



# INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL

## PROCEDURE FOR HEARING UMPIRES REPORT

**CHAIRMAN:** This session of the Gippsland League Independent Tribunal is now open. Mr. Secretary would you make the introductions.

**SECRETARY:** The Chairman for this hearing is:  
.....  
The Panel Members are:  
.....  
The Reported Player is:  
.....  
His Advocate is:  
.....  
The Field / Boundary / Goal Umpire is:  
.....  
His Advocate is:  
.....  
The Offended Player is:  
.....  
His Advocate is:  
.....  
Witness:  
.....

**CHAIRMAN:** Reads the Report sheet  
**CHAIRMAN:** Asks the players advocate if he has any objections or submissions in respect of the report or do you object to any members of this Tribunal hearing this matter or the report?

**CHAIRMAN:** Are you..... player No. .... of  
..... Football Club - the reported player?  
  
Are you..... player No. .... of  
..... Football Club - the offended player?  
  
Are you..... - the officiating Central/Goal/Boundary reporting  
umpire?

**CHAIRMAN:** Would the offended player and all witnesses please vacate the room until called.  
  
No person may now leave (unless requested by the Chairman) until this hearing is closed or adjourned.

**CHAIRMAN:** Player .....No. .... of  
..... Football Club you have heard the charge,  
how do you plead, guilty or not guilty?

**PLAYER RESPONDS**

**CHAIRMAN:** Umpire ..... would you please enlarge on your written report?

**UMPIRE RESPONDS**

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks questions of the Umpire, then asks the other Panel Members if they have any questions of the Umpire. The advocates are then asked if they have any questions of the Umpire. The charged player may also ask questions at this time.

**ORDER OF QUESTIONS:**

- Chairman
- Panel Members
- Umpires Advocate
- Charged Player
- Charged Player's Advocate
- Offended Players Advocate

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks Secretary to admit the offended player.

**CHAIRMAN:** Offended Player..... No. .... of  
.....Football Club - would you please give the Tribunal your version of why  
you think the Umpire reported player .....No..... of  
..... Football Club.

**PLAYER RESPONDS**

**CHAIRMAN:** Any questions of this offended player?

- Chairman
- Panel Members
- Offended Player's Advocate
- Umpire
- Umpire's Advocate
- Charged Player
- Charged Player's Advocate

**CHAIRMAN:** Charged Player..... No. .... of  
..... Football Club - would you please give the Tribunal your  
version of the reported incident?

**PLAYER RESPONDS:**

**CHAIRMAN:** Any questions of the charged player?

- Chairman
- Panel Members
- Charged Player's Advocate

Umpire  
Umpire's Advocate  
Offended Player  
Offended Players Advocate

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks for any witnesses to be called and may be questioned by all parties.  
Charged Player  
Offended Player  
Umpire

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks all parties if they have any more questions of anyone.

**CHAIRMAN:** To ensure natural justice to all parties concerned, you are reminded of Rule 8.3 (a) of the AFL VICTORIA Handbook.

**CHAIRMAN:** Reads AFL VICTORIA Rule 8.3 (a).  
An aggrieved person subject to the decision of a League Independent Tribunal or Regional Appeal Board under Rule 7.6.11, may appeal to the AFL VICTORIA Appeal Board provided the appeal is brought no later than 2.00 p.m. on the second day after which the decision of the relevant body was made.

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks if all parties are satisfied that all the available evidence has been presented to the Tribunal.

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks for summing up by –  
Umpires (or Advocate)  
Advocate for the offended player  
Advocate for the charged player

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### IF THE PLAYER PLEADS GUILTY

**CHAIRMAN:** Advocate for the charged player, do you wish to enter a plea on behalf of the player ?

**ADVOCATE RESPONDS:**

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks the tribunal secretary for the guilty players tribunal record

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**CHAIRMAN:** Asks all parties including Tribunal Secretary to vacate the room.

**PANEL:** Considers all evidence and having reached a verdict then asks all parties to re-enter the Tribunal.

**CHAIRMAN:** Player..... No. .... of  
..... Football Club would you please stand.

**CHAIRMAN:** The Tribunal have carefully considered the evidence as presented and find you (Guilty/Not Guilty) as charged.

**CHAIRMAN:** (If found Guilty) Advocate for the charged player, do you wish to enter a plea on behalf of the player?

**ADVOCATE RESPONDS:**

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks the Tribunal Secretary for the guilty player's Tribunal record

**CHAIRMAN:** Asks all parties including the Tribunal Secretary to vacate the room.

**CHAIRMAN:** Recalls all parties.

**CHAIRMAN:** The penalty decided on is ..... (matches in which your club plays for premiership points).

***The Chairman should also be aware that this procedure also applies to players on permit as per AFL VICTORIA Rules. The Chairman should also refer to Rule 2.1 League Independent Tribunal Procedure Item 8 & 7.1.1***

**CHAIRMAN:** This case is now closed and I thank you for your attendance.