## 54.0 VETERANS COMPETITION SPECIFIC RULES

- **54.1** If any Veterans player takes part in one (1) Senior game, that player shall be ineligible to continue in the Veterans grade for the remainder of the season, including finals. A Veterans player may play unlimited Reserves games without affecting his eligibility to play in the Veterans competition.
- **54.2 Ball Ins** If there is no boundary umpire, the home team is required to throw the ball in. Central umpire/s may throw up the ball 10 metres in from where the ball went out.
- **54.3 Marking** The player in front of the pack competing for a mark is to be given every protection and opportunity to take the mark. Any unnecessary or deliberate interference by an opponent player/s in attempting to mark or prevent the player in front of the pack from taking the mark shall result in a kick being awarded to the player in front of the pack. The interference could take the form of a knee or boot being put into a player's body.

## 54.4 Player Protection

- **54.4.1** All players making the ball their objective are to be given the utmost protection by the umpire. Any contact other than a legal side bump or legal tackle (between knee and shoulder) shall be deemed unduly rough play and a free kick awarded.
- **54.4.2** Charges (shirt front) are banned irrespective of ball proximity. A charge means an act colliding with an opposition player where the amount of physical force used is unreasonable or unnecessary, irrespective of ball proximity.
- **54.4.3** Slinging players to the ground, whether the player is in possession of the ball or not is illegal and shall result in a free kick being awarded or if it happens after the ball has been disposed of, a free kick shall be awarded down the field where the ball lands.
- **54.4.4** Late contact, in any form, when the ball has been disposed of, will result in a relayed free kick being paid down the field.
- **54.4.5** Chopping with a clenched fist will result in a free kick being awarded.
- **54.4.6** A free kick shall be granted against a player who deliberately kicks at the ball whilst an opposing player has his hand on or near the ball or is on the ground in the immediate vicinity of the ball.