



UMPIRING MATTERS

COMMUNICATION TO ALL UMPIRES FROM THE SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE UMPIRING DEPARTMENT

Edition 1: 6 March 2015

Excellence in Umpiring

WELCOME TO 2015

Welcome to season 2015! It's great to have you back involved in umpiring at community level. For the latest umpiring news please visit sfl.com.au, then select the umpiring tab.

FITNESS AND COACHING PROGRAM

Our Physical Performance training is now underway for Field, Boundary and Goal Umpires.

Venue: Bricker Reserve, Rowans Road, Moorabbin

Time: Training commences at 6.00pm sharp. Please arrive early.

Field and Boundary Umpires: Tuesday and Thursday

Goal Umpires: Thursday

Our coaching program for each category of umpiring is conducted mainly on a Thursday night.

GET IN THE GAME - INVITE OTHERS TO JOIN OUR GREAT GAME

Did you know research shows that the best form of recruitment is by "word of mouth"? How did you become involved in umpiring? Did a friend mention how good it was?

To assist with the continual development of our umpiring group it's vital that we continue to bring new people into our organisation. Do you know someone who may make a good Umpire? If so, invite them along to training and introduce them to your fellow umpires and the Umpiring Department.

UMPIRING DEPARTMENT

I'm delighted to announce that the Umpiring Department and Fitness Team has been finalised for 2015:

- The **Field Umpires** coaching team of Brad Lowe (Field Umpires Coach), Garry Embleton (Field Umpires Senior Assistant Coach) and David Smith (Match Day Observer) are all returning in 2015. I'm pleased to announce that Jonathan Auditore has been appointed as Field Umpires Skills Development Coach. After a successful stint as Umpires Head Coach at South Metro Junior Football League, Jonathan makes a wonderful addition to the Field Umpires coaching team.
- Michael Ellison-Jones (EJ) will again head up our **Boundary Umpires** coaching team. Assisting EJ this year is Troy Nicholson. Troy is making the transition into coaching from being one of our top Field Umpires. Scott Van Noordennen will assist with Observations of Field and Boundary Umpires.
- Craig Davenport returns as **Goal Umpires** Coach. Brett McGeorge has been appointed to the position as Goal Umpires Assistant Coach. Brett is a former SFL Umpire, who brings a wealth of experience, including multiple Grand Finals. Robin Epstein is returning as a Match Day Observer.

2015 Umpiring Department Team

Director of Umpiring: Peter Mair

Umpiring Ambassador: Stephen McBurney

Administration Manager: Toby Jedwab

Field Umpires Coach: Brad Lowe

Field Umpires Senior Assistant Coach: Garry Embleton

Field Umpires Skills Development Coach: Jonathan Auditore

Field Umpires Observer: David Smith

Boundary Umpires Coach: Michael Ellison-Jones

Boundary Umpires Assistant Coach: Troy Nicholson

Boundary Umpires Observer: Scott Van Noordennen

Goal Umpires Coach: Craig Davenport

Goal Umpires Assistant Coach: Brett McGeorge

Goal Umpires Observer: Robin Epstein

First Year Umpire Program Manager: Scott Van Noordennen

PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE (FITNESS TEAM)

I'm happy to announce that we have a new team of fitness experts to lead our Physical Performance program in 2015:

- Our **Physical Performance** program this year will be headed up by Michael Ellison-Jones (EJ). EJ has been involved in some capacity with our fitness program for a number of years. This year EJ will be assisted by Mark Hamilton-Smith and Ryan Gordon. Mark has willingly offered his knowledge in core strength for many years, while Ryan has just completed his Exercise Science degree. Both Mark and Ryan will continue to umpire.
- I take this opportunity to thank Ian Webb for his wonderful contribution to the Southern Football League Umpiring group over a number of years. Webby's dedication and commitment has been sensational. His ability to introduce variety into our training program, along with the challenge of implementing a program that covered off a wide range of fitness levels and skill sets was amazing. Unfortunately, due to a clash of commitments with Ian's other role with the AFL Goal Umpires group, he is unable to continue in a face to face position with SFL. However, Ian remains with us as our Physical Performance Consultant.

2015 Fitness Team

Physical Performance Coach: Michael Ellison-Jones

Physical Performance Consultant: Ian Webb

Fitness Assistant: Ryan Gordon

Fitness Assistant: Mark Hamilton-Smith

COACHING PROGRAM

The Umpiring Department is in the process of finalising the coaching plans for the entire season.

Recently a number of our coaches attended the AFL Victoria state Umpires Coaches conference where coaching staff from across the state obtained valuable information to assist with umpiring development and umpiring coaching programs for 2015.

A number of our coaches were awarded the Advanced or Introductory Umpires Coach Certificate.

In addition, this year we are fortunate to have several of our Umpiring Department team also involved in a Match Day Observation coaching capacity at the AFL Victoria / Victorian Football League. This ensures that we have the best, and the most up to date, coaching information to deliver to you.

REGISTRATION

Please register to umpire in the Southern Football League by completing the on-line **Registration Form** at sfl.com.au. Under the main "Umpiring" tab select "Register To Become An Umpire". Please ensure that you also update your **Schedula** profile with correct personal contact and banking details.

Please refer to the "Registration Checklist" on-line at sfl.com.au

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

Are you 18 years or over, or turning 18 years of age this season?

It is a compulsory requirement for all Umpires 18 years of age and over to obtain a Working With Children Check.

Please refer to the registration page on sfl.com.au for further details.

When applying for a WWCC be sure to select "Sport Volunteer", as no fee is required for this category.

Please ensure that you advise Toby Jedwab once you have your WWCC, together with the expiry date.

Questions about WWCC? Contact Toby at SFL HQ.

FIRST YEAR UMPIRE PROGRAM

After a successful inaugural year of the First Year Umpire program, we are happy to announce that this program will continue again in 2015. The First Year Umpire program ensures that all new Umpires settle effectively into the world of community umpiring.

The "First Year Umpire" program caters for all brand new Umpires and those new to the SFL. The program will be held on a Tuesday night in the first half of the season. The program will be headed up by Scott Van Noordennen.

NATIONAL UMPIRES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (NUAS)

It is a compulsory requirement that all Field, Boundary and Goal Umpires are at least Level 1 accredited, as part of the AFL National Umpire Accreditation Scheme. This must be completed before you commence umpiring in 2015.

Please refer to the registration page on sfl.com.au under the umpiring tab for further details. Please ensure that you provide a copy of your Completion Certificate to Toby Jedwab.

VOLUNTEERS – Expression of Interest

Are you interested in assisting with running our Umpiring programs?

We are now seeking Expression of Interest for the following:

- Media assistants
- Digital / Social Media experts
- "My Story": Provide details of your own umpiring story, including how you became involved in umpiring, e.g. ex-footballers, umpiring families, father – son, husband-wife, siblings, etc...

UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

The Umpiring Department looks forward to working closely with the Umpires Association (SFLUA) again in 2015.

The Umpires Association Committee is duly elected by its members and is independent of the Southern Football League and the Southern Football League Umpiring Department.

The Umpires Association acts to protect the rights of all SFL Umpires and coordinates all of the social events for all current members and Life members. The Umpires Association also coordinates the sale of all match day uniforms.

Please refer to the Umpires Association website for further details: sflumpires.com

UNIFORMS

The Umpires Association also coordinates the sale of all match day uniforms. Standby for further communication from the Umpires Association at training and on-line.

*REMINDER: Field and Boundary Umpires - official uniform includes **white** runners or **white** boots.
Goal Umpires – official uniform includes **black** football boots.*

2015 KEY DATES

Thr 5 Feb:	Pre Season training commenced for Field and Boundary Umpires.
Thr 5 Mar:	Pre Season training commenced for Goal Umpires.
Sat 11 Apr / Sun 12 Apr:	Season commences.
Thr 16 Apr:	SFLUA Season Launch (First Supper).
Sat 16 May:	Community Umpiring Round.
Sat 6 Jun / Sun 7 Jun:	Bye round over the Queen's Birthday weekend for all Divisions.
Sat 4 Jul / Sun 5 Jul:	Bye round for Division 1 and 2 only.
Thr 13 Aug:	SFLUA Season Wrap (Last Supper).
Sat 22 Aug / Sun 23 Aug:	Finals commence Division 3.
Sat 29 Aug / Sun 30 Aug:	Finals commence Division 1 and 2.
Thr 10 Sep:	Announcement of Division 3 Grand Final Umpires.
Sat 12 Sep:	Grand Final Division 3.
Wed 16 Sep:	Grand Final Appointments and Presentation Night.
Sat 19 Sep:	Grand Final Division 2.
Sun 20 Sep:	Grand Final Division 1.

LATEST NEWS

For the latest Umpiring news during the season please log onto the Southern Football League website sfl.com.au, then select the Umpiring tab.

On behalf of the SFL Administration and the entire Umpiring Department, best wishes for a successful 2015 season.

Kind regards

Peter

Peter Mair
Director Of Umpiring
Southern Football League

sfl.com.au / umpiring

sflumpires.com