

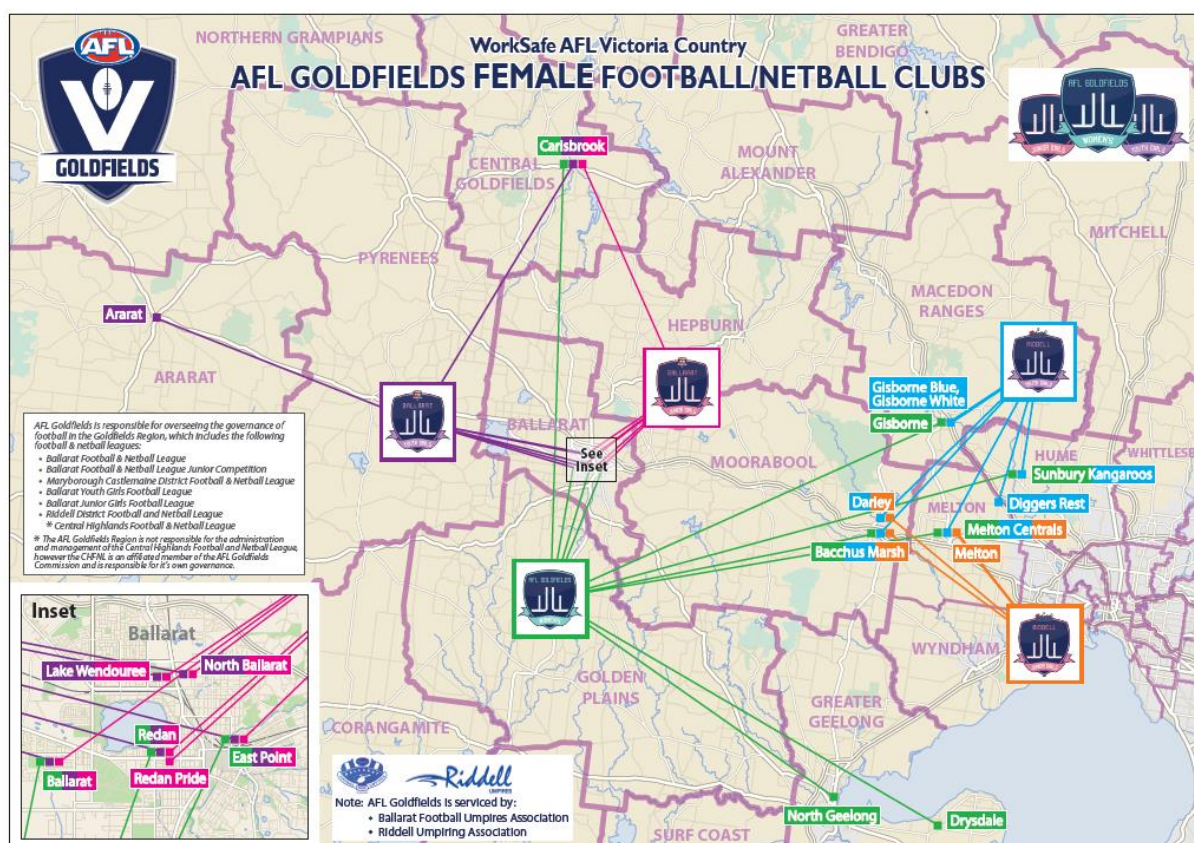


AFL Goldfields Female Football

New Team Expression of Interest

Introduction

AFL Goldfields Female Football competition was established in 2017 following the discontinuation of the VWFL competition structure, allowing teams to come together in a regional competition. The league currently consists of 40 teams across Junior, Youth girls and Open age levels, clubs located all over the goldfields region. The Female Football competition is managed and governed by AFL Goldfields



AFL Goldfields Female Football League provides women and young girls the opportunity to participate, socialise, develop skills and learn from experiences that provide a physically healthy lifestyle.

Benefits of Female Football teams for football clubs

- Retain junior girls and their families for longer
- Increased membership
- Increased volunteer base
- Greater diversity in membership
- Inclusive club environment
- Assists in funding applications (government and private)
- Increasingly, local councils are requiring female participation as a requirement for ground allocations

Benefits for players and their families

- Fun
- Fitness
- Friendship
- Ongoing participation from Auskick to Seniors
- Continuing to participate in sport
- Opportunity to play in team sport
- Opportunity to represent club, league and state
- Engage in the High Performance pathway
- Improved relationships between daughters and fathers
- Family bonding



“ I have been playing Youth Girls Football for 2 years now and have loved every minute of it. I look forward to training every week and can't wait for game day. Being on the football oval gives me a sense of belonging; not only to an amazing team but to an incredible culture as well. Playing in club competitions allows me to challenge myself and constantly strive to improve my skills. It also exposes me to so many talented girls, coaches and support staff who share their knowledge and drive to play the best game we can each and every time. They share the same love of the game that I have. Being on a football oval and playing the game has given me purpose and the chance to express who I am... ”

MELINA CIAVARELLA | NORTH BALLARAT JFNC

Criteria for Affiliation

- 1) **Proof of incorporation** – Incorporated pursuant to the Act or is a company incorporated pursuant to the Corporations Act. Must be up to date with Incorporation obligations.
- 2) Application will **comply with and satisfy AFL Victoria's requirements** new teams.
- 3) **The Club was a financial member for the previous season of the league or association with which it was then affiliated** (if applicable). i.e. Recent annual report as well as current financial status with other associations in which the Club is involved with.
- 4) **Team name and uniform are, or will be altered to be acceptable by AFL Goldfields** if deemed appropriate.
- 5) **Club facilities and financial circumstances are of a standard acceptable to Management.** i.e. proposed grounds for use and permission or letter of support from council and the Club President.
- 6) **Committee structure** and names – outlining how the Club 18 team will be represented in the structure.
- 7) Provide a **list of players willing to play for your club.**
- 8) **Demonstrate that players are *predominantly* new to female football or from your Club's existing teams** (not taken from other existing Female Football teams)
- 9) **Consultation**, if any, with stakeholders that this application involves i.e. surrounding junior/senior clubs, AFL Goldfields, Councils etc.

Competition By-Laws

In the Female Football competition there are some By-Laws that have been implemented specific to female football that help provide structure and an overall framework for the competition to work as effectively as possible. Some rules are also in place to help protect the integrity of the competition.

Some Female football By-Laws of note include:

- By default, the number of players on the playing surface for a match is 18, however, the evening up rule does apply.
- An unlimited number of players are permitted on a Junior/youth team's interchange bench for every match.
- Players must qualify for female football Finals as done with other football competitions.
- A modified rules chart is available in the Operations Manual

A complete list of Female Football By-Laws will be issued to each participating Club in season

Expression of Interest

Should your Club be interested in applying to be part of the AFL Goldfields Female Football competition for 2020, please complete the following form and attach any documents as necessary.

Primary Information:

We wish to express interest in fielding <i>(please circle)</i>	U/13 U/15 U/18 Open Age			
Club Name (Official Incorporated/registered name)				
Current League Affiliations (Ballarat FNL, Riddell District FNL, etc.)				
Name of respondent and Position at Club (respondent must hold official role at Club)	Name:			
	Position:			
Club Postal Address:	Street Address/ PO Box number:			
	Town/Suburb:			
	Post Code:			
Club Ground Address:	Street Address:			

	Town/Suburb:	
	Post Code:	
Primary Contact Info:	Name:	
	Phone:	Mob:
		Home/Work:
	Email:	
Club Incorporation No.		
Club ABN		

Club Positions:

Please provide AFL Goldfields with the following information to show your eligibility and commitment to the competition (all positions must be filled):

Position:	Full Name:	Mobile:	Email:
Club President			

Club Secretary			
Club Treasurer			
Club Vice President			
Club Coordinator			
Club Administrator/Registrar			
Club Sports Trainer			
Club Head Coach			

Other (please specify) – include anyone will who positively influence your application	Name:		
	Role:		
Other (please specify) – include anyone will who positively influence your application	Name:		
	Role:		

Club Players/Team List Strategy:

Provide a list of any players who have committed to playing as a regular part of your female football team in season 2020:

Full Name:	Footyweb Number (if registered):	Total matches played in 2019:	Club affiliated with (if none, please specify):

Please attach documents demonstrating your club's strategy for recruitment of players- short and long term which may include but not exclusive to:

- Come and Try female football
- Inclusive Auskick Program
- Advertising strategies

Recruiting of Players from other clubs in AFL Goldfields Region

It is anticipated that moving into the 2020 season AFL Goldfields are going to have an overwhelming increase in clubs wanting to field Female Football side.

Considering our recent influx of teams this season (38 Female Football teams of all age groups in the Goldfields region), we must ensure not only the sustainability of any new club entering but the continued success of all existing clubs.

Upon AFL Goldfields written approval of your club's inclusion for the 2020 season it is expected that no clearances are processed for any player who are registered and played with another AFL Goldfields Open Age, Youth Girls or Junior Girls team in the 2019 season.

Any female footballer who last registered and played with another AFL Goldfields Open Age, Youth Girls or Junior Girls team in the 2019 season (or prior) are available for you to register.

The exclusion on recruiting players from another AFL Goldfields Open Age, Youth Girls or Junior Girls team Players applies in the first season of competition for the new team. From the second season onwards, the recruitment of players for the new team will operate under the normal clearance and registration regulations as applying in the league.

Conditions where exemption from the above regulations may apply include:

- Should any female registered with another AFL Goldfields team reside in the immediate area of the club entering a new team
- Should any female having previously played for the club and left due to a female football team folding
- Should any female have immediate family links to the club in question
- Should both the current club and the recruiting club mutually agree to a clearance for a player
- Should AFL Goldfields Women's Football League deem extenuating circumstances exist in relation to a pending clearance

Any exemptions must be detailed in writing to the AFL Goldfields Female Football Manager, Krista Woodroffe. The AFL Goldfields Female Football advisory committee will review all requests for exemption and determine the outcome of each request.



Please outline below any information that will support your Club's application in submitting a team into the 2020 Female Football competition:



Submitting your Expression of Interest

After completing the above Expression of Interest form, please date and sign below, before sending your Club's completed form and any additional supporting documentation through to Krista Woodroffe of AFL Goldfields via email at krista@aflgoldfields.com.au .

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Female Football Expression of Interest for 2020, please contact Krista via the email address above or call directly on 0400546400.

We ask that Clubs who participated in 2019 also complete the above form.

Clubs will be given until **Friday 15th November 2019** to submit their Expression of Interest. Clubs will then be notified no later than **Friday 7th February 2020** of outcomes.

On behalf of the _____ **FNC** (*Club's name*), I,

_____ (*Club official's name*) would like to submit our Club's

Expression of Interest in joining the AFL Goldfields Female Football Competition for Season 2020.

_____ (*print name*)

_____ (*signature*)

_____ (*role at Club*)

_____ (*date*)