

FOOTBALL CLUBS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In the event of an emergency the following procedures should be followed for proper protocol.

REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PLAYER HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the Emergency Action Plan;

1. If a player is injured, the “assigned person” should immediately attend the injured player and determine the seriousness of the injury. Adopt the Stop, Talk, Observe, Prevent Further Injuries regime.
2. If the assigned person considers the injury to be serious, stop the game immediately. If it is necessary to hold-up or abandon the game whilst the player is being attended to, then this action will be fully supported by the Club, DFDC and WA Football Commission.
3. If at any time a player is injured and is unconscious or has limited movement he/she should not be moved onto a stretcher, unless under the direction of someone who has sound knowledge of first aid.
4. Medical advice received by the Club is “If a person cannot get onto the stretcher unaided they should not be moved, except by qualified personnel”.
5. Commence appropriate first aid as quickly as possible after the accident or injury has occurred. Try to remain calm and think your actions through.
6. Make sure that one person is in control of the situation: i.e. the assigned person or coach, first aid person, to avoid any confusion with procedures and / or control bystanders.
7. Contact the ambulance service (dial 000) and inform them of the situation.
8. What to tell the ambulance personnel:
 - Address of the oval, nearest entrance or other relevant information.
 - The type and seriousness of injury and whether the player is conscious or unconscious.
 - Where to gain admittance, eg south side of Clubrooms at (club insert details) Oval.
9. Ensure the “assigned person” stays with the injured player until the ambulance arrives and takes control of the situation.
10. Make sure someone is assigned to wait in front of the main entrance of the Clubrooms or oval to meet the ambulance (you may have to unlock the chain so the ambulance can get onto the oval). Assigned person should know where key is kept.
11. Ensure the impact area is cleared for easy access for the ambulance personnel.
12. The assigned person should gather eyewitnesses in a central location (statements may need to be taken at the end of the match depending on the nature and seriousness of the injury).
13. Provide any additional assistance as required e.g. notifying parents, collecting personal belongings etc.

ACCIDENT / INJURY REPORTING

The last step following a serious injury or incident is documentation. An accident / injury report must be filled out for risk management and liability purposes.

1. The “assigned person” attending the injured player is to complete the accident / injury report form and hand it to the Club Secretary on the day of the injury.
2. Parents should refer to the insurance policy for details on making an insurance or medical claim.
3. The reports will be kept by the Club and reviewed by the Committee on a regular basis for risk management and liability purposes.
4. Copies of the reports are to be forwarded to the DFDC by the Club (use information sheet until report forms have been developed).

FOOTBALL DISTRICTS MEDICAL OR OPERATIONAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In the event of an emergency or serious incident the following procedures should be followed for proper protocol.

REMEMBER THE WELL BEING OF THE PARTICIPANT HAS FIRST PRIORITY

Activate the District Emergency Action Plan;

1. Identify what has happened? Make as many notes as possible.
2. Is this a medical or operational emergency?

MEDICAL

- a) Is anyone injured?
 - I. If yes - has medical assistance been arranged?
 - II. If not - arrange medical attendance by calling 000
- b) Where is the person now?
- c) Is anyone else involved?
- d) Who is managing the incident?
 - III. Do they require support?
 - IV. Can you or designated person attend the incident?
 - V. Has the incident Manager contacted relevant persons eg Police, Medical, Parent, Partner, Other, etc
- e) Notify your next level of District Management as soon as practical.
- f) Inform an appropriate Manager at the WAFC of major incidents.
- g) Monitor the circumstances, and brief others where necessary.
- h) Conduct a review of incident including reaction and follow up process.

OPERATIONAL

- a) If any injuries follow the Medical emergency action plans as well.
- b) What has happened? Make as many notes as possible.
- c) Who has been involved?
- d) Where are they from?
- e) Who is managing the incident?
- f) Do they require additional support?
- g) Can you or a designated person attend?
- h) If required to make any on the scene decisions can you consult with any other officials.
 - Make sure your actions do not bring the game of football into disrepute
- i) Has the incident Manager contacted relevant persons?
 - District Officials, Police, Medical, Parent, Partner, Local Govt or Other
- j) Notify your next level of District Management as soon as practical.
- k) Inform an appropriate Manager at the WAFC of major incidents.
- l) Monitor the circumstances, and brief others where necessary.
- m) Conduct a review of incident including reaction and follow up process.

BOTH

- a) If contacted by any outside agency, e.g. Media or public make no comment what so ever without consultative permission from the District Chairman and WAFC representative.
- b) If uncertain of any part of this process and you cannot contact a District Management official, refer to WAFC contact list (in club manual) and contact a WAFC official for advice and support.

FIRST AID BASICS

The following basic steps outline a First Aid Protocol;

- D – Danger (*Check for any danger to yourself, others or the patient*)
- R – Response (*Check the patient for any signs of a response*)
- S – Send for Help (*send someone for help or to call 000*)
- A – Airway (*Check clear the airway*)
- B – Breathing (*Check the patient for breathing*)
- C – CPR (*Begin CPR*)
- D – Defibrillation (*utilise a defibrillation machine if you have one*)



FIRST AID PERSONNEL

Please note that First Aid personnel should wear a bib that contains a green cross (and not a red cross) – see example. The red cross emblem is the universal emblem of protection in armed conflict, its use is restricted under international humanitarian law and specifically by Australian law – Section 15 of the *Geneva Conventions Act 1957* (Cth).

CLUB & VOLUNTEER APPOINTMENTS

It is strongly recommended that all clubs follow a comprehensive interview and selection process for all roles and positions at the club (including coaches), that incorporates the checking with referees. Once this process has been completed then every person involved must either complete a Working with Children Check, and sign a Prohibited Person Declaration (if exempt from a WWCC then they MUST still sign a Prohibitive Persons Declaration). It is also strongly advised that clubs request national police clearances where applicable for personnel that are either on the club committee or involved in a coaching capacity.

NATIONAL COACHING STRATEGY: A NEW APPROACH

Prior to the commencement of the 2018 football season, following extensive research, analysis and consultation with stakeholders across the industry, a new approach to accreditation and support of the coaching community will be introduced.

The primary objectives of the new approach are to:

- Reduce the barriers to entry of becoming an accredited coach
- Build a deeper understanding of the coaching community
- Use this understanding to increase the accessibility of targeted quality resources for coaches
- Provide ongoing education and development opportunities for all coaches
- Ensure all coaches understand their responsibilities and obligations

The National Coaching Strategy will commence its roll out in early March, key features of this new approach include:

1.0 IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY TO ENTRY LEVEL ACCREDITATION

As has been the case for many years, coaching accreditation will continue to be mandatory for all those wishing to fulfil a coaching role on match day. However, entry level accreditation is being changed to improve its accessibility.

The current 4-year accreditation scheme will be replaced a **New Coach AFL Membership Model** featuring annual membership, administered via the **Coach.AFL online platform**. An annual membership fee will apply.

Foundation Level Accreditation (previously Level 1) will be included as a benefit of Coach.AFL membership and will be achieved through the completion of an online Foundation Course specific to the age of the team being coached whether it be senior, youth or junior (including Auskick). **There will be NO requirement to attend a coaching workshop in person prior to achieve this Foundation Level Accreditation and commencing coaching in 2018.** This online Foundation Level Accreditation will take between 60-90 minutes to complete.