

WHERE'S WOOLLY?

LEIGH, 12, has the best new woolly mates, baa none. Lambs Jonah and Esther are snug as a bug after they were adopted through Lamb Care Australia.

PICTURE: TIM CARRAFA



The umpire strikes back

SOPHIE WELSH AND GLENN McFARLANE

Crackdown as fan ejected over slur

AN AFL crackdown on umpire abuse has led to another fan being ejected — but debate rages about what he said.

The Carlton fan — attending yesterday's clash with Brisbane — was booted from Marvel Stadium after umpire Mathew Nicholls appeared to point him out at halftime.

It comes after a Richmond supporter was banned for three matches for allegedly calling an umpire a "green maggot" on Anzac Day Eve.

A caller to radio station 3AW claiming to be the ejected fan said he chose his words carefully.

"That was me and all I said was: 'You can't (handball) one handed, you

bald-headed flog,'" the caller said.

"He's just pretty much stamped his hand on the side of the wall there, pointed at the security guard and sort of chucked a hissy fit.

"There were security guards standing pretty close to me and they heard everything as well and as I was being escorted to the back of the ground they said, (there) is nothing we can do, this is management policy.

"I actually chose my words and made sure I didn't swear because there's kids around so it's pretty embarrassing from the AFL.

"They've made me wait half an

hour for an AFL integrity officer to come and take a photo of myself and my membership then I got escorted from the ground by the police and security. I was pretty annoyed."

The caller added: "Going by last week's (incident) with the Richmond (fan) I'm guessing I'm missing the next three weeks, maybe even longer — I don't know."

A witness told the *Sunday Herald Sun* he heard the ejected fan shout a homophobic slur.

"At halftime I stood up to stretch my legs and the umpires started coming towards the tunnel," he said. "It

was actually pretty quiet around that area. When the umpires started getting closer he started abusing and said: 'You can't handball with one hand Nicholls you bald-headed p--f'.

"I am pretty certain he said 'p--f'.

"Nicholls heard him and stopped to my amazement. He pointed to one of the security guards to throw him out. The loudmouth kept on abusing even after Nicholls was pointing to

him. He did not go into that tunnel until the guy was evicted."

AFL Fans Association president Gerry Eeman said: "We get that if people are going to use homophobic or racially motivated slurs, that there's no place for that at the footy, but we are concerned at the growing policing of fans and we don't want to get to a situation where it feels like Big Brother is always watching."

"Footy is an emotional game, there needs to be a little bit of an allowance for people saying stupid things. I don't think calling someone a flog warrants kicking them out," Mr Eeman said.

The AFL denies there is a fan crackdown, and is due to receive an incident report on Tuesday.

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This exhibition is organised by the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, in partnership with Shaanxi Provincial Cultural Relics Bureau (陕西省文物局), Shaanxi History Museum (陕西历史博物馆), Shaanxi Cultural Heritage Promotion Center (陕西省文物交流中心), and Emperor Qin Shihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum of the People's Republic of China (秦始皇帝博物院). (left) CHINESE Armoured general (right) Unarmoured infantryman, Qin Dynasty 221–207 BCE (detail) Emperor Qin Shihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum, Xi'an (002524); (002759).