

POLICY OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the team selection process at Mt Gravatt AFC (the Club) and refers to the make-up of teams in their respective age groups. It outlines the framework which will guide coaches, players, parents and the board in ensuring the aims of each group are met and every player is given the opportunity to actively participate, develop their skills and enjoy their football.

OUR COMMITMENT

The Club believes junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and balance individual participation with team objectives and acknowledges positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of sport.

Team selection is a complex process with aims to balance team members across the age group, whilst trying to support players in skill development and facilitate a cohesive team which fosters a sense of fun and achievement.

REGISTRATIONS

Players are allocated into their respective age group according to their calendar year of birth.

Players registered at the Club in the previous season wishing to register for the new season will be given the opportunity to register online prior to registrations being opened to new members.

Registration may close once the number of players reaches a level where it is anticipated players will not be given the opportunity to fully participate in the game. In this case a waiting list will be created and managed by the Head of Youth Football.

TEAM/SQUD SELECTION

The following criteria will be used to determine the final team/s where more players are available for selection than the maximum number allowed per game.

The objectives of the team selection process are:

- To provide players every opportunity to reach their maximum potential
- To ensure the selection policy applies to all players
- To aim for continuous improvement of all players
- To maintain open communication and co-operation between coaches, players, parents and the Board
- Aim to provide competitive teams on the field throughout the season
- To provide game time appropriate to a players' ability, and the needs of the team at any given time in the season.

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

All players, irrespective of whether or not they have played for the Club previously, will be allocated to a team within their age group based on the following criteria (not necessarily in this order):

- Player's football skills and ability
- Player's fitness levels, physical development, strength, and speed
- Player's attitude, commitment, and behaviour at the Club during the selection period
- Player's football intelligence

PLAYING UP POLICY

It is the Club's policy that all players play in their correct age group unless invited to play at a higher level by the Coach, Football Manager or other Board nominated person. Invitations will be based primarily to enhance a player's development as a footballer.

FINALS PARTICIPATION

Finals selections will be based on the following criteria:

- Player's health/injuries/personal development needs
- Player's training attendance throughout the entire season
- Player's behaviour throughout the entire season
- Team needs, including team culture and morale
- Who the Opposition is
- The Club's long-term benefits

If finals are played the coaches will base team selection on fielding the best available team using the above criteria. Those players not selected to participate in finals should be informed personally by the coach prior to any team announcement.

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1.0	20/10/2022