



UMPIRE COMMUNICATION FRAMEWORK

SECTION #1 – Who can talk to an Umpire and why?

Only the Team Manager from a SANFL Juniors team can talk to an Umpire at a quarter break. An Umpire can be approached for the following reasons:

- **Clarification of Match Conditions** – An enquiry when there is a consistent change/failure to follow the prescribed Match Conditions. Not to query an umpiring mistake.
- **Player Safety** – To address concerns of player safety in the event of extreme weather or a change to the match/oval conditions only.
- **Clarification of Send Off/Reported Player** – To seek clarification of the details surrounding a send-off or reported player (i.e. what the sanction was for) and when the player can return to the field. Not to argue or debate the decision of the umpire.

SECTION #2 – The process of communicating with an umpire.

Step #1: The Team Manager is to approach the opposition Team Manager to advise them of the communication being directed to the Umpire. Both Team Managers are not permitted to approach the Umpire together, only the Team Manager who has initiated contact.

Step #2: The Team Manager is to approach the Umpire and introduce themselves using one of the statements in Section 3.

Step #3: The Team Manager is to address their concerns/query using the below statements in Section 3 (with the appropriate Match Conditions in hand if applicable to the query).

Step #4: Once the Team Manager has addressed their query to the Umpire, any further communication is to be directed to SANFL Juniors Umpiring Department and/or SANFL Juniors Competition Management post game.

SECTION #3 – Applicable Statements to communicate to an umpire which are to be strictly adhered to.

- **Clarification of Match Conditions**
Applicable Statement: *Hi, my name is _____, I am the Team Manager of _____ and I am seeking clarification of _____ as per our Match Conditions for Under __.*
- **Player Safety**
Applicable Statement: *Hi, my name is _____, I am the Team Manager of _____ and I would like to address concerns for the safety of our players for the following reasons _____.*
- **Clarification of Send Off/Reported Player**
Applicable Statement: *Hi, my name is _____, I am the Team Manager of _____ and I would like clarification surrounding the send-off/report of player number __ for _____ Football Club.*

SECTION #4 – Failure to Adhere to Umpire Communication Framework.

Failure to adhere to the Umpire Communication Framework will be treated as a serious infraction and can result in a report being made to SANFL Juniors Competition Management and subsequent penalties being applied to clubs;

- 1st offence – \$250.00 fine.
- 2nd offence – \$500.00 fine and potential loss of premiership points if applicable.
- Further Offences – To be determined by SANFL Juniors Competition Management and/or SANFL Juniors Tribunal.

Any further clarification can be directed to SANFL Juniors at sanfljuniors@sanfl.com.au.