

# Player Welfare Policy



October 2018

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## **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 maximise their participation and involvement in the club, their enjoyment of the sport, and their development as footballers.

## **Philosophy of Player Welfare Support**

The NJFC recognises the broad demographic of the local community and is committed to do all it can to make football a viable option for everyone 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.

## **Use of the Player Welfare Fund**

Use of the player welfare fund is to be approved by the Treasurer and may include:

- 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 a portion 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. team-photographs).

## **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 deposited into the fund by the Club Treasurer. Making a donation to the fund is also an additional option during player and adult registration.

## **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.