



Submission to the  
Exceptions Review

A review of the exceptions and exemptions for the Equal Opportunity Act 1995  
(Vic)

April 18<sup>th</sup> 2008

## **The Exceptions Review – A Review of the exceptions to and exemptions from the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (Vic)**

### **Introduction**

AFL Victoria is the governing body of Australian Rules Football in the state of Victoria. As the governing body of Australian Rules Football, AFL Victoria represents a state league of 14 VFL Clubs, a state under 18 competition, the TAC Cup that consists of 12 clubs and 93 Community Football Leagues and 1139 Community Football Clubs in metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria and 650 Auskick Centres across the state. This equates to a total of 260,828 active and involved participants every week during the football season.

### **Response to Exceptions relevant to Australian Rules Football**

AFL Victoria has read the written submission by VicSport and fully endorses the comments in their submission in regards to Sections 61, 62, 63, 66, & 80 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (Vic).

In particular AFL Victoria believes it is critical that the sections of the act mentioned above remain intact and not be adjusted at all.

AFL Victoria (Formerly Football Victoria) in 2003/04 was challenged through VCAT under section 66 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (Vic) and as a result of the hearing raised the age restriction for male and female participation from 12 to 14 years of age. If section 66 is adjusted to the detriment of sport, then all sporting associations will be left in a very weak position.

AFL Victoria would like to also express its disappointment at the lack of consultation with state Sporting Associations who are an integral part of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 (Vic).

If further consultation is required please feel free to contact Peter McDougall – Manager – Community Football Development on 8663 3006 or via email at [peter.mcdougall@aflvic.com.au](mailto:peter.mcdougall@aflvic.com.au)