



# FIRST AID OFFICER (FAO)



***\*Must be wearing enclosed shoes, AFLCJ Trainers Shirt or Red Bib & have current Blue Card and Accreditation\****

## REQUIREMENTS

- The visiting team official (i.e. Coach/Team Manager) is responsible for checking with the home team that a FAO is on duty and duly qualified.
- Both the home and visiting Team Managers must inform the FAO, prior to the start of any match, the status of any players who have religious or ethnic concerns regarding treatment, whatever they may be, and a suitable action plan is to be devised and followed wherever possible.
- FAO can only provide a level of care consistent with the limits of their qualifications. All personnel must ensure that their duty of care to the patient, club, and AFLCJ is followed at all times and that, as perceived professionals to the public, there is a liability to provide the highest level of care available at any time
- **Concussion** – AFLCJ adopt 'The Management of Concussion in Australian Football' guidelines. Clubs must strictly adhere to these guidelines.
- **Infectious Diseases** - The Laws of Australian Football - Infectious Diseases shall apply, with the exception that the Law applies to all bleeding.

## QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRST AID OFFICER

- Nurse
- Qualified Sports Trainer
- St John Ambulance Australia Members
- Senior First Aid Certificate Holder
- Ambulance Officer
- Doctor

## PRE-GAME

- AFLCJ is responsible for providing a FAO and properly stocked first aid kit
- The home team is responsible for providing a FAO for all youth age groups
- The away team is responsible for providing a FAO for all under 18 games
- The home team is responsible for ensuring a stretcher is on each oval at the interchange bench
- The FAO's name and signature must be on the team sheet
- Clubs to arrange pre-game strapping for their own players
- Any strapping tape provided will be charged at \$10 per person to be invoiced to clubs directly
- AFLCJ appointed FAO is not to undertake pre-game strapping. This will be up to the Club appointed FAO to do if their qualifications permit

## DURING THE GAME

- FAO to sit in the official first aid area for the match and not in the coaches' box
- FAO is permitted to attend to an injured player in the coaches box, however when not required must remain in the official first aid area
- The officially appointed FAO on the day is in charge of all players on the playing field, and shall have the final say as to the suitability of a player to resume playing the current match
- The officially appointed FAO is the only official allowed onto the ground to treat an injured player, umpire or Team Official

- A player being stretchered off the playing surface is only permitted to re-enter the field when cleared by the FAO
- If the FAO requires assistance they will signal to team officials who will then attend the site of the injured player with the appropriate equipment required as signalled (e.g. splint, stretcher, cervical collar, oxygen, additional supplies etc.)
- The officially appointed FAO the only match official that is permitted to request a stretcher.
- Any player taken from the playing surface on a stretcher is not permitted to return to the playing surface for a minimum of twenty (20) minutes actual time.

#### **USE OF GREEN CARD FOR 'PLAYING NUMBER EQUALISATION'**

Teams must have the same number of players on the field during a match.

If there is an injury during the match that reduces the number of on-field players, then the opposing team must continue to match player numbers. The following process to be overseen by the Central Monitor must be followed:-

- (i) Allow the FAO to determine whether the player will go back on the ground
- (ii) Team Manager of injured player must advise the opposing Team Manager of the outcome
- (iii) The team must remove the player as soon as possible after notification from the FAO of a match ending injury

#### **POST GAME**

- If required, confidentially discuss any treatment or decision with higher qualified personnel, if available, to ascertain the best outcome for the health and safety of the injured person(s) prior to announcing their decision
- If treatment is required for a player, FAO to complete an Injury Report Form and hand it to the Central Monitor to put in the Match Day Paperwork Folder
- FAO to notify an adult Club Person on any decisions made or treatment given eg. Coach, Team Manager, Parent, Relative, President, Team Official, Spectator or Friend