

RACIAL VILIFICATION STATEMENT & SUPPORT FRAMEWORK

About this Framework

This framework provides guidance for sporting organisations across Western Australia to prevent, respond to, and eliminate racial vilification in sport.

It reflects a shared commitment to safe, inclusive, and culturally respectful sporting environments for all participants.

This framework is intended to support clubs, associations, coaches, officials, volunteers, players, and spectators in understanding their responsibilities and taking consistent action against racism.

1. Our Commitment

Racial vilification is unacceptable at any level of sport.

All participants have the right to engage in sport in an environment that is safe, inclusive, and free from racism.

Sporting organisations are expected to take a zero-tolerance approach to racism and actively work to eliminate all forms of racial vilification from sport and community environments.

2. What Racism Looks Like

Racism occurs when a person is treated unfairly, excluded, or insulted because of their race, colour, or cultural background.

It may include:

- Racist language or slurs
- Exclusion or unfair treatment
- Abuse, trolling, or harassment
- Casual racism or “jokes” that cause harm

Racism is often driven by a lack of understanding, but its impact is always serious.

3. Stand Up to Racism in Sport

1. Learn and Respect

Understand different cultures and respect everyone—teammates, opponents, and supporters.

2. Speak Up

If you hear racist words or see unfair behaviour, speak up or report it to a coach, umpire/ referee, or official. Don't stay silent.

3. Play Fair

Treat everyone equally. Sport should be safe, fair, and welcoming for all.

4. Be a Role Model

Show respect, kindness, and good sportsmanship—others will follow your lead.

5. Include Everyone

Make everyone feel welcome and celebrate the diversity in sport.

Remember:

Racism has no place in sport. We are one team, one sport, one community. Small actions can make a big difference.



Credit: Dylan King

4. Responding to Racism

All sporting organisations must ensure clear and accessible processes are in place to respond to racism.

Individuals are encouraged to:

- **Call it out:** Take safe and appropriate action when witnessing racism
- **Report it:** Notify a Team Manager, Coach, or Club Official
- **Support others:** Show empathy and stand with those affected
- **Be accountable:** Acknowledge that failing to act allows harmful behaviour to continue

Organisations should ensure reporting pathways are clearly communicated to all participants.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Players and Staff:** Report incidents and support teammates
- **Coaches and Team Managers:** Respond promptly, fairly, and appropriately to reports
- **Clubs and Organisations:** Provide a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants and ensure appropriate responses to incidents

6. Education and Awareness

Education is essential in preventing racism and building inclusive sporting environments.

Sporting organisations are encouraged to:

- Deliver education programs addressing the harm caused by racial vilification
- Promote understanding of cultural diversity and inclusion
- Increase awareness of the impact of racism on First Nations peoples
- Encourage ongoing learning and reflection

7. Respecting First Nations Peoples

Sporting organisations are expected to:

- Acknowledge the histories, cultures, and contributions of First Nations peoples
- Share culturally respectful information through club and association communications
- Promote respect, recognition, and inclusion across all levels of sport

8. Wellbeing and Support

Racism can have significant impacts on mental health and wellbeing.

Sporting organisations should:

- Provide access to appropriate support services for those affected
- Support individuals who experience or witness racism
- Promote awareness of the impact of racism, abuse, and discrimination on wellbeing

9. Ongoing Commitment

Eliminating racism in sport requires consistent action, accountability, and reinforcement.

Sporting organisations are expected to:

- Regularly communicate expectations to participants and stakeholders
- Reinforce inclusive behaviours through education and leadership
- Continuously improve policies, practices, and responses to racism