



Junior Update

October 2016

Welcome to the first of the Junior Reserve Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services Association information updates for 2016. The purpose of this update is to provide information to Junior coaches about the current season in preparation for the State Championships on the 26th – 27th November.

Dress for Junior Competitors

Coaches are reminded that long white trousers are to be worn by all Junior competitors. If a Brigade wishes to wear different coloured long trousers they must apply to the Association for permission

Junior Registrations

Brigades should check with their AO/DO and obtain a list of all their registered juniors. Check that the list is up to date and ensure that all new junior competitors are registered prior to the State Championships. Note that last year a few brigades found that due to changes in AO's/DO's some of the application forms for new members had not been processed.

Working with Children Check (WWC)

Brigades are reminded that by DFES Policy brigade personnel coaching Juniors or helping out with Juniors need to have a Working with Children card. The Application Forms for this check may be obtained from an Australian Post Office Shop. Remember to apply for a card as a volunteer. A person from your brigade will need to complete the relevant section on the form. The cost of the card may be recouped from DFES through your brigade. Usually it takes a couple of weeks for the card to come through. In the interim period the copy of the form with the receipt attached that is given to you is acceptable as proof that you have applied for a card.

Note that DFES's policy on Working with Children Check has changed. Please check the DFES Portal for the latest guidelines.

Rule Changes that will apply for the 2016 Junior Competitions

The following rules have been introduced for the Junior Events for the 2016 State Championships and Junior Competitions.

The aim of these changes is either for safety or the protection of equipment.

For all Senior and Junior Events:

Rule 1 – In the event of a competitor causing the male and female couplings to become crossed or locked (jammed) so that it cannot be broken the competitor cannot bang the coupling into the hoses laid underneath the coupling to break it apart. If this type of action is used by the competitor to break apart the couplings the couplings must be banged into track.

This rule has been introduced to stop competitors banging the couplings onto the hose to break them apart. A number of Junior and Senior hoses were cut and damaged last season through this action.

Rule 2

In the Junior Wet 3 Hose Event – 4 Competitors, a competitor that elects to shut off the water at the branch cannot turn the branch into the track forcing the nozzle of the branch into the track to shut off the water.

This rule has been introduced to stop damage to tracks by water where it has dislodged or dug into the bitumen. Competitors may continue to turn the branch back onto the hose and force the nozzle of the branch into the hose to block off the flow of water. Please instruct competitors not to take this action until the first and second couplings at the 27.432 metre line have been broken and coupled to the Y piece. Turning the branch back too soon can cause difficulties in coupling to the Y piece.

New Specific Rule – for Junior Wet 3 Hose Event

7. On the connecting of No 1 hose male coupling into the female coupling of the Y piece and the female couplings of No 2 hose and No 3 hose to the respective male couplings of the Y piece No 2 hose may be folded back to shut water off to the second length of hose. The Y piece is not to be turned up in such a way that the female coupling of No 2 hose is forced into the track to aid the shutting off of water.

Once again last year considerable damage was done to hoses at the shank of the female coupling by competitors forcing the Y piece and second coupling into the track to shut off water to the second length.

New Rule for the Junior Wet Hose Events

Competitors when picking up the coupling that is left in the 914 mm space must pick the coupling up by hand from where it has been placed by the competitor breaking the couplings.

This rule is self-explanatory but clarifies how the coupling is to be picked up. Competitors may not drag the hose back towards them and then pick up the coupling.

Nomination Forms

Traditionally brigades have been slow in sending their nomination forms into the Association Office. This delay causes a number of problems and extra work for the organisation of the Championships. It delays the draw for events, adds additional work and time in having to contact individual brigades to find out if they are competing and how many teams in each age group. Please assist the Association and Junior Reserve Committee by sending nomination forms through promptly. Nominations closed on Tuesday 1st November. If you haven't yet sent your forms in please attend to this as a matter of urgency. If you are unsure of the actual number of teams that you will have in each age group it is better to nominate the higher number. It is easier to take teams out of the draw than try to insert them into it, particularly in those events that are run in heats.

Sub Junior Hydrant Race

Last year this event was run as one heat and a final. It is intended to conduct the event in the same way this year.

Continuous Draw

As with the Seniors those events that are run in a heat and then a final, that is, the Hydrant Race, the 2 Competitor Flaked Hose Event and the 2 Competitor Wet Hose Event, will be conducted as a continuous draw at this year's Championships. The second draw will be blended into the first draw.

Competition Management Committee

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