

Participation and Empowerment initiatives St Peters Football Club – 2018/2019 Review date - June 2020

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 decisions. 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.

These are some of the initiatives that St Peters FC has undertaken and plans to undertake.

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 club and that their membership within the club is valued, whether it be to have them talking in front of their team or their efforts on game day acknowledged.

Empowerment Initiatives for Children:	How to Implement Initiatives:	Status
Certificate of participation	 Award children frequently throughout the season Can be for anything (taking their first mark) Award a different child each week 	 Awards provided at monthly social event – Anchor night. Recognition provided after each game. Awards provided by club at each home game. Coaches encouraged to award to different child each week.
Team Code of Conduct	• Start of season have children decide on approximately 10 rules which players, coaches, team managers, volunteers and parents will need to abide by	• To be considered
Allow time for players to voice opinions	 Designate time each training session for players to share what they believe the team did well in and areas for improvement 	Ongoing





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Role within club (community player of the week)	 Implement roles which the children can participate in each week Choose a different kid each week Could be: scoring, time keeping, water runner Great for disability inclusion 	 Rotating captains Assisting role, such as helping with statistics offered to children unable to play ie broken bone etc
Advertise achievements	 Utilize club newsletters Advertise achievements E.g. 50th game, great marks, big kicks, notable certificates of participation awarded Try and get kids names in the newsletter who might not gain much recognition around the club Advertise the role of the community player of the week Advertise the members of a club committee Advertise if a child is being used for a form of promotional material 	 Celebration of milestones through club newsletters, social media and listed in "results section of local paper". Club banner for milestones Use of Team Managers emails to provide coaches feedback to kids for milestones, great marks, big kicks, teamwork and encouragement. Others to be considered.
Allow players to take charge in training	 Assign a different child or group to come up with a stretch or drill to get team to do New kid each week Get them in front of the team and take charge 	• To be considered
Presentation night	 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 	To be considered
Responsibility	 Designate a child each week to say something on game day to motivate the team Or say something after the game to congratulate of encourage teammates 	 Encouraging a different child to lead the club song after a win. Captains make pre game speech To be considered.
Leadership	 Have a player from an older age group the assist in coaching Help run drills Different kid as captain each week 	 To be considered In girls competition our U18 girls are coaching teams and assisting at





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		training our younger
Buddy System	 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 	 age groups. Coaches ensure that new players are oriented and feel welcome and encouraged. To be considered
Multicultural Round	 Raise awareness of the different cultures in your club Have a round signifying the acknowledgment of being multicultural In training you could have those children who have a different cultural background to talk about it 	 Through club newsletters and social media
Provide Bilingual and / or Multilingual Signage	 To ensure all members, club personnel and parents feel as though their cultural backgrounds are being acknowledged ensuring signage is in different languages 	• To be considered
Acknowledgment of Different Cultures	 Display pictures and objects of various cultures represented at the club Reflect the various cultural groups in the school district by providing signs in the main officer/club rooms 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 	• To be considered
Parent Involvement	 Encourage parents to help around club Different parent each week bring oranges Have a night where a parent can come train with the kids 	 Team managers send weekly emails to encourage parent participation in volunteer roles, including bringing oranges and participating in training.



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		 Parent involvement is also encouraged in organizing the monthly social event – Anchor night, participating in fundraising events – ie Bogan/Disco Bingo. Last training of season – parents/mums versus kids match. During hosting finals – volunteer roster
		established where
		parents can assist.
Feedback	 Implement an end of season survey to obtain the 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 Ask whether the club has accommodated for their cultural requirements (e.g. does the canteen supply food they can eat) 	To be considered
Address by Correct Terms	 Ask players of a different cultural background how they would like to be address E.g. Some prefer Aboriginal others prefer Torres Strait Islanders 	• To be considered
Understand Capabilities	 If a player has a disability ensure to ask them what their limits are (do they need linger rest times) Ask how you can ensure you accommodate for their needs (ask if they lip read and whether they need to in view of you at all times when giving instructions) 	• To be considered
Child Safety Awareness	 Child Safety awareness posters up at SPFC clubrooms Updates on child safety for members routinely in weekly newsletters. 	Ongoing



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Mental health awareness	٠	Education session to members	٠	Planned for May 2019
		from Headspace – our charity		
		Partner (part of Gold		
		Accreditation)		

