

POLICY

MATCH DAY WEARING OF BLACK ARMBANDS

INTRODUCTION

A **black armband** signifies public recognition of the death of a team member, or a 'death of significance' to the club. This is particularly common on the first match following the loss of that person.

Over time, the impact gained from teams wearing black armbands on match day has been diluted by overuse and often inadequate related information flow to the broader Club community.

PURPOSE

The frequency of black arm band use eroding what should be a powerful club statement of mourning and support. Previously there has been a lack of structured management process and governance in approving this highly visual and representational club response.

There was no consistency of approach as to who is deserving of such an organised club black arm tribute.

Additionally, there was a lack of any club generated information on or before match day – resulting in many supporters, members of the public and even team members not understanding why black armbands are being worn.

In 2021 the TWFNSC committee has recognised a need to address the issue by introducing a written club policy, to provide guidance for committee management and club stakeholders.

POLICY

TWFNSC will mandate in relation to the wearing of black armbands:

- Prior approval process to be exercised at Executive Committee level
- Such an approval will generate_
 - an *all of club response* (i.e., all senior Football and Netball Players will wear black armbands on the relevant match day, in order to deepen the impact of the tribute)
 - Individual team response
- Introduction of a 'sole person' black armband response on match day to enable a player or Club entity to personally acknowledge the passing of a person close to them – that person being in a category not meeting the criteria of a whole of Club response (e.g. – a family member)
- Whenever prior approval is provided for either an all of Club, individual team or sole person black arm band response, it is important that the Executive Committee 'approver' initiate
 - (a) suitable publication on all TWFNSC social media sites (including website and FB and twitter) and
 - (b) the match day posting of a printed notice adjacent to the canteen service window – which will provide information regarding the deceased person being visibly acknowledged by the club on that day.
- Those published information items (electronic and paper) should specify who is being tributed by way of black armband response on the match day and why (publication subject to the approval of the family member)
- Upon approval the Executive Committee 'approver' will internally communicate that development to the team managers to relay to team members

- It should be noted these are guidelines only, which will always inherently accommodate the application of discretion and reasonableness on the part of the Executive Committee members involved in such approval considerations.

GUIDELINES

Accordingly, the following specific guidelines will apply from the date of Committee approval:

Prior approval process

Decision to be made by a minimum of two Executive Committee Members, one of whom must be either the President or Vice President.

Category of persons

The following categories of deceased persons will ordinarily attract a full club black arm band response:

- TWFNSC, TWFC and TWNC Life Members
- Current TWFNSC players and team officials
- Previous TWFNSC players who excelled by way of a notable contribution to the Club, either by number of games played or other noteworthy element (this will include a football or netball player having made a notable contribution prior to TWFNSC amalgamation)
- Past and present SMG members
- A high-profile death with high local community impact
- Directive from Adelaide Plains Football League (APFL) or Adelaide Plains Netball Association (APNA).

The following category of deceased persons will not ordinarily attract a full club black arm band response: -

- Death of a family member or relative of a player, match official, life member, Committee or SMG member – where the above-described qualification criteria does not apply.

In such circumstances, a sole person black arm band response, with associated Club information messaging will ordinarily apply.

Whole of Club response

An approved full Club black armband will require all senior netball and football teams on a particular match day to wear black armbands. Senior Teams denotes U17, B & A Grade Football, A1, A2, A3 Netball sides.

ROOSTERS



TWO WELLS
FOOTBALL & NETBALL
SPORTING CLUB INC.

Today the Two Wells Football & Netball Sporting Club Inc. is paying formal tribute on the recent passing of

The club wishes to pay its respects because

Club President (name)
