



EDFL Under 9s Competition

Rules & Regulations

Produced February 2017

Under 9s Competition

Age Policy

- A player must be 7 years of age by April 30 before he/she can participate in competition football in Victoria.

Gender Policy

- In accordance with Equal opportunity Act 1995 (Vic.) people aged under 12 years of Age cannot be excluded on a basis of sex or gender for participating in competitive sporting activity.
- The under 9s competition is a mixed program

Under 9s Competition

The Team

- Twelve-a-side means: 4 forwards, 4 centres, 4 backs + reserves.
- Fifteen-a-side means: 5 forwards, 5 midfielders, 5 backs + reserves.
- Interchange may take place at any time, but all players must play equal time.
- Rotate players every quarter to provide opportunities in several positions, i.e. players to change from one zone to another and interchange on to the field.
- Equalise the teams and opponents as much as possible (match sizes, abilities).

Under 9s Competition

Playing Ground and Officials

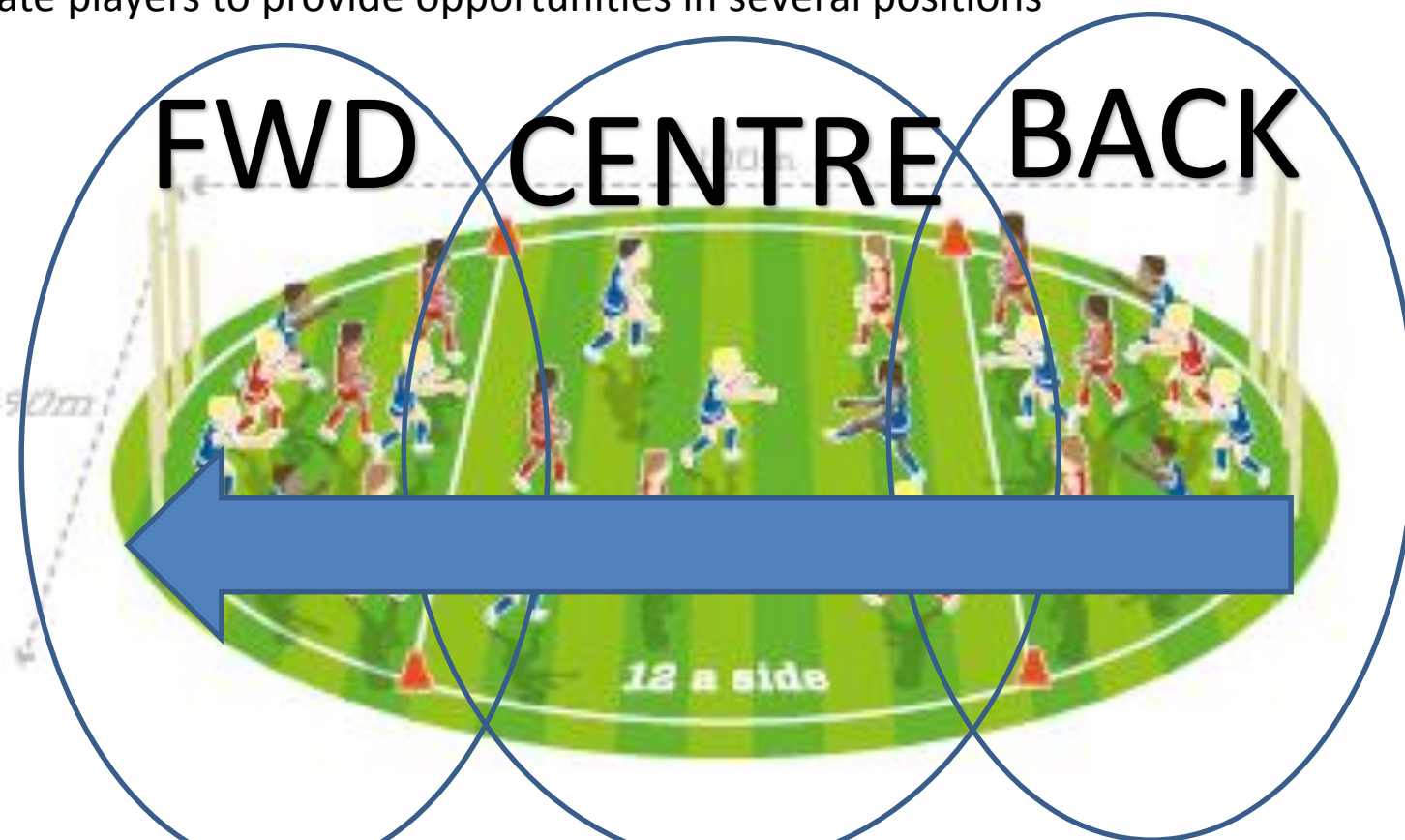
- The size of the playing field should be no bigger than 100m x 80m and divided into three equal zones (thirds) identified by markers or lines on the ground.
- A field umpire is needed.
- There are no boundary throw-ins (no boundary umpires)
- Two goal umpires are required.



Under 9s Competition

Zones

- Backs are restricted to the back zone.
- Centres are restricted to the centre zone.
- Forwards are restricted to the forward zone.
- Players in the centre zone must be identified by a EDFL sash
- Rotate players to provide opportunities in several positions



Under 9s Competition

Scoring

Only players who are positioned as forward zone players may score.

Start Of Play And Restarting After A Goal

When all players are in position, a ball-up is conducted between two centre players of similar height as nominated by the umpire. Alternate players for subsequent bounces.

Transition Of Ball

When the ball is in transition from the back zone to the forward zone, it must be touched by a player in the centre zone. Failure for this to occur will see a free kick awarded to the opposition team at the point at which the ball entered the end zone.

Under 9s Competition

Out Of Bounds

From a kick – a free kick is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball.

If there is doubt, or if the ball came off hands or body, the umpire shall call a ball-up 5m in from the boundary. Full possession at the ball-up is not permitted.

Under 9s Competition

Tackling

Players can perform a modified tackle.

- A player in possession of the ball may be tackled by an opponent wrapping both arms around the area below the top of the shoulders and on/above the knees. The tackle may be from either side or from behind providing the tackle from behind does not thrust forward the player with the ball (that is push the player in the back).
- If the player in possession of the ball is taken to the ground in the act of tackling, they will receive a free kick.
- If the umpire feels the player drops to the ground deliberately in order to receive a free kick, they will be penalised for holding the ball.
- A player in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent applying the wrap-around tackle, should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or by handball, or by attempting to kick or handball, otherwise a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- The field umpire shall conduct a ball-up when the player with the ball has the ball held to the body by an opponent, unless the player has had a reasonable time to dispose of the ball before being tackled, in which case a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.
- View the following YouTube clip for greater clarity
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y9kWXQaFezA>

Under 9s Competition

Contact/Prohibited Contact

The field umpire shall allow play to continue if the ball is knocked accidentally out of a player's hands by an opponent.

A player not in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent, shall be awarded a free kick.

There is strictly no bumping, slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player in possession of the ball to the ground.

Players cannot:

- knock the ball out of an opponent's hands on purpose;
- push the player in the side;
- steal the ball from another player;
- smother an opponent's kick;
- shepherd an opponent.

Under 9s Competition

The rules have not been modified in any way from the AFL Football Policy and are as follows;

ADMINISTRATION	Modified Rules
Ground Size	100m x 80m (recommended max.) and divided into 3 equal zones (thirds) NB: this will allow 2 games to be played on the one ground
Zones	✓
# Players on Ground	12 to 15 a side
Ball Type	Synthetic Only
Ball Size	2
Quarter Duration (mins)	12
Break Length	3-10-5

Under 9s Competition

UMPIRES	Modified Rules
# Field Umpires	Club – 1* *EDFL Umpire where possible
Boundary Umpires	✘
Out Of Bounds	From a kick a free kick is awarded against the player who last kicked the ball. From hands, or if there is doubt, then the umpire shall ball it up 10m in from the boundary.
LAWS	Modified Rules
Tackling	Modified (see video)
Bumping	✘
Stealing The Ball	✘
Barging	✘
Smothering	✘
Fending Off	✘
Shepherding	✘
Bouncing The Ball	1 Max

Under 9s Competition

LAWS	Modified Rules
Kicking Off The Ground	✘
Ball Ups	Nominated Players of Equal Size
Centre Bounce	Provide equal opportunity for all players to compete, choosing players of equal size
Throw-Ins	✘
Distance Over Which Marks Are Paid	A mark is awarded, irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled, to any player who catches it or makes reasonable attempt to mark it
Distance Penalty	✘
Deliberate Out Of Bounds	✘
Deliberate Rushed Behind	✘

Under 9s Competition

COMPETITION DETAILS	Modified Rules
Premierships, Ladders / Finals	✘
Scores Kept	✘
Record Best Players / Goal Kickers	✘
League Representative Team Selected	✘
Coach Allowed On-Field	✓ We recommend to act as umpire
Runner	✘
Water Person	✘