



18.03.2019

To all WRFL trainers and club officials,

Due to a few member concerns and queries regarding Public Liability Cover and the actual wording of the policy, we were needing clarification from JLT (Insurance company) and AFL to confirm Medical Professionals cover as a trainer.

We now have confirmation in writing from JLT, clearly wording that the insurance company and AFL exempt all Medical Professionals from obtaining a First Aid Level 2 certificate for insurance purposes.

1. Any **Medical Professionals who register as a trainer** with the League can only work within the scope of F/A Level2 (HLTAID003). Any actions performed above this scope will not be covered by Public Liability.
2. Any **Medical Professionals who are hired (paid or volunteer) as their profession** must have proof of their own Public Liability Policy outside of their workplace and will then be registered with the League as that Medical Profession for the nominated club.

Now that there is a clear understanding for Medical Professionals and the Public Liability Cover, we can move forward with registration for Season 2019.

As communicated previously, the new minimum standard for **registering as a trainer for Season 2020** is that all trainers will need to complete an AFL approved ERC module. The ERC module makes up part of the AFL approved Level 1 Sports First Aid Certificate. AFL tailored this module in 2011 so that it could become a mandatory minimum for sports trainers in 2013 for all Community Football Leagues to implement. We are the last league to implement this minimum and as registered WRFL trainers, we are governed by AFL policies and standards that we are obliged to recognise and abide by. We now need to up skill trainers to meet the minimum of ERC regarding sports injury management and emergency procedures on field to meet the standards of AFL standards in community football.

The minimum prerequisite to enroll into an AFL approved ERC is a First Aid Level 2 HLTAID003 certificate. As the Level 2 HLTAID003 is an ASQA (nationally recognized and government approved) certificate and given the WRFL and the Trainers Association are **not** Registered Training Organisations with ASQA, we cannot issue any certificates of recognition of prior learning to be able to enroll into ERC. The Association outsources any certified training, we do not issue any ASQA or AFL approved certificates.

Gary Bilson from Statewide who we outsource for ERC training and Level 1 Sports F/A Certificates is a registered Trainer and Assessor with ASQA and is approved by AFL to teach Level 1 Sports F/A. Mr Bilson does not do RPLs for First Aid Level 2. Therefore, as stated above we highly recommend all Medical

Professionals to contact Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) or any other ASQA and AFL approved RTO regarding RPL's.

From the 1st January 2020 there will be no leniency given to any persons (including Medical Professionals) registering as a trainer, who have not taken steps to complete the ERC module.

Season 2020 minimum requirements for WRFL trainers:

- All **Junior Trainers** are to have a minimum of F/A Level 2 and **ERC Module completed**
- All **Senior Trainers** (men's and women's teams) must have an AFL approved **Level 1 Sports Certificate** completed

If a trainer with minimum requirements is working with a Senior team of trainers, they can work with a registered **Level 1 Sports trainer who is responsible in supervising** any Sports F/A management of injuries performed **on training or game day by a Junior Trainer**. If you do not hold a current Level 1 Sports Certificate you can only register as a Junior trainer. **All trainers and club officials should note**, if you are the only **Senior trainer** for the team and are the sole person responsible for your team's management of sports injuries you **must hold an approved AFL current Level 1 Sports F/A** certificate to register as a Senior trainer. A Level 1 Sports certificate holder can register as both a Junior and Senior trainer. All Senior trainers need to be reminded that when working with **Junior players 14yrs and under are not to use rigid tape to manage sports injuries**. Any trainer working with ages of 15yrs and up must have a Level 1 Sports certificate to be able to manage sports injuries with rigid tape. If you only hold a First Aid Level 2 or higher and the **minimum ERC you must not use rigid tape on a Player under 18yrs old**.

Once again, if you are a **Medical Professional or anyone with a higher certificate in F/A wishing to register as a Senior trainer you will need to seek an ASQA and AFL approved training provider** such as SMA to obtain a Level 1 Sports certificate. Any person who has a current ERC statement of completion can request an RPL for this module when enrolling into a Sports Level 1 F/A.

We hope that any confusion with registering as a trainer for 2019 and 2020 is now clearer for everyone concerned to take steps in ensuring that the minimum requirements are met prior to the start of season 2020.

Our mission is to lift the standards (approved and mandatory by AFL) of all trainers to ensure players safety of all ages at training and on game day throughout our football community, under the Western Regional Football League.

Kind regards,

Tayla Bond
WRFLTA Secretary

Approved by Kostj Danilow –WRFLTA President
Approved by Allan (Titch) Williams –WRFLTA Vice President
Approved by Western Region Football League
Approved by AFL and AFLVic standards