



**American Football South Australia (AFSA)**

**Risk Management Policy**

**Policy Owner:** AFSA Board of Management

**Date Approved:** May 2026

**Last Reviewed:** May 2026

**Next Scheduled Review:** May 2028

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## **1. Policy Overview and Purpose**

This policy formally adopts the Risk Management Policy of American Football Australia (AFA) as the governing risk management framework for all AFSA sanctioned activities.

It ensures a consistent, nationally aligned approach to identifying, assessing, and managing risk across all levels of the sport within South Australia.

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## **2. Underlying Principles**

- Participant safety and welfare is the highest priority
  - Risk must be proactively identified and managed
  - National alignment with AFA standards is maintained
  - All participants share responsibility for risk management
  - Compliance with legal and duty of care obligations is mandatory
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## **3. Scope and Application**

This policy applies to all AFSA sanctioned activities, including:

- Matches
- Training sessions
- Events and programs
- Representative activities

This policy applies to all participants, including:

- Players
  - Coaches
  - Officials
  - Volunteers
  - Club administrators
  - Board members
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## **4. Core Policy Requirements**

## **4.1 Adoption of AFA Policy**

AFSA formally adopts the Risk Management Policy of American Football Australia (AFA).

All clubs, officials, and participants must comply with the AFA Risk Management Policy as the primary framework for risk management.

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## **4.2 Compliance Obligations**

All affiliated clubs and participants must:

- Implement risk management practices in accordance with the AFA policy
  - Identify and manage risks within their operations
  - Ensure safe environments for all participants
  - Comply with duty of care obligations at all times
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## **4.3 Integration with AFSA Policies**

Risk management requirements are further supported through AFSA policies, including:

- Game Day Policy
- Weather Policy
- Concussion Management Policy
- Child Safety & Safeguarding Policy
- Member Protection Policy

These policies operate in conjunction with the AFA Risk Management Policy.

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## **5. Procedures / Processes**

### **5.1 Implementation**

- Clubs are responsible for implementing risk management practices at the operational level
- Match officials and appointed delegates oversee compliance during sanctioned activities

### **5.2 Monitoring and Review**

- AFSA may conduct reviews or audits of club compliance
  - Clubs must provide evidence of risk management practices where requested
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## **6. Breaches and Penalties**

Failure to comply with this policy or the AFA Risk Management Policy may result in:

- Suspension of activities
- Disciplinary action against individuals or clubs
- Referral to Tribunal

Serious breaches relating to participant safety will be treated with zero tolerance.

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## **7. Enforcement and Responsibility**

This policy is enforced by:

- AFSA Board of Management
- Authorised AFSA representatives
- Match officials and delegates

All participants share responsibility for risk management and safety.

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## **8. Related Policies**

- Game Day Policy
  - Weather Policy
  - Concussion Management Policy
  - Child Safety & Safeguarding Policy
  - Member Protection Policy
  - Tribunal Policy
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## **9. Policy Review and Approval**

This policy will be reviewed every two (2) years or earlier if required.

It will be assessed to ensure alignment with national standards, legal obligations, and AFSA governance requirements.

