



NORTHCOTE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

NJFC Player Welfare Policy (June 2015)

Purpose:

To establish a not-for profit, non- tax deductible fund to be used for supporting and assisting players who are experiencing or have experienced hardship (including financial hardship) in order to maximize their participation and involvement in the club, their enjoyment of the sport, and their development as footballers.

Philosophy of Player Welfare Support:

The NJFC is committed to making football available to everyone and as stated in its corporate plan, "...The club recognizes the broad demographic of the local community and is committed to do all it can to make football a viable option regardless of background or economic circumstance."

The player welfare support fund is designed to provide opportunity and support where existing programs do not meet the needs of the family to create a positive footy experience.

It is important that the administration of the fund provides a means of supporting players and families rather than simply providing handouts on request. The club sees access to the funds being applied on a genuine needs basis and will continue to assess need versus potential opportunism.

It is also a club priority that access to the funds be subject to the natural rights of privacy for all parties. Genuine assistance is provided without the need to identify contributors nor beneficiaries.

Examples of how the Player Welfare Fund might be used:

If a player requires equipment, (eg. boots, mouth-guard, new or updated kit) that is a suitable/correct size and/or of reasonable standard and the parent/guardian can only afford equipment that is below reasonable standard or no new equipment at all.

If a player's family/guardian can genuinely only afford to pay for half of the discounted player registration fee. Or, there may be more than one child playing at the club and the parent/guardian is unable to afford paying each subscription.

If a player/player's parent or guardian cannot afford the cost of an extra-curricular team activity (eg. gym membership; team-photographs; ten-pin bowling or golf team-outing).

How to donate to the fund:

Club members and members of the general public may make cash or cheque donations made out to the NJFC Player Welfare Fund. These funds will be ultimately passed on to the

club Treasurer to be deposited into the fund. A “Donate to Player Welfare Fund” Product option may be set up on Fox Sporting Pulse as part of the player and adult registration process.

An explanation of the fund, instructions on to how to donate to the fund, and a direct electronic donation option could be set up on the NJFC website.

Distribution of Funds:

The NJFC Treasurer will distribute Player Welfare Funds following recommendations from club coaches, team managers, and/or committee members, with the written approval (can be via email) of the Player Welfare Officer and the club Registrar, on the basis of genuine hardship. The player’s parent/guardian must hold a current and valid HCC, and funds may only be distributed following the exploration of special payment plans/arrangements for registration fees.

Final decisions on distribution of the Player Welfare Fund, and any disputes regarding distribution of the funds, are to be decided upon by the NJFC governing Committee.