



# Melton Junior Football Netball Club

*The Bloods*

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## MJFNC Gambling Policy

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|------------------------------------------|
| Version number: 1.0                      |
| Approved by: Full Committee              |
| Effective date: 19 Aug 2026              |
| Next Review date: 19 Aug 2027            |
| Policy Owner: Club Secretary Craig Byham |

## 1. PURPOSE-

The Melton Junior Football Netball Club (MJFNC) is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and family friendly environment for all members. This policy outlines our position on gambling and sets clear expectations to minimise gambling harm within our junior sporting community. This aligns with Victorian best-practice harm prevention principles for community sporting clubs, including the Love the Game program, which encourages clubs to avoid normalising gambling for young people.

## 2. SCOPE -

MJFNC does not support, promote, or normalise gambling in any form within the club environment. We recognise that young people are particularly vulnerable to gambling harm, and we have a duty of care to ensure our club remains a safe space free from gambling influence. This duty of care is consistent with Australian junior sport welfare guidelines, which emphasise safeguarding young people and preventing exposure to harmful activities.

This policy applies to:

- All players, coaches, volunteers, officials, and committee members
- All club run events, training sessions, matches, and social activities
- All club communications, including social media, newsletters, and advertising
- All fundraising activities conducted under the MJFNC name

## 3. CLUB COMMITMENTS

### 3.1. No Gambling Promotion

MJFNC will:

- Not promote gambling products, betting odds, or gambling related content at any club event or through club communication channels.
- Not accept sponsorships from gambling providers or venues with electronic gaming machines (pokies), unless unavoidable due to council or facility arrangements.
- Not run or endorse punters' clubs, fantasy betting competitions, or tipping competitions that involve wagering. These commitments reflect the *Love the Game* program's recommended actions for Victorian sporting clubs.

### 3.2. Junior Protection Measures

To protect junior members, MJFNC will:

- Not show horse or greyhound racing on club TVs when juniors are present.
- Ensure any unavoidable events at gambling venues are held away from gambling areas and do not require juniors to pass through gambling spaces. These measures directly align with Victorian harm minimisation guidelines for junior sporting clubs.



### 3.3. Fundraising Restrictions

MJFNC will:

- Not run gambling based fundraising activities such as poker nights, casino nights, or reverse raffles.
- If any gambling related fundraiser is held (e.g., adult only charity raffle), it will be strictly limited to adults and accompanied by harm-minimisation messaging. This follows Victorian community gaming rules designed to ensure charitable gaming is conducted responsibly and without harm.

### 3.4. Education & Awareness

MJFNC will:

- Provide information to members about gambling risks and harm minimisation.
- Encourage committee members to complete online gambling harm awareness training (e.g., Play by the Rules, Love the Game).
- Display information about gambling support services within club facilities. These actions are consistent with national safeguarding expectations for junior sport environments.

### 3.5. Club Culture & Communication

MJFNC will:

- Ensure coaches, volunteers, and guest speakers avoid gambling related language (e.g., “What’s your tip?”, “Check the odds”).
- Promote a club culture that values participation, teamwork, and wellbeing over gambling related behaviours. This aligns with Australian Sport Governance Standards, which emphasise values based behaviour and safeguarding young people.

### 3.6. Compliance

MJFNC will comply with:

- The **Gambling Regulation Act 2003 (Vic)**, which aims to minimise gambling harm and prevent minors from being exposed to gambling environments.
- All relevant Victorian and Australian child safeguarding and sport integrity requirements.

### 3.7. Reporting Concerns

Any member who observes gambling promotion, gambling related behaviour, or breaches of this policy within the club environment is encouraged to report it confidentially to the Club President or Committee.

#### Review:

This policy is to be reviewed by the existing committee every year or as required to ensure that the policy is applicable to the MJFNC Inc. The committee can then recommend changes that they see fit, and then ratify any changes to the policy at the next scheduled general committee meeting.

