



Mordialloc-Braeside Junior Football Club Inc

Child Empowerment Initiatives

In alignment with the implementation on the 7 Child Safe Standards as of the 1 January 2017, the SMJFL is working towards ensuring all clubs are provided with resources to assist in implementing strategies that align with the requirements of the Child Safe Standards.

Standard 7, Empowerment, is one of the SMJFL's main priorities within all clubs to ensure they are working towards a club environment where children feel confident and safe to talk up about any issues or concern. Empowerment is about helping the children find their voice by building a culture in which the players have opportunities to speak up, give input and be involved in decisions. It not only allows them to build confidence but also means that if an incident should ever occur they may be more willing to speak up because they know their voice will be heard.

Within this document are some initiative ideas that can assist in children feeling empowered around their club, and how ideas of how these ideas could be implemented. The main goal behind these initiatives is to place children in situations or roles where they feel as though they have a voice within the club and that their membership within the club is valued, whether is be to have them talking in front of their team or their efforts on game day acknowledged.

Empowerment Initiatives for Children:	How to Implement Initiatives:	MBJFC Record				
		Game day	Training	Social media	frequent emails	Policy/by-Laws
Acknowledgement of participation	Award children frequently throughout the season	Yes				Yes
	Can be for anything (taking their first mark)	Yes				Yes
	Award a different child each week	Yes				Yes
Allow time for players to voice opinions	Designate time each training session for players to share what they believe the team did well in and areas for improvement	Yes	Yes			
Role within club	Implement roles which the children can participate in each week	Yes				
	Choose a different player each week	Yes				
	Could be: scoring, time keeping, water runner (if age appropriate)	Yes				
	Great for disability inclusion	Yes	Yes			
Advertise achievements	Utilize club e-newsletters			Yes	Yes	
	Advertise achievements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	E.g. 50 th game, great marks, big kicks, notable certificates of participation awarded	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
	Try and get kids names in the newsletter who might not gain much recognition around the club			Yes	Yes	
	Advertise if a child is being used for a form of promotional material			Yes		

Allow players to take charge in training (age appropriate)	Assign a different child or group to come up with a stretch or drill to get team to do		Yes			
	New player each week		Yes			
	Get them in front of the team and take charge	Yes	Yes			
Presentation night	Have children involved with handing out awards			Yes	Yes	
	Have players who won the award the year before to hand the winner of the current year the award			Yes	Yes	
Responsibility	Designate a child each week to say something on game day to motivate the team	Yes				
	Or say something after the game to congratulate of encourage teammates	Yes				
Leadership	Have a player from an older age group the assist in coaching		Yes			
	Help run drills		Yes			
	Different player as captain each week (multiple players)	Yes				
Buddy System	If a new player has joined, assign a buddy to introduce them to the team	Yes	Yes			
	Show around the club	Yes	Yes			
	Introduce to club committee, where available	Yes	Yes			
	Show them who the CSO is and how to find where to contact them		Yes			
Multicultural Round	Raise awareness of the different cultures in your club			Yes	Yes	
	Have a round signifying the acknowledgment of being multicultural			Yes	Yes	
Parent Involvement	Encourage parents to help around club	Yes	Yes		Yes	
	Different parent each week bring oranges	Yes				
	Have a night where a parent can come train with the kids		Yes			
Feedback	Implement an end of season survey to obtain the players feedback and opinions of how the season was run, how their club created an inclusive environment and how the club personnel were supportive and encouraging			Yes	Yes	
	Ask whether the club has accommodated for their cultural requirements (e.g. does the canteen supply food they can eat)	Yes				
Understand Capabilities	If a player has a disability, ensure to ask them what their limits are (do they need longer rest times)	Yes	Yes			
Promotion	If promoting the club in any form, ask parent permission and use players	Yes		Yes		Yes
	Use a variety of gender and race	Yes	Yes			
	Use different players each time	Yes	Yes			
Child Safety Officer	Have the Child Safety Officer introduce themselves to the teams at the first training session of the season		Where available			
	Inform children of the role and that they can talk to you about anything and no consequences will result		Where available			

Ratified May 2019