



**FOOTBALL
FEDERATION
VICTORIA**

SUMMER LEAGUE

Match Officials Criteria – EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

August 2008 ip

Football Federation Victoria Summer League
Match Official Criteria - Explanatory Memorandum

Overview and goals of the Summer League

1. Commencing in November 2008, the FFV Summer League will create an exciting, vibrant football competition. It is proposed that it will be made up of teams from 12 Victorian zones (4 from regional Victoria and 8 from metropolitan Melbourne) determined by FFV ("**Zones**").
2. As a result of the new zone structure exciting opportunities for match officials will arise across Victoria.
3. The FFV Summer League will complement the existing winter leagues. It will provide young, quality footballers with a clear development pathway. It will also allow an opportunity to continue the development and recognition of match officials, and importantly embrace officials from across the State in the same high level competition.
4. Each Zone will have:
 - (a) an elite men's team (with a strong focus on under 25 development) starting in 2009-10;
 - (b) an elite women's team; and
 - (c) at least 4 junior boys (Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s and Under 18s) and 3 junior girls (Under 13s, Under 15s and Under 17s) teams which will be representative of talented players from within that Zone in accordance with the eligibility requirements set by FFV. FFV reserves its right to increase or decrease the required number of junior boys and girls teams that represent the Zone.
5. It is expected that there will be a close relationship between the junior, women's and men's teams, with the junior competitions providing a pathway to the elite level for both men and women.
6. All players in the FFV Summer League must also play for a club in an FFV affiliated winter league. Exceptions will be made for interstate players participating in the elite men's and women's competitions only.
7. Each team in each of the competitions within the FFV Summer League will effectively be the representative team for that Zone (**Zone Teams**). These Zone Teams therefore represent all community Clubs in their Zone and existing clubs will be given the opportunity to have an integral involvement in the administration and organisation of the Zone Teams.
8. The FFV Summer League will:
 - (a) provide a stepping stone in the career path of elite players, coaches and match officials;
 - (b) showcase the number of young, quality footballers across Victoria;
 - (c) enhance professionalism at club level;

- (d) improve facilities for football and relevant stakeholders;
 - (e) improve links between clubs and local communities;
 - (f) strengthen the brand and image of football in Victoria; and
 - (g) address many of the talented official's developmental pathway needs in line with the National Football Development Plan.
9. The FFV Summer League will provide match officials with a pathway to selection for Victorian State and Premier league refereeing panels and potential inclusion in national championships.
 10. The FFV Summer League aims to engage and develop the skills of match officials whose primary focus is the provision of consistent, quality decision making in servicing the world game.

Structure of FFV Summer League

11. FFV will govern, operate and administer the FFV Summer League.
12. FFV desires that each Zone body will operate representative teams in each of the elite men's, elite women's and elite junior competitions. The operative entity of each Zone will be a company limited by guarantee (a "**Zone Company**"). The right to operate each of the elite teams will be granted to the Zone Company under licence agreements between the FFV and the Zone Company.

Competition Rules

13. All participants in the FFV Summer League (including teams, players, coaches, officials and administrators) will be required to comply with FFV Summer League competition rules. The Rules will be provided to Interested Parties in due course.
14. All teams, players, coaches, officials, administrators and participants will be expected to comply with all FFV and Summer League policies and procedures. Details of all relevant policies will be provided to Interested Parties in due course.
15. Match Officials will be required to comply also with the Match Officials Code of Conduct and the Match Officials Code of Ethics.

Referees

16. The FFV Summer League will form a significant developmental pathway for referees to move into, or up in, senior refereeing panels. Performances will be supported by inspection and coaching feed back.
17. Match Officials will be responsible for consistent, quality decision making of a standard to provide superior service to elite competition matches.
18. There will be a focus on the development of key regional referees in zone home matches.
19. There will also be specific support for balancing gender issues in the representative match official pool.

Accreditation and Selection

20. All Match Officials in the FFV Summer League must be registered, have a 2008 fitness test pass and have no outstanding financial obligations.
21. Selection will be based on 6 key aspects
 - (a) Personal Standards
 - (b) Knowledge
 - (c) Fitness
 - (d) Performance
 - (e) Attitude
 - (f) Reporting
22. The selection of match officials for involvement in the FFV Summer League will be made from written Expressions of Interest addressing the following aspects, that are lodged with Chris Bambridge.
 - (a) **PERSONAL STANDARDS:** Demonstrated adherence to the Match Officials Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics, image and interaction with clubs off field.
 - (b) **KNOWLEDGE:** Demonstrated knowledge of the Laws of the Game, supported by the latest interpretations, seminar information and issues covered at regional meetings.
 - (c) **FITNESS:** Demonstrated and current fitness, including 2008 fitness test result, training attendance record, and club/other feed back
 - (d) **PERFORMANCE:** Demonstrated performance based on assessment, inspection, coaching and/or club feedback.
 - (e) **ATTITUDE:** Demonstrated attitude and ability to deliver consistent, quality decision making in all matches regardless of type, level or role.
 - (f) **REPORTING:** Clear, accurate and timely match reporting.
23. Match officials will also be rated based on inclusion in a regional, zone or FFV development program, including Talented Officials Program (TOP) and local identification or mentoring programs. Involvement will be an additional consideration, not a basis for exclusion.

Responsibilities of FFV Summer League Match Officials

24. Match Officials will be required to give a specific commitment to the FFV Summer League season and must identify any period of unavailability (holidays, etc)
25. Match Officials must be prepared to travel, with appropriate considerations, to zone matches around Victoria, and support the interchange of skills and knowledge with officials across the State

26. Referees will be required to identify the best player for each team in their matches..

Decision to appoint Match Officials

Individuals selected to Zone or Overall Panels for the various match levels and key locations will be advised and a full list of all selected participants will be provided to referee regional branches for the September meeting.

How to apply

Any persons wishing to submit an Expression of Interest to become a Match Official in the Summer League may apply in writing to:

Chris Bambridge

Manager
Referee Development
Football Federation Victoria

PO Box 318

Fairfield

Victoria 3078

Further information

For further information about the refereeing criteria please contact:

Chris Bambridge

Phone (03) 9474 1802 or cbambridge@footballfedvic.com.au
