

Grading Policy

1 Objectives

- To encourage player development.
- To encourage player participation on the basis of fair play, sportsmanship, and fun.
- To recognise that players participate for different reasons, e.g., competitiveness, fun or social activity.
- To foster club spirit.

2 Team formation

The Club will apply the following team formation criteria (in no particular order)

- enthusiasm and participation
- game awareness
- commitment to training and attendance at matches and team formation days
- ability

The Club reviews grading of players during the year.

3 Team formation days

The Club will conduct trials for all teams during February after registration (usually two sessions). Dates and number of trials will depend on the number of registrants and the Association's closing date for registering teams.

Unless excused by the grading co-ordinator, all players must attend team formation days, even if not trialling for "first" teams. This is necessary to ensure that the Club registers teams in divisions in which they can be competitive.

4 Grading committee

The Grading Committee will grade players into teams and teams into divisions.

- in accordance with this policy
- in consultation with the Club's coaching director, coaches and parents and
- subject to the direction of the Club's Committee

The Grading Committee will consist of the Grading Coordinator, the Club's Coaching Director and at least two other persons who, in the opinion of the Grading Coordinator are sufficiently qualified and experienced to grade players in accordance with this policy.

5 Special placement requests

Subject to Rule 7, the Club will consider a request for a player to be placed in a team for special reasons, e.g., sharing transport between families.

To ensure transparency and fairness among parents and players, a request should be addressed to the Grading Coordinator, in writing.

6 Registering teams in appropriate divisions

The Club seeks to place teams in the Association's competitions having regard to the ability of the team as a whole to perform in that division, and to ensure the teams are competitive in that division.

The Association ultimately determines the division in which a team is placed, although the Club is entitled to make submissions.

7 Maintaining teams at the club

A primary aim is to ensure as many players as possible are given the chance to participate equally in a team.

The Club will form team squads with sufficient numbers to put a team on the field for each match throughout the season.

Often a team squad needs more than the minimum number of players permitted on the field to be functional during the season. Players are absent from games due to holidays, family commitments, illness, injury, school commitments, and extra curricular activities.

The Club therefore;

- may adjust players numbers between teams and across age divisions to ensure that team squad numbers are sufficient for the team squad to field a team over the season
- may register a player in a team out of his or her age group
- may register a player in a team squad (including one that has been selected) if it is necessary to make up numbers for that team squad even if that player is not playing with friends or is not in a division that is appropriate for the player
- is not bound to form teams around social groupings if it leads to imbalances of team numbers or inconveniences other players and families
- may set team squad numbers having regard to the availability of other teams in the club to offer players to that team on a temporary basis under the District Association's rules.

8 District Association's rules and policies

This policy is subject to the rules and policies of the District Association in which the Club participates