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## TEAM SELECTION POLICY – JUNIOR GRADES

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### Our commitment

We believe that junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and maximise individual participation. Our club acknowledges that positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of sport.

### What we will do

- Emphasise to coaches and parents that junior sport is about participation, not competition.
- Modify rules and equipment where possible to include children and young people of all abilities and encourage their participation (if our sport offers modifications).
- Try to match junior players with others of their own ability (e.g., if there are enough players, have two teams in an age division).
- Provide junior players with a broad range of experiences (e.g., participating in different positions).
- Provide equal playing time for all juniors, regardless of their ability (except for a player filling in for a higher age division in addition to playing in their own age division, for which they should receive less game time than the regular players in the higher division),
- Ensure that all team members play in the finals, subject to competition rules.

### What we ask you to do

#### Coaches

- Focus on promoting participation, not winning and losing.
- Ensure all team members have the chance to play, rotate through positions and receive equal playing time.
- If you coach your own children, treat them like all other team members (e.g., rotations, playing time or participation).

#### Parents

- Help out the coach where possible at training and games.
- Focus on your child's effort and performance, not the score.
- Encourage your child and other team members.