



**25** YEARS

# **General Information, Club Procedures and Codes of Conduct**

# 1. Introduction

Perth Saints Football Club was established in 1998 with a vision to be different to other sporting clubs. The Saints would become a club with a strong social focus and a special atmosphere that would result in the players, their families and their friends being part of a bigger group – the Perth Saints family.

Perth Saints Football Club is now 25 years old and the focus on a vibrant, social atmosphere and a family environment is as strong today as it was when the club was founded.

In support of the development and growth of the club, it is important that formal club procedures are understood, respected and applied and that all players, coaches, families, supporters and spectators adhere to the club's codes of conduct.

This document provides some basic information about the club and sets out in simple terms the things the club expects.

The procedures and codes are not complex or bureaucratic – they are just common sense rules that will ensure the club is managed efficiently and that everybody involved in the club behaves appropriately and enjoys their involvement.

Thank you for your support.

## 2. General information

The notes that follow provide some general information about the club structure and set-up.

### 2.1 Management Committee

The Management Committee of Perth Saints oversees the operation of the club and ensures it complies with its obligations under the Associations Incorporation Act 2015, its other legal obligations and the competition rules of Football West.

The Management Committee is elected each year by the full members of the club.

The current Committee members can be found at:

- <https://www.perthsaintsfc.com/committee>

### 2.3 Senior Teams

The club currently enters teams in the Football West Metropolitan, Masters and Women's leagues.

All home games are played at Tompkins Park, Alfred Cove.

The Management Committee determines on a year-by-year basis how many teams will be entered and in which leagues.

### 2.4 Junior Teams

The club currently enters teams in Football West junior competitions ranging from 8 yrs to 18 yrs. It also runs a Football West endorsed Miniroos Program.

All home games are played at Tompkins Park, Alfred Cove.

The Management Committee determines on a year-by-year basis how many teams will be entered and in which age groups and Divisions.

## **2.5 Coaching and Development**

Many current and past Perth Saints players are ex-professional, semi-professional, national and state league players, including some past Socceros.

The Saints are able to access the highest quality coaching support and to ensure that its new junior players have access to appropriate coaching and development, the club has a Technical Director to oversee all junior coaches. The Club will also subsidize the cost for coaches that undertake training for formal accreditation.

## **3. Procedures**

The notes that follow provide information on the formal procedures the club applies in managing its business. There is a requirement for all senior and junior teams to adhere to these procedures as specified.

### **3.1 Club Officials and Points of Contact**

The primary point of contact for all Perth Saints business is the Club Secretary.

The Management Committee has delegated responsibility for sponsorship and local government contacts to the Club President.

Formal contact with Football West in relation to teams in all competitions can only be made by the Club President and Club Secretary. Others may have formal contact in specific circumstances if authorised by either of these officials.

To ensure the efficient operation of Perth Saints, outside of the Committee no persons associated with the club should make contact in an official capacity with external organisations. It is important that the formal points of contact as described above are respected and applied.

### **3.2 Team autonomy**

For many years Perth Saints has operated a model whereby the club establishes the structure and sets-up the operations to allow its senior teams to operate autonomously throughout the season.

Coaches are provided with playing kit, balls and training equipment and then each team is responsible for its own organisation.

This model, largely, has been extended to junior teams with the appointment of team coaches and provision of access to specialist coaching and development through the Technical Director.

Once established, junior teams are required to appoint a Team Manager to ensure that the operation of each team is aligned to club requirements.

All senior and junior teams are expected to apply in full the club's procedures and codes of conduct. Failure to do so creates an unacceptable risk to the club.

### **3.3 Grounds and equipment**

The club will provide access to grounds and playing areas for training and games. Given that there may be circumstances where the club shares space with other sports, access to grounds may be limited to certain times and days.

The Management Committee will finalise ground usage with local government and then advise teams on availability.

The club is required to pay for the use of local government grounds and facilities and can only use these on the allocated days. Fines are applied when clubs use grounds on unallocated days.

It is important that all teams use grounds and playing areas on the allocated days only. If teams utilise grounds on unallocated days it is likely that the club will be fined.

The club will ensure the provision of goal posts and will arrange for the marking of pitches throughout the season.

The club will provide adequate equipment to all senior and junior teams for training sessions and games.

All teams will be provided with a full playing strip – shirts, shorts and socks.

### **3.4 Football West Competition Rules**

All of the Perth Saints senior and junior teams play in formal, recognised competitions managed by Football West - the State Sporting Association for football (soccer).

All competitions are regulated by Football West and competition rules are provided to clubs that must be followed.

The club will provide all Senior Coaches, Junior Coaches and Junior Team Managers with a copy of the Football West competition rules and regulations relevant to their specific team before the first game of each season.

It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that it adheres to the Football West competition rules. Failure to do so may result in fines for the club.

If any teams are uncertain about the details of the competition rules the coach and/or team manager should contact one of the club officials as defined at Item 3.1 of this document.

### **3.5 Player registration and fees**

All teams that play in recognised Football West competitions are required to utilise the Play Football online registration system. Go to [www.playfootball.com.au](http://www.playfootball.com.au) for more details.

The Management Committee determines on a year-by-year basis the amount of player registration fees.

All senior and junior players are required to register on the Play Football site and to pay the specified registration fee online at the Play Football site.

Where payment is not made at the Play Football site and by prior arrangement, the club will accept payments directly to its bank account for player registration fees.

The club will not accept cash payments for player registrations.

Unregistered players will not be allowed to play in formal, competition matches.

At the discretion of the Management Committee, players may be permitted to play in formal, competition matches where only part-payment of fees has been made. These arrangements will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

All senior and junior teams are responsible for ensuring that only players registered with the club play in formal, recognised Football West competitions.

### **3.6 Advertising and Club Profile**

Perth Saints has been based at Tompkins Park in Alfred Cove for 25 years. The club is well-regarded and recognised in the football community.

To ensure that the quality, consistency and relevance of the club's image, marketing, branding and advertising is maintained, all external messages, images, correspondence and signage must be approved by the Management Committee and transmitted only by the club officials as defined at Item 3.1 of this document or as delegated by the officials.

### **3.7 Working with Children Check**

The Working with Children Check (WWC Check) is a compulsory screening strategy in Western Australia for anybody who works with children or volunteers their time to work with children. As a sporting club, Perth Saints is required to comply with the WWC Check requirements.

Parents are exempt from the WWC Check requirements, but any Coaches or Team Managers involved with any of the Perth Saints junior teams who are not parents of a registered junior player are required to obtain a WWC Check clearance.

Go to [www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au) for more details.

If junior teams appoint Coaches or Team Managers who are not parents of registered junior players at Perth Saints there is a requirement that the WWC Check process commences as soon as possible.

Individual Coaches and Team Managers are required to initiate the WWC Check process by following the instructions at [www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au).

Where it is required, junior teams must ensure that the WWC check process is initiated and completed as soon as possible after the appointment of a non-parent Coach or Team Manager.

### 3.8 Junior team participation

All junior teams are comprised of squads of players that are larger than the number of players allowed on the pitch at any one time.

For example, Under 10 teams play 9-a-side but may operate with a squad of 12. Similarly, Under 13 teams play 11-a-side but may operate with a squad of 14.

Squads accommodate absences, injuries, fitness levels and the tactics a coach may apply during any given game. With the advent of Covid, the squad numbers outlined above can be considered a minimum.

It is inevitable that all players will spend time on the touchline as part of a squad.

Junior teams at Perth Saints will be instructed to keep a record on player involvement in games and to ensure that across the season there is an equitable distribution of game time for all players.

It is likely that the club will utilise a mobile App to measure, monitor and record playing times.

Decisions on playing time, interchange and substitutions on a game-by-game basis are made by individual coaches and the club expects all players and parents to respect and accept these decisions.

## 4. Codes of Conduct

Perth Saints Football Club believes that the game is bigger than the individual. A game of football cannot be played alone. There is a requirement for team mates, for an opposition and for a referee and assistants to run the line.

Football is a competitive sport. We understand that players, coaches, parents and supporters get enthusiastic and passionate about the result, but at Perth Saints we celebrate our achievements and graciously accept our losses. We expect everybody involved with the club to treat all participants in the game with respect and common courtesy.

The club has developed three simple Codes of Conduct for players, coaches, parents and other supporters. We expect everybody to understand, accept and follow the codes and to accept the individual consequences of ignoring them.

Perth Saints – Player Code of Conduct	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Regularly attend training sessions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Do not abuse opposition players, coaches or supporters</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be punctual for training and games</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Do not abuse the referee or assistants</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accept the coaches' decisions and follow instructions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support and encourage team mates</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accept the referees' decisions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be humble, celebrate wins and accept losses appropriately</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Be competitive, but fair</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the end of each game recognise the opponents with a handshake or a cheer</li></ul>

<b>Perth Saints – Coaches Code of Conduct</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Set an example, be punctual for training sessions and matches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not abuse opposition players, coaches or supporters</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be prepared – make sure training sessions and match days are organised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not abuse the referee or assistants</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be clear and consistent – ensure your instructions and advice is understood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● During games do not swear at, threaten or intimidate players from the touchline</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not humiliate, embarrass, bully or threaten players</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be humble, celebrate wins and accept losses appropriately</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For junior teams, respect parents and communicate openly with them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● At the end of each game recognise the opposing coach with a handshake</li> </ul>

<b>Perth Saints – Supporters and Parents Code of Conduct</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not interfere in team matters – the Coach runs the team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For junior teams, set an example and uphold the spirit of the game</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For junior teams, do not provide individual coaching for your child from the touchline – that’s the coaches’ job</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support and encourage all players regardless of skill level or individual performance</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not abuse the referee or assistants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assist in setting up and taking down equipment on match days</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do not abuse opposition players, coaches or supporters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be humble, celebrate wins and accept losses appropriately</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● During games do not use aggressive language or display aggressive behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● At the end of each game recognise the efforts of both teams with a handclap or a cheer</li> </ul>