

AFL VICTORIA 2026 COACHING FORUM



FEB 28 – MARCH 01 | 9:00AM – 5:00PM | MCG MELBOURNE

Designed to elevate your coaching skills and knowledge. Whether you're an experienced coach or just starting out, this forum is the perfect chance to hear from some of the best in the industry.

FORUM SCHEDULE **DAY ONE**

SENIOR COACHES

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	WELCOME IN THE AFL MEMBERS DINING ROOM	ISAAC SMITH - MC
9:15 AM	AFL/AFLW COACHES Q&A PANEL	DAISY PEARCE AND CHRIS FAGAN
10:45 AM	EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION	ROB MASON - TASMANIAN DEVILS FC
1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:30 PM	TEAM DEFENCE - DEFENSIVE PRINCIPLES	ZANE LITTLEJOHN - NORTH MELBOURNE FC
3:00 PM	STAT ANALYSIS & GAME DAY TRENDS (HOW TO USE DATA/VISION - REFLECT/BUILD OUT/DEVELOP DRILL)	TONY PUCELLA - PREMIER DATA
4:30 PM	CLOSE THE DAY	

JUNIOR COACHES

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	WELCOME IN THE AFL MEMBERS DINING ROOM	ISAAC SMITH - MC
9:15 AM	AFL/AFLW COACHES Q&A PANEL	DAISY PEARCE AND CHRIS FAGAN
10:30 AM	FUNDAMENTALS DRILL DESIGN (PRACTICAL)	DAMIAN CARROLL - ST KILDA FC
11:45 AM	NEURO DIVERSE COACHING	LEAH WILLCOCK
1:30 PM	LUNCH	
2:00 PM	SKILL ACQUISITION CONTEST & GROUND BALLS (PRACTICAL)	MICK BARLOW - NORTH MELBOURNE FC
3:00 PM	RUCKS & TALLS MASTERCLASS (PRACTICAL)	DARREN FLANIGAN - AFL VICTORIA
4:00 PM	CLOSE THE DAY	

COACHES OF WOMEN & GIRLS TEAMS

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	WELCOME IN THE AFL MEMBERS DINING ROOM	ISAAC SMITH - MC
9:15 AM	AFL/AFLW COACHES Q&A PANEL	DAISY PEARCE AND CHRIS FAGAN
10:30 AM	WOMEN & GIRLS COACHES - COACHING GAME DAY	SHAE SLOANE - MELBOURNE FC
12:00 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS COACHES - WOMEN'S SPORTS PANEL	DAISY PEARCE / ASHLEIGH BRENNAN / MEGAN MOODY
1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:30 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS SENIOR COACHES - LIVE LIFE WHOLE	MEG DICKINSON
2:00 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS - JUNIOR COACHES (SKILL ACQUISITION CONTEST & GROUND BALLS - PRACTICAL)	MICHAEL BARLOW - NORTH MELBOURNE FC
3:30 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS COACHES - PREP TO PLAY	BROOKE PATTERSON
5:00 PM	CLOSE THE DAY	



FORUM SCHEDULE **DAY TWO**

SENIOR COACHES

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	SKILL ACQUISITION - TRAINING & DRILL DESIGN (PRACTICAL)	AUSTIN STUBBS / MARC SOPHOLIS
11:00AM	RUCKS & TALLS (STOPPAGE SETUPS & SYSTEMS/ROTATION & TIMINGS - PRACTICAL)	DARREN FLANIGAN - AFL VICTORIA
12:15 PM	NETWORKING - AFLY COACH FORUM TRADE SHOW	
1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:30 PM	DEVELOPING GAME PLAN & OFFENSIVE STRATEGY	JACKSON KORNBERG - FRANKSTON FC
3:00 PM	CULTURE & LEADERSHIP	SHANE MCCURRY - RICHMOND FC
5:00 PM	FORUM COMPLETED	

JUNIOR COACHES

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	COATES LEAGUE - TALENT PATHWAYS (WHAT TO COACH /LOOK FOR)	AFL TALENT PATHWAY COACH DEVELOPER CRAIG BLACK / SAM MCKENZIE
9:45 AM	TACKLING MASTERCLASS & INJURY PREVENTION	MALCOLM BANGS
12:00 PM	SKILL ACQUISITION KICKING MASTERCLASS (PRACTICAL)	PAUL HUDSON - FOOTY FAST-TRACKER
1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:30 PM	LEARNING LIFE THROUGH SPORT	ROD CAMPBELL
3:00 PM	JUNIOR COACHING DISCUSSION GROUP - TRAINING / GAME DAY EXPERIENCES	AFL VICTORIA COACHING TEAM
4:00 PM	FORUM COMPLETED	

COACHES OF WOMEN & GIRLS TEAMS

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 AM	WOMEN & GIRLS - SENIOR COACHES (SKILL ACQUISITION - TRAINING & DRILL DESIGN PRACTICAL)	AUSTIN STUBBS / MARC SOPHOLIS
9:00 AM	WOMEN & GIRLS JUNIOR COACHES - LIVE LIFE WHOLE	MEG DICKINSON
10:30 AM	WOMEN & GIRLS - NEURO DIVERSE COACHING	LEAH WILLCOCK
12:00 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS - KICKING MASTERCLASS	JOSHUA BOURKE - BD SPORTS
1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:30 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS TACKLING & INJURY PREVENTION	MALCOLM BANGS
3:30 PM	WOMEN & GIRLS SKILL ACQUISITION - (PRACTICAL)	SHAE SLOANE - MELBOURNE FC
5:00 PM	FORUM COMPLETED	