



## **THE GAME PLAN:**

### **AN OVERVIEW**

THE FIELD UMPIRE SHOULD INTERPRET AND APPLY THE LAWS WITH CONSISTENCY AND COMMON SENSE, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL.

- Protect the player whose sole objective is to gain possession of the ball by awarding that player a free kick if the player is infringed.
- Protect the player in possession of the ball by awarding that player a free kick if that player is tackled illegally.
- Reward the tackler by awarding that player a free kick if the player in possession of the ball, when legally tackled, fails to dispose of the ball by kicking or handballing after having been given a reasonable time to do so.
- Keep the ball in motion by minimizing packs and scrimmages by awarding free kicks or, if no free kicks are warranted, calling for a ball up immediately the ball becomes trapped.