



Risk Assessment

Australian Rules Football

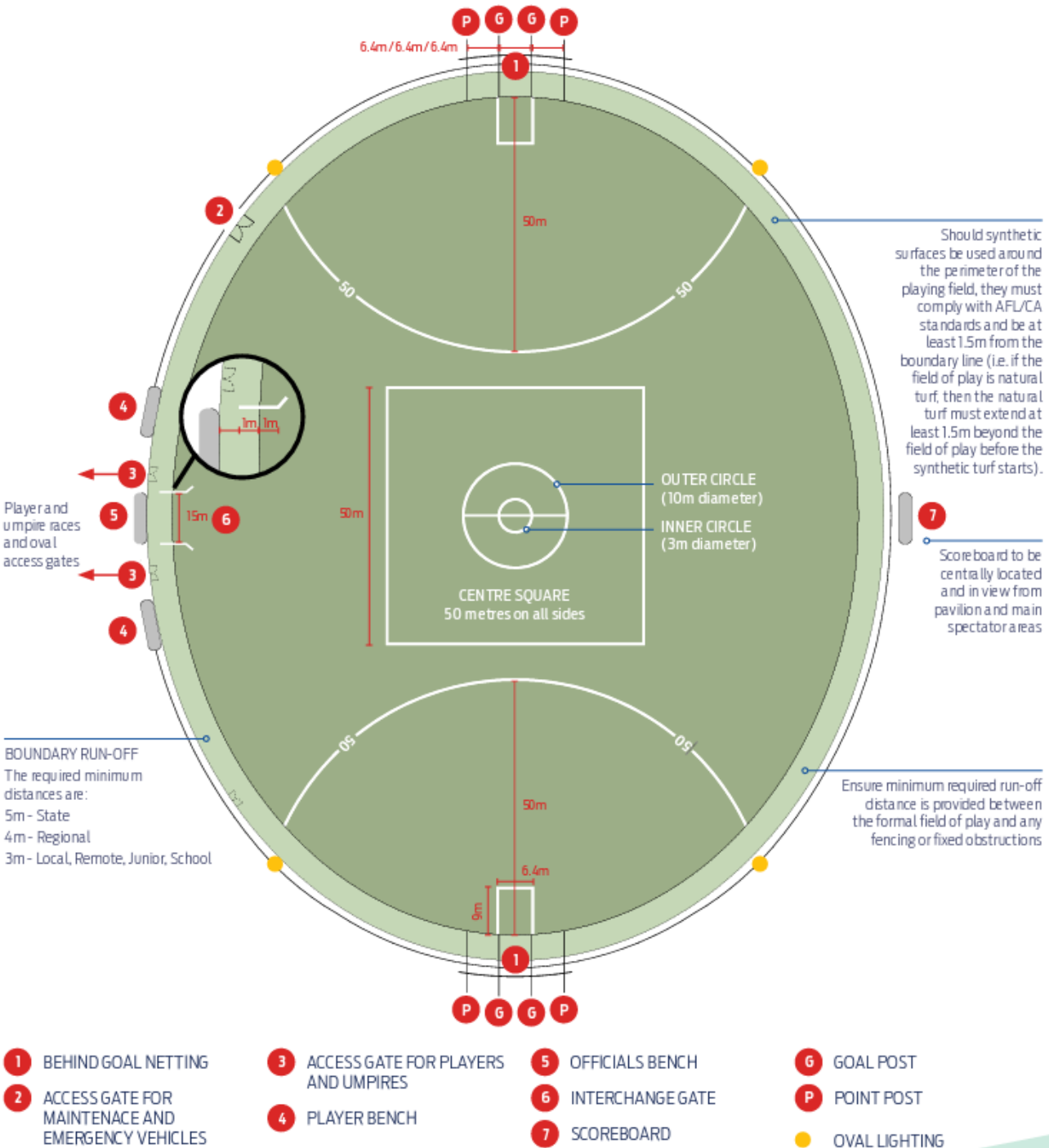
Junior Girls (Year 7 & 8)
Senior Girls (Year 9-12)
Junior Boys (Year 7 & 8)
Intermediate Boys (Year 9 & 10)
Senior Boys (Year 11 & 12)

Date of Assessment:	14 July 2026
Date of Review	20 January 2027
Frequency of Review	Annually
Prepared by	Pam Sellings, SEISA Executive Officer
Reference documents: https://seisa.com.au/resources/ SEISA Handbook SEISA Adverse Weather Policy SEISA Child Safe Policy SEISA Code of Conduct SEISA First Aid Policy SEISA Student Behaviour Standards SEISA General Regulations SEISA Equipment Specifications	
Briefly describe the sport and its' context: SEISA Australian Rules Football (AFL/AFLW) is part of the Term 2 (years 7 & 8) & Term 3 Intermediate & Senior (years 9-12) Weekly Sport Program for boys and girls. The home school hosts each sport and provides venues and first aid for the weekly Home & Away matches and appoints qualified and experienced field umpires for all matches. Each team provides goal and boundary umpires.	



AFL Oval Playing Field & Markings

The following diagram outlines the preferred oval dimensions, run-off area, match day infrastructure provision and associated line markings for community competition. Refer to Appendix 5 - Guide to line marking ovals and playing fields for further detail.



The ideal playing area for new playing fields is 165m in length, goal to goal and 135m in width boundary to boundary.

If a venue cannot accommodate the preferred oval size, it is recommended that that following range(s) be met for all levels of community competition from Under 11 and above, to maintain oval functionality for senior, junior and school level competition use. > 135m to 185m long - measured from goal line to goal line. > 110m to 155m wide - measured from boundary line to boundary line. The same minimum boundary run-offs are recommended for State (5m), Regional (4m) and Local (3m) ovals and playing fields.

Source: [AFL Preferred Community Facility Guidelines 2024](#)

Risk Assessment – SEISA: Australian Rules Football

Hazard	Description of Risk	Control(s)	Risk Rating	Person Responsible	Completion Date
Uneven playing surface	Playing surface too hard/soft, hard/sharp objects on pitch.	Playing area is checked and cleared prior to match start.	Low	Home & Away Team Coaches, Umpires	Prior to match start
Hazards on Playing Field	Hard/sharp objects on pitch: Sticks / Branches Rubbish or debris Hazardous objects such as sharps or syringes.	Playing area is checked prior to match start Home team completion of SEISA match day checklist with visiting team to co-sign.	Low	Home Team Coach	Prior to match start
Boundary lines and other lines not clearly marked or worn out.	Risk of collision with fence if boundary lines not clearly marked. Risk of personal injury.	Boundary line clearly marked with a minimum of 3 metres between the boundary line and the fence. Minimum for community and school football. Field must be clearly marked with boundary lines, goal square, centre square and centre circle, 50m line where appropriate and checked prior to matches.	Medium	Home School Administration. Both coaches and Umpires	Prior to match start
Exposed sprinkler heads on oval	Tripping hazard and injury if a player or official connects with exposed sprinkler.	Playing area is checked and covered by lid and/or sand prior to match start.	Low	Home & Away Team Coaches, Umpires	Prior to match start
Exposed cricket pitch on oval	Hard edges of pitch are exposed, risk of injury.	Playing area is checked and covered by appropriate pitch padding and sandy loam on any exposed edges prior to match start.	Medium	Home & Away Team Coaches, Umpires	Prior to match start
Unpadded goal/post posts	Any goal/post posts which do not have padding.	All posts to be checked that they have the required padding by the home team coach.	Low	Home Coach, Umpires	Prior to match start
Incorrect safety and playing equipment	Incorrect use of / no safety and playing equipment such as footwear, mouthguards or headgear.	School staff, coaches and umpires to ensure that all participants are wearing the correct safety equipment.	Low	School Staff & Coaches (including on behalf of players) & Umpires	Prior to match start and during match

Collisions	Collisions with surrounding object/people, impact from equipment – footballs, contact sport injury, personal injury – fracture/sprain/cut	Warm up by teams to be conducted under coach supervision, practice drills to be performed with adequate space around participants, students to wear appropriate footwear & mouthguards, padding on goal posts.	Low	School Coaches & Staff	Prior to match start & during match
Concussion	Concussion caused by fast moving ball hitting a person's head.	Advising all individuals in vicinity to be aware of risks of impact from AFL ball. Concussion management plan for players, coaches or staff concussed.	Low	School Staff & Coaches (including on behalf of players) & Umpires	Prior to match start and during match
Unsafe coach, participant and student behaviour	Poor safety control from group leaders, poor safety awareness from participants, aggression between participants.	School staff & Coaches brief students regarding safe playing behaviour and how to minimise safety risks.	Low	School Staff & Coaches & Umpires	Prior to match start and during match
Dehydration and extreme weather	Lack of hydration due to extreme weather conditions Risk of injury due to extreme weather condition	All participants to bring own water bottles. Coaches, in consultation with School Staff & Umpires, to monitor playing conditions in relation to storms and adverse weather. Play may be suspended, postponed or cancelled as required according to the SEISA Adverse Weather Policy.	Low	School Staff & Coaches Umpire	During match
Child Safety Policy & Code of Ethics and Behaviour	Lack of awareness of child safety expectations and practices by coaches, students, school staff and spectators.	SEISA is committed to the safety and well-being of children and young people. Refer to the SEISA Child Safe Policy.	Low	School Staff & Coaches	Prior to match start
Access and suitability of changeroom facilities	Lack of appropriate and suitable changeroom facilities for coaches and students.	Schools are required to use facilities with access to changeroom and toilet facilities.	Low	Home Team Sport Administration	Prior to match start
Unruly spectators	Unruly spectator behaviour such as shouting abuse, aggressive confrontations, interfering with play, or any other conduct which causes harm to coaches, students, staff or other spectators.	School staff, coaches, and umpires to monitor behaviour and enforce consequences (such as warning or removal) to prevent and manage unruly spectator conduct.	Medium	School Staff & Coaches & Umpires	During match
Evacuation in case of emergency	Lack of awareness of emergency evacuation plan such as emergency service notification – including proposed access and egress points, evacuation procedures – including warnings and evacuation points – and any potential hazards in case of an evacuation.	Schools staff, coaches and umpires are to be aware of venue specific evacuation plans, including emergency exits and evacuations points.	Medium	School Staff & Coaches & Umpires	Prior to match start and during match

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the risk register, please contact your Head of Sport or email eo@seisa.com.au

Risk Rating Matrix (Likelihood x Consequence = Risk Rating)

LIKELIHOOD		CONSEQUENCE				
		Low	Minor	Moderate	High	Extreme
SCORE		1	2	3	4	5
Almost Certain	5	Medium 5	High 10	High 15	Very High 20	Very High 25
Likely	4	Medium 4	Medium 8	High 12	High 16	Very High 20
Possible	3	Low 3	Medium 6	Medium 9	High 12	High 15
Unlikely	2	Low 2	Low 4	Medium 6	Medium 8	High 10
Rare	1	Low 1	Low 2	Low 3	Medium 4	Medium 5

An overall risk rating is allocated to an identified risk using the adjacent matrix which indicates the residual risk presented by a combination of 'likelihood' and 'consequence'. Residual risk is the status of a risk when all risk controls are in place.

SCORE	ASSESSMENT OF RISK	PRIORITY OF ACTION
1 to 4	Low	Address or repair if low cost. Schedule for action after other risks have been controlled
5 to 9	Medium	Further improvements required: assess feasibility for risk controls; sign-off required if the risk/s are to be accepted
10 to 16	High	Risk controls required as soon as possible
16 plus	Very High	Immediate attention required. Consider shutdown or cessation of process until additional risk controls are implemented

RISK MATRIX LEGEND

LIKELIHOOD	Description	CONSEQUENCE	Description
Almost Certain	The event will occur in most circumstances	Low	Some loss: existing controls and procedures should cope with event or circumstance. No obvious injury or illness.
Likely	The event may occur in most circumstances	Minor	Event with consequences that that can be readily absorbed but requires management effort to minimise impact. First aid treatment for minor cuts and bruises.
Possible	The event might occur at some time	Moderate	Critical event or circumstance that can be managed under normal circumstances: Medical treatment and evacuation required. Likely to result in time off from sport and school.
Unlikely	The event could occur at some time	Major	Event or circumstance that can be endured with proper management. Extensive serious injury/permanent disability.
Rare	The event might occur in exceptional circumstances	Extreme	Event or circumstance with potentially disastrous impact. Fatality, multiple fatalities.

TERM	DEFINITION
Hazard	A hazard is any situation that has the potential to cause (or lead to) harm to people or damage to property.
Risk	What harm might occur when exposed to the hazard.
Controls	Any measure or action that modifies risk. Controls include (but not limited to) policy, procedure, practice, process, technology, technique, method, or device that modifies or manages risk.
Control Rating	A rating of how effective the controls are.
Likelihood	The chance that something might happen (can be measured either qualitatively or quantitatively).
Consequence	The outcome of an event. A single event can generate a range of consequences, which can have both positive and/or negative effects.
Risk Rating	An indication the level of risk related to the hazard. This rating assists organisations in prioritising resources to address hazards that are deemed to be too high after the implementation of controls. Calculated by multiplying the Likelihood rating by the Consequence rating.
Treatment Plan	Steps that could/should be taken to improve controls for the risk.

Approved by:	SEISA Chair Sam Watson
Date:	24/07/2026

