



# PRIDE ROUND

## WHY SHOULD WE CELEBRATE PRIDE?

Pride Round is a celebration of diversity and inclusivity within the game and community. The AFL aspires to ensure everyone feels welcome and safe to be their authentic selves whilst participating, watching and enjoying our great game. (Guide to Local Football Themed Rounds 2024, p12)

It is important to note that Pride Round is not a celebration specific to women's football. Clubs across all divisions are encouraged to get involved, as the LGBTQIA+ community extends across all facets of our game. Your club may have members, or friends/relatives of members, that are a part of the LGBTQIA+ community. By celebrating Pride Round, you can demonstrate that your club is a place for everyone to feel safe, welcome and valued.



## HOW CAN WE CELEBRATE PRIDE?

### Uniforms:

- Pride jerseys - Similar to jerseys for other themed rounds (e.g. Sir Doug Nicholls, ANZAC), your club may choose to invest in a Pride jersey to show support for the community
- Socks - a lower-cost option for clubs who may not have time/finances to purchase jerseys in 2024. Providers include Buffalo and Tribal
- Club polos - To allow club members outside of the playing group to show their support, your club can invest in Pride themed club polo shirts

### On-field:

- Pride banner - teams may choose to run through a Rainbow or Pride-themed banner at the start of the game
- 50m arc or goalsquare painting - decorating on-field lines or sections with rainbow paint
- Goalpost wraps - HART Sport have offered to produce goalpost wraps for purchase by clubs as a re-usable resource
- Rainbow goal flags - if your club is required to provide club umpires and club goal flags, you can purchase rainbow goal flags from:  
<https://pridecup.myshopify.com/products/goal-umpire-flags>

### Off-field:

- Face-paint and/or glitter painting opportunities - your club can choose to hire/provide a face painting or glitter-fying service for players, spectators and children on the day to build a sense of festivity
- Pride bunting and flag decorations - there are a multitude of flag and bunting options available online. The most up-to-date flag is the Progress Flag, which incorporates an extra chevron to the more recognizable traditional rainbow flag. This helps include people of colour and the trans community.
- Posters and signage - Pride Round is a great opportunity to display educational and celebrational posters around your club from various advocacy groups
- Rainbow Wall - your club can designate a poster, wall or area for members and spectators to leave messages of kindness and support for the LGBTQIA+ community
- A lot of the above content, plus more, can be found at the Minus18 online store ([Shop LGBTQIA+ Pride | Minus18](#))

## HOW CAN WE MAKE OUR CLUB MORE INCLUSIVE FOR PRIDE?

Pride Round is a time for celebration of the LGBTQIA+ community, and is also a great opportunity to educate your club and members on how best to build an inclusive club environment. Some ideas include:

- Nominating for a face-to-face AFL Queensland and Pride in Sport session for your club's players to receive education, facilitated by trained professionals
- Engaging your players and volunteers to attend one of the online AFL Queensland and Pride in Sport sessions, facilitated by trained professionals
- Having club committee members and/or coaching staff complete the free Play By The Rules courses:
  - [Inclusive Coaching Course](#)
  - [Creating an LGBTI+ Inclusive Club](#)
- Discussing at your next club committee meeting ideas on how to ensure LGBTQIA+ members feel safe and welcomed all year around, not just during Pride. Questions to ask can include:
  - How do we outwardly show we are welcoming to the LGBTQIA+ community?
  - How do we handle vilification and discrimination issues?
  - What elements of the [Creating an LGBTI+ Inclusive Club](#) course can we implement?
  - Linking in with local advocacy groups or spokespeople for the LGBTQIA+ community to either speak at your club or represent your club on the day and throughout the year

## WHERE CAN WE GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

The AFL has a national partnership with [Pride in Sport](#), whose website contains an abundance of [resources](#) on more specific topics relating to including the LGBTQIA+ community in your club, as well as support for challenges you may encounter.

If you would like specific support at your club on how to build out your Pride Round celebration and education plans, please reach out to your Competition Manager or AFLQ Pride Committee Lead Madi Crowley-Long ([madison.crowley-long@afl.com.au](mailto:madison.crowley-long@afl.com.au)) and we can facilitate an AFL Queensland Pride Committee staff member to assist in planning.