



2024 Umpiring Instructions to be signed by all umpires prior to each game, copy sent to admin@viccountrymasters.com following each game, hard copies retained by the clubs

LISTED BELOW ARE MODIFICATIONS TO AFL GENERAL RULES FOR VIC COUNTRY AFL MASTERS 2024

- After a point is scored, Players **MUST** wait for the flags to be waived before kicking in or playing on from the goal square. Players do not need to kick to themselves before leaving the square. Play on is to be called once the Player leaves the square. Opposition players must be 10m from the goal square
- Pay the first free kick and do not allow packs to form. When there are 3 players contesting (either team) with the ball on the ground a ball up shall occur.
- Give the utmost protection to the player in front going for/attacking the ball. This player is to be protected from serious contact. NO sling tackles; NO hip and shoulders; NO high contact; and absolutely NO late contact.
- Shoulder charge and/or Shirtfronts are strictly prohibited. Only bumping from the side is allowed.
- The Player in possession of the ball must be provided reasonable time to dispose of the ball (less emphasis on the tackler). Prior opportunity rule applies.
- A Free Kick is to be paid against any player raising a leg/knee in a marking contest or spoiling from behind. The player in front must be protected from full on contact at all times.
- No 'knees up' are allowed in the ruck contest or marking contests.
- **Enforce** the verbal abuse rule within reason (to an umpire or another player) Green card penalty applies.
- Infringement penalty is 50 metres
- Players cannot play on until advanced 50m and the mark is set
- Ruckman must come from opposite sides of the line for the centre ball up and are allowed to come from any direction in all other ball ups and throw in's. Only one person from either side can contest ruck. Free kick applies for infringements.
- A player in a ruck contest must clear the ball from a contest and not take possession of the ball
- Players are not to make contact with umpires backing out of stoppages
- Where the ball crosses over the boundary, the ball will be thrown up 15-20m in from the boundary line.
- Umpires are to use both signals and verbally advise what penalty the kick is given for.
- Off-the-ball incidents are to be penalised by either officiating field umpire. **This includes** holding of other players around the contest and around the ground ball ups.
- Play the advantage rule if this facilitates continuous play and keeps the game flowing!
- The hands in the back rule has been annulled. Players can place their hands on the back of an opponent to protect their position in a marking contest, but they are not to push the player in the back

The philosophy of AFL Masters football must be adhered to at all times. This is **"FOOTY FOR FUN"**
 AFL Masters Vic Country recommends that there should be a minimum of two level 2 qualified field umpires umpiring on the day.
 All umpires who officiate in Vic Country AFL Masters Matches in the Home and Away season are to sign 2 copies of this document. One for each Club.

Umpires _____ Club _____

Name: _____ Signed _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signed _____ Date: _____

- A **Green Card** penalty - automatic sent off for the remainder of the current quarter plus the next.
- A **Yellow Card** penalty - automatic sent off for the duration of the match.
- A **Red Card** penalty - automatic sent off for the remainder of the match plus automatic suspension for the next game.