**Coaching Application**

**Season 2024**

Please complete and return this application by 5pm Friday 8th September 2023 all applications must be sent via email to vp\_operations@narrenorthfoxes.com

***General Information***

All applications for coaching at the Narre North Foxes are judged on their merit. Our objective is to appoint quality coaches that are suitably matched to the team they wish to coach. Consideration will be given to the applicant’s knowledge, experience, and personality in relation to the age group they are applying for. For example, a person who has been a successful senior coach may have the appropriate football knowledge and experience, but their approach may not be suited to coach Under 8s or Under 9s.

An applicant does not need to have a child of their own playing at the club or in the team they are applying to coach.

This information in this document is not exhaustive but gives basic details on questions and topics that often are asked. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the VP of Football Operations at Narre North Foxes Football Club without delay – vp\_operations@narrenorthfoxes.com or other contact details are on the website <http://www.narrenorthfoxes.com>

***Appointment and Tenure***

Any coaching appointments that are made prior to the clubs AGM are to be considered provisional and subject to final ratification from the incoming executive (and coaching) committee.

Coaches are all appointed for tenure of one (1) season commencing from the appointment date and terminating at the conclusion of the Narre North Foxes Presentation Day. All positions are then deemed vacant and subsequently applications will be opened from existing coaches and new people. **It is the club’s intention to introduce each team to a different coach every 3 years, however our ability to do this will depend on the suitability of applicants and the club executive reserves the right to extend tenure beyond this period.**

***Dismissal***

The Narre North Foxes Football Club reserves the right to dismiss a coach without prior notice if the Executive Committee feels justified in doing so or there has been a breach of the code of conduct commensurate with termination.

***Interviews***

All applicants (existing and new) will be contacted and may be requested to attend an interview with a panel of club representatives including an independent party.

***Code of Conduct***

Included is the Narre North Foxes Football Club “Code of Conduct”. Your application implies acceptance of this code of conduct and any alleged breach will be investigated by nominated representatives of the Foxes Committee. These representatives will determine whether a breach has occurred and if so, what penalty will be applied. This action is separate to any penalty that may be handed down by the League for incidents reported to them.

***Operational Information***

***Scheduled Games and Absence***

The League schedules games at their discretion on Friday nights and Sundays. Coaches and support staff are expected to be flexible regarding game times and ensure they are committed to performing their role on game day. Fixtures are subject to change in unforeseen circumstances; however, these changes are visible on the League website, and the club will notify a team manager of any changes. In the event of a coach’s absence, the assistant coach will be required to take on the full responsibilities of the head coach until their return.

***Support Staff***

A coach will be required to appoint capable people within their team to fulfil the following compulsory positions prior to the commencement of the season: **Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Trainer (First Aid), Runner**. Other jobs will be required within the team on a volunteer/rotation basis. Please note that coaches, assistant coaches and trainers should already be accredited or agree to attend and pass an approved accreditation course. **A coach should recommend to the coaching committee a suitable person to fulfil the role of Assistant Coach and this person will be potentially subject to interview. The Coaching Committee reserves the right to give final approval on appointment – they should not be guaranteed a role prior to this approval to avoid personal embarrassment.**

***Meetings***

Attendance at coaches’ meetings is compulsory – these will be called at the discretion of the committee, but you will be given at least 7 days’ notice of the meeting. Agenda items should be raised with the coaching coordinators.

***Match Report***

Each Sunday night the club comes together to celebrate player’s achievements and participation and to allow families to communicate and enjoy each other’s company. **The coach is expected to attend all Match reports** and encourage all players and families to do the same. **In the event a coach cannot attend they must provide a representative from their support staff to present their match report and awards.**

***Training and Team Formation for Competitive Age Groups with Multiple Teams)***

In competitive age groups where the club has multiple teams, coaches will only initially be appointed to an Age Group. Once Team Formation has taken place, will a coach be appointed to a specific team.

Coaches in each age level will be required to work closely together to maximise the benefit for our players and will only commence pre-season training in line with the League age group guidelines.

 In the best interest of the kids and future development each age group should train as a squad for a period of 3-4 weeks pre-season to identify opportunities for players to be considered to play in a higher division to further develop them

If desired the Narre North Foxes Football Club will attempt (where possible and according to coach availabilities) to schedule training for both divisions of each age group on the same night so that teams can combine for warm up / cool down sessions and some training drills. Team Formation (selection) will be according to club policy.

***Club Kinship***

At the Foxes club unity between players is to be encouraged and always fostered. We do not believe there is any division between any of our players – we are all one team, one age group, one club – ALL Foxes. Players or coaches found discriminating or belittling other players due to their playing division will be recommended to the disciplinary committee for investigation.

***Presentation Day***

At the end of season presentation trophies are awarded according to the Narre North Foxes Football Club awards policy for the duration of the home and away season.

***Communication***

All communication from the club to the coaches must be replied to or acted upon without delay. The Club Secretary, President and Vice President (Football Operations) are the only people permitted to contact, or correspond, with the League on any matter relating to the Narre North Foxes Junior Football Club. **Under no circumstances are Coaches allowed to contact the league**

***Fundraising Functions & Activities:***

Coaches are also asked to support the club in all its fundraising efforts by way of their own participation and their encouragement of others in the team to do the same.

***Club Coaching Hallmark***

Narre North Foxes FC prides itself on being a family friendly club. The club places a high value on creating a fun, safe environment with opportunity for our players to learn and enjoy the game of Australian Rules football and expect our coaches to make every effort to ensure that each player’s participation is a fun and positive experience

Whilst our coaches will have their own individual philosophies and approach to coaching a team, the overarching goal should be to improve not only player’s football related skills but develop social and personal attributes in their players that benefit them both within the game of football and develop them as community minded young adults. Creation and fostering an inclusive environment of teamwork within their respective group is paramount.

Our coaches should not expect their players to all be “the best” but rather be the best that they can be (both on and off the field) and respecting that each player is an individual with different needs and development capabilities. Coaches should be able to identify individual player skill levels and match the learning experience for that player.

***Coaching Characteristics and Expectations***

A coach should lead by example and be approachable, open, honest, and where required, discreet. They should provide encouragement, support, and praise (where due) to all players to allow them to reach their full potential and maximise their enjoyment of the game.

Effective communication styles should be employed by the coach to reach their players, parents and volunteers and any decisions, instructions or feedback should be clear fair and consistent across the group. Coaches should demonstrate a caring, understanding, and positive attitude towards the players (and their wellbeing), the club, the game, and any officials.

Developing team morale and a rapport with the players is an important aspect to coaching at the Foxes as is planning and providing structured training sessions with age-appropriate drills and development activities. Coaches should be punctual in starting and finishing training and game-day activities, be enthusiastic, organised and have a willingness to learn and to then teach and help their players. They should patient with their players, parents and volunteers and be open to receiving feedback, whether positive or constructive criticism.

***Coaching Application - Private and Confidential***

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Phone:**

**Home:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address: (must have):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2023 Age Group**

**Preference 1:** Under \_\_\_\_\_ **Preference 2:** Under \_\_\_\_\_ **Preference 3:** Under \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you (or your child) a past/present member of the Narre North Foxes Football Club?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please give a description of your personal football experience (junior/senior, age levels played):**

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**Do you have any previous coaching experience (AFL or otherwise)? If yes please provide details including the sport, club, year(s), etc.**

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**Do you have any other skills, qualifications or experience advantageous to this application?**

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**Do you have any personal references advantageous to this application? If so, please detail name and contact number below, or attach a copy of written reference to the application.**

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**Do you have any additional comments that you would like to make in support of your application? For example: why you would like to coach.**

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**Do you hold current AFL Coach Accreditation?**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Circle Type:** Junior / Youth / Senior

If yes, what is your Accreditation Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you hold a current Working with Children’s Card (WWC)?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what is your WWC Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you hold a current First Aid Certificate?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what is your Certificate Level: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Accreditation Notes:**

To be eligible to coach at our club, a minimum “Level 1 Coach Accreditation” is mandatory. For your application to be considered you must hold a current accreditation or agree to attend a certified AFL Coaching Accreditation course within a timeframe determined by the club and the League. The course will be arranged and paid for (or reimbursed) by the Narre North Foxes Football Club and every effort will be made to book the date & venue in accordance with your best availability.

The same applies for the Working with Children’s Card, if you are not the current holder of a WWC card you must agree to obtain the necessary check before the coaching appointment commences.

First Aid is not a requirement for the coach but would be viewed favourably. The Narre North Foxes Football club will provide First Aid education if required.

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_/ 2023

***Narre North Foxes Coaching Code of Conduct***

Coaches that are chosen to represent the Narre North Foxes Football Club will abide by the AFL Code of Conduct, Rules and Codes of Conduct of the Narre North Foxes Football Club Inc. and the affiliated League.

* I will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of my Club and League/Association.
* I will maintain a competent understanding of game, competition, league & club rules.
* I will accept & abide by all committee decisions from the Narre North Foxes Football Club.
* I will at all times operate within the spirit of the game and understand and practice appropriate sporting behaviour and fair play. I will also teach and encourage the players to do the same.
* I will at all times, actively foster and display control, respect, professionalism and appropriate sporting behaviour towards all coaches, game day officials, club committee and administrators, parents, spectators and media, regardless of whether they are from Narre North Foxes Football Club Inc. or from other clubs.
* I will remember that players participate for pleasure, and winning is only part of the fun.
* I will ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience in a positive environment, where skilled learning and development are priorities and not overshadowed by a desire to win.
* I will recognise that all players are deserving of equal time, attention and opportunities from the lowest skilled player to the highest skilled player.
* I will have due consideration for varying maturity and ability levels of my players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in competition
* I will avoid overplaying the talented players aiming to maximise participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability.
* I will ensure that all players are given the correct game time and play as many positions as possible (in applicable age groups) in accordance with club policies and the Narre North Foxes Football Club will provide each Coach/Team Manager a standard form to record every player’s playing time and rotation for each match. This completed form is to be kept by the Team Manager but may be called for by the committee at any time.
* I will be reasonable in the demand I make on the time commitments of the players in may care, having due consideration for their health and wellbeing.
* I will not verbally or physically abuse, intimidate or use threatening behaviour or language towards players in my care, Narre North Foxes Football Club committee, persons or representatives of the league, coaches, game day officials, parents or spectators including all players, representatives, parents and spectators of other clubs.
* I will refrain from unnecessary physical contact with players in my care. Any physical contact with a young person will be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player’s skill and development
* I will show concern and caution towards sick or injured players and recognise the significance of the injury or illness. I will seek and follow the advice of a club First Aid Trainer or a Physician, whichever is appropriate, in the circumstances concerning the return of an injured or ill player to training or competition. If a player has been under treatment from a physician I will request a certificate be presented from that physician allowing the player to resume training or playing.
* I will stress and monitor safety always and ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players
* I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person and all other individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian Football and the Narre North Foxes Football Club, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic background or special ability/disability.
* I will obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date and informed regarding sound principles of coaching, skill development and the principles of growth and development of young people recognising that these are factors relating to the welfare of my players.
* I reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the AFL Drug Policy.
* I will not offer individual incentives of any kind to players.
* I will not contact the League Directly, all correspondence will go through the appropriate club channels

***Code of Conduct Declaration***

I, **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  hereby commit, to the best of my ability, to uphold and adhere to the Narre North Foxes Football Club Coaches Code of Conduct, Club Responsibilities, the League and AFL Rules & Guidelines. I have read and understand my responsibilities as outlined in this application. I understand that as an integral component of my acceptance as Coach I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct that is in the best interests of the club, the game, the players in my care and all other volunteers and club members. By submitting this application I agree that I have read, understand and will adhere to the club policies in relation to team selection, game time and rotation to ensure the focus of the club and our teams remains on our players, their development and enjoyment.

In representing myself in an honest manner and without bringing the coaching profession, the Club or the game into disrepute, I will endeavour to uphold all of this to the best of my ability.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_/ 2023