

VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

VOTING, AWARDS AND MILESTONES POLICY



Purpose

This policy has been developed to provide consistency and direction in the application of voting and team awards for the Vermont Junior Football Club (VJFC).

Weekly awards

Weekly encouragement awards should be distributed evenly to all players over the year to recognise their efforts and achievements. These awards are granted at the discretion of the Coach.

Home and Away and Finals Awards

All award winners will be announced and awarded with their trophy at the end of the year Presentation Day. Team officials should not disclose the award recipients prior to Presentation Day without the Committee's approval.

Under 8s – U10s

All Under 8s – U10s players will receive a participation trophy or medallion.

Under 11s – 18s

The following awards will be presented based on home and away games:

- Best and Fairest (by votes and conduct). Multiple winners are allowed, and each receives a trophy (i.e. no count backs).
- Runner up Best and Fairest (by votes and conduct). Multiple winners are allowed, and each receives a trophy (i.e. no count backs).
- Best team player. Selected at discretion of Coach and support staff. Single award only.
- Coaches Award. Selected at discretion of Coach and support staff. Single award only.
- Most Improved. Selected at discretion of Coach and support staff. Single award only.
- Most Determined. Selected at discretion of Coach and support staff. Single award only.

A Best Finals Player award as selected by the Coach will be provided for each competitive team participating in a final series.

Determining the best and fairest awards will be as follows:

- Best and Fairest votes are awarded each week of the home and away season
- Best and Fairest votes are awarded on a descending scale with the best player being awarded five (5) votes scaling down to the 5th best player being awarded one (1) vote

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- Votes should be based on the players' performance on the day and their contribution to the team. They should not be given as encouragement awards or to reflect improvement unless they were genuinely one of the best five players on the day.
- The process to be followed in awarding the votes is:
 - a. The Coach votes each week
 - b. The Assistant Coach votes each week
 - c. A different Parent votes each week
- Team Managers and Coaches will count the votes at the end of the season.
- The votes should remain confidential with the winners to be announced at the VJFC's presentation night.
- If two or more players are tied on the same number of votes, they should be declared joint winners. The same applies to the runners up.

Milestones

The VJFC will recognise and acknowledge the outstanding achievement of individual players in reaching milestones for aggregate games played over a player's junior football career as follows:

- 50 Games
- 100 Games
- 150 Games

VJFC will provide a commemorative medallion to a player for each of these games, recognising the milestone attained. The medallion will be presented at the end of the year on Presentation Day. The milestone will also be recognised in the VJFC newsletter. The player (or the player's family) may choose to arrange (at their own expense and coordination) a banner for the player and teammates to run through onto the ground before the game.

The VJFC keeps a list of games played at Vermont Junior Football Club. The list is provided to Team Managers at the start of the season. Players who transfer from another club to VJFC, should advise their Team Manager of the number of games played.

The milestone is celebrated and recognised on the day it actually occurs (not before). The player (or player's family) and relevant Coach will be notified in advance by the VJFC Registrar (via the Team Manager) of the upcoming milestone game.

The milestone will be deemed to be reached when the official records managed by VJFC indicate the player has reached the milestone (not when the EFNL records indicate).

Over a player's junior career, game statistics can vary between VJFC's records and those reported on the EFNL website, due to the reliance upon manual entry by both parties. For the purpose of recognising player milestones, VJFC's records will always be regarded by VJFC as the authoritative record.

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If a player has transferred to VJFC from another club, the VJFC Registrar will rely upon the committee representative from the club the player has come from (the former club), to advise the aggregate number of games played by the player to that point in time. If a player (or player's family) dispute the number of games advised by the former club, then it is up to the player (or the player's family) to resolve that dispute with the former club. VJFC will only accept the games tally officially notified by the former club.

A player may choose to defer the celebration and recognition of their milestone until the next home game, if permitted by the player's Coach. The player may not however bring forward the celebration and recognition of the milestone to before it is actually due, unless the milestone is due to occur in finals and the Coach has determined they would prefer the celebration and recognition to occur in the last home and away game. This may only be approved at the Coach's discretion, and the VJFC Registrar cannot guarantee having the commemorative plaque ready in time to present to the player after the game, if it is being celebrated before the milestone is actually due. (In these circumstances, the plaque will be provided subsequently.)