



Umpire Communication Framework

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

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

- **Clarification of Match Conditions** – Enquiry when there is a consistent change/failure to follow the prescribe Match Conditions. **NOT** to query an umpiring decision or interpretation.
- **Player Safety** – To address concerns of players safety in event of extreme weather or match/oval conditions **ONLY**.
- **Clarification of Send Off/Reported Player** – Seeking 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: Team Manager is to approach to opposing Team Manager and advise them of intended communication with umpire. Both Team Manager's are not permitted to approach the Umpire together.

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

Step #3: Team Manager is to address their concern/query using the below statements in Section 3 (please have Match Conditions on hand with if applicable).

Step #4: Once addressed their concern/query, the Team Manager is to direct any further communications to their club delegate to refer to the SANFL Juniors Umpiring department.

Please Note:- If there is a SANFL Juniors Umpiring Coach present and speaking with the officiating umpires, then Team Managers are not permitted to approach umpires to allow for the umpires to receive necessary coaching.

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 framework will be treated as a serious infraction and can result in the following penalties to clubs;

- 1st Offence - \$250 fine
- 2nd Offence - \$500 fine and potential loss of premiership points
- Further offences – To be determined by SANFL Juniors Competition Management or Tribunal