

VAF A – Player Eligibility Conditions

The Definition of AN AMATEUR is as follows:

An Amateur is one who does not receive or agree to receive, either directly or indirectly, any remuneration or reward whatsoever (whether by match payments or expenses or otherwise) in respect to their participation as a player, in the Victorian Amateur Football Association.

Receive or agree to receive – remuneration or reward may not be offered in an immediate sense or at some point in the future at an unspecified time.

Directly or indirectly - remuneration or reward may not be offered to the individual player or any person associated with that individual.

Remuneration or reward – examples of what is permissible or not permissible as a reward or remuneration refer to table below.

The spirit of ‘the definition of an Amateur’ will always prevail and each case will be looked at individually on its own merits. Any payment, reward, or benefit that might induce a person to play with a VAF A club will be regarded as a breach of the definition of amateur status. The examples below are provided as a guide, but clubs should always seek guidance from the VAF A as to whether a situation is within, or in breach of, the definition. If such guidance is not sought before the event, a club will not be able to complain after the event if it is found, notwithstanding technical reliance on the examples, that a given situation is not within the spirit of the definition.

	Permissible	Not Permissible
<i>Employment</i>	Clubs, or any person or entity associated with a club, may assist with and/or facilitate a full time or part time employment opportunity for a player, provided the terms and conditions of such employment are consistent with current commercial practices.	Employment cannot be linked to the operations of the club eg physiotherapy, fitness / conditioning or working behind the bar or canteen. This applies in a direct or indirect sense as defined above. Employment cannot be dependent on playing for the club.
<i>Awards</i>	Players may receive awards from sponsors relevant to match day performance. Awards must be non-monetary and not exceed the value of \$60. It is expected that these awards be shared.	
<i>Coaching</i>		Playing coaches or playing Assistant coaches are not allowed any remuneration or as per above description of the word ‘Amateur’. This applies to all playing coaches and not just to the situation where the player is the coach of the team in

		which he is playing.
<i>Expenses</i>	<p>Costs directly associated with playing for the club eg club related uniforms excluding personal attire (eg boots), insurance, membership, or out of pocket costs incurred as a result of football injuries sustained whilst representing the club, provided these are paid to all players.</p> <p>Meal after training may be paid for by the club provided they are provided to all players and not to individuals or a specific group of players.</p>	<p>Any expenses not directly associated with playing for the club.</p> <p>This includes the provision of services in-kind eg building, landscaping, professional services, fuel, other travel related expenses or accommodation. They are all examples of expenses that are not permitted.</p>
<i>Player Sponsorships</i>	Players are able to source player sponsorships to offset their annual membership provided all funds are directed towards the club.	
<i>Education fees</i>		Education fees cannot be paid for or subsidized either directly or indirectly as per above description of the word "Amateur".