

# Guide – Game Day Emergency and Safety

## 1 Purpose

This Guide is designed to support State and Community Football Leagues and Clubs in the safe delivery of an Australian Football match.

## 2 Scope

This Guide should be considered for implementation by all State and Community Football Leagues and Clubs. It does not replace any requirements contained in the National Community Football Policy Handbook or any other applicable AFL, State Football Body or League policy. Leagues and Clubs should refer to resources located on the Toyota AFL ClubHelp website ([play.afl/clubhelp/](http://play.afl/clubhelp/)) and in particular Part D of the National Community Football Policy Handbook ([play.afl/clubhelp/policies/national-community-footy-policy-handbook/](http://play.afl/clubhelp/policies/national-community-footy-policy-handbook/)).

## 3 Health and Safety Management

### 3.1 Emergency Management

#### 3.1.1 Emergency Preparedness

- Appoint someone (e.g., Team Manager) to coordinate the response in the case of an incident.
- That person is appropriately attired and trained (Refer to [play.afl/clubhelp/club-management/sports-trainers/](http://play.afl/clubhelp/club-management/sports-trainers/))
- Emergency contact details (i.e., emergency services, closest hospital/medical facility, council, utility provider, etc) and procedures are available, up to date and clearly displayed.
- Access to a telephone to call Emergency Services.
- Evacuation diagrams, as required, are up to date and clearly displayed.
- Emergency exits clearly marked and ready for use.
- Public areas (e.g., seating and walkways) and the arena are free of visible hazards (Note: consider ground surface, stairs, trip points, lighting, and equipment).

#### 3.1.2 Participant Injury Emergency Response

- A person with the Appropriate Minimum Qualifications for the relevant level of Australian Football is in attendance (Refer National Community Football Policy Handbook section 16.3).
- Adequate sport-specific rescue/transport equipment (e.g., stretcher and neck brace) is set-up and next to oval.
- Ambulance has clear access to enter the venue and/or the field of play. Gates need to be unlocked & opened on match days (if locked for security arrangements, keys are readily available).

### 3.2 First Aid

- First Aid Kit (FAK) is accessible for all matches. The FAK is fully stocked and has been serviced in the last 12 months.
- It is strongly recommended that an AED (defibrillator) is accessible for all matches and that it has been serviced and tested as per manufacturers' requirements.
- Ice purchased and available for use.
- ERC/First Aider/Sports Trainers/Qualified Medical Professional/Match Managers are aware of FAK and AED location.
- Consideration of a full oxygen cylinder with mask being accessible for all matches. It has been tested and serviced as per manufacturers' requirements.

### 3.3 Ground and Participant Access Areas Safety

- Weather conditions are satisfactory for play to commence (consider lightning, heat, rain, pooled water, visibility).
- The playing surfaces are satisfactory for play to commence (consider any potential risks of injury arising from undulations, potholes, centre wicket, loose soil/sand, visible debris, and man-made infrastructure such as drains, sprinklers, sprinkler lids, goal posts and pads, and cricket pitches).
- The perimeter fences, adjacent infrastructure and/or signs are free from visible hazards.
- The playing field line is marked in accordance with the AFL Preferred Facility Guidelines available on Toyota AFL ClubHelp website (consider preferred minimum boundary run-off distance) (Refer to [play.afl/clubhelp/club-management/managing-facilities/](http://play.afl/clubhelp/club-management/managing-facilities/)).
- The player's/umpire's areas (e.g., change rooms) are free from visible hazards (consider showers/wet areas, gym equipment, flooring, stairs/trip points).
- Umpire Escort(s) and Ground Managers(s) are in place and easily identifiable to officials and spectators.
- Security or support personnel present (for finals / major matches).
- Location of female change rooms are known to umpires and opposition when necessary.

We strongly encourage all clubs to access the Toyota AFL Club website if further support is needed: [play.afl/clubhelp/](http://play.afl/clubhelp/)