

Junior & Youth Football Coaching Selection Policy



Sherwood Football Club Limited
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The importance of personal and player development for footballers at Sherwood Magpies Australian Football Club is of utmost importance to the custodians of the club at any given time. The influence a good coach, leader and mentor can have on a young player is immeasurable, so the importance in appointing high quality candidates to this crucial role in the lives of our players can not be underestimated. It is important to remember that being a volunteer in any role is admirable, but does not absolve a volunteer of the responsibility and outcomes of those volunteer efforts.

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Junior Football Sub-Committee (Junior Football Director, Junior Coaching Coordinator, Youth Coaching Coordinator and Club Development Manager with assistance from others as requested and practical) are tasked with the annual job of appointing coaching staff for each team.

Given the importance of this task, the following coaching selection policy and process has been developed by the Sherwood Football Club Directors.

- All positions in youth and junior football are deemed vacant at the conclusion of each season
- All coaching positions will be appointed at the discretion of the Sherwood Football Club Board based on clear recommendations provided by the Junior Football Sub-Committee. The board do not wield authority to appoint coaches not recommended by the sub-committee, but only the authority to reject candidates where applicable in special circumstances.
- Advertisements for EOI's for both Junior and Youth coaches will be communicated via all available club communication methods (social media, signage, website, newsletter, electronic newsletter, AFLQ website etc)
- Where there is a Division 1 or higher ranked youth team, all efforts should be made to appoint at least one assistant coach, preferably two to form a match committee.
- The Junior Football Sub-Committee will have the discretion to seek additional candidates via any other additional means such as approaching candidates directly, broader advertising etc.
- Coaching selection panel will be appointed by the Junior Sub-Committee lead by the Junior Football Director, to interview all candidates and make recommendations to the sub-committee for ratification. i
- All applicants will be required to complete an EOI including completing all fields requested

- All applicants (Assistants included) will be supplied a copy of the club document entitled Junior Coaching guidelines and make a commitment to adhere to the principles within that document.
- Key selection criteria will differ from age group to age group and team to team, so will be defined during the interview process.

Further information:

Ideally all youth team appointments are confirmed prior to the end of November in the preceding year, whilst junior positions should be confirmed no later than the end of January or prior to commencement of training.

Sherwood Magpies are a proud community club, active recruitment of players 15 or under from other local community clubs is discouraged. If a player of interest is identified, the appropriate method of communication is via the Senior Football Director and active recruitment of players is only acceptable when they are being considered for selection in a team in the Senior program.

It is a non-negotiable requirement that all appointed coaches have a valid Blue Card and Level 1 coaching accreditation.

Youth coaches are encouraged to obtain higher accreditation where possible and desired.

Whilst positions are largely volunteer based, coaches are still able to be removed from their position at the discretion of the Board of Directors if there are confirmed breaches of club policies or the AFL's own published code of conduct. Any replacements will be appointed via the same process listed above, assistant coaches will not automatically be deemed the new head coach when a position becomes vacant for any reason.

Updated: Nov 2020 SFC Board