



Title: Juvenile Player Policy
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Juvenile Playing Policy 2020.

All children in Academy to be 4-U6.

Once children progress from Academy, or join the club after Academy, they are only permitted to join teams of their own age - example in 2020 an U7 player must have been born in 2013 only. They do not join the U8 team regardless of skill or ability, siblings or friends.

Players joining at a later age must join their appropriate age team and not join an older team. Players playing in their correct age group must not leave that team and join an older team of their own accord.

Player Clarification for teams over Academy 2020

Currently, if a player has only ever trained and played with an older team, going forward they should also make themselves available to train & play at their own age. They may still train & play with the older team. Where there is a clash (games to be played at the same time) prioritization should be given to playing with their own age. Playing up with an older team is necessary at many age groups for a variety of reasons. However, a player must not do so at the expense of their own team at their own age group.

Where a player is required to play up (with a team they have not been playing with always as above), the Coach of the older team must receive permission from the Coach of the younger team (in all codes applicable) before playing players up. If the age difference is more than 1 Year approval of the Club Coaching Officer is required. The player should not be informed of the request, until full agreement has been received by the requesting Coach & parental approval should then be sought. Ultimately team selection must be the decision of the team coaches.

Coaches make their team selections based on many reasons including;

- The recent form of players.
- Attendance, punctuality, engagement, commitment & effort at training sessions.
- The fitness of a player who may be suffering or recovering from a recent or ongoing injury or illness.

Coaches are expected to make their selection with due consideration for every player on their panel. Players & Parents are expected to respect these decisions.

From Under 13 upwards, where we have the luxury of more than one team at a given age group, the "A" team will be defined as playing "competitively". Players on an "A" panel are deemed to accept that they may not participate in every game across a season. Whilst Coaches must endeavour to give all panelists playing time in each game, this is not always feasible.

When an age ie U14 has an "A" & "B" team and so on, playing in a competition, the teams must not take players from one team to another to boost the squad for a final.

Players, coaches and parents should be mindful that from U12, a number of club players (the number of players to be chosen is dictated from County) are eligible to try out to play for County teams. These players are selected by the coach of that age who sees the progress and ability of those players.

If there are any queries, please contact the Club Coaching Officer for advice & further information.

Note: Dual players in particular and their coaches should make sure that they get sufficient recovery time between matches as they get older. Parents must make an informed decision regarding the playing welfare of their child when fixtures become crowded. The club must do its best to highlight to the Fixtures Committee excessive match schedules and the impact that has on young players' welfare and in particular dual players.