



St Paul's McKinnon JFC Empowerment Initiatives

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Empowerment is one of the SMJFL's main priorities within all clubs to ensure they are working towards a club environment where children feel confident and safe to talk up about any issues or concern. Empowerment is about helping the children find their voice by building a culture in which the players have opportunities to speak up, give input and be involved in decision-making. It not only allows them to build confidence but also means that if an incident should ever occur they may be more willing to speak up because they know their voice will be heard.

Within this document are some initiative ideas that the St Paul's McKinnon JFC (**the Club**) are proposing to implement over the coming season/s to assist the children in feeling empowered around the club. The main goal behind these initiatives is to place children in situations or roles where they feel as though they have a voice within the St Paul's McKinnon JFC and that their membership within the Club is valued, whether it be to have them talking in front of their team or having their efforts on game day acknowledged.

Empowerment Initiatives for Children:	How to Implement Initiatives:
Certificate of participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awarding children frequently throughout the season• Awarding a different child each week
Team Code of Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All players will sign a code of conduct• Coaches will start the season having the players to decide on rules which players, coaches, team managers, volunteers and parents will need to abide by
Allow time for players to voice opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coaches will designate time each training session for players to share what they believe the team did well in and areas for improvement
Role within club (community player of the week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The club will implement roles which the children can participate in each week these duties might include: scoring, time keeping, water runner
Advertise achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Club newsletters is the main vehicle in which St Paul's McKinnon JFC advertise achievements e.g. game milestones, notable certificates of participation awarded• The coaches update in the weekly newsletter outlines key achievements of each of the teams• Celebrated key events and achievements

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	will be communicated via the weekly newsletter
Allow players to have a role in training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign a different child or group to come up with a stretch or drill to get the team to do • Select a new child each week • Get children in front of the team and allow them to take charge and explain drills
Presentation night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have children involved with handing out awards • Have players who won the award the year before to hand the winner of the current year the award
Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise a player committee where any age group can join • Discuss areas for club improvement
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaches will encourage players to say something on game day to motivate the team or say something after the game to congratulate or encourage teammates
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a player from an older age group to assist in coaching • Help run drills
Buddy System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a new player has joined, assign a buddy to introduce them to the team • Show around the club • Introduce to club personnel • Show them who the CSO is and how to find where to contact them • One buddy per new player
Multicultural Round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of the different cultures in your club • Have a round signifying the acknowledgment of being multicultural
Provide Bilingual and / or Multilingual Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure all members, club personnel and parents feel as though their cultural backgrounds are being acknowledged ensuring signage is in different languages
Acknowledgment of Different Cultures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display pictures and objects of various cultures represented at the club • Aim to welcome people in different languages of the community e.g. Sign acknowledging the original owners of the land – get permission from local Aboriginal community
Parent Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The club will encourage all parents to support around club • Game day duties will be shared amongst the parents • The coaches will encourage all parents to

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	come and support with training of the kids
Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The club will encourage players feedback and opinions of how the season was run, how their club created an inclusive environment and how the club personnel were supportive and encouraging • The encourage feedback as to whether the club has accommodated for their cultural requirements
Address by Correct Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will ask players of a different cultural background how they would like to be addressed e.g. Some prefer Aboriginal others prefer Torres Strait Islanders
Understand Capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a player has a disability we will ensure to ask them what their limits are and accommodate their needs
Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If promoting the St Paul's McKinnon JFC in any form, we will ask parents' permission and ensure that we promote diversity
Child Safety Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of Child Safety Officer will be communicated to all players and parents