



MT GRAVATT AFC COLTS TEAM SELECTION POLICY

Policy Overview & Purpose

This policy outlines the team selection process for Colts teams at Mt Gravatt AFC and provides a clear framework for player selection and team formation.

The policy is designed to guide coaches, players, parents, and Club officials in ensuring selection decisions are made fairly, consistently, and in the best interests of both player development and team success.

Our Commitment

Mt Gravatt AFC is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment where players can develop both as footballers and individuals.

The Club recognises that positive sporting experiences play an important role in fostering a lifelong passion for football and physical activity.

Team selection is a considered process that aims to balance player development, team competitiveness, and participation opportunities.

The Club seeks to create teams that encourage skill development, teamwork, enjoyment, and achievement for all players.

Registrations

Players will be allocated to their respective age groups based on their year of birth and in accordance with competition regulations.

To be eligible for selection in Colts (or higher competitions), a player must turn 17 years of age during the current season.

Any player who remains eligible for selection in the Under 17.5 Boys competition must register for Youth Football.

Registrations may be capped once player numbers reach a level where meaningful participation opportunities can no longer be guaranteed. Where this occurs, a waiting list will be established and managed by a member of the Board of Management or an appointed representative.

Team and Squad Selection

Where the number of registered players exceeds the maximum number permitted for a team or match-day squad, player allocation and selection will be determined using the criteria outlined in this policy.



The objectives of the selection process are to:

- Provide every player with the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- Apply selection criteria consistently, fairly, and transparently.
- Support the ongoing development and improvement of all players.
- Promote open communication and cooperation between coaches, players, parents, and the Club.
- Build competitive teams capable of performing throughout the season.
- Allocate playing opportunities appropriate to a player's development, ability, and the needs of the team.

Team Selection Criteria

All players, regardless of previous involvement with the Club, will be considered for team placement based on a combination of the following factors:

- Football skills and technical ability.
- Physical attributes, including fitness, strength, speed, and overall development.
- Attitude, commitment, behaviour, and application during the selection process.
- Football knowledge, game awareness, and decision-making ability.
- Team balance and positional requirements.
- Age eligibility and registration status. All age-eligible players, whether registered as Youth or Senior players, will be eligible for selection (i.e. any player turning 17 years of age or older during the calendar year).

No single criterion will determine selection. All factors may be considered collectively when making team placement decisions.

Playing Up Policy

As a general principle, players will compete within their designated age group.

Players may be invited to participate in a higher age group or competition level where it is considered beneficial to their development. Such invitations may be made by the Head Coach, Colts Coach, or Men's Football Director.

Any decision regarding a player competing above their age group will be made with the player's long-term development as the primary consideration and in consultation with the player and their family.

Finals Participation

Selection for finals matches may differ from the regular season. Finals teams will be selected with the objective of fielding the strongest available team and providing the best opportunity for success.

Factors that may be considered include:

- Player health, fitness, injury status, and development needs.

- Training attendance and commitment throughout the season.
- Behaviour, attitude, and contribution to team culture.
- Team balance and tactical requirements.
- The strengths and characteristics of the opposition.

Players who are not selected for a finals match should be informed personally by the coach prior to any public announcement of the team.

Appeals and Grievances

Mt Gravatt AFC acknowledges that team selection decisions can sometimes be disappointing for players and families.

The Club is committed to ensuring that all selection decisions are made fairly, consistently, and in accordance with this policy.

Parents, guardians, or players who have concerns regarding a selection decision are encouraged to discuss the matter in the first instance with the relevant coach at an appropriate time, away from training sessions and match days.

If the concern remains unresolved, it may be referred in writing to the Men's Football Director. Where necessary, the matter may then be reviewed by a member of the Board of Management or an appointed representative.

Appeals will only be considered where there is evidence that:

- The selection process outlined in this policy was not followed.
- Relevant information was not considered.
- A decision was affected by bias, discrimination, or a conflict of interest.

Disagreement with a coach's assessment of a player's ability, suitability, or team placement will not, in itself, constitute grounds for an appeal.

Following any review, the decision of the Club will be considered final.

All parties are expected to engage in the process respectfully and in accordance with the Club's Codes of Conduct.

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