

FAQs

Admin

Q: What about Covid and general safety for the players and volunteers?

A: A Ground Manager (GM) and a Trainer will be present at all games. The GM will oversee:

- Collating team lists (GM will write down each of the player's name who have arrived to play and who brought them to the game, this cuts down on any unnecessary contact).
- Sighting all volunteers WWCC cards/numbers.
- Sanitisation of the game balls.
- Sanitisation on players and volunteer umpires' hands before the game.
- Ensure no football boots are worn. Players will not be allowed to play in boots.
- Games running on time.
- Ground set up and pack down.
- Matchday checklist (insurance).

Q: Will there be first aid, or do we need any other officials?

A: SMJFL will be providing a qualified first aid officer at each ground in case of injury. **If you have any suitably qualified club members who wishes to offer their services, please have them contact Ian on footballops@smjfl.com.au.**

Q: What about first aid kits and ice?

A: This will be each teams' responsibility to provide.

Q: What are the rules of the SMJFL Football for Fun 10s program?

A: The SMJFL 10s is a minimal contact modified game based off AFL 9s. The AFL9s rules can be found [here](#). There are variances in the SMJFL 10s that can be found in our [rule's matrix](#). Teams are made up of a maximum of 10 players

Q: What are the age groups?

A: The age groups are U8 Mixed, U10 Mixed, U12 Girls, U12 Mixed, U14 Mixed, U15 Girls, U16 Boys, U17.5 Boys and U18 Girls.

Q: Can we have substitutes?

A: At this stage, there are only 10 players on a team. Due to the short halves and Covid, no substitutes are needed.

Q: What happens if players have changed age in the offseason? So, for example, if a player would have turned 14 already so playing U15 next year. Would the player play in a U16 or U14 team?

A: All players would play in the age group they would have played in the 2020 season. The example above the player will play in a U14 team. If players wish to play up an age group, like in a normal season, they can do.

Q: Can players play out of their age group, it is for fun after all?

A: Like in any normal season players can play up an age group. Unfortunately, for this program, players cannot play down an age group.

Q: We have a few younger ones coming through. Given that it's non-contact, could they all play in the Under 10's?

A: Certainly can. A player must be a minimum of 7 years of age as at 30 April in the calendar year of their first season to be eligible to be registered with the SMJFL and this program.

Q: Some clubs have chosen not to participate, can a player from different club play in our team?

A: This is a club decision. The SMJFL recommends clubs prioritise their players.

Q: How many teams are we allowed to enter?

A: The SMJFL is currently finalising venues. Once these have been confirmed there may be restrictions on team numbers. This will be done based on 2020 team numbers (pro-rata).

Q: With some age groups being mixed, what is the make-up of the team numbers? Is there any flexibility?

A: There will be no maximums or minimum boys/girls in mixed teams.

Q: What volunteers does each team need to have?

A: Each team will have a Team Manager on the day to look after any issues and be responsible for the team/club behaviour. Also, each team will be required to have a volunteer umpire. Previous experience is not essential but our Umpire Academy Manager, Cam, will run an information session before the program for those who require further assistance understanding the rules.

Q: What do teams need to wear?

A: Home team (named first in the fixture) will be required to wear a light top e.g. white, cream, tan. The away team (named second in the fixture) is required to wear a dark top e.g. black, navy. They don't have to match but need to be predominantly one colour to help distinguish teams. If teams have club gear, then they are free to use. **Boots must not be worn.**

Q: What is the Team Manager's role?

A: The Team Managers role is to ensure the team knows where and when they are playing and look after the team before, during and after games. The Team Manager can act as the coach.

Q: Insurance?

A: Players are covered under our program for 12 months of the year (1 Nov – 1 Nov), so pre-season/off season activities are covered. It is good practice for SMJFL to notify us/Marsh of any ad-hoc activities that you undertake.

A: In light of COVID-19 impacts, the insurance program is allowing 2020 registered players to play with another club (i.e. if their club has decided not to participate) and remain covered under the insurance program.

A: The insurance program will also allow multiple teams joining to form a team, again if they each did not have enough players to independently field a team.

A: If a player was registered in another league for 2020 and is looking to transfer to SMJFL, they will be covered under the AFL's insurance program. However, AFLVic will need to respond to any transfer requests in accordance with Rules & Regs.

A: If a player was not registered for 2020, but is looking to join in 2021, the program allows 'prospective players' to train and play for a period of 4 weeks prior to registering.

Q: What are the child safety requirements?

A: All matchday volunteers need to have a valid WWCC to take part in this program. The Ground Manager will require each volunteer to produce their WWCC on the day. If no WWCC can be produced the volunteer cannot take part in any capacity.

Q: How will any discipline issues be handled?

A: The team volunteers will be responsible for team behaviour. Any discipline issues will be dealt with as per the home and away season.

Game-based

Q: Can anyone score?

A: Yes, unlike AFL 9s, anyone can score!

Q: In AFL9s you have even numbers in thirds what about the SMJFL 10s?

A: Players will be in set positions at the start of each ball up. Three in both end thirds and four players in the middle third.

Q: Who supplies the match footballs?

A: Every team brings at least one match ball (does not need to be new, just adequate) and the two teams will collectively pick the best ball to be sanitised.

Q: For U8 Mixed, U10 Mixed and U12 Girls where there is 1 Field Umpire on the field at a time, who is the umpire?

A: Home Team umpire starts the first half, away team umpire starts the second half.

Q: Under 12 Mixed, U14 Mixed, U15 Girls, U16 Boys, U17.5 Boys and U18 Girls where there are 2 Field Umpires on the field at a time, who are the umpires?

A: Both umpires will take the field for both halves of the match. Both umpires will umpire one half of the ground each (no need to swap halves of the ground at half time) this way both umpires will have their club's forwards for one half and defenders for the other half.