

# The whistle blower

The female umpires got wraps last week nationally with comments that they could umpire AFL. We have plenty of females at the GFUL that could just be the ones. Keep up the good umpiring girls.

Alex Noto, Marketing Manager for Geelong, from Technika was at the umpires meeting on Thursday and accepted a framed umpires Guernsey with Technika emblazoned across the front to acknowledging their support of the GFUL. We thank Technika for their support for this year and 2011.

The field umpires meeting last week, firstly we had Scott Howard speak about his umpiring this year and how it was getting his first report. Then Jessie "the body" Verdichizzi spoke about umpiring before the Geelong Hawthorn game. He said it was a big crowd and lots of noise and he hoped to someday umpire AFL. Alex Neville then told us about his time in Sydney umpiring at the U16 championships. He umpired 3 games during at the championship.

Then some umpires from the leadership group then reminded us of some of the rules that we need to get on top of. Peter Fitzgerald guided the umpires through rule 5.5 counting of players. Paul Trotter had rule, 11.2 Commencement of Play. (Make sure all interchange players have left the playing arena, all umpires are in position and ready to go and ask the captains of each team if they are ready to get the match underway.) Mark Bushfield was next with rule 10.5.3 Signalling. (With the starting and stopping of play, where time-on is applied, you must blow your whistle for both the time-on and time-off). Lastly Steve Keating reminded us of a couple of other issues that need to be addressed. FAD Free After Disposal be sure to check whether the ball has crossed the score line or not on the full to determine how the free is to be taken. When a player takes a mark crossing the boundary line and re-entering play thru the point score line that the ball is then deemed to be out of bounds. The Last items from Steve were positioning of the End Zone umpire, having two sets of eyes on a contest, and the Mid Zone umpires need to rotate regularly. Three to four minutes in the Mid Zone is plenty of time and look to rotate were possible after that sort of time. The coaching session finished with about 14 umpiring clips of: What's your decision?

The GFUL members had the opportunity to comment on the draft constitution last Wednesday night. Thanks to those who attended. John Villanti got a very special presentation on the constitution for attending. The second night before the constitution is presented to the AGM is on the 11<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00 pm.

Congratulations for last week, Brad Smith turned 40, Des Gahan umpired 300 games and Sam Mirabile 600 games. A special thank you to Justin Morris for giving me his old phone to fix my phone/PDA that had a cracked screen.

Coming up: Life members and Past members association game day on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August Geelong Amateurs v Anglesea at Queens Park. Afternoon tea in the Amateurs' Social Room. RSVP to Carl Wood for catering and entry vouchers.

Finals season launch Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August.

See you all back at the rooms tonight.

**Macca** Damian McMaster GFUL



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