



Ainslie Junior Football

Supporting your Child's Team – Parent Roles



Fact Sheet 6 – Ground Manager

Duties and Responsibilities

The role of the Ground Manager is to facilitate football operations and assist in maintaining a positive football environment for all involved in playing, officiating and watching Junior Footy at Ainslie home games. The Ground Manager should reflect the positive aspects of the AFL *Code of Conduct* and be able to provide a pro-active service to all the participants of Junior Football.

Basically it is about being identifiable, approachable (common questions will be where are toilets, which Oval is my child playing on) and requiring a little common sense in reminding people that they are watching a game of Junior Footy which is for the benefit of the kids and not the spectators.

The Ground Manager must wear the hi-vis vest provided so as to be clearly identifiable to teams, officials and spectators.

Prior to each game, the Ground Manager should introduce themselves to Team Managers and Umpires and point out the location of Change Rooms (where applicable), Canteen and toilets (behind the goals on the larger of the two Reid Ovals).

Note: the Emergency Response Coordinator (ERC) requirement is only relevant for the u13s and older games. The Sports First Aid person fills this role.

Match Day Role

- ✓ With the Home Team, ensure the ground and facilities are suitable for use/play. For first game on the oval for the day, remind HOME Team Manager of need to complete Matchday Safety Check done via the Matchday JLT App.
- ✓ Check whether Umpires have all they require and whether they wish to have someone escort them to and from the field at the relevant times (at start of game, before and after half time).
- ✓ Ensure that Team Managers and Umpires are aware of how many players should be on the field. Note unless otherwise agreed by both teams, the number of players is between 14-18.
- ✓ Ensure Umpires are not harassed by any player, official or spectator before, during or after the match. This includes breaks (quarter, half and three-quarter time). There is a distinction between frustration with a decision and harassment - but continuing frustration may cross into harassment.
- ✓ Assist teams with the appointment of Club Umpire(s) in the event the appointed Umpire(s) does not attend the match.
- ✓ Ensure that games commence at designated times in consultation with Umpires and Time Keepers and ensure the huddles are broken up in time to commence the game.

- ✓ Remind players, officials and spectators of need to stay 3m behind the boundary line to allow Boundary Umpires sufficient space to run.
- ✓ Monitor the area inside the boundary line around the perimeter of the field making sure that there are no spectators inside the boundary line and that only the persons on the Team Sheet are in the Coaches Boxes.
- ✓ Be the pivot for information for both Teams, through their Team Managers and Umpires.
- ✓ Instruct team officials and/or spectators to modify their behaviour where it is deemed to be inappropriate and contrary to the [AFL NSW/ACT Code of Conduct](#) and/or a positive match day environment for players, officials or other spectators. Should an approach to spectators be unsuccessful then instruct the relevant Team Manager to deal with the spectators concerned. Should this be unsuccessful then contact Sue-Anne McKeough (Ainslie Juniors President) on 0423 782 753.
- ✓ Remind Away Teams that they need to remove their items from the changeroom at the end of half time. If they arrange with following team to keep items in changeroom then that's fine.
- ✓ Act as the contact point for officials and spectators should they have any queries.

Note: The Clubs' Team Managers are responsible for the operational setup and running of each team for each game, including all rostered duties, eg timekeepers, runners, goal umps etc.

The Ground Manager role is very different to that of Team Manager.

Match Incident

Ground Managers have specific responsibilities under the *AFL NSW/ACT Code of Conduct* in the event of an incident. These responsibilities are set out in the [Code of Conduct](#).

In the event of any match day incidents please advise Ainslie Juniors President, Sue-Anne McKeough, immediately (sueanne.mckeough@ainsliefootball.com.au or 0423 782 753) and complete an Incident Report Form or other paperwork as provided.

Emergency Services

If Emergency Services is required, the Ground Manager should liaise with the Sports Trainer and/or Team First Aid personnel about who will make the call.

Note: generally the Emergency Gates will be unlocked, however a spare set of keys are located in the Canteen.

Emergency vehicle access gates are located on Euree Street, Reid (near cricket nets) and on Elimatta Street, Reid (near toilets) – see map over. Identify which gate to use and send someone to open the gate and direct the ambulance.

Should an emergency vehicle require access you will need to liaise with the Umpires as the vehicle will likely need to cross the Oval.

