

NOTES FROM MANAGER UMPIRING OPERATIONS – TRAINING 7 APRIL 2010

a) Training Calendar

The calendar will be put on the Riddell Umpires website within the next few days. It will involve a 3 week cycle, roughly as follows –

- Normal training – essentially fitness training with no requirement to stay afterwards
- Skills training and lecture – training session will focus emphasis on a particular skill, with a lecture to take place either before or after training
- Normal training followed by a meeting involving umpires from all disciplines, at which items of general interest will be discussed, maybe guest speakers, etc – there will be 2 Association meetings on these nights during the season

b) Rule Changes for 2010

A handout was distributed 2 weeks ago at training, and is now on the website.

c) Training Attendance

As we officially train only one night per week, contact should be made with your respective coach if you are unable to attend training. It is expected that all umpires adopt a professional approach to their umpiring, including attendance at and attitude to training. All umpires should aim for maximum attendance at official training sessions and meetings, although it is recognized that other commitments including work may prevent 100 per cent attendance. Training attendance will be one of a number of factors to be used in determining appointments to finals' matches.

d) Unavailability for Games

If you know well in advance of your unavailability for a game, please complete the Unavailability Advice form as soon as possible and forward such to your respective coach. Appointments are normally made by each coach on a Sunday night and circulated within the coaching group, so as to enable transport arrangements to be made for some of the younger ones, etc. Notification of your unavailability during the week, or on a Wednesday night at training before a game, creates a number of difficulties in rearranging appointments.

e) Tribunal

Any umpire making a report needs to contact Terry Duffy, our Tribunal Coordinator, on the night of the game. All umpires must put their evidence in writing and provide a copy to Terry by the Monday night preceding the tribunal hearing. Thought will be given to providing an appropriate form for this purpose.

f) Round One

Round 1 matches will be held for both seniors and juniors this coming weekend. There will be no Ballarat League games for us this week, but will commence the following weekend. We have a number of new young boundary umpires running this weekend, and I would ask that field and goal umpires in their games provide every encouragement to them.

g) Rotation of Senior Field Umpires

Due to the number of field umpires in my view capable of umpiring senior football, a rotation system similar to last year will be used. In the normal course of events, senior umpires should only be rostered to do a lower grade game on 3 to 4 occasions during the year. Unavailability to umpire on a particular weekend, but not necessarily as a result of injury, will count as part of the roster.

h) Junior Games

Glen Shilling has indicated that he has a number of new field umpires running on Sunday this week, with the likelihood of a dozen or so games without umpires. Senior field, goal and boundary umpires are encouraged over the next few weeks to attend junior games, not necessarily to run but simply to provide support to these new umpires starting off on what we hope will be a long and productive journey in the world of umpiring.

i) Olie Matthews

Congratulations to Olie on reaching the milestone of 1,000 games of umpiring this coming weekend.

Good luck to everyone this weekend.

Brian Collins