



# Everton Wolves JAFC

## Parent Handbook 2021

*Our Mission is to encourage and promote the playing of Australian Rules Football through a friendly and effective club environment.*

[www.evertonwolves.com.au](http://www.evertonwolves.com.au)

**Blue and gold upon our chest**  
**We are here to do our best**  
**Rules the game**  
**Wolves our name**  
**We are here to play the game**  
**W-O-V-L-E-S**  
**GO WOLVES !**

## Table of Contents

Welcome to the Club.....	2
2020 in review .....	2
What to expect in 2021 .....	2
Committee 2021 .....	3
Code of Behaviour for Players .....	3
Code of Behaviour for Parents.....	3
Kids First Philosophy .....	4
Child Protection at Everton .....	4
Alcohol – Smoking Policy.....	4
Communication at The Club.....	4
Fees .....	5
Player registration and clearances .....	5
Training nights and match days .....	5
Fixtures .....	6
Wet weather .....	6
Team selection .....	6
Unable to play.....	6
NAB Auskick.....	7
Awards & End of Season .....	7
Player details.....	7
Insurance.....	8
Uniform.....	8
Volunteering .....	8
First Aid and Trainer volunteers .....	9
Fundraising.....	10
Team photos .....	10
Other photography of children.....	10
Privacy Statement.....	11
Appendix A – Alcohol & Smoke Free Policy .....	12
Appendix B – Media Exclusion Form.....	15

## Welcome to the Club

The Everton Wolves officially began in October 1969 with the Wolf being proudly displayed as our club emblem. Our core goals have always been to ensure a great football experience for the kids of the local community, achieved through the development of junior players. Our club has continued to grow in membership over the years where we now field Junior and Youth teams in male and female competitions. Our club runs an accredited Auskick Program and boasts an affiliated pathway to Senior Footy through our partnership with the Mayne Tigers Australian Football Club.

Our club is committed to the safety of our players through the AFLQ Child Protection Policy which as part of club procedure is routinely reviewed and amended to reflect best practice. We have a committed Child Safety Officer at the club to provide the safest environment possible for players & families. Our volunteer staff of coaches, managers and committee members hold current Blue Cards and follow appropriate codes of conduct.

## 2020 in review

Despite the difficult 2020 circumstances, our club continued to grow in players and members. By seasons end we had 252 youngsters playing AFL in the Blue and Gold. Our Junior Football saw the highest participation rates with 4 teams of Superstars (U7); 3 teams of U8.5; 2 teams of U9.5; 3 teams of U10.5 and one team each of U11.5 male and females.

Our Youth Football included both U14.5 and U16.5 Boys teams, many of whom have been at the club since their Junior playing days. The rise in female participants reached almost 25% of club members with teams fielded in the Under 11.5, Under 13.5, Under 15.5 and Under 17.5 age groups. In 2020 a number of our youth players celebrated their 50 & 100 game milestones down at The Den.

It would be remiss not to make mention of the hard work and extra effort of the many coaches, managers and volunteers of all clubs devoted to making 2020 a Covid Safe year. Without their strict adherence to health directives and procedures, we could not have had training or a competition, so a big *Thank You* to everyone.

## What to expect in 2021

In 2021 we expect our Junior and Youth numbers to continue to grow and are looking to field multiple teams in all age groups. Our club is hosting social fundraisers throughout the year and more information can be found at [www.evertonwolves.com.au](http://www.evertonwolves.com.au). The official sign-on date for 2021 was Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February, between 10am and 2pm. Come on down and "Meet the Pack." Coaches and Managers from all teams were present.

Official training for our youth teams normally starts the week after sign-on. Competition begins in April this year.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and also on the *Calendar of Events Notice Board* on our website [www.evertonwolves.com.au](http://www.evertonwolves.com.au).

## Committee 2021

President	Charles Tibbitts	president@evertonwolves.com.au
Vice President	David Riha	vicepresident@evertonwolves.com.au
Treasurer	Vicky Wilson	treasurer@evertonwolves.com.au
Secretary		secretary@evertonwolves.com.au
Registrar	Damon Harder	registrar@evertonwolves.com.au
Coaching Coordinator	Sean Doolan	coaching@evertonwolves.com.au
Auskick Coordinator	Lindsay Wilson	auskick@evertonwolves.com.au

## Code of Behaviour for Players

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, discuss the matter with your coach after the game.
- Work hard for your team and yourself. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud good play by all.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Provoking opponents is not acceptable.
- Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of other players.
- Co-operate with coaches, umpires, and team-mates. Without them there would be no competition.

## Code of Behaviour for Parents

At sign-on, you would be asked to accept a code of conduct that you and your child should follow. This includes:

- Encourage children to participate according to the rules.
- Children learn best by example - applaud good play by both teams.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal or physical abuse from the game and the ground.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language or harassing players, coaches or officials.
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches and other volunteer staff.
- Appreciate that children play organised sports for fun, friendship and to learn new skills. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they miniature professionals.
- Encourage players to follow the official's decisions. If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgment at the match.
- Do not encourage dangerous or potentially violent play eg: "kicking in danger."

Details of related Codes of Conduct (Administration/Officials and Coaches) are available on request.

## Kids First Philosophy

Parents have an important role in the delivery and support of sporting activities for their own and other children. With that is a clear responsibility to act in a constructive and encouraging manner at all times. Wanting your child to perform well is human nature and barracking for them and their team is a very important role. It is critical that this be done in a caring and responsible manner, avoiding the “ugly parent syndrome.”

The basic principles of the AFL Kids First philosophy are:

- Sport for children is a vital part of their growing up and is important for their self-esteem.
- Children like to win, but more importantly, they want to have fun.
- Parents need to set the right example at the sports ground, not just at home.
- Parents should be proud of their child’s efforts irrespective of the result.

The club’s Kids First night will occur during a training night early in the season. The continued growth and health of the game depends on junior programs and matches being conducted in a positive and fun environment. AFL Kids First provides guidance for achieving this.

## Child Protection at Everton

Our club is committed to the rights, interests and wellbeing of children and has adopted the risk management strategy of the AFL Brisbane Juniors. A copy of the EDSC Child Protection Policy is available upon request. Please email our committee for more information.

## Alcohol – Smoking Policy

The Everton clubhouse and oval surrounds, in accordance with the AFL Queensland’s Smoking and Alcohol policies, have been designated as a smoke free environment. Smoking is only permitted in the designated car park.

The Everton home ground does not usually have a licensed area and, consequently, NO alcohol is to be consumed within the areas known as the home ground and/or car park. Full details of both policies can be found at **Appendix B**.

## Communication at The Club

Team Managers, Coaches and Committee welcome communication from members. Team Managers are often the firstpoint of contact for many parents and integral to relaying important club information. Alternatively, you may contact the committee directly. For a timely response to most matters email:

[president@evertonwolves.com.au](mailto:president@evertonwolves.com.au) or visit our website for a useful information [www.evertonwolves.com.au](http://www.evertonwolves.com.au).

*The Howler*, our digital newsletter, explains upcoming events, the weekend's draw and has photos of our teams in action. Also see our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/evertonwolves](http://www.facebook.com/evertonwolves) for the latest on what is happening around the club. There is also a suggestion box located in our office, open during training nights & game days if you prefer.

## Fees

Registration fees are based on the costs to put a player on the field as we are not subsidised by a licensed bar or poker machine revenue. Our fee schedule can be found on our website and covers the entire season, including photos, end of year awards, insurance and registration. If you require financial assistance, please arrange to speak with our Treasurer. For Insurance purposes, AFLQ states a player may not play any game until fees have been paid.

## Player registration and clearances

For insurance purposes, no player can train or play unless they are registered. Registration forms may be filled out at sign on days and all players must be registered to play. If your child is transferring from another club, and has played Youth games, a clearance may be required. If your child joins the team mid-season you still need to register. Please contact our Registrar or your Team Manager if you have any questions.

## Training nights and match days

Training is spread over our 2 ovals and teams may move during the year, so everyone gets to practise in front of goals.

- Youth Teams (Under 12.5 through Under 17.5) train on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5pm to 6:30
- Junior Teams (Up to and including U11.5) train on Wednesdays from 5pm to 6pm.

## Game Day

- Most Junior matches are held on Saturdays, starting with Superstars at 8.00am.
  - The Girls U11.5 play Friday nights under lights.
  - Youth matches may also be held Friday nights, but for the most part are held on Sundays.

Often there is a break for school holidays but this may vary in Junior and Youth leagues.

## Fixtures

The Youth draw for the season is prepared by AFL Queensland and often available immediately prior to the first fixture. As the availability of some teams or grounds can change a full draw may not be available until later in the season. (Some teams pull out of the competition or grounds are deemed unsafe for play.)

The club will endeavour to let you know of any changes as soon as possible, however it is a good idea to regularly check your team's fixture by looking at our website [www.evertonwolves.com.au](http://www.evertonwolves.com.au).

## Wet weather

Australian Football is played in all weather except for extreme conditions (eg: lightning or hail.) Likewise, if a ground has become unplayable or unsafe, games will not take place. The team manager will let you know as soon as possible of any cancellations. Please assume games are on unless notified otherwise. Weather can vary greatly across grounds.

## Team selection

Our policy is simple – maximum participation. We ask every Coach to ensure all players get the opportunity to spend as much time on the field as possible. This may translate to 'equitable' rather than equal as we do not support continually playing the most talented players at the expense of our developing players.

Where there is more than one team in an age group, we do not place all of the most experienced or talented players in one team. We recognise that many players come to the club to be with their friends and requests for players to be in the same team will be honoured where possible, however, numbers may dictate otherwise. It is helpful if we are informed early before team lists are finalised (usually after the first week or two of official training.)

## Unable to play

Our club understands that players and parents/carers have busy lives and at times have conflicting commitments. Where these events are known in advance, we ask that you let your Coach or Team Manager know as early as possible. Long weekends and school holidays present a challenge for Coaches to field a team. If there are games during long weekends or on the first weekend of the mid-year holidays, it would be helpful, where possible, for holiday arrangements to begin after the fixture for that weekend.

## NAB Auskick

Auskick is the AFL's key introductory program for primary school-aged boys and girls and their families. Through an 8-week program (starting 8am on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March) kids will learn the skills of the game through appropriately modified activities and rules, get to play football in a fun and safe environment and make plenty of new friends.

The involvement of parents is an integral component to the success of the program, so please get involved. Our AuskickCoordinator will provide all the help and advice you need. Parents do not need an AFL background, just the willingness to learn new skills, get active with your kids and make new friends. Registration and payment must be made through the Auskick website [www.aflauskick.com.au](http://www.aflauskick.com.au).

## Awards & End of Season

Each team is encouraged to have small rewards at the end of each game that recognise good conduct on and off the field, contributions to the team and good play. This is not meant to continually recognise the most skilled players.

Our club provides an official Junior and Youth Trophy Presentation at the end of the season. All teams and players are required to attend and dates and details will be posted on the club website closer to the date.

- At the presentation, all Junior players (non-competitive teams) receive a trophy or award to recognise their contribution at training and in games. No individual awards are given at these age groups.
- Youth players have the opportunity to receive a number of individual awards on offer, and all will also receive a recognition award.

We record all games played and will inform Team Managers of 50 and 100 game milestones in advance. We also recognise playing milestones at our awards night.

In addition, many teams also have their own 'break-up' event to celebrate their season and promote the bonding of the team.

## Player details

It is important for parents to keep their contact details up to date, including emergency contacts. When registering or re-registering please ensure your email address is correct as it will be used by a number of club representatives to convey important information. The club also requires annual updated records of player medical details in the case of an emergency. Your Team Manager will hand out these forms prior to the first game. Please fill them out and return to your Team Manager as soon as possible. They are held in the Team Manager's folder for easy access in an emergency.



## Insurance

You and your child are covered by insurance which is paid as part of your fees. The AFL Association has Public Liability cover, and a Sports Injury and Legal Liability Insurance Policy for all players and participants. Limitations and conditions do apply. If you require more detail, please ask the club President or contact AFLQ directly.

## Uniform

All players are provided with a jersey which remains club property. Parents are responsible for the purchase of compulsory team shorts (in both home and away colours) and team socks which are available at the club. You will also need to supply your child's runners/boots and any protective equipment.

We strongly encourage all players to wear mouthguards and note that they are compulsory on Under 11.5 and above age groups.

Each player will be provided with a club polo after their fees have been paid. This shirt is replaced every second year of membership. We ask players to wear their club polo to and from each game and to all official club events.

## Volunteering

Every adult involved at Everton Juniors is a volunteer. Our club has a proud tradition of parents volunteering and their support is always appreciated. Again, Thank You!

- Team Managers will ask for help from time to time.
- We understand that some parents have work or other commitments, making availability to assist, difficult. However, as a volunteer organisation, every little bit helps, so if you can make yourself available for even one weekend, it would be greatly appreciated.

With the exception of canteen duties, parents who assist still get to watch and interact with their children for the duration of the match. All teams require:

- A Ground Marshall (Home games only)
- A Qualified First Aid Attendant (Home games only)
- A timekeeper (Home games only)
- 2 parents in the canteen for the duration of the game (Home games only)
- A goal umpire.
- A Team Manager may ask a parent to:
  - Supply oranges for the team at half time.
  - Collect and wash the players' jumpers and return to Team Manager prior to next match.
  - Collect and wash the team water bottles & return to Team Manager prior to next match.

### Voluntary Roles in Youth Football U12s to U17s:

- A scoreboard attendant (Home games only).
- A Runner - must be 14 years or over to hold this position, preferably with a working knowledge of AFL.
- Up to 4 water carriers
  - U12: Minimum age of 12 years to hold this position.
  - U14 & U16: Minimum age of 14 years to hold this position.
- A goal umpire – Minimum age of 16 years.

With the exception of First Aid Attendants or Trainers, none of these roles require any previous experience or qualifications. Training can be provided for roles such as helping in the canteen or Ground Marshall. Your Team Manager can provide a list of instructions for other roles.

### First Aid and Trainer volunteers

Each team is required to have a first aid officer. If you already have a current First Aid Certificate (or equivalent) and are willing to help in this role, please let your team manager know as soon as possible. Under AFLQ Juniors rules, the home team is responsible for supplying a qualified first aid attendant for the duration of the game. **A game will not commence under any circumstances if there is no qualified First Aid Attendant available.** The Central Umpire will declare the game a forfeit and the home club will be fined \$100.

Under AFLQ rules, a first aid attendant must have **one** of the following qualifications:

- Basic First Aid Certificate (minimum)
- St Johns Officers
- St John Ambulance certificate holder
- Ambulance Officer
- Nurse or Doctor
- Sports Trainer certificate holder

AFLQ Youth Teams (U12.5 to U17.5 inclusive) are permitted to have:

- an Accredited Trainer as well as a First Aid Attendant **or**
- an Accredited Trainer who will also do the job of First Aid Attendant

Under AFLQ rules, an accredited trainer must have **one** of the following qualifications:

- Basic First Aid Certificate (minimum)
- Sports Trainer certificate holder
- Nurse or Doctor

The club will provide a basic First Aid Certificate course prior to the commencement of the season FREE OF CHARGE for all interested parents or care givers. Dates will be advertised in The Howler and on the club website

## Fundraising

The Everton Wolves Junior Australian Football Club cannot exist without the support of parents, fundraising or sponsors. The strong support of parents ensures the club continues to maintain low membership fees, subsidised by funds from the canteen, social events and raffles. We may ask from time to time for parents to assist in the canteen.

We could not afford to run without the generous support of our Sponsors, many of whom have been loyal supporters of our club over many years. For a full list, please see our website. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, or making a donation in cash or in kind, please contact [sponsorship@evertonwolves.com.au](mailto:sponsorship@evertonwolves.com.au).

The AFL "Good for Footy" raffle is an important fundraiser for the club that runs each year. We encourage families to buy tickets online. Please encourage friends and family to support the raffle.

The club also holds various social fundraisers each season. Each year we try to hold a **Trivia Night**. Every team is encouraged to support this event by booking at least one table. The committee holds several meetings to plan these evenings so if you are interested in being involved in planning, please contact our committee.

## Team photos

Every player receives a team photo at our end of year Celebration Day. Cost is included in the sign-on fee. Photos will usually be taken on training nights or game days, when players are in full uniform. Team Managers will give adequate notice leading up to the event. Details will also be posted on our website & our newsletter. If players get the opportunity to play in another age division, they may also be invited to attend that group's photo as well.

## Other photography of children

Each club establishes guidelines on taking photographs or video footage at the grounds. The EDSC recognises parents and care givers wish to record their children and permit this practice. The EDSC will also authorise people to film or photograph matches occasionally for promotional purposes. As the grounds are a public space, and routinely leased to outside clubs, the EDSC cannot guarantee persons not associated with our club will not be present from time to time.

Unless informed otherwise, the EDSC will assume parents permit the images and name of their child/ren to be used. Should you NOT wish your child's image to be

used, please see The Media Exclusion Form (**Appendix B**) and give a signed copy to your manager or a committee member. Email is preferred unless inconvenient.

For persons who are not parents / guardians / authorised personnel, the EDSC requires:

- the person taking the photograph or video footage be identified and seek permission first from an appropriate official and state their purpose.
- the person be made aware of the club's policy in relation to taking photographs or video footage of children.

Any member of the Wolves community who believes inappropriate photography may be occurring should report it immediately to the Ground Marshall, their team manager or any other appropriate club official.

## Privacy Statement

Personal information collected by The Everton District Sporting Club Inc (referred to as EDSC in this document) is used for the primary purpose of membership, competition purposes and volunteer management. It will not be released for any form of commercial gain and will be maintained in a secure location as per the requirements of the Privacy Act, 1988.

## Appendix A – Alcohol & Smoke Free Policy

*AFL Football demands a high level of aerobic fitness and endurance. Smoking & drinking seriously impairs a player's ability to run out four quarters and for any junior player who aspires making it into the AFL, smoking & drinking is definitely out.*

*Michael Voss, Lions Champion Captain*

### **ALCOHOL POLICY**

#### **Change Rooms**

- Change rooms and toilet blocks will be Alcohol Free.
- Alcohol Free promotional material will be displayed around the common area in all venues where associationrelated competition occurs.

#### **Coaches Boxes and**

#### **First Aid Areas will be**

#### **Alcohol Free. Outdoor**

#### **Venues**

- Alcohol must be consumed within designated licensed areas only.
- If there is no licensed area available, no alcohol is to be consumed within the areas known as the home groundand/or car park.
- Alcohol containers will be asked to be disposed of thoughtfully.

#### **Coaches, Trainers, Volunteers, Parents and Officials**

- Coaches, trainers, volunteers, parents and officials will be restricted from consuming alcohol while they are with registered juniors in any official capacity.
- The effects of alcohol on performance will be discussed with all players attending sports clinics, camps and those in representative sides.
- Alcohol Free behaviour will be written into organisation Codes of Conduct for coaches, trainers, volunteers, parents and officials. For example, "Players respect you and in particular junior players look up to you, so you need to be Alcohol Free, especially when you're with them. If you want your players to play at their potential, encourage them to be Alcohol Free."

#### **FINES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE – ALCOHOL**

- For non-compliance of the Alcohol Policy, a fine of \$100.00 will be issued to the offending club for the first breach of policy.
- Any further breaches of the Alcohol Policy will result in the loss of home games, as well as a fine of \$100.00 tothe offending club.

## **All Clubs must have a clearly marked area for Smoking and Alcohol consumption**

### **SMOKING POLICY**

- The purpose of AFL Queensland's Smoke Free Policy is to provide all members and visitors a safe, healthy and challenging sports environment. Accordingly, the following Smoke Free policy endorsed by AFL Queensland will apply to all members, including administrators, officials, coaches, players, volunteers and visitors as from 1<sup>st</sup> May 1998.

AFL Queensland's Smoke Free Policy applies to vaping, e-cigarettes and tobacco. It includes:

#### **Administration and Office Areas.**

- Administration and office areas will be Smoke Free.

#### **Change Rooms**

- Change rooms and toilet blocks will be Smoke Free.
- Smoke Free promotional material will be displayed around the common area in all venues where association related competition occurs.

#### **Coaches Boxes and**

#### **First Aid Areas will**

#### **be Smoke Free**

#### **Outdoor Venues**

- Designated Smoke Free areas will be introduced to outdoor areas.
- Smokers will be asked to dispose of their butts thoughtfully.
- Totally Smoke Free events will be scheduled.
- All eating areas will be Smoke Free.
- All undercover areas will be Smoke Free.
- Functions and Meetings to be Smoke Free.
- All social functions for juniors will be Smoke Free.
- All organised pre-competition dinners will be held at Smoke Free venues.
- All meetings organised on behalf of this organisation will be Smoke Free.

#### **Coaches, Trainers, Volunteers, Parents and Officials**

- Coaches, trainers, volunteers, parents and officials will be restricted from smoking while they are with juniors in an official capacity.
- The effects of smoking on performance will be discussed with all players attending sports clinics, camps and those in representative sides.

- Smoke Free behaviour will be written into organisational Codes of Conduct for coaches, trainers, volunteers, parents and officials.
- For example, Players respect you and in particular junior players look up to you, so you need to be SmokeFree, especially when you're with them.
- If you want your players to play at their potential, encourage them to be Smoke Free.

#### **PLAN FOR NON-COMPLIANCE**

- It is expected that AFL Queensland's Smoke Free policy will be supported and adhered to by all members, coaches, officials, administrators, players and spectators equally. To maximise compliance the following plan will be implemented:
- Breaches of this policy will be referred to and dealt with by the General Manager, AFL Queensland and in the first instance League and/or Clubs will receive notification of the breach and be asked to rectify the problem. If a second offence occurs they will be required to make explanation in writing to AFL Queensland for negotiation and counselling. Should the problem be ongoing, AFL Queensland will take appropriate action as deemed necessary in keeping with their charter of the Governing Body of Australian Rules Football.

## Appendix B – Media Exclusion Form

The Everton Districts Sporting Club (EDSC) recognises the risk posting information about a child on websites may pose. If there are protection orders in place that you wish to inform the club about, please contact our Child Safety Officer: vicepresident@evertonwolves.com.au. All personal information will be held in the strictest of confidentiality.

Unless otherwise explicitly stated, the EDSC assumes permission to record video or take photographs of players related to their EDSC activities, or for purposes associated with the promotion of the EDSC. Unless otherwise explicitly stated, the EDSC assumes permission to name players is also granted. If you wish your child to be exempted, please RETURN THIS FORM or contact us via email:

1. the EDSC may record video or vision of me whilst I am at the club, taking part in authorised club activities.
2. I give permission to the EDSC to use footage of me related to:
  - a. media activity listed above which will assist with EDSC resource needs.
  - b. future media activities which would assist with the promotion of the EDSC.
  - c. advertising and promoting the EDSC.
  - d. any commercial purpose.
3. I understand that by giving this permission, EDSC can use footage of me in any way it chooses, for the purposes described above. It may reproduce them in any form, in whole or in part, and distribute them by any medium including the Internet and/or other multi-media devices.
4. I understand that I will not be paid by EDSC for giving this permission.

This does not mean that you or the player, lose ownership rights over your footage - simply that EDSC has permission to use it for the purposes mentioned.

Should you, for any reason, NOT wish your player's image to be used, please return this form to your Team manager or scan and email it to the president of the club.

Name of Player:	
Name of Parent / Guardian:	
Address:	
Signature of Player:	Date:
Signature of Parent / Guardian:	Date:
Please print your name:	