

# AVONDALE HEIGHTS FOOTBALL CLUB

## Information Kit 2018



This document is an abridged version of the Junior Club Policy. For information pertaining to additional selection guidelines, team operation, awards and parental involvement, contact the relevant team manager for a copy of the policy.

VERSION No.19  
29th March 2018

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## 1. CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

To teach, motivate, encourage and advise young players, emphasising discipline, fitness and sportsmanship in the environment of a successful community football team.

Develop young player skills and coordination in a friendly atmosphere promoting self-confidence and resilience.

Provide an environment for players to socialise and communicate with their peers, giving players a sense of self-esteem, independence and the ability to confront challenges.

Strive to be a friendly, family orientated club for players and their parent/guardians.

Create an environment that treats its players, coaches, officials and umpires with dignity and respect.

Develop and manage the Avondale Heights Football Club to ensure it continues to be a well-respected and successful club in the Essendon District Football League.

## 2. CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

The Avondale Heights Football Club has adopted a set of Mandatory and Enforceable Codes of Conduct for all players, coaches, officials, parent/guardians and supporters to ensure that they behave and promote the best possible environment.

Codes of conduct are an important tool designed to enable people involved within a football club, whether as player, coach, official, parent/guardian or supporter, to understand behavioural expectations contributing to an enjoyable quality sporting environment.

All players, coaches and officials, parent/guardians and supporters have a responsibility at all times when representing the Avondale Heights Football Club to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner consistent with these values and those outlined in the following codes of conduct.

The Code of Conduct includes Avondale Heights Football Club games and events, all EDFL sanctioned games and events, any person wearing Avondale Heights Football Club garments and uniforms in public and any persons speaking publicly on behalf of the club

## **PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. Play by the rules – the rules of Avondale Heights Football Club and Laws of the Game.
2. Never argue with an umpire or other official – without these people you can't play football.
3. Control your temper - verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players doesn't help you enjoy or win any games.
4. Be a team player – it's a team game, treat it that way.
5. Treat all players as you would like to be treated – fairly.
6. Co-operate with your coach, the umpires and team-mates.
7. Play for your own enjoyment and to improve your skills.
8. Don't use ugly remarks based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender or ability – you'll let down your coach, team-mates and family if you do. Many such comments are now illegal. Also refer to AHFC Racial & Religious Tolerance Policy.

## **PARENTS, SUPPORTERS & OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. Remember that you are there for the participants to enjoy the game and that children should be involved for their enjoyment, not yours.
2. Encourage participation, but don't force it, recognize your child's limitations.
3. Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning.
4. Never ridicule mistakes or losses, including opposition players and supporters – supporters are there to support not downgrade.
5. Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires and spectators – physical or verbal abuse, and profane language will not be tolerated, applaud good play by both your team and by members of the opposing team.
6. Recognise all volunteers who are giving up their valuable time.
7. Never publicly criticise umpires – raise personal concerns with club officials in private. The First point of call is the Team Manager and/or Junior Coordinator.
8. The Avondale Heights Football Club will not tolerate ugly remarks based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender or ability – you'll let down your family and yourself if you do. Many such comments are actually now illegal. Also refer to AHFC Racial & Religious Tolerance Policy.
9. We expect the highest level of junior behaviour both on and off the field and in any instance where this is not the case, severe action will be taken.
10. Parents are always welcome match days and to training, but are expected to let players focus on the Coaches instructions.
11. Do not contradict the Coaches instructions.
12. Do not belittle or abuse umpires or approach them at any stage of the game including intervals. As your child is starting his/her football career so too in most instances are the umpires. Don't expect AFL level umpiring. Be tolerant and treat them the same way you would want your own child treated.

## **BEHAVIOUR AND BREACHES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following five step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches the Avondale Heights Football Club's Code of Conduct policy:

1. Assume that the person is unaware of the Code of Conduct Policy.
2. A club representative will approach the person breaching the policy and politely ask them to refrain from behaving in such a manner and remind them about the Code of Conduct Policy.
3. If the offence continues, then the most senior club representative will verbally warn them again and make them aware that if they don't stop behaving badly then they will be required to leave the club's facility.
4. Those that breach a Code of Conduct may be required to front a disciplinary panel established by the Executive and liable to disciplinary action. Any penalty imposed is at the discretion of the panel and repeated breaches may result in expulsion from the club.
5. Under no circumstances should the Avondale Heights Football Club's - Code of Conduct Policy be breached: No matter whomever the offender is.

### 3.0 CLUB COMMITTEE AND CONTACTS - 2018

Position	Name	Responsibility	Contact
President	Ted Hatzakortzian	Club Organisation	0404 838 196
Secretary	Lisa Riitano	Club Administration	0412 414 526
Treasurer	TBA		
Junior Vice President	Roy Fishenden	Club Organisation (Junior)	0408 111 560
Committee Member	Rocky Prochilo	General	
Committee Member	Charles Cuzzupi	General	
Committee Member			
Junior Coordinator Football	Anthony Lafauci	Junior Football Development	0404 934 592
Junior Coordinator Administration	Darren Sheridan	Junior Football Development	0401 000 328
Girls Football Coordinator	Sevil Francis	Girls Football Development	0416 005 220
Junior Registrar	Janine Fishenden	Junior Registrations	0408 440 269
U/17 Boys Coach	Robert Pinigitore Jaime Knape	Junior Coach Junior Coach	0478 403 339
U/15 Boys Coach	Marcus Storey	Junior Coach	0435 964 464
U/13 Boys Coach	Darren Sheridan	Junior Coach	0401 000 328
U/11 Boys Blue Coach	James Stevens	Junior Coach	0408 140 050
U/11 Boys White Coach	Greg Millar Michael Freedman	Junior Coach Junior Coach	0417 579 451 0421 284 266
U/9 Coach	Adam Anderson	Junior Coach	0434 920 248
AUSKICK	Dean Campbell		0431 921 968
U15 Girls	Ritchie Francis	Junior Coach	0433 321 986

## **4. PLAYER SELECTION GUIDELINES**

### **4.1 Following Siblings**

When a player is participating in the U11 or U13 age group and has a sibling playing or parent/guardian coaching in a higher division, that player shall follow the older player and be placed in the same division as the older player or coach. The player does not have to play in a higher division (in respect of this rule), if his parent/guardian advises otherwise.

Note: at present this relationship does not apply at the U15 and U17 level, as the Avondale Heights Football Club does not have multiple sides at these levels.

### **4.2 Squad Selections**

#### **Where there are more than one squad in an age group.**

The coaches who have been appointed by the Avondale Heights Football Club in consultation with the Junior Football Coordinator select squads for each team.

#### **U11 and U13 teams**

Squads for the U11 and U13 Divisions are to be divided with an emphasis on participation, enjoyment, development and merit. Selection also considers the competitiveness of each team. Being 'top-age' is not a factor in determining squad participation. Players may be moved into the other division from time to time, at the discretion of the coaches in consultation with the Junior Football Coordinator.

#### **U15 and U17 teams**

Where two sides operate in the same age group but in different divisions, coaches in consultation with the Junior Football Coordinator are empowered to select teams. This is based on their collective judgement and perception of the player's abilities, potential, development, attitude, commitment and the need for team balance.

Players may be moved into the other division from time to time, at the discretion of the coaches in consultation with the Junior Football Coordinator.

The coaches of each division are to ensure where possible that every player is selected in a team.

### **4.3 Team Selections**

24 players are able to play each week (U11, 13, 15 & 17). If a team list extends past 24, some players will be required to be rostered off each week during the season. If possible, coaches and team managers should give parent/guardians and players the opportunity to advise in advance, any times of unavailability to ensure those games missed, are counted towards games rostered off.

At the U11 and U13 levels, it is preferable that all players be rotated equitably but the age of players may affect rostering sequence.

At the U15 and U17 levels, player rostering sequence will also place an emphasis on ability and future club development and representation (U19 and Seniors)

Each team's individual rostering system is to be explained at the start of the season.

An accurate record of player selection is required and dates when players were rostered off.

Team selection ultimately rests with the coach in consultation with the Junior Football Coordinator.

### **4.4 Match Day Policies**

All U9 and U11 players are to turn 7 years of age before 30<sup>th</sup> April in the year that they play

All U11 players who turn 9 or 10 years of age in that year and all U13 players shall play a minimum of three-quarters of each home and away game, where practicable.

All U11 players who turn 8 years of age in that year shall play a minimum of one half of each home and away game, where practicable.

All players in the U15 and U17 teams shall play a minimum of one half of each home and away game where practicable.

Any player deemed not financial by the Club Treasurer shall not be eligible to represent the Avondale Heights Football Club or be eligible to receive team trophies at season end.

In respect of an under-age player playing in a higher age group, the following guidelines apply:

1. Below 21 players will be the trigger to secure a lower age player from another age group.
2. Players that are available to play from a lower age group are to be rotated through the higher age group.
3. This is to be done in consultation with the lower age group coach and Junior Football Coordinator.
4. Discretion is available to the Junior Football Coordinator in consultation with the Junior Vice President to adjust the minimum player number during finals.

The Junior Football Coordinator and Junior Vice President will determine any disputes, subject to the Junior Club Football Policy.

## **5. PLAYER UNIFORM**

### **5.1 Football Jumpers**

#### **Jumper Distribution and Use**

1. Each team will be given a set of jumpers. These jumpers are to be kept by the player for the duration of the season. There are a variety of sizes in each set and the Coach and Team Manager are to distribute jumpers to reflect player size before player number requests are taken into account.
2. Football jumpers remain the property of the Avondale Heights Football Club and are only to be worn on game day during game. Players are not allowed to wear the jumpers after their game is complete
3. Before washing your jumper, carefully read the washing instructions. Do not wash jumpers with other clothing items that are likely to bleed, as the jumpers will soak up the dye during washing.
4. If you iron the jumper, make sure that the iron is warm not hot and please use an ironing cloth. Generally, if the jumper is hung out carefully to dry, it should not need ironing. Remember, the jumper belongs to the club and if damaged or lost, you may be required to reimburse the club for its replacement or repair.
5. The Team Manager will maintain a record of jumper distribution and update the record when required throughout the season.

#### **Jumper Collection**

1. Collect all jumpers after the last game, even if they are wet/muddy. It is easier to wash a set of jumpers than to chase every player after the season.
2. Ensure that jumpers from players who may leave the club during the season are sought and collected as soon as you know the player is leaving. Do not leave this to end of season

### **5.2 Player Football Uniform**

- Each player will need to purchase EDFL-Avondale Heights branded shorts and socks.
- For home games, EDFL sanctioned navy blue shorts and socks are to be worn.
- For away games, EDFL sanctioned white shorts are to be worn.
- All football jumpers provided are sleeve less. If players wish to wear a sleeved undergarment, the garment must be navy in colour and EDFL compliant.
- All players are to wear mouth guards (it is recommended that mouthguards are prepared and fitted by a qualified practitioner) whilst involved in training and/or matches

## **6. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

### **6.1 Coaches Property**

Each coach will be given training equipment at the commencement of the season for use during training sessions. The equipment will consist of the following.

- 1) Training balls
- 2) Training hats/markers.
- 3) Coach's magnetic folder/board.
- 4) Tackle bags are available at the Club Rooms.

If you require additional or other equipment please contact the Junior Football Coordinator. All property shall be returned immediately to the Property Steward at the conclusion of the season.

### **6.2 Team Manager Property**

The Team Manager will be given a kit containing equipment at the commencement of the season for use during match day. The equipment will consist of the following

1. Goal Umpire Jacket
2. Goal Umpire Flags
3. Water bottle set & tray
4. Fluoro Green Vest (1) - Runner
5. Blue vest (1) - Umpires Escort
6. Green Vests (2) - Water Carrier
7. Black polo Vest (1) - Trainer
8. Coach's Red vest (1) - Coach
9. Ass Coach Red vest (1) - Assistant coach
10. Team Manager Red Vest (1) - Team Manager

The Team Manager may also be given a bag containing track suit tops for the interchange bench (6 jackets).

Please ensure all football kits and track suit bags are returned to the Property Steward immediately after the completion of the football season.

### **6.3 First Aid / Trainer**

The First Aid / Trainer will be responsible for maintaining the first aid kit. The first aid kits are given to each team at the commencement of the season. Any first aid items required during the season are to be obtained from Senior Committee. Trainers will wear black trainers top as provided by club. A Defibrillator is located adjacent to the bar in the clubroom.

First Aid Kits should contain the following items:

- Scissors
- Bandages
- Eye bath
- Gauze
- Ice pack
- Band-aides
- Sterile water
- Savlon
- Sling
- Gloves
- Cotton buds
- Thin tape
- Pins
- Eye pads
- Cotton balls
- Wide tape

## 7.0 Grievance Procedure

At times parent/guardians may have issues that concern them and/or their child. The committee of the club has addressed a number of areas that they believe are significant in the coaching and management of players. This has resulted in the production of policies and procedures associated with Team Selection, Player Rotation and Finals Selection. These policies are intended to educate parents and make them fully aware of how coaches are expected to act in regards to these areas.

In the event of a grievance being raised by a parent/guardian in regards to these areas or other areas of concern, the following steps should be followed:

- Under normal circumstance, parent/guardians are encouraged to approach the coach to resolve the matter.
- At times the parent may approach the Junior Football Coordinator or Junior Vice President prior to approaching the coach or may not be satisfied that a resolution has been arrived at, even after the initial discussion with the coach.
- In this situation the Junior Football Coordinator or Junior Vice President will act on behalf of the committee and communicate directly with the coach to inform them of the concern that has been raised. It is then hoped that a resolution to the issue will occur, based on the clubs relevant policies and procedures. All matters raised must be passed on to the coach in fairness of extending a right of reply.
- If no resolution is arrived at, a member of the club executive committee will be required to mediate and give a binding direction to the parties involved.

## 8.0 Contact us

The Avondale Heights Football Club is determined to ensure that being involved with our football club will be a positive and rewarding experience for all players and their families.

We will continue to provide an environment that promotes team sport in a positive and rewarding way. The Avondale Heights Football Club is a club that brings families together and assists in forging lasting friendships.

If you have any questions regarding your children or the contents of this document, please contact the Junior Vice President of the Avondale Heights Football Club.

Web: <http://www.ahfc.org.au/>



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<https://www.facebook.com/avondaleheightsfc>