UMPIRE ENVIRONMENTS

ORANGE WRISTBAND INITIATIVE

PROGRAMS DOCUMENT

UMPIRE ENVIRONMENTS

ORANGE WRIST BAND INITIATIVE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Purpose

Create greater awareness and protection of umpires under the age of 18.

Outline

A state wide program where AFLVIC provides Community Umpire Groups with orange wristbands to clearly identify umpires who are under 18.

PROGRAM ENABLERS

UMPIRE GROUPS

- Education of umpire coaches in auditory offences policy
- All 2027 registered umpires who will be under 18 to wear orange wristbands

CLUBS

- Create a postive match day environment for umpires
- Ensure that coaches and parents are respectful in their communication on match day

LEAGUES

- Coach and Club awareness of program
- Support sanctioning of coaches who are found guilty of abuse towards umpires

OUTCOMES

- Statewide adoption of program and broad awareness of campagin
- Reduction of reports specifically related to abuse directed at umpires under 18 through
- Improved retention rates of umpires under 18 years old in season 2027 to 2028

Increased retention of umpires under 18 years old, strengthening participation base

TOOLKIT

COMMUNITY UMPIRE AWARENESS

Audience

Community Umpires

Purpose

Provide clear messaging for the program; its purpose, means, outcomes and impacts on junior umpires.

ASSETS

VIDEO | FLYER/SOCIAL MEDIA | EDUCATION

COACH AWARENESS

Audience

Community Coaches

Purpose

Provide clear messaging for the program; its purpose, means, outcomes and impacts on junior umpires.

ASSETS

VIDEO | FLYER/SOCIAL MEDIA | EDUCATION

CLUB AWARENESS

Audience

Community Clubs

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ASSETS

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COMMUNITY UMPIRES

ORANGE WRIST BAND PROGRAM

PURPOSE

The orange wristband initiative is designed to improve the match day experience for umpires. Specifically by focusing on identifying those who are u18, ensuring that players, spectators and coaches afford them the time and space to develop and enjoy their umpiring.

The program focuses on creating awareness through all stakeholders in footy.

OUTCOMES

DEVELOPMENT

- Providing umpires with the opportunitity to develop
- Not applied as a competency based program, applicable to any umpire u18 umpiring at any level of Community Football

MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE

- Changing match day narrative to encourage more positive dialogue from coaches and spectators
- Statewide identifyer to differentiate and moderate expectations

EDUCATION

- Increase awareness of umpire reporting related to umpire abuse
- Community Leagues, clubs & coaches supporting the program

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ORANGE WRISTBAND INTIATIVE

CREATING A BETTER MATCH DAY ENVIRONMENT FOR UMPIRES

PURPOSE

In 2027 the AFL and partnering Leagues and clubs will be introducing an orange wristband initative to help improve the match day experience for umpires, specifically for those under the age of 18.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- Umpires who are under 18 accross all levels of football will wear orange wristbands while umpiring
- This is not compency based, whether you are umpiring your 1st or 5th season, the wristband will be there to help improve your experience

IMPACTS

- Spectators, coaches and players to create a more fun and positive experience for umpires on match day by moderating language, body language and tone on match day
- Football should be an environment for all to have fun, develop and enjoy our game

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



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COMMUNITY COACHES

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The program focuses on creating awareness through all stakeholders in footy.

HOW COACHES CAN SUPPORT

DEVELOPMENT

- Providing umpires with the opportunitity to develop
- Understanding that this is not a competency based program, and is applicable to any umpire u18 umpiring at any level of Community Football

YOUR TEAM

- Creating positive culture in your playing group
- Your PARENTS and PLAYERS will reflect your behaviour, language and conduct on match day

YOU AS A COACH

- Understanding the difference in expectations
  - ALL Umpires are human and will make mistakes
- The more pressure you create, the more challenging the environment becomes
- Umpires do their best to ensure a safe game, however, in some circumstances accidents and unforseen incidents may still occur

IMPACTS

- Every umpire we lose, is another we need to replace
- Supportive coaches create fun environments which will retain more umpires
- Every umpire deserves the chance to enjoy their football experience

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CREATEING A BETTER MATCH DAY ENVIRONMENT FOR UMPIRES

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COMMUNITY CLUBS

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HOW YOUR CLUB CAN SUPPORT

DEVELOPMENT

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MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE

- Clubs have the power to create a great environment by;
- Valuing umpires in their club
- Creating club culture that supports umpire respect and encouragement
- Umpires are someone's child too, and deserve to enjoy their football experience

IMPACTS

- Umpiring will benefit a player's development
- Benefits of clubs contributing to league/umpire group capacity through supporting recruitment initaitves
- Benefits to overall club culture by creating positive environments
- Increasing pathways for individuals to be involved in our game

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