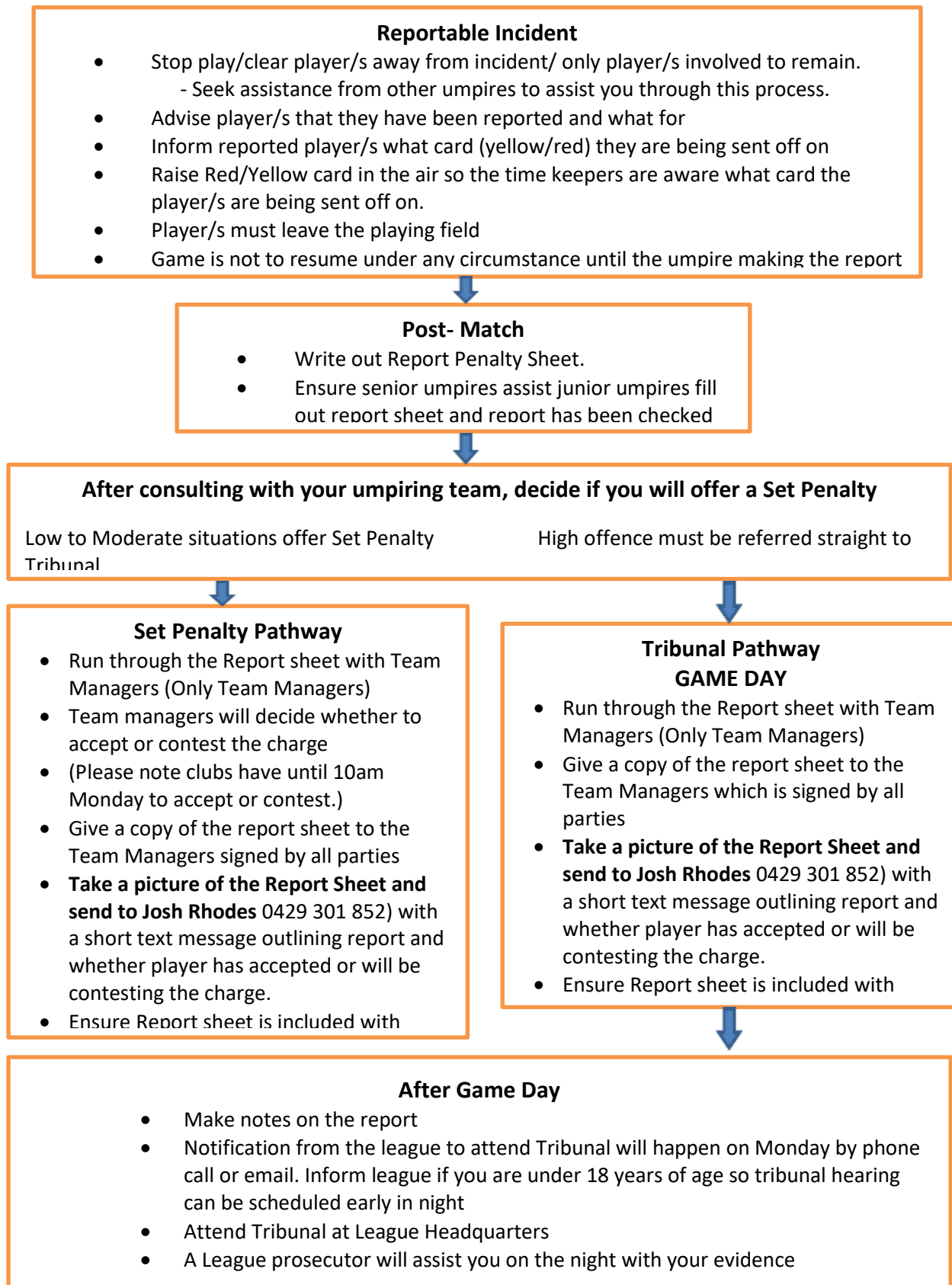
*Please note a person is not entitled to recover compensation for a work-related injury, unless notice of the injury has been given to the employer. Failure to follow adequate warm up procedures may lead to rejection of a claim for compensation.*

## WorkCover check list and procedures

1. Report any umpire work related injury to the SFNLUA General Manager – Operations.
2. Report to a League-recognised Sports Medicine Centre for treatment (if necessary), informing the centre of your WorkCover related claim.
3. Obtain a Notice of Injury form from the SFNL General Manager - Operations and lodge completed form with them.
4. Obtain a WorkCover Certificate of Capacity form from a League preferred Sports Medicine Centre on your initial visit—and lodge the certificate with the SFNL General Manager – Operations.
5. If the injury sustained causes any loss of wages from your first employer or an inability to umpire, a Final Certificate must be obtained from a League recognised Sports Medicine Centre and lodged with the SFNL General Manager – Operations, prior to being able to Umpire again.
6. Complete a WorkCover Worker's Claim form, if applicable, and lodge the form and any medical accounts with the SFNL General Manager - Operations within five working days



## Report flow chart





## SFNL – Clubs, grounds and locations

 Club	Venue	Address
<a href="#"><u>Ashwood</u></a>	Essex Heights Reserve	Outlook Road Mt. Waverley
<a href="#"><u>Bentleigh</u></a>	Bentleigh Reserve	Arthur Street, Bentleigh
<a href="#"><u>Berwick Springs</u></a>	Mick Morland Reserve	Mapleshade, Avenue, Clyde North
<a href="#"><u>Black Rock</u></a>	Macdonald Reserve	Fourth Street, Beaumaris
<a href="#"><u>Carrum Patterson Lakes</u></a>	Roy Dore Reserve	Dyson Road, Carrum
<a href="#"><u>Casey Thunder</u></a> (Women's)	The Hunt Club Reserve	Broad Oak Drive, Cranbourne East
<a href="#"><u>Caulfield</u></a>	Koornang Park Reserve	Koornang Road, Carnegie
<a href="#"><u>Cerberus</u></a>	McAuliffe Oval	HMAS Cerberus, Westernport
<a href="#"><u>Chelsea Heights</u></a>	Beazley Reserve	Thames Promenade, Chelsea Heights
<a href="#"><u>Cheltenham</u></a>	Jack Barker Oval	Weatherall Road, Cheltenham
<a href="#"><u>Clayton</u></a>	Meade Reserve	Haughton Road, Clayton
<a href="#"><u>Cranbourne Eagles</u></a>	Livingston Reserve	Eliburn Dr, Cranbourne East
<a href="#"><u>Dandenong</u></a>	Greaves Reserve	Bennett Street, Dandenong
<a href="#"><u>Dingley</u></a>	Souter Oval	Marcus Road, Dingley Village
<a href="#"><u>Doveton Doves</u></a>	Robinson Oval	Cnr Oak Avenue & Paperbark St, Doveton
<a href="#"><u>Doveton Eagles</u></a>	Power Reserve	Power Road, Doveton
<a href="#"><u>East Brighton</u></a>	Hurlingham Reserve	Nepean Highway, East Brighton
<a href="#"><u>East Malvern</u></a>	D.W. Lucas Reserve	Dunlop Street, East Malvern
<a href="#"><u>Endeavour Hills</u></a>	Barry Simon Reserve	Gleneagles Drive, Endeavour Hills
<a href="#"><u>Frankston Dolphins</u></a>	Overport Park	Overport Road, Frankston South
<a href="#"><u>Hampton Hammers</u></a>	Peterson Street Reserve	Peterson Street, Highett
<a href="#"><u>Hampton Park</u></a>	Robert Booth Reserve	Somerville Road, Hampton park
<a href="#"><u>Heatherhill</u></a>	Bruce Park	Bondi Avenue, Frankston
<a href="#"><u>Heatherton</u></a>	Ross Street Reserve	Ross Street, Heatherton
<a href="#"><u>Highett</u></a>	Turner Road Reserve	Turner Road, Highett
<a href="#"><u>Keysborough</u></a>	Rowley Allan Reserve	Cheltenham Road, Keysborough
<a href="#"><u>Lyndale</u></a>	Barry Powell Reserve	Halton Road, Noble Park North
<a href="#"><u>Lyndhurst</u></a>	Marriot Reserve	Boland Drive, Marriot Waters
<a href="#"><u>Moorabbin</u></a>	Widdop Crescent Reserve	Widdop Crescent, Hampton East
<a href="#"><u>Mordialloc</u></a>	Ben Kavanagh Reserve	McDonald Street, Mordialloc
<a href="#"><u>Murrumbeena</u></a>	Murrumbeena Park	Kangaroo Road, Murrumbeena
<a href="#"><u>Narre Warren</u></a>	Kalora Park	Fox Road, Narre Warren North
<a href="#"><u>Narre Warren South Saints</u></a>	Strathaird Reserve	Community Parade, Narre Warren South
<a href="#"><u>Port Melbourne</u></a>	Murphy Reserve	Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne
<a href="#"><u>Skye</u></a>	Carrum Downs Rec Res	Wedge Road, Carrum Downs
<a href="#"><u>South Mornington</u></a>	Citation Oval	Helena Street, Mount Martha
<a href="#"><u>South Yarra</u></a>	Fritsch Holzer Park	Camberwell Road, Hawthorn East
<a href="#"><u>Springvale Districts</u></a>	Springvale Reserve	Newcomen Road, Springvale
<a href="#"><u>St Kilda City</u></a>	Peanut Farm Reserve	Blessington Street, St Kilda
<a href="#"><u>St Pauls McKinnon</u></a>	McKinnon Reserve	Tucker Road, Bentleigh East