



THE **GAME** PLAN

Reportable Incidents

The AFL acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge we play our great game on this land and respect the cultures of all First Peoples and their contribution to our nation and to the game of Australian Rules Football.



Matchday Report Process

- ▶ Player Reported / Head of Operations notified.
- ▶ Monday morning Head of Operations reviews Notices of Report.
- ▶ Vision of incident is sought for Senior matches to be provided to the MRP
- ▶ MRP Meet 1.00pm Mondays
- ▶ If a Tribunal has not been requested, MRP to cross check the report details with the Classification Table (refer to National Community Football Policy) and player's tribunal history.
- ▶ Notification of MRP findings will be provided to all parties including relevant sanction, discounted Early Guilty Plea sanction (if available), date, time and location of any Tribunal Hearings.
- ▶ Reported player **MUST** appear in person.
- ▶ Other parties may provide evidence over the phone however it is preferred that all parties are there in person.



Match Review Panel Process

- ▶ Filming of matches:
Selected Senior Matches and various finals are filmed
- ▶ Head of Operations receives request for review of an incident that was not a direct report from an umpire on the day of the game.
- ▶ Requests must specifically include details of; time, location and players involved in the alleged incident & be received within required timeframes as outlined in AFL Barwon By Law 7.9.
- ▶ Requests can be made by the officiating Umpires or participating clubs.
- ▶ The physical condition of an offended player must be provided by their club. (Penalties may apply where inaccurate information is provided)
- ▶ AFL Barwon will request footage of the alleged incident from the respective league's filming provider.
- ▶ The footage will be edited to slow the incident down and replay it at different speeds.



Match Review Panel Process

- ▶ Independent footage provided by an affected club may be considered, but must be provided in accordance with the prescribed timelines and must be accompanied by a stat dec provided by the camera operator confirming the footage has not been altered in any way.
- ▶ MRP will review footage and then determine whether or not the player involved **MAY** have a case to answer at the Tribunal or if in their view a charge should be laid.
- ▶ AFL Victoria rules shall be used when referring the incident to the Tribunal.
- ▶ Clubs will have until **10am The first working day** (unless an extension is granted) following the match to request any incident be reviewed by the MRP.
- ▶ Clubs will have until **12pm on Tuesdays** to challenge any set penalties determined by the MRP
- ▶ Clubs still have the option to request an investigation should no charge be laid and they feel the incident is serious enough to warrant one.
- ▶ There is no avenue of appeal against a decision made by the MRP.



Investigation Process

- ▶ **Time to Lodge:** Requests for an Investigation must be lodged on official club letterhead outlining details of the incident, who was allegedly involved and when it took place within five days from the alleged incident in writing to the League Operations Manager.
- ▶ **Initial Fee:** Clubs must submit a \$500 cheque or EFT to the League with the request.
- ▶ **Extension for Investigation Request:** An extension may be granted to a maximum of 30 days provided the extension is requested within the initial 5 day period.
- ▶ **Investigation Officer:** The League will appoint an Investigations Officer who will conduct the Investigation. The Investigation Officer has 10 days from when the matter is referred to the Investigations Officer to conduct the Investigation Process. An extension of up to 10 days may be requested by the Investigations Officer to complete the investigation.
- ▶ **Who will be Interviewed:** Clubs are responsible to provide a complete list of members to be interviewed about the incident. The Investigations Officer may request interviews with other Club members not put forward. Leagues may call relevant parties to be interviewed also.



Investigation Costs

- ▶ **Initial Fee:** Clubs must provide a \$500 payment through either EFT or cheque to the League with the request.
- ▶ If no charge is laid, or is laid but found not guilty at tribunal; the club who requested the investigation will forfeit a minimum of \$300 to pay for the investigation.
- ▶ If no charge is laid and the request is deemed frivolous by the Investigations Officer, the Initial \$500 Fee may be forfeited in its entirety.
- ▶ If a charge is laid and player accepts a Penalty or is **found guilty at tribunal**, the club who requested the investigation will have their \$500 refunded, and **the charged player's club will pay the \$300** for the investigation + the relevant levy if found guilty at tribunal.

