

## V/Line Umpire Development Program

In the second week of the July school holidays, the WorkSafe VCFL Umpiring Department conducted our annual V/Line Umpire Development Program that included 10 umpires from WorkSafe VCFL Umpiring Associations who are actively engaged in the V/Line Umpire Academy Program.

In 2009, the group of ten participated in several elite level training sessions that included:

- Meeting Jeff Gieschen
- Training with the AFL Field Umpires
- Training with the AFL Boundary Umpires
- Being included in both indoor Coaching sessions of the above two groups

The four day live-in experience also included a variety of life-skills experiences including:

- Serving breakfasts for the homeless at the Salvation Army Project 614 Centre
- Public speaking
- A presentation from V/Line CEO Mr Rob Barnett
- A presentation from Nutritionalist / Sports Dietician Rob Haala
- A presentation from Paralympian Sam Bramham regarding commitment and leadership

One highlight of the Program was allowing the ten participants (4 field umpires and 6 boundary umpires) to umpire NAB Auskick Games on the MCG at ½ time of the Richmond v Carlton game.

We are grateful for V/Line's continued support for this component of our Development Programs and also acknowledge the support of the AFL, the VFL Umpiring Department and the AFL Umpires' Association.



Photographs of this year's participants outside the MCG and preparing to run the NAB AFL Auskick Games at ½ time.