FOREST KILLARNEY FOOTBALL CLUB

GRADING POLICY

Grading Policy and Player Selection Guidelines
WHY DO WE HAVE PLAYER GRADING?

The overarching policy has been established by the Manly Warringah Football Association (MWFA) that requires every Club to carry out individual player grading to form teams based upon ability. The grading of teams and players according to ability is designed to place players into teams where they are participating in games commensurate with both their football skill and physical development and are able to continue to develop their football ability without undue pressure. Forest Killarney Football Club (FKFC) Committee places emphasis on creating a fair and equitable grading process for players and those involved with the club.

WHICH PLAYERS NEED TO BE GRADED?

Provided sufficient players are registered to allow more than one team in an age group, grading is undertaken for U8 to U16 boys and girls. FKFC Team coaches from the previous year are asked to provide player assessments that will be used as an initial guide by the Selection Committee as the grading process begins.

- As a rule, grading will cover all teams, however allowance may be made for teams below Division 2 where sufficient numbers of players expresses a desire to play together - such occurrence will be categorized as social players;
- Players may try-out for a higher age-group subject to grading committee approval;
- Only registered players are entitled to participate in the grading process;
- On-line Registration commences after 1 January each year.

GRADING POLICY PER AGE GROUP

**Under 8 to Under 10 Age Groups**

In these age groups, the emphasis is placed on participation with friends and enjoyment. Additional goals are the acquisition of football skills and playing in a team environment. Where there are two or more sides in the same age group the sides may be spread out through the MWFA divisions, depending upon the number of club sides participating. The clubs Grading Committee will assist Team Coaches in selecting the appropriate division(s).

**Under 11 to Under 16 Age Groups**

The FKFC will provide all players from Under 11 to Under 16 the opportunity to develop their football skills and play in the highest level within the MWFA. FKFC will do this by grading players and teams to ensure they play at the most appropriate level. Greater emphasis is placed upon individual and team performances. Where there is a single side in any age group selection of the side is the responsibility of the appointed coach.

The clubs Grading Committee will assist in placing the team in the most appropriate division within the MWFA. Where two sides are formed in the same age group there should be even numbers selected for these teams. Team selection is based on the FKFC Grading Process.

Whilst one team may have a more advanced list of players the Club will endeavour to ensure that both teams will be as competitive as possible in their respective divisions.
Forest Killarney Football Club – Grading Policy

**GRADING PROCESS**

- Information session on grading policy and process
- Selection and grading committee selected
- Coaches from age groups plus head coach and invited experts

**Grading Timetable**
- First Session All Players

**Would player like to try out for highest division?**

- Yes
  - Grading sessions begin, player information gathered and compiled from observation and critique
  - Match practice begins, information session on grading policy and process
  - Skills, attitude, attendance, work ethic observed
  - Skills, attitude, attendance, team observation and positioning all observed
  - Prior season’s performance
  - Individual potential and team balance considered
  - Selection for higher division teams
  - Selection for lower division teams
  - Rotate Players as per grading policy

- No

**TEAMS SELECTED**

- Coaches communicate with players and parents

- Final Teams Selected
- Grading Concludes
GRADING PROCESS

1. Information Session
Information session for players and parents will be conducted at the start of each season to clarify both the FKFC Grading Policy and Grading Process. This is important for the Under 12 teams as it will be their first year where competition points are recorded and team grading is more rigorous.

2. Grading Selection Panel
A selection panel will be formed for each level from Under 11 to Under 16. The panel will consist of team coaches plus one or two experienced / qualified persons that are independent from the team. A person can be on more than one Selection panel. In accordance with the MWFA policy; No coaches, parents or uncles etc. of the age group being graded are to be involved in the initial grading process. Those involved in the grading evaluation process must declare any conflict of interest prior to the process commencing.

3. Training Assessment Sessions
Training sessions will be made available for players who wish to be considered for selection to higher level teams. The selection panel will observe and assess areas such as football skills, attitude, work ethic, attendance to training sessions along with the player’s performances during the previous season. Other criteria may be used as required.

4. Match Practice Sessions
Match practice will be used to assess and observe the players football skills, ability to read the play, field positioning, work ethic, physical fitness, ability to follow instructions and playing within a team. Players will be played in a variety of positions to determine the best options for both player and team. Other criteria may be used as required.

5. Initial Team Selection
The initial Team selection will be made after consideration to the player’s performance at the training sessions and/or practice matches. The selection panel may also use other information that will assist selection like previous years performances. A player grading scorecard will be used for Division 1 and 2 and made available upon request to the Grading Committee.

6. Communication to Players
Players will be advised through email / Website as to which team they have been selected in. If a player is unhappy with the selection process they can raise the issue in writing to the Grading Committee.

7. Movement of Players
Players can be rotated between sides in the same age group for up to the first 4 rounds of each season. Note this is a guideline that the MWFA has promoted to ensure players have the opportunity to play at the most appropriate level within the competition.

8. Final Team Selection
After week four in the season all teams are finalised and no further changes can take place. The Club appreciates that there may be extenuating circumstances, and that some players may wish to be in a particular side. Such requests should be made in writing to the clubs Grading Committee.
PLAYER GRADING SCORECARD – Division 1 and 2

Legend for table to be completed relative to each player in team.

1 = Below average, 2 = Average, 3= Above Average, 4= Exceptional.

A. Skills: Ball control, ability to beat opponents (1v1), accuracy in passing, first touch, changing direction and holding possession.

B. Fitness: Athleticism, balance, work rate and physique;

C. Tactical awareness: Positioning on field:
   • Ability to recognise different situations & move across the field to open space for their own advantage;
   • Ability to close down space and opponents in defence;
   • Ability to draw defenders and open up spaces for their teammates in attack;
   • Effective use of skills as an individual player and thinking ahead and can select when time for a pass or a shot;

D. Temperament: Capable of playing under pressure and keeping his/her emotions in check for the sake of their team. Enthusiastic and positive player, having the drive to keep going and lead the team forward. Encouraging team mates rather than criticising when under pressure.

E. Overall player grading result:
   • A = Selection for Highest division,
   • B = Selection for Reserve (2nd division),
   • C = Selection for 3rd of social team participation
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<tr>
<th>TEAM Division – AGE GROUP:</th>
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<td><strong>PLAYER</strong> Name / ID</td>
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