

WELCOME TO THE AFL



WHAT IS AFL?

AFL stands for Australian Football League and the sport is commonly known as 'Footy'. AFL originated in 1858, however the game was influenced by the Aboriginal game 'Marngrook'; which is a word from the language of the Gunditjmara people meaning 'game ball'.

AFL combines skills used in soccer, Gaelic football, rugby and basketball.

THE GAME

Played over four action packed 20 minute quarters, AFL is a fast-paced sport with high-scoring matches and large crowds.

The game is played between two teams and the aim is to score points by kicking the ball between sets of four posts at each end of the ground.

A goal is scored when the football is kicked through the tall, inner posts (the goalposts) and is worth six points. If the football goes between a goalpost and either of the shorter outer posts (the behind posts), a behind is scored which is worth only one point.

Players are allowed to pass the ball with both their hands and feet and the team with most points on the board at the end is the winner.



To learn more about the game, visit afl.com.au

THE TEAM

Each team has 18 players on the field at any one time, with another four substitute players.

The 18 players are split into groups of six:

- Six forwards whose job is to score
- Six midfielders who help get the ball up to the forwards
- Six defenders whose role it is to stop the other team scoring



Players can:



Pass with hands and feet

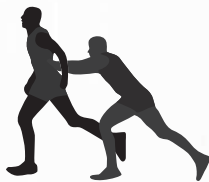


Tackle below shoulders



Mark (catch the ball)

Players cannot:



Push in the back



Trip another player



Tackle above the shoulders

THE RULES

If you're new to the sport, some important rules to know are:

Players can:

- Pass with their hands and their feet
- Tackle the opposition
- Mark: catching the ball directly from the kick of another player
- Kick for goal from anywhere on the field

Players cannot:

- Tackle above the shoulders or below the knees
- Trip another player
- Push an opponent in the back
- Hold onto the ball too long or they will be tackled

