

Dear Docker Families

I hope you and your family are all well and coping as best you can with the latest lockdown us Melbournians find ourselves in yet again.

I'm sure you are as keen as us on the TJFC Committee to know whether junior football will return to play. The YJFL have been working over every case scenario for us to all get back to football given current restrictions and the possible extensions. Correspondence from them is as follows;

"As you would be aware, we are currently in lockdown until 2 September. The first available date for return to play is Sunday 5 September. At this stage a return to play on this date looks highly unlikely and, in the event that we are able to resume, not all grounds will be available.

We have been in contact with the local councils and are very grateful for their support to access limited grounds on 12 September. As such we will be planning for the following scenarios:

- **Return to Play 5 September** – Semi Finals only. 1 v 4 & 2 v 3. Winners to play off in Grand Final on 12 September.
- **Return to play 12 September only** – Grand Finals 1 v 2.
- **No return to play by 12 September** – Minor Premiers to be awarded Premiership.

After considerable discussion and planning, these are the only workable options available to us. We have also considered Finals qualifications, and have come to the position that anyone who has played a minimum of 2 matches in a team will qualify for finals.

League Best & Fairest awards will be made based on the votes for the 10 rounds we have played. We will advise how we will handle once we are able to return to the office; it is likely the awards will be streamed on the GameFace Facebook page."

We understand that this was not the outcome we were expecting coming into the 2021 season and many of our teams will be disappointed knowing they won't be playing another game. However we would like to congratulate the following teams who may get to contest a final;

- **U14 Girls – 1st Gold (potential Minor Premiers 2021)**
- U11 Mixed – 2nd Blue
- U15 Boys – 3rd Div. 3
- U16 Merge Boys – 4th Div. 4

Regardless of a return to play or not Templestowe Reserve is always open for you to get out, get active and hone your footy skills for your 2 hours a day! Please keep an eye out on our socials in support of our wonderful Sponsors.

Stay well and stay safe - TJFC Committee



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