

# ***RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY POLICY***

We, the Whitford Amateur Football Club hereby commit to the objective of the AFL's Respect and Responsibility Policy to create, safe, welcoming and inclusive environments for women and girls at all levels of Australian Football.

By committing to this goal, we understand that;

Violence against women is a violation of a women's right to physical and psychological integrity, to liberty and all too often, to her right to life itself. It is any act of gender based violence that results on, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm to women.

We acknowledge that;

- In Australia and around the world one in three women will experience violence at some point in their life.
- One in five Australian women reported being subject to sexual assault at some time in the adult lives; and
- Four in five Australian women who experienced sexual violence knew their attacker.

We understand that violence against women is a major public health and safety issue in Australia and therefore affirm that our club understands its and the wider football communities role in preventing violence against women before it occurs.

We further recognise that violence against women is caused by;

- Unequal power relations between men and women and belief in rigid gender roles;
- Holding a masculine sense of entitlement;
- Belief in the male right to control relationships; and
- Promotion of these beliefs through social structures such as sporting clubs

We underline our commitment to challenging these behaviours and attitudes that can cause, contribute to and condone violence against women.

We understand that creating environments where women feel safe, welcome and inclusive is both an individual and collective responsibility. In order to achieve this, we commit to;

- Supporting an equal representation of women and men in senior leadership positions;
- Ensuring that all elements of the Member Protection Policy are adhered to at all times;
- Communicate and enforce relevant Club and League Codes of Conduct;
- Actively engage with the White Ribbon Campaign, or equivalent;
- Adherence to our Responsible Service of Alcohol obligations

This Policy is effective from January 2016 and applies to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, players and visitors of the Whitford Amateur Football Club.

This Policy was last reviewed September 2020.